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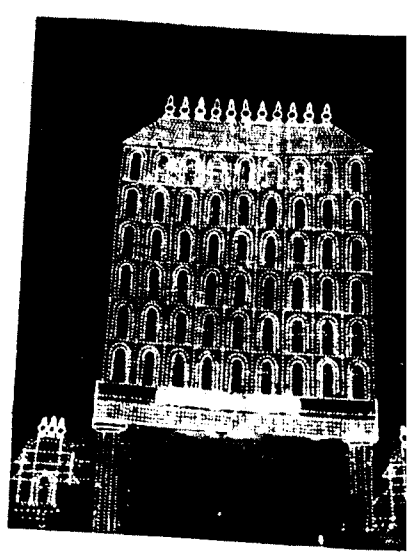


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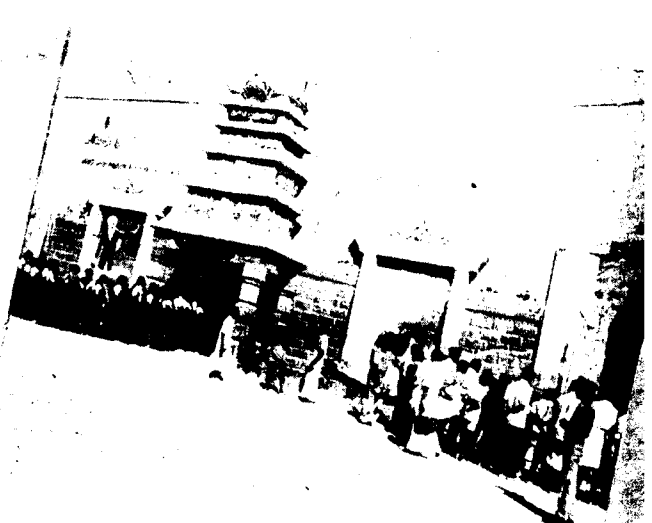




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ON THE POET'S CENTENARY

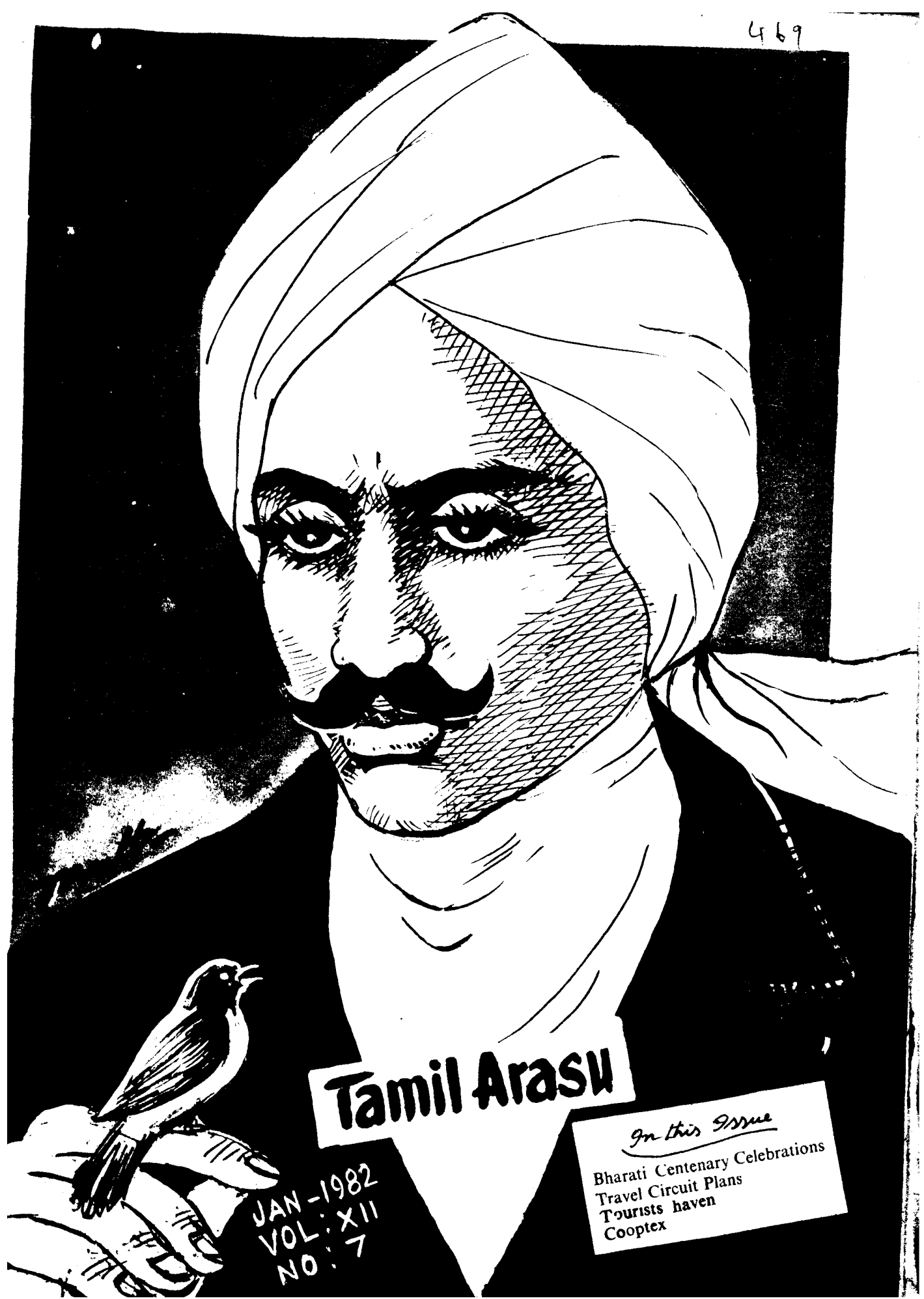
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ETTAYAPURAM WEARS A
FESTIVE LOOK



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Tamil Arasu



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Bharati BELONGS to Humanity

Thiru Sadiq Ali,
Governor of Tamil Nadu.

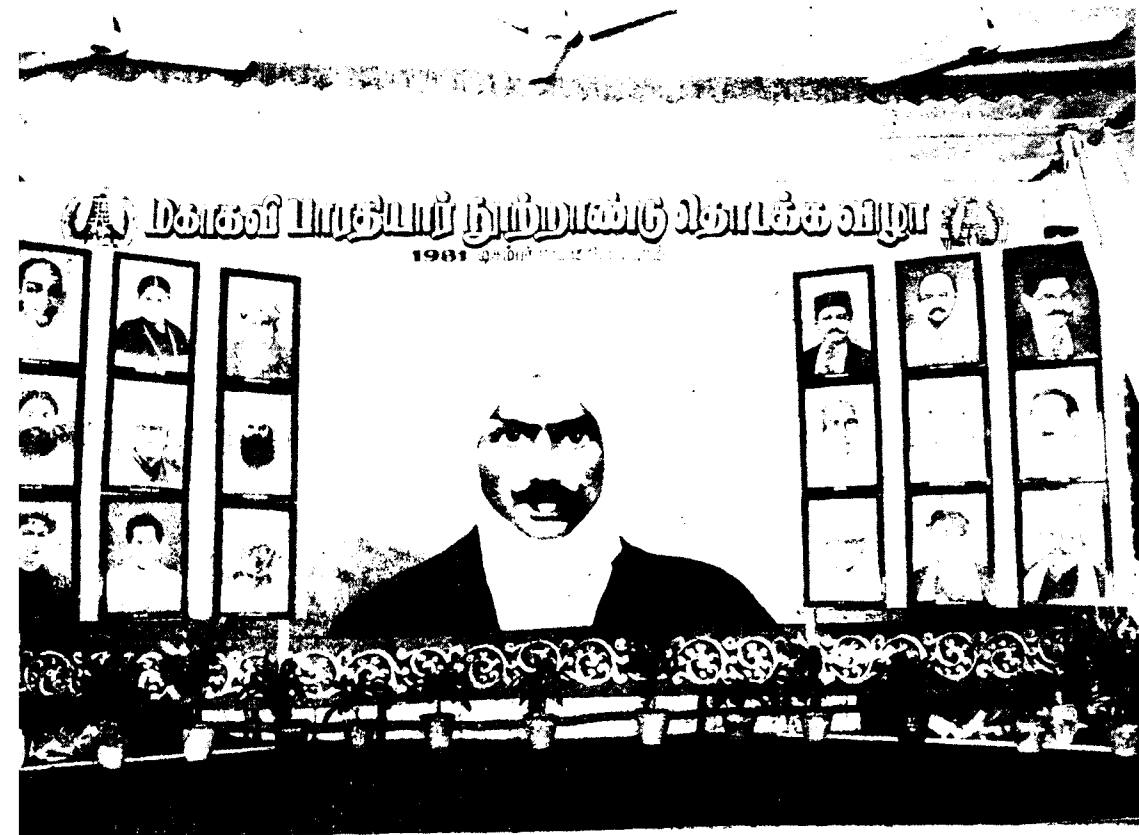
I am greatly honoured by the invitation to associate myself with the Centenary Celebrations of a great poet Tamil Nadu has produced and who is now widely acclaimed as the poet of modern India.

Thirty-nine years is a short life and yet Bharati packed into these years memorable achievements each of which alone and by itself could have lent distinction to his life. He lived in a creative period of our recent history when India was bravely struggling to free herself from many bondages and produced great men who saw visions of a new, resurgent India. There were many among them who concentrated exclusively on ending the foreign bondage or reforming social evils or reviving in any particular field the beauty and strength of ancient Indian culture. But there were some among them whose interests were much wider, who chafed

under many bondages and Subramanya Bharati was essentially a poet but a poet with a purpose, a vision and deep passion. His vision of a new India, in fact his vision of a new humanity found eloquent expression in his poetry. His poetic compositions stirred like the common people as well as what might be called the elitist section of society. They did so because the language was simple and direct and there was great intensity of feeling and much clarity of thought.

He was closely identified with India's struggle for freedom but he had also intense sympathy with struggles for freedom going on in some other parts of the world. An additional impetus to India's struggle also came to him from his contemplation of India's rich and varied cultural heritage. He was immersed in India's ancient thought and literature but he was equally at home with modern thoughts and literature.

1882 to 1921, the life span of Subramanya Bharati was, despite our bondage, one of the most creative periods of India's history. This was the time when Indian nationalism gained in strength and a party was born which pledged itself to work for the country's freedom through constitutional and later through peaceful means. Before Gandhiji appeared on the scene there were leaders like Tilak and Aurobindo who talked in terms of mass action and active resistance. Subramanya Bharati roused the people in the South through the medium of Tamil poetry apart from his journalistic and other activities. He lispd in numbers even in his early days. Verses came to him naturally. Even the common occurrences of life called into action his poetic gifts. But when the call of India's freedom rang in his ears and when he contrasted the fall of his countrymen with the splendour



of India's ancient past and the astounding progress made in some parts of the world his poetic genius came into full play. Good causes stirred the depths in him. A unique flow of poetic compositions from his pen in turn roused his countrymen. Subramanya Bharati knew Sanskrit, English and later he also picked up Hindi. He was fascinated by a good deal of English poetry. This was one factor in the development of his poetic talents.

Bharati's emphasis on national unity is valid for all time. Though he was full of praise for Tamil, he rose above linguistic chauvinism. He showed his highest respect to all the towering national leaders of those times belonging to different parts of the country by composing biographical poems on them and popularising them in the South. Even Sikh Gurus, like Nanak and Govind Singh, received this poetical honour. He stood for religious unity. Bharati was a prophet of our Freedom and though he did not live to witness its dawn, he composed a song which made men, women and children sing and dance in joy on the attainment of Freedom. The cause of the desperately poor did not escape his attention in his poems. His pithy aphoristic sayings and rhymes for the children injected hope and courage into the blood of the younger generation. I have dwelt a little on some themes of his

poems only to stress the fact that Subramanya Bharati has relevance to successive generations in building the India of our dreams.

With all his love for his motherland he was not blind to the evils of the Indian society. He denounced in burning words the evil of untouchability. He was a passionate advocate of women's rights and their due place in society.

Bharati was also a great journalist and a prose writer. He filled the columns of his journals with much informative material. He drew inspiration from struggles for freedom in other countries. He translated plenty of good English material into Tamil. He thought in world terms in many matters of human welfare. Nearer home he was a great advocate of communal harmony, in particular harmony among Hindus and Muslims.

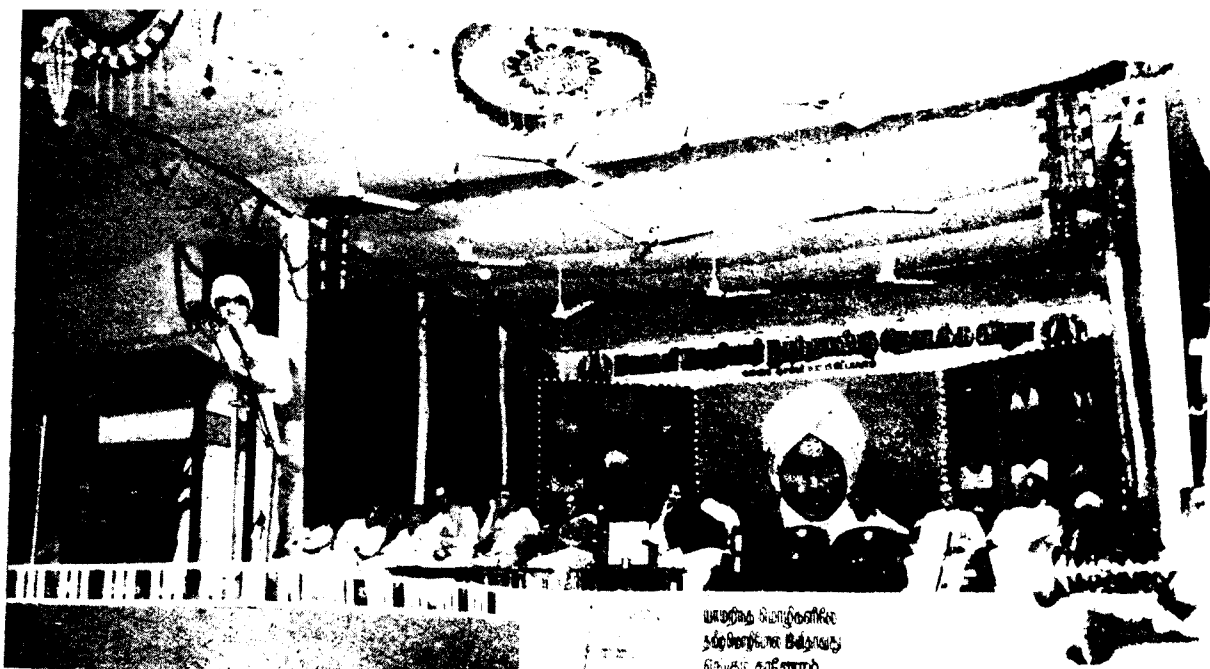
Tamil Nadu, particularly its Chief Minister, has taken the initiative to

celebrate the birth centenary of Subramanya Bharati, but Bharati very much belongs to India, in fact, the whole humanity. He has enriched world thought through his great contributions. The literature he has left behind has to be preserved and popularised. It represents a great contribution to Tamil thought and literature. His wide and catholic outlook should be a stirring example to us all who have still to struggle with all that makes man narrow, small and intolerant. His place in the history of India's struggle for freedom has to be properly assessed. His humanism and international outlook are a crying need of the kind of world in which we are living and which is shaping before our very eyes. It is our singular good fortune that we are privileged to participate in his centenary celebrations and draw inspiration from his life and thought.

(Excerpts from the Governor's speech)

'Here flourish a thousand castes,
but no room for foreigners,
The Mother's children may quarrel
Yet they are brothers.
We'll bow to the Mother.

What is life without unity?
Division only spells ruin
If we hold fast to this truth
What more can we need?
We'll bow to the Mother."



The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran presided over the birth Centenary Celebrations of Mahakavi Bharathiyar.

The Chief Minister announced that the State Government would form a university exclusively for women before the end of 1982.

He said the State Government would observe the birthday of poet Bharati as National Integration Day every year.

The Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal Chief Ministers had requested the help of the State Government for conducting the Bharati centenary celebrations in their States. Tamil Nadu would give them all necessary help.

The Chief Minister dwelt at length on the social philosophy of Bharati, particularly his views on the emancipation of women. He recalled how the poet had expressed his views openly when people did not have the courage even to think about them. He was a visionary who looked at the future.

The Chief Minister sought the cooperation of all for the State Government's welfare schemes.

Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, presented to Thiru Sadiq Ali, and Thiru Darbara Singh, Tanjore art plates with Bharati's figure engraved in them as also palm leaf manuscripts inscribed with the poet's writings.

VISIONARY WHO LOOKED AT THE FUTURE



The Tamil Nadu Government has plans to produce a feature film on Bharati, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister said while presiding over the valedictory function of the three day Bharati birth centenary celebrations. The Chief Minister said he himself would direct the film 'if time permits.'

The Chief Minister said the proposed university for women would come into being in 1982 so that the poet's desire for adequate educational opportunities for women was translated into action.

The Chief Minister said Bharati fellowships would be created in all universities in the State and the poet's works brought in three volumes in various languages.

Elocution and essay writing competitions for school and college students besides the physically handicapped would be held annually on subjects dear to the poet to perpetuate his memory.

Women's polytechnic for Ettayapuram : He said a women's polytechnic would be set up in Ettayapuram. Preference would be given to the local people for employment in the Bharati Cooperative Spinning Mills being set up there.

Some of the co-educational high schools would be converted into exclusive girls high schools, he said.

The Chief Minister said that it was unfortunate the works of great leaders were recognised only after their death. He regretted that the good deeds done by living persons were not recognised during their life time. That was the reason why celebrations had to be taken after the death of the persons, he added.

WOMEN'S POLYTECHNIC *as Visualised by Bharati*

BHARATI CENTENARY IN U.S.S.R.

The birth centenary of poet Subramania Bharati will be celebrated in various parts of the Soviet Union. A special committee has been constituted for that purpose.

This was announced by Thiru Yuri F. Runov, Vice Consul and Head of the Information branch of the USSR Consulate in Madras, at the valedictory function of the three day Bharati Centenary Celebrations.

The Vice Consul said his country would donate a library to Bharati Mandap in Ettayapuram and made a token presentation of a book to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran.

The Punjab Chief Minister, Thiru Darbara Singh announced that Punjab would hold a State level centenary function in 1982 to honour Bharati and propagate his message of integration.

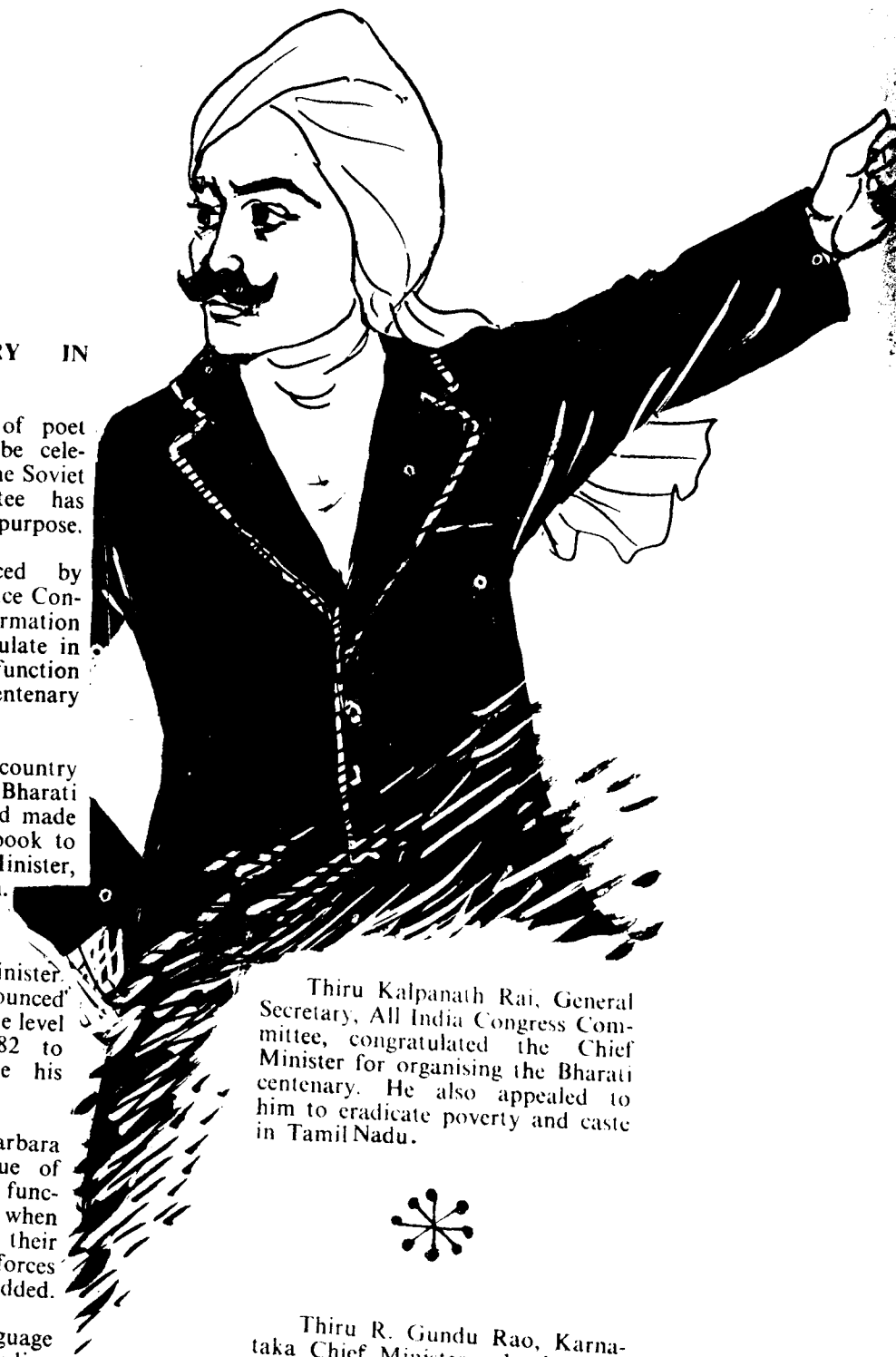
Thiru Darbara Singh who unveiled a statue of Bharathi was happy that the function was taking place at a time when disruptive forces were raising their heads. We should encourage forces promoting integration, he added.

Literature of one language should be translated in other Indian languages as it would put an end to conflicts on account of languages.

The people of Punjab value the great contribution of Tamil Nadu towards national culture, art and similar finer aspects of life, Thiru Darbara Singh said.

Thiru Kalpanath Rai, General Secretary, All India Congress Committee, congratulated the Chief Minister for organising the Bharati centenary. He also appealed to him to eradicate poverty and caste in Tamil Nadu.

Thiru R. Gundu Rao, Karnataka Chief Minister, who laid the foundation for the Rs. 4 crore mill, enthralled the audience by his speech in Tamil, said that living great men were seldom remembered in the country. The idea of the celebrations, he said, was to follow the ideals for which Bharati dedicated his life.





The Central Government would launch measures for translating and publishing the poetical works and other writings of Sri Subramania Bharati, who inspired the people in the freedom struggle, Thiru R. Venkataraman, Union Finance Minister said, while inaugurating the Forum of Bharati's Thoughts on the second day of the poet's centenary celebrations.

Bharathi's Works in other Languages

He said to begin with the works of Bharati would be published in Bengali, Gujarati, Marati and Hindi.

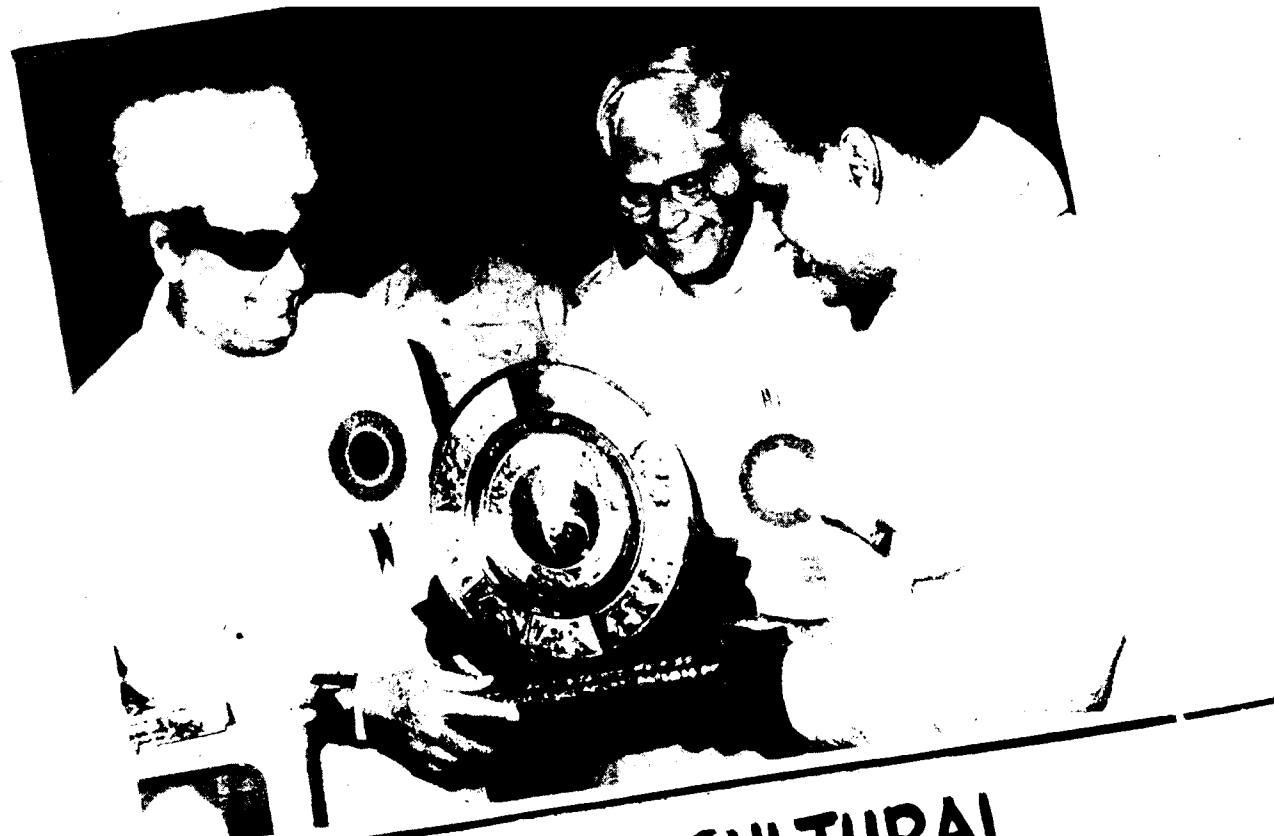
He recalled that when he accompanied Thiru Kamaraj to USSR they were informed that Bharati's writings had been translated and published in Russian and arrangements had been made to disseminate them.

Thiru Venkataraman said that the dreams of the poet in industrial and agricultural fronts were being realised in Tamilnadu. Setting up of a steel plant at Salem, the Avadi tank factory and the proposal for a Rs. 200 crore paper mills were some of the steps in this direction. He appealed to the people to get inspiration from Bharati's works to fulfil his dream of a socialistic society. Bharati believed in equality and freeing the masses from exploitation.

Thiru Venkataraman said that if Gandhiji spread the idea that freedom would be won without bloodshed, it was Bharati who inspired the people and prepared them for a spirit of sacrifice. Bharati not only wanted the country to become free but desired that the Indian society should shape itself in an ideal way

in which there would be no disparities and everyone would have equal opportunity to blossom fully. He went to the extent of singing that the world should be destroyed even if one person were to starve.





THE BEGINNING OF A CULTURAL RENAISSANCE

It is but fitting that my Tamil brethren should have chosen to observe an year-long centenary celebrations of a great Bard of Tamil Nadu, Mahakavi Bharathi. I look upon this as a significant event, nay a unique event not for the Tamils alone, but for all the people of the South as well as India. In a larger sense, Poet Bharati belongs to the whole of Bharat.

Subramania Bharati was a pioneer in exploiting the muse in breaking the shackles of servitude. It is but fitting that the Tamils are celebrating the Centenary Celebrations of a great Bard of Tamil Nadu, Mahakavi Bharati.

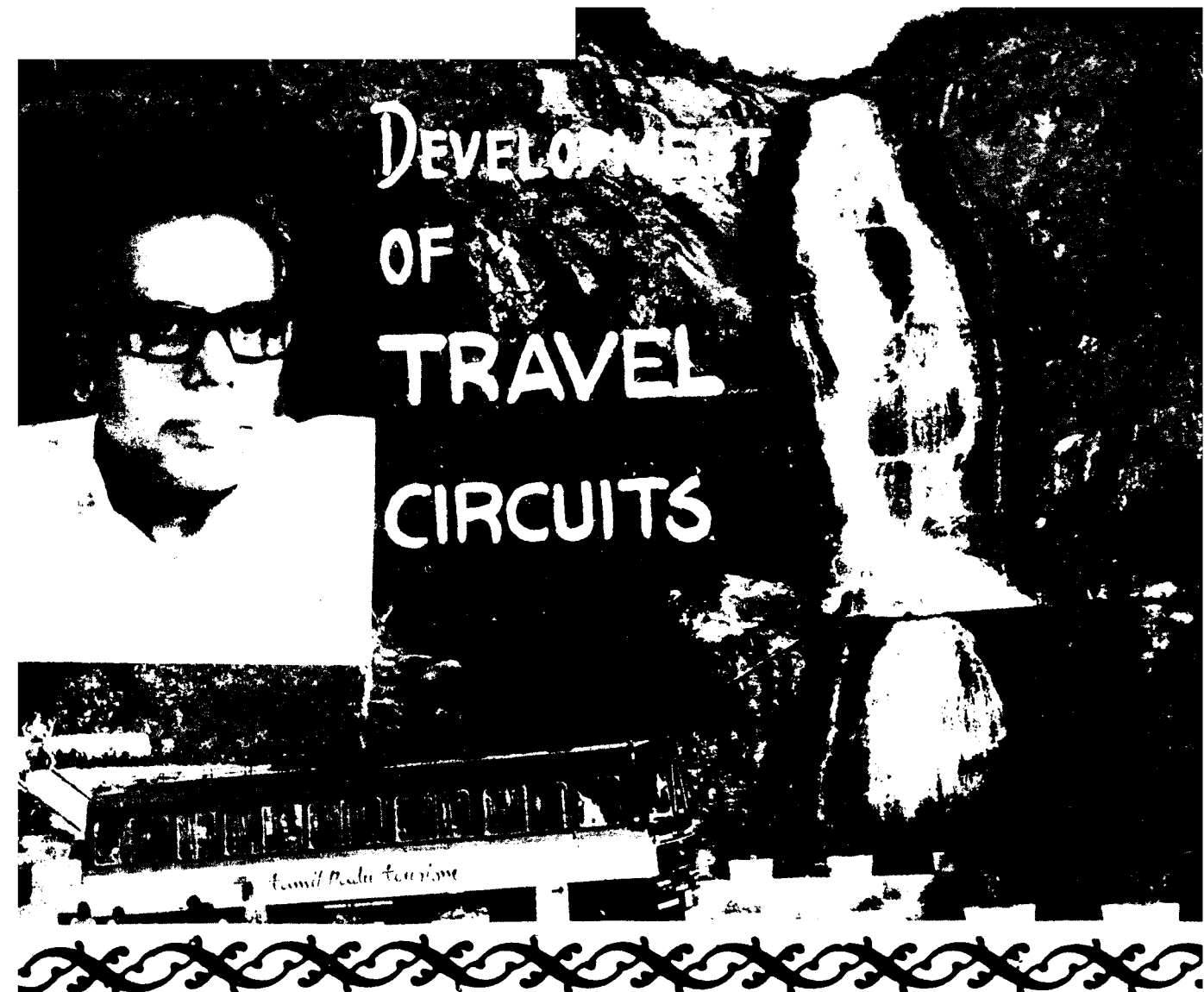
A multi-faceted personality, Bharati's fame rests not only on his poetry and other writings but also on his advocacy of nationalism and his wide experience as a journalist. He was a fiery poet patriot. Profound with patriotism, his poems

were simple in language but stirring in content. Verily, he was the first people's poet. His passion-filled patriotic poems enthused the people to take part in direct action during the freedom struggle. His poems spotlighted the glory of our motherland, the greatness of Tamil language the rising tide of nationalism and the independent future in store for the country. He was a poet who thought and wrote much ahead of his time.

In all his writings he, yearned for an integrated India and exhorted his countrymen to give up regional rivalries. His message for national unity is still relevant today. The Bharati Centenary Celebrations therefore mark the beginning of a cultural renaissance, of not only Tamil Nadu but also the wide spectrum of the South and an integrated India.

Pattam Srirama Murthy,
Minister for Cultural Affairs,
Andhra Pradesh.

The striking simplicity of his approach, the clarion call of his message and his inspiring vision of the future have all made an impact, an impact that was immediate and enduring. His poems centered on one great theme of the day—the liberation of his country and the salvation of his people. So he roused his countrymen through the medium of versification, a soul-stirring medium. For the first time, it was Bharathi who brought the nuances of poetry to the doorstep of the commonman, as it were. His theme was very patriotic. His style was very simple and his poems were very musical. At the turn of the century and decades thereafter, they were on the lips of almost everyone in this part of the country.



Mr. Chairman, my colleagues from other States and other participants:

It gives me great pleasure to participate in this Conference and to convey to all the delegates the greetings and good wishes of the respected Chief Minister of Tamilnadu.

At this stage I would like to make some general comments in the light of the Agenda of the Conference and the statements made yesterday.

On the development of Travel Circuits, our Government welcomes and supports this approach. The Department of Tourism of the Government of India under the able leadership of Thiru A.P. Sharma deserve our congratulations for this initiative. We in the State of Tamil

nadu have already been following this approach of selecting places of tourist importance and concentrating resources for their development along easily traversed routes for the convenience of tourists. The blue-prints and other details that were asked for by the Government of India have been made available. It is now time for action.

It was our expectation that having initiated this programme and obtained from the State Governments numerous details, the Government of India would extend assistance for its implementation. From the statements made by my colleagues yesterday, it was clear that other State Governments too had similar expectations. It comes, therefore, as a matter of regret and surprise that, judging by the notes it has circulated, the Government of India wishes to wash its hand off this programme at this

stage, treating its implementation as entirely the responsibility of the States. Our calculations in regard to Tamilnadu show that resources available to the State are but a fraction of the requirements to implement the circuit plans. The allocation for Tourism in the State Plan during the 6th Plan period is only Rs. 8 crores as compared to about Rs. 60 crores required to build and improve the infrastructure for the three approved Travel Circuits. We have, in addition, to take care of a number of other schemes already included in the tourism sector of the State, within this limited allocation. The requirements for improving just three of the major international tourist centres in the State, namely, Kanyakumari, Rameswaram and Mamallapuram works out to Rs. 54 crores. This being the case, we will have to find ways and means to muster the large amount of fund required

for implementation of these plans as the State resources alone would not be sufficient to fund these development plans. The position is not likely to be very different for the other States. We have to find a way out of this impasse if our targets and plans for tourism development are not to become empty dreams. I would like to make a concrete suggestion here. A special scheme should be evolved outside the Plans, on the pattern of the Hill Area Development Programme and the Western Ghats Development programme, to provide Central assistance for the implementation of the Travel Circuit Plans. If my colleagues agree with this suggestion, a resolution for taking up such scheme immediately may be passed at this Conference in order to strengthen the Department of Tourism to get it through the rest of the Government of India machinery.

As part of the development of Travel Circuit Plans, it is also necessary to speed up and expand the Third Line Feeder Service. In selecting places for the Third Line Feeder Services, their tourism potential should be the deciding criteria, rather than any extraneous conditions. May I make a practical suggestion in this context? There are a number of abandoned airfields constructed during war time in our State, which, if renovated, can serve important tourist centres like Rameswaram, Thanjavur, and Tirunelveli. Such places should be given priority while planning the Third line Feeder Services so as to minimise the investment required to develop the runway and the airports. While on the subject of air services, may I reiterate our long-pending request to route at least some of the services to Bangkok-

Hong Kong-Tokyo, via Madras? We would also like to suggest that charter services should be encouraged and allowed to land at Madras with a view to attracting the tourist influx that now stops at Colombo. These measures would help to promote tourism in all the States in the Southern Region.

On the question of Central Assistance, I would like to make two further suggestions. Firstly development of Central resources among the States for tourism promotion should be based on the

rather peremptory. We are aware that international financing institutions sanction loans for projects rather than for sectors as such. The question is why economically viable tourism projects, with a capacity to generate foreign exchange cannot be submitted for the consideration of appropriate international financing institutions. The priority accorded to this sector, in deed rather than in words, should be judged by the willingness to mobilize resources from, all sources, including external sources. If my other colleagues agree, we might pass a resolution on the subject to the Con-



tourism potential and the resources that each State Government mobilizes for this sector, and not on the usual criteria such as population and per-capita income. It would be desirable to lay-down such criteria of assistance without leaving the distribution process to be influenced by lobbying or the political complexion of the State Government.

Secondly, tourists, I understand are the third largest foreign exchange earner for our country. This being the case, the present hesitation in seeking external funding from international institutions like World Bank, etc. for developing tourist centres which attracts foreign tourists and earn foreign exchange in return is not easy to understand. The reply furnished in Position Paper No. IX in response to our written suggestion on this subject strikes us as unsatisfactory and

ference so as, once again to strengthen the Central Department of Tourism in pursuing matters with other concerned Ministries in the Government of India.

As regards domestic tourism, the Tamilnadu Government fully appreciates the need to provide budget accommodation. Not all the foreign tourists are affluent and we must cater also to budget tourists from abroad. Moreover such accommodation would also serve the domestic tourists. We are quite proud of our achievements in Tamilnadu in this regard. The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation runs a chain of 17 hotels and motels that are meant for the budget tourists. The tariff charged is well within the reach of middle income groups of domestic tourists. We have now gone a step further and are constructing a chain of 9 Youth Hostels which provide dormitory accommodation at a very nominal rate of Rs. 5/- to Rs. 7.50 per bed per night. One hostel has already

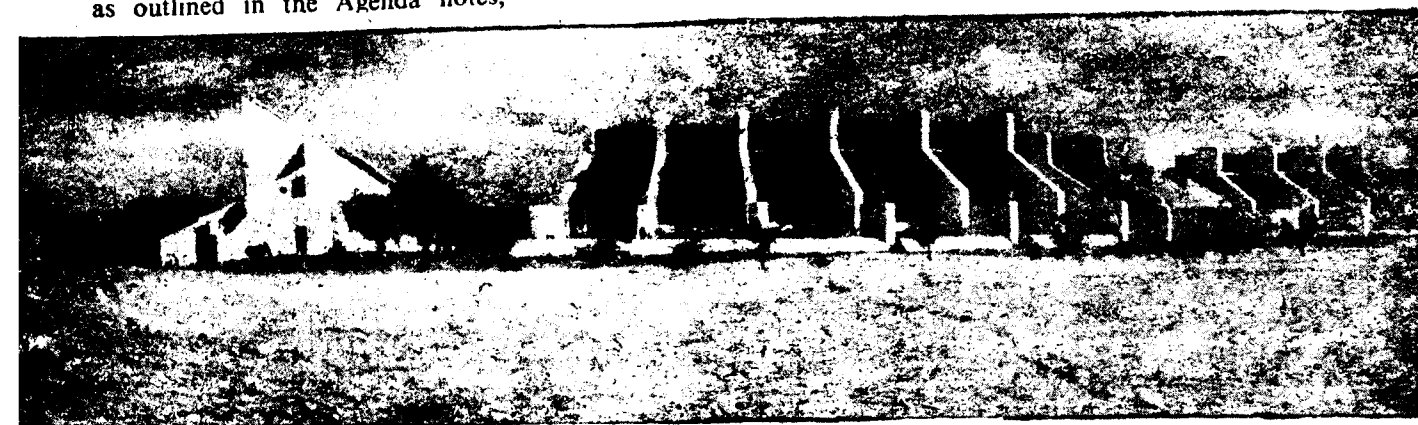
been commissioned and more 5 hostels are waiting to be opened soon and the remaining will be got ready in the next 2 months. Our experience from the first hostel in this chain at Yercaud shows that the per centage of occupancy is as high as 60 to 70%, even within the first 3 months of its operation. While on this point, let me add that we have taken note of the setting up of the Bharathia Yathir Akas Vikas Samithi and its plans to build yathri Nivas. Our Youth Hostel construction programme serves precisely the same purpose. I would like to suggest that the pattern of assistance given to the Samithi should also be extended to all State Tourism Development Corporations engaged in programmes of constructing Youth Hostels.

The concept of Tourist Villages, as outlined in the Agenda notes,

provision of facilities to tourists, attention needs to be given for improving rail services in coordination with air and road transport. The 'Indrail' passes are now well advertised in other countries. However, there seems to be a number of short comings which leave the users somewhat dissatisfied. There are similar complaints in regard to customs and immigration formalities right at the point of entry into the country for foreign tourists. The specific problems in regard to one major tourist Centre in Tamilnadu, namely Rameswaram were high lighted sometime back in a joint report of the Central and State Tourism Department. Action to rectify the defects needs to be pursued vigorously. It might be advisable to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Tourism in order to tackle existing problems

for me that the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) has in some ways proved a pioneer in organising Package Tours. The TTDC activities have already covered all-inclusive, 7-day, Package Tours and excursion tours covering important tourist centres in Tamilnadu and in the neighbouring States. These tours serve a large number of foreign tourists, and accordingly TTDC has recently appointed overseas selling agents in Singapore and Malaysia for these Package Tours. TTDC foreign exchange earnings have gone up four times as a result. The Corporation needs more All India permits to expand its services not only for the overseas visitors but also for the domestic-low-income group tourists.

In regard to the Tourist Services, we have set up a chain of



is welcome. The Tamilnadu Government would be happy to provide appropriate facilities for the setting up of such villages in select Centres. In this connection, we would like to bring to the notice of this Conference, that we are already acting on a similar programme as part of the development of Mamallapuram. A Camping Site has been developed with a complex of a Youth Hostel, a number of tents and a few cottages. It includes a restaurant and we intend also providing suitable recreational facilities. An Open Air Museum, depicting development of temple architecture and other historical and cultural attractions is also being planned nearby. The entire complex is expected to cost about Rs. 50 lakhs. We are confident that with all these facilities and attractions, we would be able to draw more tourist traffic, particularly of international tourists, by road to Mamallapuram from Madras and elsewhere.

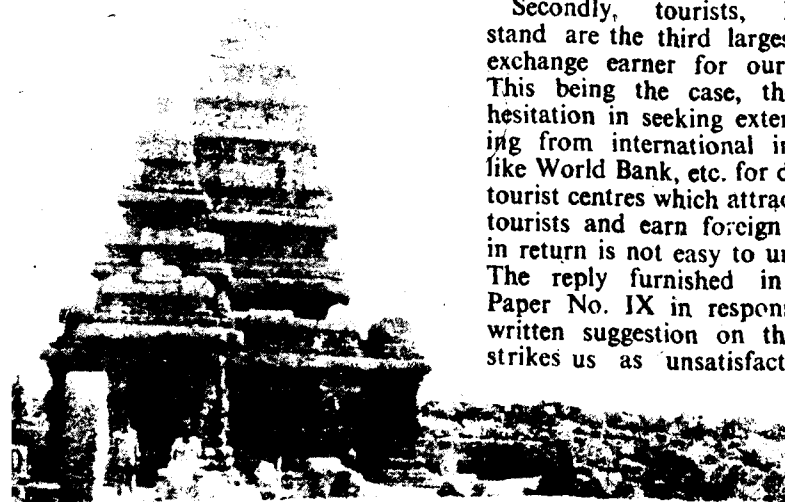
of inadequate coordination and unsatisfactory services, so that all the relevant Departments make a concerted effort to serve the all important national cause of promoting tourism.

Regarding All India Permits, a reference has been made to the issue of permits to operators who are not in the travel trade. Presently, priority is due to applicants in the travel trade, namely Tourism Development Corporations, travel agents, tour operators, etc. I would like to suggest that existing regulations may be re-examined to see whether we could amend the Act to make applicants of the above categories alone eligible for the All India permits. I have a further suggestion to make that there should be a separate and liberal quota for the State Tourism Corporations, so that the problem of mis-use can be avoided.

In the matter of Package Tours, it is a matter of some pride

tourist Information Centres numbering 20, not only at the Airports but also at the important railway stations and popular tourist centres. These Information Centres not only answer enquiries, but also render positive assistance to the tourists who are stranded for some reason or the other and those who are forced with other problems. To enable us to expand this network of Information Centres, we feel that the Government of India should also come forward with a special scheme to meet a portion of the cost of establishing and running them.

The suggestion to form a Tourist Complaints Cell is welcome. But we feel that we should simultaneously have an effective method to redress the complaints promptly. This would depend on our ability to punish wrong-doers and the touts. Our Government has been contemplating legislative action to





meet this need and we would welcome suggestions of the States and of the Government of India, in this regard.

Incentives: We are happy to find that the Agenda Notes for this Conference prepared by the Government of India recognizes the important role that the private sector can and should play in tourism development. A package of incentives should be worked out to enable private entrepreneurs to invest more in this sector. Let me assure the Conference that the Tamilnadu

Government will do all that is possible to provide the necessary incentives, consistent with its resources. The Agenda Notes suggest that the State Governments may consider withdrawing the various taxes imposed by them on the earning of the Hotels. We would like to be enlightened as to whether the Government of India propose to withdraw the 15% Hotel Receipt Tax that it is levying on this Industry.

Before concluding, I would like to emphasize a point which is

crucial to this entire Conference, namely the priority that the Government of India attaches to the tourism sector. Whether it is the matter of these taxes, or grant of concessional loans from Central financing institutions, or seeking external assistance or allocations in the Annual Plans, a clear-cut priority for this sector is now lacking. Until this policy changes, no break-through in the pace of tourism development will be achieved. We will be merely meeting periodically and passing pious resolutions. It is our hope that this Conference, unlike its predecessors, will pave the way for such a break-through. Our Government strongly believes that rapid tourism development in the country calls for a combined partnership approach between the Centre and the States, and between the public sector and the private sector. The Tamilnadu Government is willing and ready to carry its share of this National task, and looks forward to fruitful collaboration with other States and with the Centre.

[Speech delivered by Thiru R. M. Veerappan Minister for Information and Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu, at the Tourism Ministers' Conference, New Delhi on 2-12-81]



A TOURIST Haven

Tourism has assumed the proportion of a "big biz" in Tamil Nadu. Every year the rush is on the increase both inland and foreign. What step is the State Tourism Department taking to cope with it? What are its future plans? This article, based on a question and answer session between Thiru. Tamal Kanti Ghosh, Administrative Officer, North Indian Patrika and the State Tourism Minister, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, provides the answer.

Tourism is up in India, so it is in Tamil Nadu, as in Haryana and in a big way too.

Tamil Nadu is amply endowed with everything to offer the tourists and the State Government is fully exploiting this. The result has been a 20 percent increase in the flow of foreign tourists in the last three years and in 1980 the peak of 2.25 lakh tourists was reached.

What has the present M. G. R. Government done to attract tourists to the State? One has to admit that a lot has been done in the last four years. To meet the tourists' demand and attract more, the annual budget on this head has been increased from Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 109 lakhs

during this period. Yet it is not a tourists' haven, and a lot more has to be achieved. The Government too admits this.

But the Government is fully aware that this industry is a potential dollar winner and has, therefore, embarked upon a steady but ambitious plan to widen the net with package programmes and amenities. In doing so, however, it is not ignoring, like most of the other States, the low budget domestic tourists.

The State abounds in hill stations, game sanctuaries, beaches, ancient temples, religious centres and modern cities and above all has one of the attractive spots in the country Kanyakumari the land's end. Immediately the Government plans to develop Mammallapuram, Rameswaram, Kanyakumari, Udhamandalam, Kodaikanal, Pichavaram, Yercaud and a few other places into international tourists centres.

What are the facilities being offered by the M. G. R. Government for the tourists? It has developed road transport and has built a number of hotels and motels, all furnished with modern amenities.

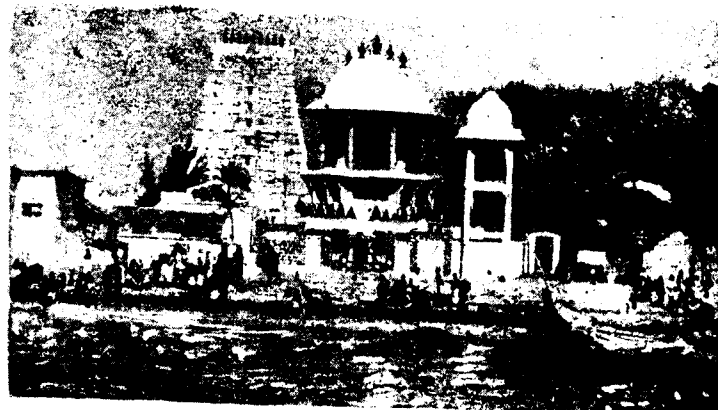
For the well to do tourists, the Tourism Department has at its disposal a chain of hotels run by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation and the Indian Tourism Development Corporation. Apart from these there are a number of private hotels. The STDC has a fleet of 17 luxury coaches, including three air conditioned ones.

For the middle income and low budget tourists, the STDC has a number of hotels and motels. Apart from these, there is a chain of youth hostels at 9 or 10 places and as many are coming up and will be available soon.

For the benefit of the tourists the STDC conducts coach tours by road. These tours have become very popular. Two such tours of seven days each enable you not only to see the tourist spots in Tamil Nadu but the whole of South India. The Corporation's turnover in this respect, which was only Rs. 68.51 lakhs in 1976-77, has gone up to Rs. 164.51 lakhs in 1980-81.

To attract foreign tourists, the Government has been organising 'Destination South India' programmes since 1977 in collaboration with the Government of India and Air India. In this programme select travel writers and journalists are invited from overseas and they write about their tour experiences in their local papers. This venture has been a success and the response is encouraging. What other steps have been taken by way of publicity? The Department is running 17 tourist information centres, eight tourist offices and is projecting tourist spots through visuals, attractive literature and films.

What are the impediments in foreign travels? Very few foreign airlines touch Madras, only Singapore Airlines, Air Lanka and Malaysian Airlines flights are supported by two outward flights by Air India to Singapore and Kuala



Lumpur: The M. G. R. Government has requested the Government of India to route more international flights through Madras airport. If and when this is done the State Government is confident that more foreign tourists will flock to Tamil Nadu. The M. G. R. Government also feels that taking into consideration the importance of Tamil Nadu as a tourist centre, the Government of India and the ITDC investment in the State is far from adequate. If this shortcoming is removed Tamil Nadu can become a tourists' haven and soon.

North Indian Patrika
12-12-1981.



Rajaji's HUMANISM

Mi. Pa. Somasundaram,
Director,
Traditional Tamil Arts,
Government of Tamil Nadu.

Even though Rajaji was a humanist, his humanism had an individuality, an individuality so characteristic of him that it was not fully visible to the casual eye.

I have often heard people say Rajaji was hard-hearted, cold and unmoving; and that he was all brain and no heart! These prejudices stem out from the fact that he was always against favouritism, favouritism of any kind. He could not be approached for personal favours solely on the ground of individual consideration, without any logical necessity for his intervention, without any justifiable cause for his involvement. In other words, he never allowed his friends to use him for personal gains. Does it mean that he lacked compassion or concern for others?

Rajaji's deep concern for the people was responsible for his plunge into political life which was full of hazards and unexpressed threats in those days. It was due to his humanism that he threw away his lucrative practice at the Salem bar. It was again his humanism in him that compelled him to undertake, in that advanced age, a trip to the United States to meet President Kennedy, to desist from nuclear tests deadly to the human race.

Rajaji's humanism is found clearly expressed in one of his expositions of Isa Upanishad. He explains: "He who practises seeing all other human beings as if they lived within his own body, sees himself as if living in the bodies of others and thereby overcomes all ill-will

and aversion. By practising this, a man attains the unity of oneself with all other souls; and all grief automatically disappears." Rajaji practised this Upanishadic humanism through out his life.

Rajaji's life was a unique life of service, sacrifice, struggle and also fulfilment. He drew sustenance from his intense love of the country and the countrymen. He was always young in mind because he had an abiding interest in the affairs of the human beings in the midst of whom he lived.

A great thinker of the west once defined that a humanist had four leading characteristics viz. curiosity, free mind, belief in good taste and belief in the human race. Rajaji's

life and his writings bear ample testimony to these four virtues.

Rajaji's humanism is reflected as much in what he attempted but failed, as in his achievements. His humanism reflects itself equally in his failures as in his victories; and that was his greatness.

His concern for humanity made him translate Scriptures like Kato-panishads and Tirukkural to English. It also gave him enormous strength to wage many a relentless battle in his long and stormy political life. His unbounded sympathy for the poor and the downtrodden has inspired him to write several short stories and parables. He even brushed aside artistic elegance in many of his stories so that he could directly lead his reader to an aspect of truth or moral or a sentiment worthy of value. His short stories like Annaiyum Pithavum, Kooni Sundari and Devanai depict the pitiable unfortunates in life who need special attention and care of the better-placed in society.



Author with Rajaji

Humanism is not devotion to human interests alone but it is literary culture also. Rajaji stood for causes which can never be lost so long as men seek wisdom and follow righteousness. His life and writings alike march towards the same goal, the uplift of humanity. All that he lived for and all that he wrote were the dual exercise of his humanism and his skill. His humanism was always actively alive to his surroundings and that is why in all his writings we see him linking up the past with the present and the future, in the light of their relevance and application to men and matters of the present. His writings extend to short stories, fables, political science, chemistry, children's literature, literature for the neo-literates, biography, current affairs, philosophy and the retelling of the Epics. In all these, we see a saintly guide compassionately leading his brethren to eternal values with all their utility and use to the present-day human problems. He is not a writer of fiction in the ordinary sense. He always has a message born out of his humanistic approach, and he wrote to awaken the reader to the needs of a marching society. That is why prohibition, removal of untouchability and evils of corruption and the like are some of the themes he dealt with in his short stories. In his frank and simple preface to his stories Rajaji says,

"Most of these stories were written not by one who aspires to be an author but by one who desires to further the public causes in which he is deeply involved. High-brow men may say that stories should be just stories and not propaganda. Let me state categorically that these stories that I have written, most of them, have a human purpose and I claim that this purpose is inevitable and according to me good for my people. I have written these stories for the human causes that hold dear to me."

Well, I think this preface strikes the key note of his humanism in his own words.

Rajaji was unique in his agreement as he was unique in his disagreement, because he was always unique in this humanistic approach to every problem.

The secret of the force in Rajaji's writings was this humanism. He had always the ancient sages firmly installed in his thoughts and spoke with their authenticity giving a certain contemporaneity fixed from the human angles of relevance and topicality. All his interrogations and interjections in between his narrations reveal not only his ability but his deep compassion and concern for the poor and the desperate.

He never wrote just because he had a plot or an episode to weave

a story with. He always derived confidence from the eternal forms of truth and wrote on subjects which he thought would reform his country men for whose cause he served with compassion, skill and zeal. The flawless triumph of his entire life is that he preached what he practised in his life. He spoke into the ear of his age and into the ear of his country with that intimacy born out of practice and conviction. To strike a personal note I must say Rajaji always reminded me of Goldsmith's "The man in black". There have been many occasions when I have seen Rajaji melt into tears. But he was always mighty in his brain to arrest or hide his emotions in public. He was capable of intense love but he was also capable of not showing it out and certainly not exhibiting it!

I only remember those remarkable words of Oliver Goldsmith: "Some affect humanity and tenderness. Others pose of having dispositions from nature but he is the only man I know who seemed ashamed of his natural benevolence!"

These remarkable words of Goldsmith are remarkably true of Rajaji. That is why he always took pains to hide his feelings. However, on unguarded moments I have seen his dark glasses slipping off revealing the tender human being that Rajaji really was!



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

The new textile policy announced by the Government of India in March 1981 gives a pride of place to the handloom sector under 20th Point Programme and has named it the main cloth of the nation. The Government of Tamilnadu has set up a chain of 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills with a total installed capacity of 3.14 lakhs spindles which produce about 7500 bales per mensem of cotton yarn. The importance given to the handloom industry in Tamilnadu can be of different counts. Regarding supply gauged from the fact that the outlay of cotton yarn, the cooperative sector for the handloom development is being taken care of by the 12 schemes has gone up from a level of Rs. 27.82 crores during the Fifth Five Year Plan to Rs. 84.58 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan. To meet the additional demand for yarn due to the anticipated increase in the Cooperative coverage of handlooms, the Government have initiated measures to set up 3 new Co-operative Spinning Mills with 25000 spindles each at a total cost of Rs. 18 crores and also to expand 3 of the existing mills at a cost of Rs. 9 crores.

The following are the highlights of the achievements under the various handloom development programmes:

COOPERATIVE COVERAGE OF HANDLOOM

This programme includes the setting up of a new spinning unit at Ettayapuram in Tirunelveli District synchronising with the Birth Centenary of Poet Bharathi.

Out of a total of 5.56 lakhs handlooms in the State, 2.70 lakhs handlooms (i.e. 49%) have so far been brought into the cooperative fold. This State is aiming at a total coverage of 67% by the end of the 6th Plan Period as against the national level target of 60%.

PROVISION OF CONCESSIONAL FINANCE

The total quantum of concessional finance to the handloom cooperative sector sanctioned by the Reserve Bank of



India for the year 1981-82 is Rs.45.82 crores. This works out to about 50% of the total credit made available by the Reserve Bank for the cooperative sector of the handloom industry in the country as a whole.

PRODUCTION

The total production in the co-operative sector of the handloom industry in the State has increased from 93 million metres in 1979-80 to 103 million metres during 1980-81. The projection for the year 1981-82 is 110 million metres. The State has so far set up 4 Design cum-Service Centres one each at Madurai, Trichirappalli, Salem and Coimbatore. One such centre is being set up at Kadayanallur in Trinelveli District during the current year. About 3400 handlooms have switched over to production of polyester fabrics. Modernisation of handlooms is also taking place in a big way.

AVAILABILITY OF CHEAPER CLOTH TO THE CONSUMERS

This State produced 15 million metres of cheaper cloth (controlled cloth) during 1980-81 and made them available to the consuming public. The target for 1981-82 is 40 million metres.

MARKETING SUPPORT

Tamilnadu has a strong Apex Handloom Cooperative popularly known as "Cooptex". At present this Apex organisation is providing marketing support to its affiliated Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies numbering 1200 to the extent of about 50% of their total production. The sales performance of Cooptex during 1980-81 was to the extent of Rs. 48 crores. The Corporate Plan of Cooptex for 1981-82 aims at a sales target of Rs. 75 crores. The Cooptex is implementing the programme of "National Collection of Printed Sarees" and was recently released the first batch of finer sount sarees with traditional prints.

WELFARE SCHEMES

Weavers Housing Schemes:

A Scheme for the construction of 5000 houses for the benefit of handloom weavers in the cooperative sector has been taken up under the 6th Five Year Plan with financial assistance from HUDCO and State Government.

Savings and Security Scheme:

Another welfare scheme called the "Cooperative Handloom

Weavers Savings and Security Scheme" is being implemented. 66,500 handloom weavers have so far joined the scheme. This scheme



is linked to a group insurance under which, if a weaver who has joined the scheme dies, his legal heir will get a lumpsum amount of Rs. 3000- from L.I.C.

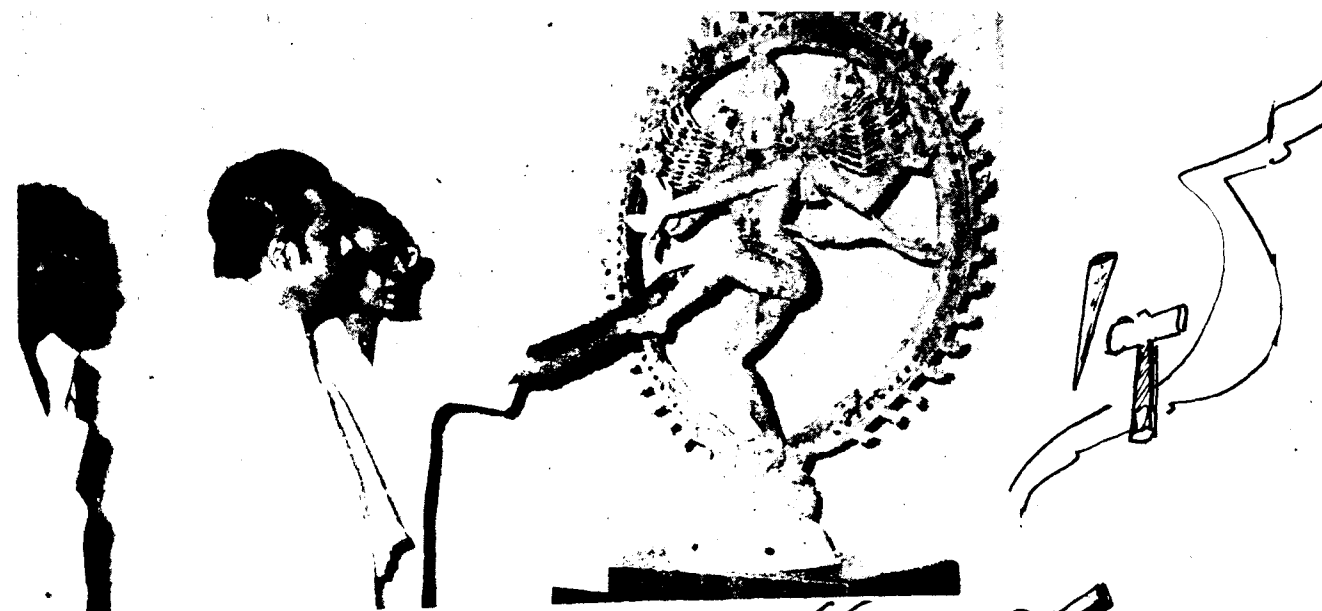
Statutory protection to handloom weavers:

With a view to give statutory protection to handloom weavers in regard to their working conditions, wages etc., the State Legislature has recently passed a Bill called the Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers (Conditions of Employment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 1981 which is awaiting the assent of the President of India.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the implementation of the various handloom development programmes in our State, the handloom industry will continue to fulfill its obligation of meeting the clothing needs of the people and will help to increase the standard of living of the handloom weavers. With the Pongal fast approaching, the Cooptex has made elaborate arrangements to provide a wide range of handloom products to the consuming public. Thanks to the diversification programme accepted by the

Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in the State, it has been possible for the Cooptex to introduce to the consumers exquisite designs of handloom polyester shirtings and sarees, in addition to making available the famous Kancheepuram Silks to suit the budget of the different income groups. As a measure of support, the Government have announced a special rebate of 20% on all retail sales of handloom fabrics (except for Janatha cloth and Readymade Garments) sold through 400 and odd retail outlets of Cooptex and the 1200 Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in the State. This year, the Government have also permitted a whole-sale rebate to 15% on all wholesale sales effected by the Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in the State. These special rebates would be available in all Cooptex Retail outlets from 1.10.81 and in the Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies from 7.10.81 upto 26-10-81. It is hoped that the consuming public will avail of the special rebate announced by the Government, buy their entire requirements of cloth from handloom and thereby patronise the handloom industry on which lakhs of poor handloom weavers depend for their livelihood.



If one talks about Madurai, we immediately recall the beauty of Meenakshi Temple. We can readily call it as a "Treasure House of Art".

Madurai is one of the most ancient cities of India with a rich tradition. From time beyond memory, it has been the seat of learning and Tamil culture, celebrated in literature and mythology. Until the 14th Century, it remained the Capital of Pandian rulers. They were great patrons of Tamil learning, art and architecture. And Madurai flourished with the talent of its writers, builders, poets and academics. Madurai was the proud Centre of the Third Tamil academy-the touch stone for literary recognition, two thousand years ago. Age has not withered nor custom staled Madurai's grandeur.

The beautiful town of Madurai stands on the banks of Vaigai River, with picturesque scenery around. It shines as an example of a city planned with the great temple at the centre.

With an idea to add one more diamond to the crown of this beautiful city, in addition to the shining diamonds like Meenakshi Temple, Mariamman Teppakkulam, Mangamma Palace and Thirumalai Naicker Mahal, the Tamilnadu Government has established the third District Museum under the Department of Museums on the North bank of the Vaigai River.

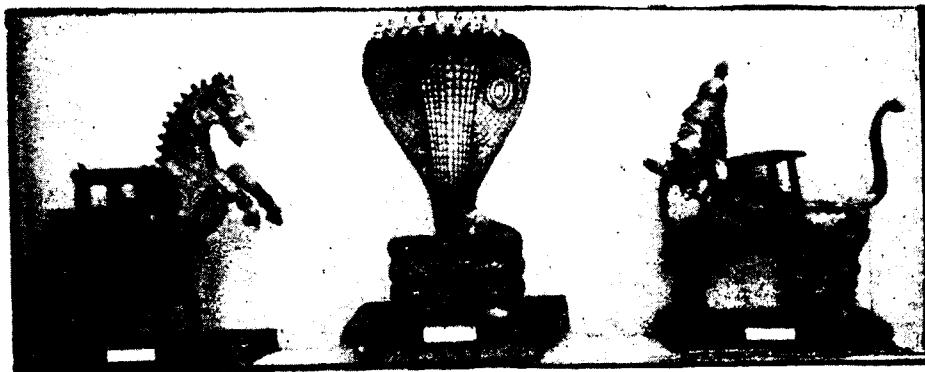
The district museum has been set up as part of the policy of the Government to have a district museum at each district headquarters. Located at present in the Salt March Golden Jubilee Hall in the Gandhi Memorial Museum campus at Madurai, it sets out to fulfill the purposes of a district Museum viz to epitomize all the features of the district and to become the focal centre of museological activities in the district.

The entrance gallery, called the Madurai Gallery, tells about the essential features of the Madurai District, its physical features, its administrative divisions, its history, its monuments and places of interest through an illuminated

TREASURE HOUSE OF ART

By N. SULAIMAN M.A., B.Sc., Dip.
Curator, (Department of Museum)





coloured glass map of the district and other maps and photographs. Some important photographs of Ancient Jain Sculpture, Muslim mosques, Christian Churches, Dindigul Fort in Madurai district have also been displayed in this Gallery.

The visitors going towards the sculpture gallery is welcomed by a monumental sculpture of Vishnu - the preserver of the Pandiya school from Madurai, with royal head-dress and with four hands of which the upper right holds a discuss and the upper left a conch shell. A small Pallava image of Gajalakshmi - Sri Devi, the Goodness of prosperity, a seated sculpture of Mahavir, the founder of Jainism, a Nandi - the Vahana or vehicle of Siva with five ornamental decorations, a three legged Sethupala in standing posture with a Katham in his left hand and a small Saptha rishi - seven saints - seated in a row - from Madurai are the fine sculptures on display.

Moreover, twenty four fine wood carvings from the ancient temple cars have been displayed on two panels on either side. Some of the remarkable wood carvings are Ekapadamurthi-the Siva with a single leg, Dancing Ganesa, Madurai Veeran - with his burning eyes, Chauri bearers and Bhairava. The wood carvings depict the minute wood work of the ancient artists.

Then one enters the gallery of bronzes and Coins. Selected Chola bronzes of varying sizes are exhibited here to bring out the mastery of the ancient Tamil artists in this medium.

A big Nataraja figure from Vellalar Agaram, Tanjore District (about 1200 AD) invites the

attention of the visitors and let them to think of its artists. We know that South Indian bronzes stand out as one of the peaks of artistic achievement of man and the best of them are Chola times. The artist fashioned it with pious care and utter devotion. This Nataraja image in bronze was a special contribution of the Chola. We can say that they surpassed themselves in creating it.

Other notable bronzes are Devi from Chitraikudi, Kaliyakrishna from Tiruvalangadu, Thirugnana Sambandar from Lalpet and Somaskanda from Semangalam.

A number of small bronzes are artistically displayed in two show cases; the Crawling Krishna from Tirunelveli, Nammalvar, Lakshmi Narasimha and Buddha from Prataparapuram are some remarkable household bronzes.

Coins have had an attraction for man ever since they were struck about 2700 years ago in this country. They served the purpose as a symbol and token of value and displaced the system of exchange of goods by barter. On the left of the bronze gallery, metal casts of thirty one selected coins are attractively displayed along with photographs and the maps of the respective kings ruled. These coins tell the story of kings who ruled of yore over the different kingdoms and principal cities that comprised our land.

They also tell us about the religious persuasions of certain rulers. At the same time, they show the gradual evolution of the art of striking coins through the ages. The displayed metal cast



coins and the method of display will definitely give some more knowledge to the students in History.

The Anthropology Gallery, which comes after this, show some prehistoric stone tools like hand axes, choppers, cleavers, found in Tamilnadu dated to about 125,000 to 500,000 years back. A big burial Urn belonging to the iron age period, about 1800 years old, with some more burial potteries are also on display. Some musical Instruments like udukai, rantunni and horns are also tastefully displayed to give an idea to the visitors about our ancient Tamil musical instruments.

We know that Madurai district is having many hilly forests and the tribal people of this district are safely dwelling here. The ethnographic collections of these tribes mainly of Pulaiyan and Paliyar, are on display here - the tribal drums, pellet bow, peculiar choppers and knives, reveal their material culture. The three fine miniature vahanas - the nine headed serpent, the horse and the man animal figure- in wood with colourful decorations attract the sight of the visitors easily.



Then one passes on to the natural science section. Here in consonance with recent trends, an attempt has been made to present the inter-relationship of Geology, Botany and Zoology through dioramas, depicting five types of environment on the earth viz. marines, tropical forest, grass land, desert and frozen desert. At the beginning, the solar system is shown on the back panel, and below it, important rocks have been embedded in a model hilly tract.

The colourful Mackaw parrot, scaly anteater, giant owls and the very big white polar bear standing on the snow desert are some of the exhibits, adding more attraction to the natural diorama.

The panel opposite the dioramas has been used to depict various minerals, the plant and animal classifications with their examples painted nearby which will definitely be more helpful to the biology students.

The industries of Madurai find a place in the next gallery. Three leading industrial firms T.V.S., Madurai Coats, Fenner and handlooms of Madurai are also represented through photographs and samples of their products.

A very big gun of the East India Company, a blunderbus, a fusil and four cannon balls have also been displayed as special exhibits.

Leaving the industries gallery and arms collection, one goes into the painting gallery in which traditional and contemporary paintings of Tamil nadu are represented. Eleven small paintings, showing important scenes from the legends about Madurai, Tanjore paintings on glass, wood and mica are some exhibits which explain themselves the minute workmanship of South Indian Schools.

An impressive pathic painting of scenes from the Ramayana with ancient Tamil letters, received from Thiru A. Perumal, Madurai, occupies the full panel of this Gallery, attracts the attention of the visitors. On the succeeding panel, seven paintings, two sculptural pieces, one in fibre glass and another in metal, the inlaid wood work represent contemporary art in Tamilnadu, with special emphasis on the artists from the Madurai district.

Recently the painting of Bharathi by V. Mathavan Pillai has been displayed and this painting reminds a visitor, the poem "Kani Nilam Vendum"

by Bharathi. The artist has brought out the dreams of Bharathi through this painting.

A well designed display case for the publication of the department of museums, follows so as to inform the public about the various bulletins, guides and brochures brought out by this department, on various subjects from Archaeology to Natural Sciences.

Thus the Museum at Madurai, set up by the Department of Museums, attempts to project as much as possible the significant features of the Madurai district in its entirety.

Moreover the museum is serving its purpose by the educational activities, like educative special exhibitions, popular lectures by eminent scholars and gallery talks to the group of students with special attention to their subjects and create a thought for preserving and safeguarding the antiquities among the public and students.

SURGICAL CARE IN RURAL AREAS

Prof. R. Nanjunda Rao,
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F.R.S.T.M. (Lond.)

Dr. T. Gunasekaran,
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It is common knowledge that existing health service structure will medical technology in the urban centres in India is comparable to those in the developed countries. But the medicare even 10 miles outside the urban limits is very deficient. People die of simple curable problems for want of medical care. The urban medicare centres are islands of sophistication and diversification in desert of want and suffering. Carrying sophisticated technology to the needy areas has engaged the attention of many a medical planner, but the solution has been eluding everyone of them, due to lack of initiative. The usual problems that are highlighted :

- (a) Want of funds
- (b) Reluctance of the specialists to go to the Rural Areas
- (c) Ignorance of the community

Though, it cannot be denied that these are the problems, it has to be accepted that there has to be a crash programme to eliminate the sufferings of the rural masses which constitute about 80% of our population. The magnitude of the problem will be a dissuading factor. The lack of funds will be a stumbling block for several years to come. So, a plan to circumvent the above factors will have to be considered. The services at our disposal and the

existing health service structure have to be utilised with modifications to energise this plan. The curative medical services may be broadly classified into

- (a) Medical
- (b) Surgical
- (c) Obstretic Care

The health delivery care to the people of Tamilnadu is met by the following agencies :

- (a) The Government
- (b) Municipal Agencies
- (c) Voluntary Organisations

delivering Health Care either as groups or as individuals.

The biggest organisation in the health care delivery is the Government. The private sector comes next.

The governmental organisation consists of (a) Medical Colleges and their affiliated hospitals, (b) District Headquarter Hospitals, (c) Taluk Hospitals and (d) The Primary Health Centres.

The Primary Health Centres are basically designed to offer preventive health care. At present, they are catering to curative demands of the community for inevitable

reasons. The Taluk Hospital is an essence, the main centre for curative medicare in the Governmental services in the health care delivery system. The taluk hospitals have a liasion with the District Headquarter Hospitals. But this liasion does not function effectively because of :

- (a) Lack of co-ordination
- (b) Distance involved
- (c) Ignorance of the community.

Most of the taluk hospitals, barring a few, are engaged in running outpatient clinics with skeleton facilities for inpatient medicare and a majority of them are unable to offer even elementary surgical care for want of :

- (a) Personnel
- (b) Lack of equipments
- (c) Lack of para-medical staff
- (d) Lack of initiative.

The most difficult technologic transfer is one of catering surgical care in the rural areas. So, a project of taking surgical care to the rural folk at their doorsteps was undertaken. The taluk hospital with an unutilised theatre was chosen. It was decided that a team of surgeons would visit the centre once a fortnight to carry out surgical procedures with the equipment that are available there. These visits would aim to train the medical officers in that hospital to make full use of the facilities available in carrying out surgical procedures. It was envisaged that in the course of time there would be a transfer of surgical technology to a centre which lacked this facility.

The centre chosen was the Government Taluk Hospital at Tiruttani. The reasons for choosing Tiruttani are :

- (1) It is 50 miles from Madras —The longest distance any team in Tamilnadu would have to travel from a medical college in delivering surgical care.

- (2) Tiruttani hospital has an unutilised surgical theatre with surgical instruments and apparatus and sterilisation facility.

- (3) Inpatient care capacity sufficient for post-operative care.



(4) Doctors with M.B.B.S. 15 operating sessions have been qualification who with a little training would be able to perform surgical procedures. For example, repair of inguinal hernias, hydroceles, excision of cysts, small tumours like lipoma, etc. Advantages accrued out of this programme :

PROJECT REPORT

Our surgical team made a few preliminary visits to acquaint the medical officers of the Tiruttani hospital with this idea and appraised itself of the facility available in the hospital. The operating session were carried out once a fortnight since August 1980 and have gone on till date. The medical officers travel from Madras to Tiruttani hospital by a van provided by the Government. On an average, the team would consist of two qualified surgeons and three post-graduate trainees. The screening O.P. could be run in the evening prior to the operating session so as to draw-up a provisional operating list for the subsequent session. The cases presented for screening would have been filtered off by the local medical officers from the daily O.P. clinics at the taluk hospital. The operating session itself would be during the morning. When the local medical officers are engaged in surgery, the post-graduate trainees would serve the outpatient clinics of the Taluk Hospitals. The surgical team would return to the City in the evening after entrusting the post-operative care to the Doctors of the taluk hospital. The post-operative care will be entirely in the hands of the taluk hospital Doctors. The services of the surgical team will be ever ready to assist the taluk hospital Doctors in case of emergencies.

- (1) Surgical care has been delivered to the people in and around Tiruttani at their door-steps.

- (2) The facilities at the Tiruttani hospital have been used effectively.

- (3) Doctors at the taluk hospital have been trained in surgical techniques.

- (4) The nursing and para-medical staff have been trained in the theatre technique.

- (5) Expert surgical opinions were available to the patients attending the taluk hospitals.

- (6) The taluk hospital O.P. has become a liasion to the teaching hospitals.

- (7) The surgical trainees are exposed to realities in the rural areas.

- (8) The cost involved is negligible—would amount to sanctioning of travelling allowance and dearness allowance to the surgical team.

- (9) Postings of Assistant Surgeons to Taluk Hospitals can be avoided since surgical care is metted out to the rural masses and the surgeons will be able to contribute to teaching and research.

Being a pilot project the transport was provided by the

Deputy Director of Leprosy, Government of Tamilnadu and the surgical team was posted at Tiruttani at the Lions Club of Tiruttani.

Indirect Advantages

(1) It has been assessed that a person referred from Taluk Hospital to the teaching hospital for a surgical procedure will have to at least visit the medical college O.P. twice before his admission and would spend on an average 7 days in the City Hospital before he is actually operated and another 8 days before discharge. On an average, he would be spending 15 to 20 days away from his work-spot. For major medical procedures the time away from his work-spot would even be longer. When the surgical procedure is carried out at the taluk hospital, the patient would be away from home only for the minimum time.

(2) When the patient is admitted in the hospital, the kith and kin would visit him atleast twice during his hospital stay and it has been observed that most patients have an attendant along with him, which means, the patient would have to spend out of his pocket to maintain an attendant (relative) for the days that he will have to be an inpatient in the City Hospital. Money spent is saved if the patient is operated near his home.

(3) The surgical trainees who have no idea of rural conditions will be exposed to realities and would be better prepared to undertake postings in the rural areas.

(4) The theatre which can be activated in the short while is ready. In the event of a natural calamity or accident, a theatre in a rural area would come in very useful. It should be emphasized that transport of injured patients will increase the morality and morbidity.

(5) Simple resutitative procedures can be done only if theatres are at the disposal of the Doctors.

(6) Doctors could easily be transported to the affected area and they can make use of the readily available theatre facilities.

(7) When surgery is carried out in a taluk hospital, the community comes to have greater confi-

dence in the curative services of the hospital—It will reduce the outpatient load on the teaching hospitals.

(8) If surgical procedures are carried out in the taluk hospitals, the teaching hospitals will be spared of the simpler surgical problems.

(9) The specialised centres can devote more time and energy in solving complicated problems and medical research.

THE PLAN

There are 8 Government Medical Colleges in the State. It is proposed that each medical college adopt 3 taluk hospitals within a 50 mile radius. The medical colleges will extend specialised technology in the areas of general medicine, general surgery and obstetric and

All this can be achieved without very great additional expenditure as it has been found that activation of this taluk hospital alone is necessary. Thanks to the medical planners of Tamilnadu that many a taluk hospital is fairly well equipped. It is only some initiative and practical thinking that is necessary to activate these health delivery care centres. The benefit accrued will be quite tangible and not one of projected statistics.

Sample study of patients coming for hernias and hydroceles to the Government General Hospital has revealed the following facts:

(1) 60% have given a rural address.

(2) Remaining 40%, a large number has given the City address



gynaecological care by sponsoring fortnightly visits to the respective teams to the adopted taluk hospitals.

The visit of the specialists would result in the emergence of 24 additional centres catering curative, medical, surgical and gynaecological

services of an order that does not exist at present in those hospitals. There would be at the disposal to the Government 24 surgical hospitals ready to tackle the fall-out from

It would require only the transport of Doctors to the needed spot.

of a relative, though in fact, they hail from a rural area.

(3) There are only about 30 existing governmental centres which offer surgery in the rural areas.

(4) Even these 30 centres are over-crowded to be effective in sophisticated health care.

(5) There is absolutely no liaison between the teaching hospitals and the rural health care centre.



A MEMORABLE EVENT AT ETTAYAPURAM

A. MUTHUSAMY M.A.

The Government of TamilNadu has rightly constituted a Centenary Celebrations Committee to celebrate the birth centenary of the great Tamil Poet Subramaniya Bharathi in a fitting manner. On behalf of this Committee, a year long celebrations have been proposed. As a prelude to this, a three day inaugural function of the birth centenary of the bard of resurgent Tamil Nadu was held at his birth place Ettayapuram, Tirunelveli District from December 11, 1981.



The erection of the Pandal was highly impressive and designed with an artistic touch. The small town of Ettayapuram was brimming with people and beautiful arches were seen at various points in the small town.

The Bharathi Memorial Mandap has been renovated and the house where the Poet was born has also been renovated by the State Archaeology Department.

To highlight the life and mission of the Poet, an exhibition near Bharathi Memorial Mandap was organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Departments of Information and Public Relations, Agriculture, Forest, Industries and Education have erected pavilions depicting the songs of the Poet in a fascinating manner. These pavilions were flooded with a vast throng of common people throughout the day. Bharathi wearing a neat turban and with his moustache

twirled and dressed in a coat was recalled by thousands of people who came to witness the celebrations at Ettayapuram. The exhibition depicting the life of Bharathi who had contributed an imperishable treasure of poems and songs in Tamil within his short span of life was very interesting. His heroic utterances and emotion ridden lines were displayed tastefully.

On the happy occasion of the centenary celebrations the people of Ettayapuram have been blessed with better roads, improved water supply and other amenities provided with a cost of Rs. 20 to 25 lakhs. The dream of the local people was realised when the inauguration function commenced here. Amidst scenes of rejoicing His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru

life size statue of the Poet Bharathi amidst cheers.

The Vice Chancellors of Anna-malai University, Madurai Kamaraj University and Gandhi Gram University recalled the greatness of Bharathi.

At the end, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M. G. Ramachandran addressed the people gathered there numbering over one lakh. The people heard his speech with rapt attention and great enthusiasm.

The Chief Minister announced that the Government will soon start a University exclusively for women before the end of 1982 to cherish the memory of the national Poet was welcomed with great

Thiru K. Diraviam, the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the session on 12-12-81 with his impressive speech depicting Bharathi as a rare personality possessing precocious knowledge. He dwelt in detail how his poems raised the status of Tamil and Bharat in the eyes of the world.

This was followed by emotional speeches of the students drawn from various colleges under the chairmanship of Thiru Valampuri John. Their deep study of Bharathi's works was revealed remarkably in their forceful speeches. This Youth Forum provided an occasion for the younger generation to express their views about Bharathi and his ideals.

The Poets Meet and Women's Forum evoked much interest among the audience.



Sadiq Ali inaugurated the centenary celebrations under the Presidentship of the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The Governor in his inaugural address paid glorious tribute to the national poet who was essentially a Poet, but a Poet with a purpose of vision and deep passion.

Hon. Minister for Agriculture Thiru K. Kalimuthu, a scholar in Tamil welcomed the gathering.

The Punjab Chief Minister Thiru Darbara Singh unveiled the

cheers by the audience. The Chief Minister profusely quoted from the poems of Bharathi on women and their emancipation.

Kalaimamani Bala Murali Krishna rendered a music recital accompanied by his party.

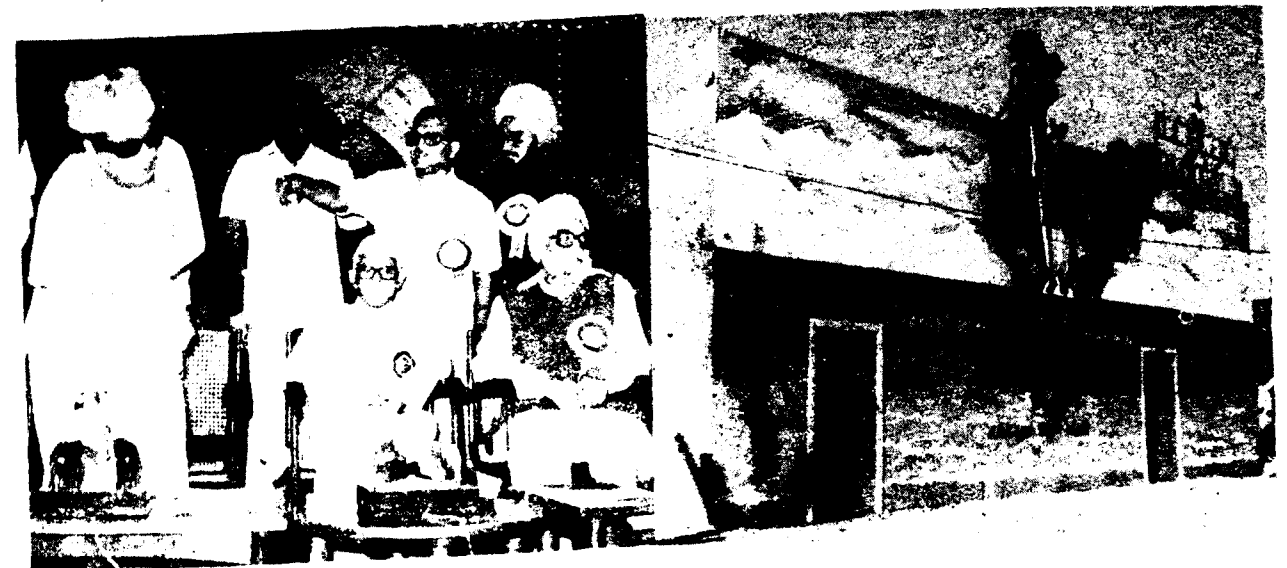
Tmt. Vani Kamalahasan gave a dance performance.

The second day function commenced with a Nadaswaram performance by Kalaimamani Namagripettai Krishnan.

The evening session of the second day began with the inaugural address by Thiru R. Venkataraman, Union Finance Minister. In his speech he said that Bharathi's works would be published not only in all the Indian languages but in foreign languages also, and the audience applauded this information.

Eminent Tamil scholars spoke on various subjects glorifying Poet Bharathi on different aspects.

Dr. Navalar Nedunchezian, Finance Minister, explained in



detail the greatness of Bharathi for Agriculture with quotations from his poems.

The second day session was concluded with a music performance by Sirkali S. Govindarajan and also with a drama staged by Kalaimamani S. V. Sahasranamam & Party.

The third day session was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor of Perarignar Anna Technological University under the presidentship of Thiru K. Kalimuthu, the Minister

A symposium was conducted in which eminent scholars drawn from various fields took part.

In the evening leaders of various political parties paid homage to Bharathi with Thiru K. Rajaram, Speaker, Tamil Nadu Assembly in the chair.

The valedictory session, the highlight of the three day function

of the centenary celebrations was presided over by Hon. Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran.

Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Religious Endowments welcomed the gathering. He said that this Government is implementing the lofty ideals of poet Bharathi and only to fulfil his ambition that the Anna Government under the leadership of Thiru M. G. R. is celebrating the birth day of Tamil





leaders and scholars who served this country in various capacities. He further pointed out that these celebrations were necessary to make the people recall their selfless services. Her Excellency T. m. t. Jothi Venkatachallam, Governor of Kerala laid the foundation stone for the Bharathi Art Gallery and Hon. Thiru R. Gundu Rao, Chief Minister of Karnataka laid the foundation stone for the Rs. 4 crore Bharathi Co-operative Spinning Mills. Thiru Kalpanath Rai, Member of Parliament and leading litterateur spoke on the occasion. He said the removal of poverty and hunger should be given first priority in the country as per the dream of Bharathi. Thiru P. Sriramamurthy, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Cultural Affairs said that the Government of Andhra Pradesh would also observe Bharathi Centenary Celebration.

Thiru Yuri F. Runov, Vice Consul and head of the information branch of the USSR Consulate in Madras announced that the birth centenary of the poet will be celebrated in various parts of the Soviet Union. He also said that his country would donate a library to Bharathi Mandap in Ettayapuram

and made a token presentation of a book to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran.

Thiru C. Aranganayagam, Education Minister presented the books containing the collection of research papers read during the Fifth World Tamil Conference seminar to the Honourable Chief Minister.

Thiru Raja Mohammed, Irrigation Minister recalled the works done by Umaru Pulavar for whom the Government would set up a suitable memorial. Thiru S. Thirunavukkarasu, Minister for Industries spoke on the proposed Spinning Mills at Ettayapuram. He said that a part of Bharathi's dream was being realised.

Thiru Bhaktavatsalam, the former Chief Minister, Thiru K. A. P. Viswanatham and Thiru N. Mahalingam recalled the multi-faceted personality of Bharathi and praised the efforts of the Government in celebrating the birth centenary of Bharathi on a grand scale.

Awards were presented to 15 artistes for their proficiency in various fine arts. They were also awarded the title of State artiste.

At the end, Honourable Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran gave his key note address



amidst cheers from all sections of the people.

The Chief Minister announced various proposals of the Government. He said Bharathi fellowships would be created in all universities in the State and the poet's works would be brought out in three volumes and in various languages.

He announced amidst cheers that a Women's Polytechnic would be set up in Ettayapuram and preference would be given to the local people for employment in the Bharathi Co-operative Spinning Mills being set up here.

He also said that the co-educational high schools would be converted into exclusive higher secondary schools for girls.

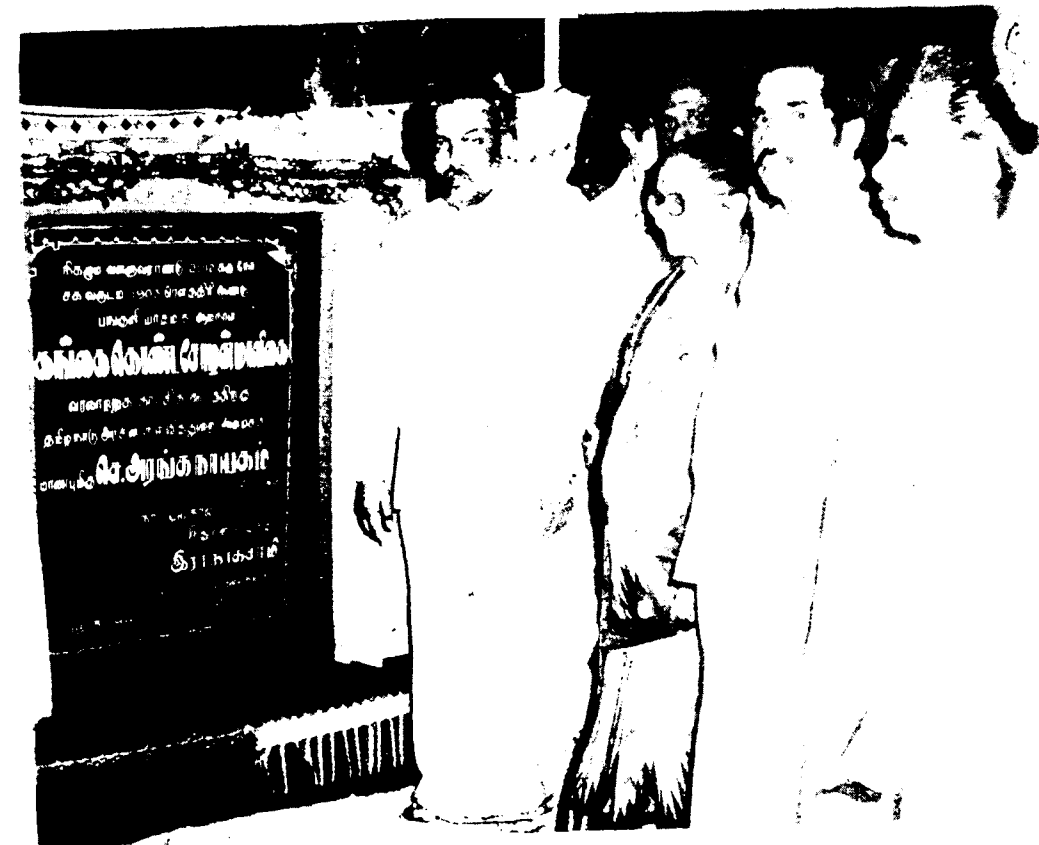
Thiru P. B. Krishnaswamy I.A.S., Secretary, Information Tourism & (Tamil) Culture Department proposed the vote of thanks.

The three day function of the birth centenary of the Poet was concluded with a music performance by Kalaimamani Madurai S. Somasundaram and party.

Selvi. Swarnamukhi, gave a scintillating dance performance.

The three day function of the birth centenary of the Poet whose words have inspired Tamils to the loftiest of endeavours and the greatest of sacrifices concluded on a happy note that this will be followed throughout the year. Lakhs of people converged on this small town during the three day festival and justified the efforts of the Government for taking all efforts to make it a success. There is no doubt that this function paved the way for the promotion of national and emotional integration through spreading the message of Bharathi. It is evident from the enthusiasm of other states of the Indian Union to celebrate the birth centenary of the Poet. One important thing to be remembered is the participation and keen interest shown by the people in all the three days. The fact may be this.

Perarignar Anna said about the great Poet : 'Bharathi was not merely the bard of Nationalism. He was certainly the morning star of reformation only because he was the people's poet.' Yes this may be the reason for the people's participation in lakhs in all the three day function.



Gangaikondacholapuram is a small village situated about 100 Kms. from Thiruchirappalli. Though it is now a small village, it occupies an important place in the History of India. Gangaikondacholapuram was created as capital of Chola Kingdom by Rajendra Chola I and for about 250 years the city controlled the affairs of entire South India from Tungabhadra in the north to Ceylon in the South. The city was founded to commemorate his victorious march to the Ganges.

Tamil literary works like Tiruvisaippa of Karuvurdevar, the Kalingattu -p- parani of Jayankondar, the Muvar Ula of Ottakkuthar and Koilolugu give elaborate details about the City.

CITY

The city seems to have had two fortifications. It is probable that the outer fortification built of burnt bricks was about 6' to 8' wide. It consisted of two external walls, with the intervening space (the core) being filled with sand. The bricks are fairly large in size and are made of well burnt clay. The outer fortification wall of this palace is called as Rajendra Cholan madil (the fort named Rajendra Chola) evidently after the builder. The inner fortification which is probably identical with the Utpadaivittumadil of the inscriptions was around the royal palace.

The royal palace was also built of burnt bricks. The ceilings were covered with flat tiles of small size laid with fine lime mortar. The pillars were probably made of polished wood, supported by granite bases some of which have been unearthed in the recent excavations done by this Department. Iron nails and clamps have also been collected in considerable quantity.

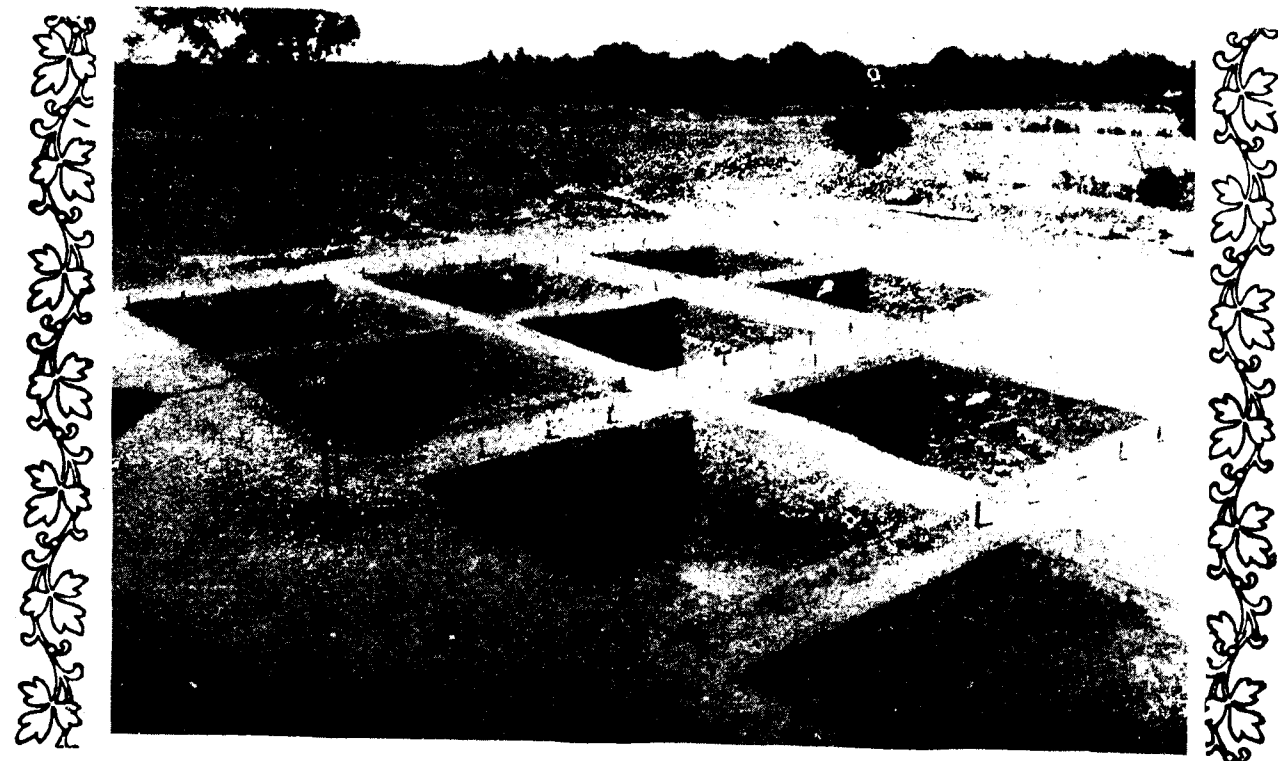
GANGAIKONDA CHOLAN MAALIGAI

K. SRIDARAN,
Archaeologist, Department of Archaeology,
Govt. of Tamilnadu.

In the reign of Virarajendra, son of Rajendra I the palace at Gangaikondacholapuram was called as Chola-Keralan Thirumlaigai (Chola Keralan Palace) evidently after one of the titles of Rajendra I. An inscription mentions a few parts of the palace as Adhibhumi (The ground floor), Kilaisopana (the eastern portico) and a seat named Mavali Vanadhirayan. Evidently the palace was multistoried. In another inscription dated in the 49th year of Kulothunga i.e. 1119 A.D. also reference is made to Gangaikondacholan maligai at this palace. It is likely that there were more than one royal building having different names.

GANGAIKONDACHOLAPURAM MUSEUM

The foundation stone for Gangaikonda Cholan Maligai Museum was laid in March '81. The Department has so far collected about 20 sculptures in and around the villages of Gangaikonda Cholapuram. In addition to that a number of palm leaf manuscripts have also been collected from the nearby villages. The above items and other Archaeological finds collected from excavation will be displayed in the Museum. The Department is continuing its effort in collecting the sculptures found in this area.



Besides the name of the palace, the names of some roads and streets are preserved in the epigraphs. Two entrances 'Thir vasal', (the eastern gate) and the Vembugudi gate (evidently the South gate leading to the village Vembugudi situated in that direction) are mentioned. Reference is also found to highways named after Rajaraja and Rajendra as Rajarajan Peruvali and Rajendran Peruvali, Kulottunga Cholan Tirumadil Peruvali and Kulaiyanai pona Peruvali. Other streets mentioned in epigraphs are 'The ten streets' (Pattuteru) 'The gate way lane' (Thiruvasal Narasam) and the Suddhamali lane.

Probably in the reign of Kulothunga, the fortifications and the city had undergone some alterations and additions.

A few villages like Viracholapuram, Kollapuram, Meykavalputhur, etc. lying mostly to the east of the temple recall their association with the original layout of the city.

The city might have been destroyed by Pandyas late in 13th century avenging their earlier defeats at the hands of the Chola's.

An inscriptional stone was brought from Maligaimedu. The inscription dated in the 22nd year (929) of Parantaka I records the remissions of tax paid by the Valanjiyar Ainurruvar, a merchant guild in order to encourage them to settle down in Irumidi Cholan Big Street at Tanjore. The gift was made at the request of Naga Mangalam Udaiyan the chief guardian of the Tanjore Palace. The executive officer of the Palace was interestingly an architect named Muvenda Perumatachchan.

A temporary exhibition was set up near the excavation site. A large number of people including school students visited and appreciated the Chola art. Hence it is proposed to set up a permanent site Museum which will focus the attention of the visitors on the nature of the royal city that played a key role in the history of the medieval period and continuously held a superior position for about two hundred and fifty years.



The Government of India Overseas Communications Service (OCS) came into existence from 1-1-1947 by nationalising the Indian Radio and Cable Communications Limited, a private organisation. After taking over the external tele-communications, this department has expanded its activities manifold, as a result of which the volume and diversity of traffic recorded a rapid increase.

In line with the modernisation of telecommunications service all over the world, and the growth of traffic, OCS established a satellite earth station at Arvi near Bombay in 1971. This modern facility provided a very reliable communication to all points of the world on round the clock basis resulting in a phenomenal growth of traffic. To meet this traffic demand a second earth station was established in Dehra Dun near Delhi in 1976. With these modern facilities, OCS could establish direct links with practically all countries of the world with which we have significant amount of traffic. As on date, the external communications network of OCS has 384 direct telephone circuits, 710 direct telex circuits and 45 direct telegraph circuits. More than 99 per cent of the overseas telephone and telex calls are now handled via the satellite communications system giving round the clock reliable service to the customers. Recently, last month, OCS has opened a new troposcatter system between India and USSR which was inaugurated by our Prime Minister to introduce one more technique in the field of OCS operations. The inauguration of the IOCOM submarine cable, connecting Madras (India) and Penang (Malaysia) will now provide yet another diversity in India's external communications service, with several countries of the world and will serve as an alternative route during contingencies of interruption in the satellite telecommunications system thereby ensuring continuity and security of India's overseas communications services.

The Madras Centre of OCS, which was only a telegraph cable station in 1947 became a HF radio centre also in 1960 with direct HF links to countries like U. K., Singapore, Indonesia, etc. Madras was further connected to the facilities available via the satellite earth station at Arvi and Dehra Dun through the national network. Consequently the subscribers from Madras could have direct dialling facility of

INDIAN OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

their telex calls and also have the international subscriber dialling facility to U. K. Semi-automatic operation is also available to many countries from Madras. With the opening of this IOCOM submarine telephone cable from Madras, a direct access is now made to many countries of the world without going through the Arvi earth station at Bombay or the Dehra Dun earth station at New Delhi through the national network, thus providing vastly improved service on international telephone and telex calls to the southern region of India.

The planning of this IOCOM cable project started as early as in 1972 in the Commonwealth Telecommunications Forum and was included in the Fifth Five Year Plan of the OCS. This project was approved by the Public Investment Board in November 1977. After a series of commonwealth planning meetings at various levels, 7 commonwealth external telecommunication administrations viz., Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Britain, India, Australia, Singapore and Canada decided in May 1978 to go ahead with the implementation of this Madras-Penang section as the first phase of the Indian Ocean Commonwealth (IOCOM) cable network. OCS was nominated as the overall Project Co-ordinator. After the cable route survey and other formalities, the contract was awarded to Messrs. Standard Telephone Company (STC) of U. K. on the basis of global tenders. The laying of the cable started in February 1980 and completed in July 1980 in all respects. This is a 5 MHz bandwidth submarine cable system having an initial capacity of 480 (4 KHz) telephone circuits which can be increased to 640 (3 KHz) circuits later on. This IOCOM cable planning and execution is an excellent example of the co-operation, mutual assistance and

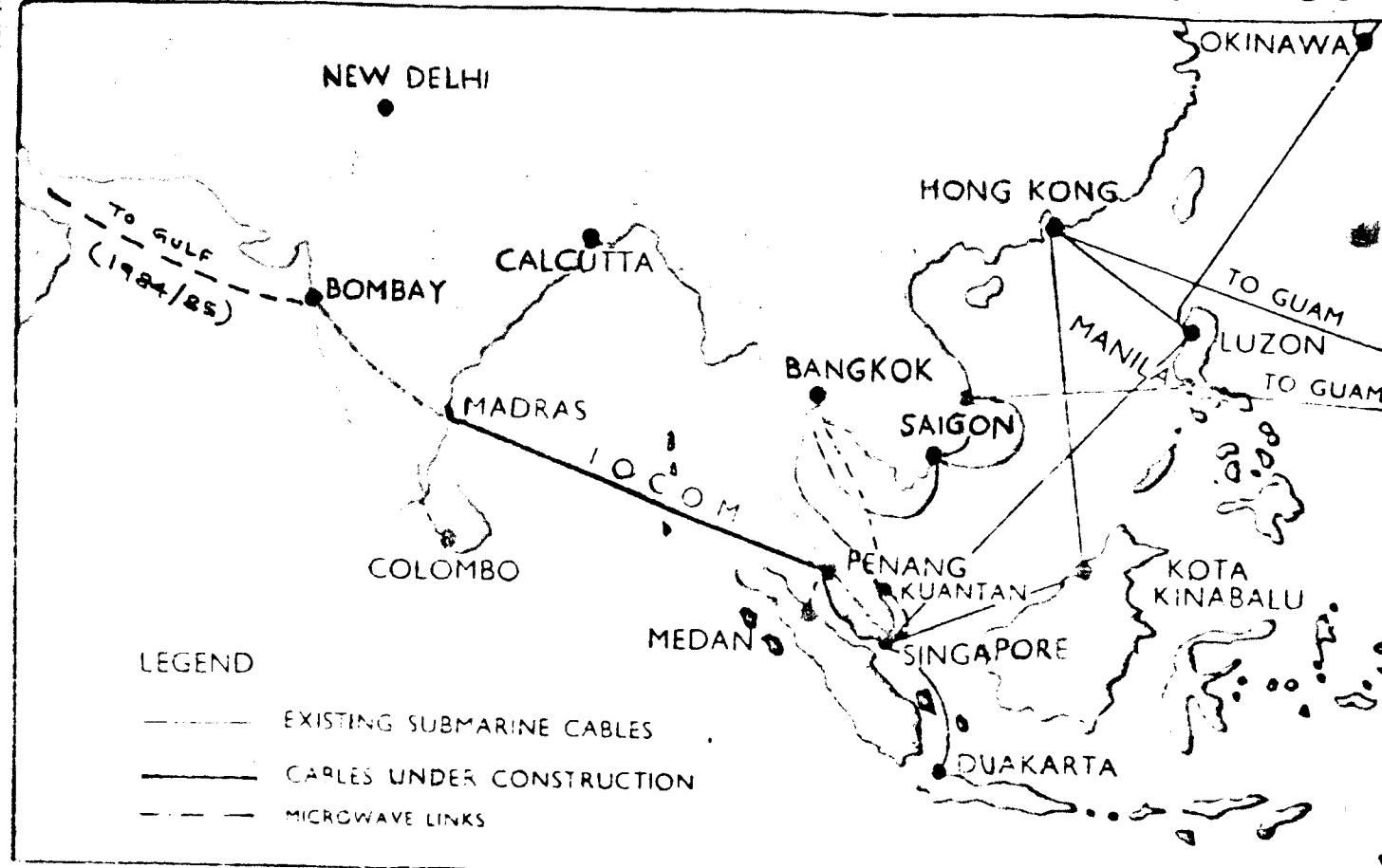
sharing of technical skills within the commonwealth telecommunication partnership.

The cable was tested end to end and commissioned into service in April 1981. One of the most important factors of this system is to establish a diversity routing path to many of the eastern countries viz., Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, U.S.A., Canada and Australia. As per our estimate, it will take about 7 to 8 years for this IOCOM system capacity to fill up. After that, the circuit capacity can be increased by modern techniques such as TASI which can increase the system capacity to nearly 1,200 circuits. The cable itself which stretches between Madras and Penang, extends 1350 nautical miles under the Bay of Bengal, which consists of a submerged 'Plant' comprising a 0.99" coaxial cable punctuated 173 electronic repeater amplifiers with 11 equalisers spliced into the cable. The IOCOM cable consists of 2760 tonnes of steel, 240 tonnes of copper, 190 tonnes of aluminium, 1980 tonnes of Polyethylene and 175 tonnes of Polypropylene. The rated life span of this cable is about 25 years but normally this extends beyond this.

The capital investment for this entire project runs to about Rs. 67 crores out of which India's share of the investment is about Rs. 38 crores. The linking of this IOCOM cable with other cable networks of the far-eastern countries is shown in a sketch given in annexure.

To exploit this new IOCOM cable facilities to the maximum, a gateway centre has been established at Madras so as to provide vastly improved service on all international telephone/telex calls of this region. This 'Videsh Sanchar Bhavan' (VSB) will shortly house the Inter-

OCOM AND OTHER SUBMARINE CABLES IN NEIGHBOURHOOD



national Gateway Telephone and Telex Exchanges, International Maintenance Centre, International Switching and Testing Centre, Telegraph Message Retransmission System, Radio photo system, Programme Transmissions, Leased Private Telephone and Teleprinter Circuits, High Speed Data circuits and a host of other international telecommunication facilities. This VSB six storey building has been built at a cost approximately Rs. 3.2 crores on a site specially made available by the kind courtesy of the Tamil Nadu Government in the Government Estate. The site is ideal since it is very close to the shore and also in the centre of the metropolitan Madras City, the hub of economic activity. The building has been specially designed keeping functional aspects mainly in view which warrants no break of the airconditioning for the critical areas, dust free environment of certain equipments and through interconnections with the various floors etc. to meet the specific requirements to the latest type of electronic equipments employed for the gateway switching systems installed in the building.

There will be uninterrupted sup-

ply of power in this building by different sources, besides emergency engine generators which are of automatic quick starting type. Extensive fire prevention and protection arrangements have been made with a centralised alarm arrangement. Welfare amenities for the benefit of the staff by way of canteen, recreation club, dormitory etc. have also been provided. The building was designed and constructed by the Central Public Works Department to a tight time schedule. Work on the superstructure commenced in January 1979 and completed by November 1981.

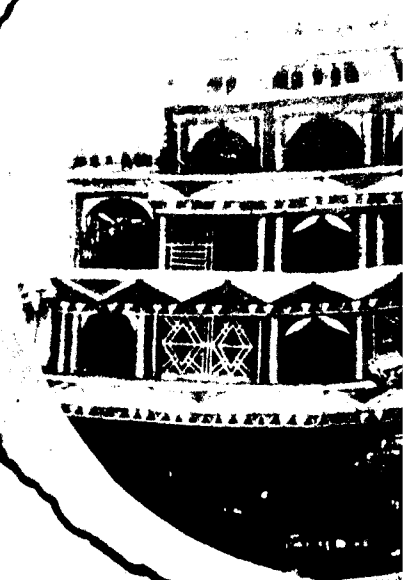
Plans are on hand to provide an electronic SPC type Automatic Message Telegram Retransmission and Switching System for speedy disposal of international telegrams similar to the one already installed at our Bombay Centre.

With these facilities, we envisage that this Madras Gateway Centre would greatly promote the industrial, social and economic prosperity of this region and in turn the whole of India as well.

Courtesy : P. I. B.
Government of India.

The SPC electronic gateway telex exchange (GATEX) is expected

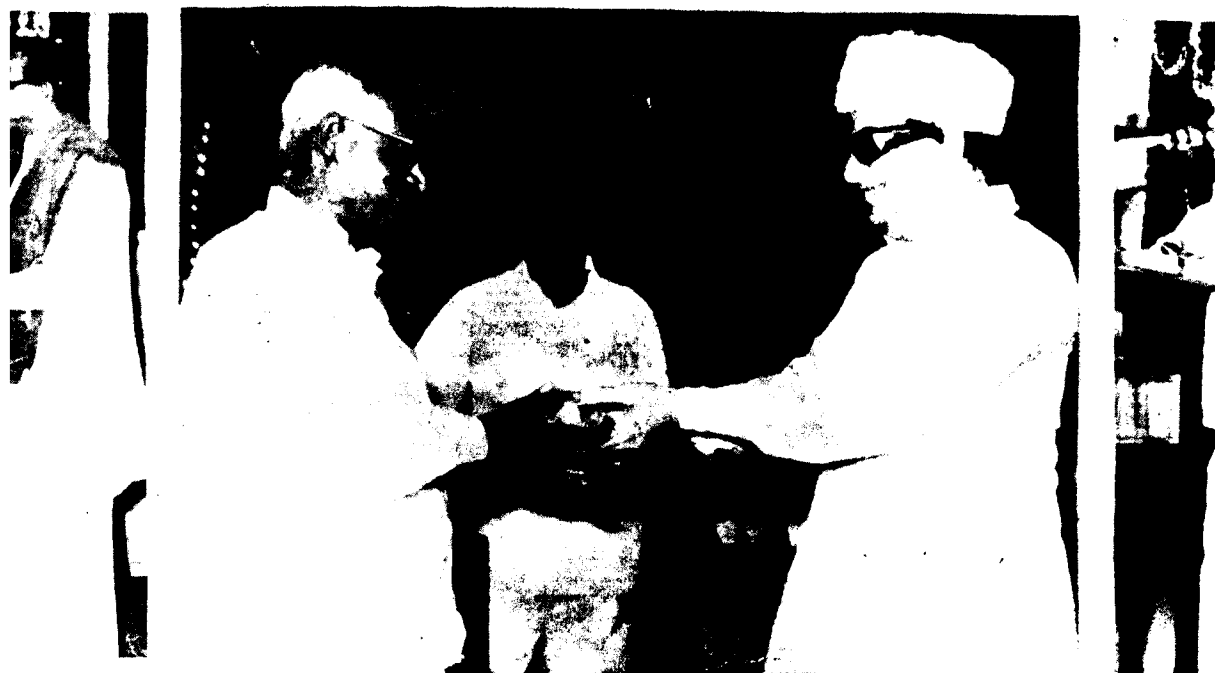




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Thiruvalluvar Year 2013
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CONDITIONS OF POOR.



SAROJINI NAIDU



LEPROUS BEGGARS.



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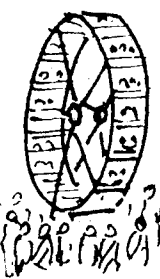


PONGAL IN JAPAN.

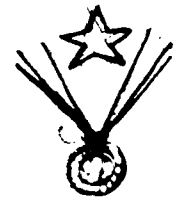


MARTYR'S DAY PLEDGE.

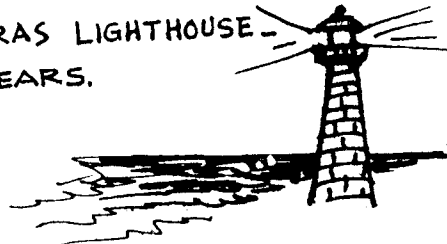
ALL INDIA TOURIST &
INDUSTRIAL FAIR.



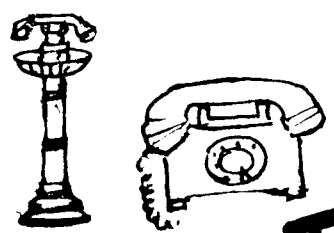
ARTISTES HONOURED.



MADRAS LIGHTHOUSE -
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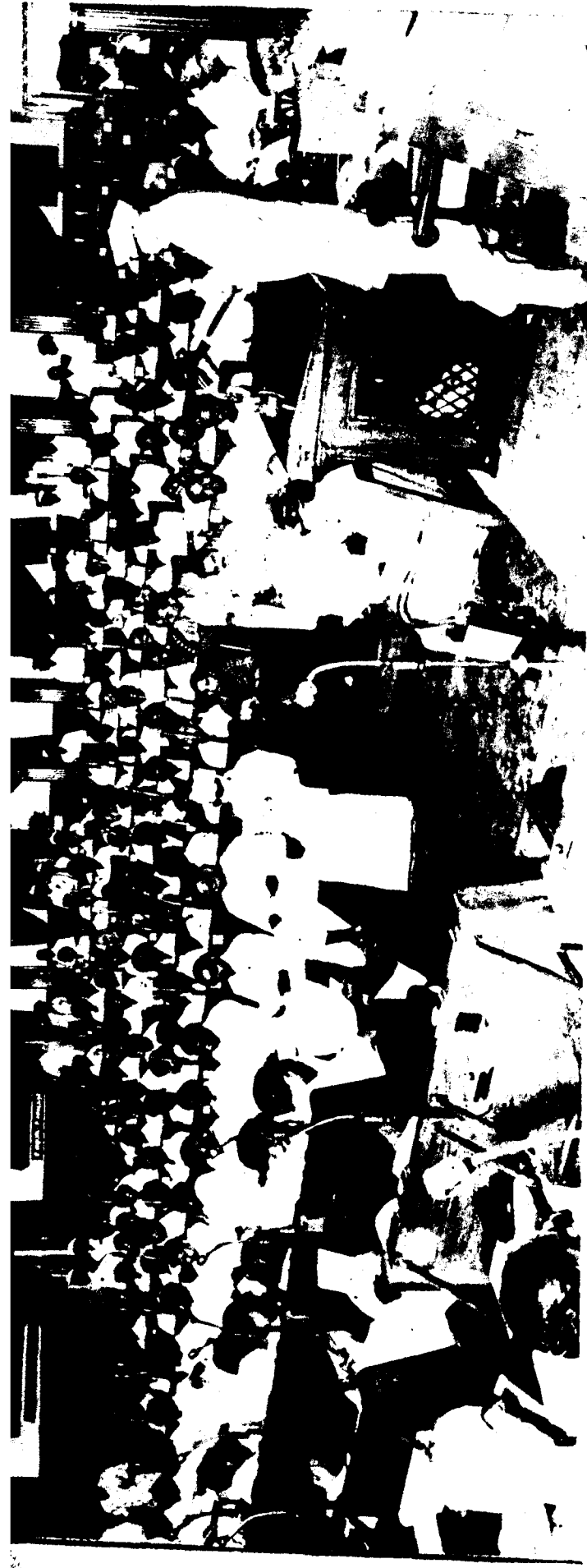


Tamil Arasu

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SCHEMES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF THE POOR

ADDRESS BY
Thiru SADIQ ALI
GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU

Honourable Members of the Legislature,

At the outset, may I offer you a warm welcome to the first joint session of the legislature in 1982?

You will recall that when I addressed you last at the Joint Session of the Legislature, we were all in a state of high elation over the successful conduct and completion

of the historic World Tamil Conference at Madurai. That Conference was eloquent testimony to our great love for Tamil and deep loyalty to our language. The enthusiastic year-long celebrations of the Bharathi Centenary in which we are participating this year is a

tribute to the love of our language which ripens into love for our country. The songs of Bharathi which are imbued with a spirit of freedom, equality and fraternity have inspired in us the resolve to create a new society which will transcend caste and religious differences. The Tamil Nadu Government has decided to celebrate the Bharathi Centenary as the year of national integration and has commended this constructive suggestion to the Government of India also for its acceptance. It is a matter of considerable gratification to us that our State is in the forefront of organising the Bharathi Centenary celebrations not only in our State from the level of Panchayat Union to the State Capital but also in the various States of our country and in countries abroad, thus paying a tribute to Bharathi and homage to the Bharat of his dreams.

In my address last year, I had referred to the prevalence of drought conditions in certain pockets of the districts of Pudukkottai and North Arcot due to failure of monsoons. But, in the course of the year, the drought conditions spread to 13 out of the 16 districts of Tamil Nadu. Scarcity of drinking water and crop failure seriously affected the urban and rural areas of the State. The Government launched a massive relief and rehabilitation programme to alleviate the sufferings of the masses in the drought affected districts. A Central Team which visited certain districts of the State was convinced of the very difficult conditions obtaining in various parts of Tamil Nadu.

On its recommendation, the Government of India approved an expenditure of Rs. 48.90 crores on drought relief. The State Government till about the end of December 1981, had incurred an expenditure of Rs. 55.24 crores on drought relief operations. A Committee constituted with leaders from all political parties to supervise the drought relief works proved very helpful. Hundreds of bore wells sunk at various places through different Governmental agencies ensured easy supply of drinking water in the drought affected districts. The way in which the drought situation in the State was handled by the Government, is a matter of which it can legitimately be proud. Apart from providing immediate relief to the drought stricken people, the works executed added permanent assets to the State in the form of drinking water sources, improvements to roads, irrigation tanks, etc.

Even though the drought persisted throughout a major portion of the year of 1981, the State Government ensured adequate availability of foodgrains through an efficient public distribution system. The State Government has been requesting throughout this period for a greater allocation of foodgrains from the Government of India through the Food Corporation of India. There were many practical difficulties in even the allotted quantity of rice reaching us. The State Government has been requesting the Government of India for an allocation of

about 10,800 tonnes of wheat per month for distribution through public distribution system. However, the allocation has been only of the order of 4,000 tonnes per month. Further, the Government of India reduced the allocation of wheat, for manufacture of wheat products, to roller flour mills in the State from 65,000 tonnes to 30,000 tonnes.

The offtake of rice which was of the order of 25,000 tonnes in the month of January shot up to 79,000 tonnes per month subsequently. To meet the accelerated public demand, the State Government ordered procurement of foodgrains, not only from within the State, but also from other States through open market purchases. The services of the co-operatives were also utilised for buying foodgrains. Owing to all these concerted moves, the Government was able to tide over the difficulties on the food front during the drought period.

In spite of these difficult conditions, developmental works have been going on at a rapid rate in the State. While the approved Plan outlay for the current year is Rs. 514 crores, it is expected to exceed Rs. 600 crores, even after excluding the expenditure on drought works. The State Government has drawn up an ambitious Plan programme to the tune of about Rs. 711 crores for the next financial year. The performance of the State Government in Plan implementation has been so commendable that the Union Planning Commission approved the outlay almost as proposed by the State Government.

Poultry and other animal husbandry activities. In order to augment the production of edible oils and to stabilise prices, the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Oilseeds Growers' Federation has been started during this financial year with the assistance of the National Dairy Development Board. The intention is to step up oilseeds production mainly by increasing the area under irrigated oilseed crops. Further, large scale production and distribution of quality coconut seedlings are also being continued with a view to achieve a breakthrough in edible oil production. The Government has decided to distribute, free of cost, one coconut seedling each to the poor who are given house-site pattas.

The Government's efforts to reduce the debt burden of agriculturists have been continued during the current financial year. The Government had decided on waiver of normal and penal interest on short-term agricultural loans to small farmers, who repaid the short-term agricultural loans in full before 30th June 1981. The Government had also agreed to refund the normal and penal interest paid after 1st April 1980 on short-term loans. Further, the penal interest on short-term loans to other farmers who repaid the principal in full with normal interest before 30th June 1981 was also to be waived. Though all these facilities were available only upto 30th June 1981,

Agriculture continues to receive special attention of the Government. In order to achieve early and sustained increase in agricultural production, the Training and Visit system has been introduced in eight districts, with effect from 1st September 1981 and the remaining districts will be covered from 1st July 1982. This is a project assisted by World Bank for a duration of five years and costing about Rs. 36 crores. The agricultural extension staff under the scheme will be given special training and they in turn, will provide up-to-date and systematic advice on farming practices to the agriculturists. The marketing of agricultural produce is being taken care of by increased construction of rural godowns and integrated development of regulated markets. The Government has a proposal for starting integrated development of agricultural marketing with World Bank aid at a cost of Rs. 102 crores. The scheme involves upgrading of the existing regulated markets including storage godowns, opening of new regulated markets and markets for perishable goods and provision of warehousing and processing facilities. The project report is now pending with the Government of India.

With a view to co-ordinate the activities of the agricultural market committees, the Government has decided to give statutory status to the State Agricultural Marketing Board by amending the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1959. Encouragement has also been given for dairy development,

the Government, with a view to help the agriculturists, extended the period upto 31st December 1981. By the extension of these concessions, lakhs of farmers have benefited.

Over the last few years, the Government has introduced progressive land reform measures to help the agriculturists. In pursuance of this policy, the State Legislature had passed the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Second Amendment Bill, 1980 and had sent it to the Government of India for the assent of the President. The intention of passing of this Bill was to unearth transfers of lands effected between 1st January 1958 and 6th April 1960 which were done with a view to circumvent the proposed legislation on land ceiling. It was felt that consequent on this Bill becoming an Act, surplus lands would be available for distribution among landless agricultural persons. Unfortunately, the President's assent for this Bill has been withheld. The reasons for withholding the assent have not yet been communicated to the State. The State Government's aspirations to help numerous landless labourers by allotting these surplus lands have not been fulfilled as a result of the withholding of the assent to this Bill.

Under the scheme of updating registry started from 1st June 1979, a large portion of the work covering about 72,000 square kilometres still remains to be completed. As this scheme is beneficial to the agricul-

turists, in that they would correctly get to know their rights and would help them to get loans from financial institutions easily, the Government has decided to launch a crash programme to complete the scheme within two to three years.

This Government is deeply concerned over the steep rise in the prices of essential commodities required for the daily use of the people. The problem of prices is inter-linked with the general economic policies of the country as a whole and it is the finding of economic experts that the solution to the problem of prices can essentially be found only by the Central Government. At the same time, the State Government is anxious to play its part in bringing down the prices. One aspect of the problem is that the cultivators should get a reasonable return which bears relation to the cost of cultivation. Another aspect of the problem is that the essential commodities should be available to the common man at reasonable prices. If these two interests are to be reconciled, it is imperative that intermediaries who indulge in commercial speculation are eliminated. Only under a system where all the producers come together in a co-operative set up, themselves undertake the responsibility of distribution and sale and share the profits that accrue, will we be able to ensure a situation, where the producer will not have to suffer a loss and the consumer will not have to undergo harassment. If we have to succeed

in this, trade in essential commodities, which is largely in the hands of private dealers, should come under the co-operative fold. Endeavours will be made in the coming year to set up 'growers' co-operative sales societies, to achieve these objectives.

The self-sufficiency scheme which is designed to help the rural population is under implementation for the past two years now. During the current financial year, works are in progress in 150 blocks, after successfully implementing the scheme in 69 blocks as a first phase during 1980-81. In these 219 blocks, assets worth Rs. 136 crores will be created by the end of this financial year. About 18,000 kms. of link roads, 25,000 houses for Adi-dravidars, 2,717 school buildings will be completed in these 219 blocks. The remaining 159 blocks will be covered during the next financial year. In view of the benefits to the people from this scheme, the Government has decided to implement the self-sufficiency scheme in town panchayats and municipalities in the coming years. Preparatory steps have been taken in this regard.

Agricultural development is closely associated with power. The power position started improving from June, 1981 consequent to a favourable monsoon and power cut was lifted on 25th June, 1981. Peak demand restrictions on L.T. urban industries, grouping restrictions on rural loads/agricultural consumers and peak hour restrictions on H.T. non-continuous process industries were removed from 1st

August, 1981. This is the first time when all these restrictions have been removed in toto; in previous years one restriction or other was always in force. The storage position in the hydel reservoirs is fairly comfortable, as a result the prospects of hydel power generation are likely to be good. The power position during the next few months till the onset of south-west monsoon is expected to be better than that during the corresponding period of 1981.

Generation of hydro-electric power has been tapped almost to the full extent possible in Tamil Nadu. The scope for further increase is very limited. This has forced the State Government to go in for the costly process of power generation through thermal sources. These schemes are capital intensive and it will be very helpful if the Government of India gives financial assistance to the State for starting them as it will be very difficult for the State Government to finance from its own resources thermal projects on any big scale. The Government of India has indicated during the discussions in the Power Ministers' Conference held in November last year, the acceptance in principle of the State starting new thermal schemes and also of expanding certain existing projects. The setting up of a thermal station at North Madras (5×210 MW.), extension of Mettur Thermal Project (2×210 MW.) and expansion of Tuticorin Project (1×210 MW. + 1×500 MW.) are the schemes under consideration.

As mentioned earlier, the State Government has utilised almost all possible sources of hydel power and is also considering various schemes for thermal power generation. In view of the difficulties involved in transport of coal over long distances for the thermal plants, the State Government has suggested that a second atomic power station may be set up in Tamil Nadu. It has also suggested Kudankulam in Tirunelveli district as one of the suitable sites for setting up the plant. We hope that the committee set up by the Government of India to select the site will soon take a favourable decision. Government is examining possibilities of putting up an integrated power and desalination plant to provide potable water and utilise thermal energy released in the process to generate electricity.

The State Electricity Board is having very serious financial difficulties. This has been mainly due to the poor financial returns. Time and again the Union Planning Commission has been urging the State Government to revise electricity tariff which is one of the lowest in the country. The Planning Commission has emphasised that unless the financial resources of the State Electricity Board are strengthened, modernisation of equipment, implementation of plan projects and maintenance of the existing installations and transmission lines would suffer very badly. Increased power generation is essential for development of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. This can be done

only if the resources of the Electricity Board are improved through higher returns, which in turn, can be achieved only by the revision of electricity tariff. The State Government has been assisting the Electricity Board through a heavy dose of financial assistance running to hundreds of crores of rupees in the last few years, to keep the activities of the Electricity Board at a reasonable level. But it will be impossible for the Government to continue the financial assistance indefinitely because it is bound to have serious adverse effects on implementation of plan programmes and other developmental activities. Particularly when the input cost is rising regularly every year, as a result of the Government of India increasing the railway freight and oil price, apart from imposing higher taxes on various commodities needed by the Electricity Board, the State Government is left with no alternative except to revise the existing low electricity tariff. The Government has decided to permit private industrialists to take up generation of power for their own consumption. The Government would also like to consider any proposal for generation of power by private entrepreneurs, if it can be done profitably.

The dispute relating to the sharing of Cauvery waters has still not been resolved. On the suggestion of the Government of India, bilateral talks have been held between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka on this issue. But unfortunately, the talks have not been conclusive. It

districts, the flood waters in certain seasons now flowing into the sea. Investigations have already been started by the Public Works Department in this regard.

For the rapid development of industries in the State, special programmes and incentives have been evolved recently to attract establishment of new industrial units in Tamil Nadu. The Industries Minister recently visited the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat for explaining to the entrepreneurs in those areas, about the availability of various incentives, skilled manpower, infrastructural facilities, etc., in Tamil Nadu. The Government has also announced special concessions to facilitate the growth of industries. The existing ceiling on interest-free sales tax loans to industries has been increased from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 1 crore. Industrial complexes are being developed at Cuddalore, Pudukkottai, Manamadurai, Tuticorin and Gummudipoondi where new industrial units will enjoy the facility of exemption from power cut for the first five years. A subsidy is also being given for creation of new assets in the field of Electronics, Drugs and ancillary automobile industries. It is hoped that these attractive concessions would enthuse industrialists to start new ventures in Tamil Nadu.

✓ In order to equip the educated persons better for employment, the Government has been implementing schemes giving importance to technical education. In

is hoped that Government of India would use their good offices to find a fair and equitable solution to this long standing issue. Recently, the Government of India have decided to hold discussions to resolve this problem. The Government hopes that a final and equitable decision would be taken in this conference as a result of the discussions and that the quantity of water now used for irrigation in Tamil Nadu would be assured. The State Government will also continue to request the Government of India to act early on the recommendations of the Technical Committee constituted by them to examine the feasibility of diversion of surplus of waters of the west-flowing rivers in Kerala to provide irrigation facilities to Tamil Nadu.

While the inter-State river problems are pending settlement, the State Government is doing its utmost to improve irrigation facilities within Tamil Nadu. Since the major portion of surface irrigation potential has been utilised the emphasis is now on modernisation of irrigation systems for which an outlay of Rs. 48.59 crores exists in the Sixth Plan. Around Rs. 12 crores are also expected to be spent on special minor irrigation programme and desilting-cum-reclamation schemes during the Sixth Plan period. While everything possible has been done to put the available water to maximum use, the State Government is exploring the possibilities of diverting to the dry areas of Pudukkottai and Ramanathapuram

the current financial year, an Engineering College has been established at Tirunelveli and Six Polytechnics have started functioning in various parts of the State. During the Bharathi Centenary celebrations, the Government has announced its decision to set up a Polytechnic for Women in Ettayapuram area in Tirunelveli district. These technical institutions would provide necessary infrastructure for industrial development in Tamil Nadu.

✓ Apart from the importance given to technical education, the State Government is also encouraging general education. Legislations for constituting Bharathiar University at Coimbatore and Bharathidasan University at Tiruchirappalli have been passed and the assent of the President has also been obtained for these Acts. Preliminary action for acquisition of land and for identifying the various requirements of the Universities has already been started. As Honourable members are aware, a Tamil University has been inaugurated on the 15th of September, 1981 at Thanjavur. It is also proposed to start a Women's University in Tamil Nadu. The Government is taking steps to start a University at Karaikudi as promised by Late Anna combining all the educational institutions there.

In consonance with Arignar Anna's two language formula, the Government has been taking active steps to establish Tamil as the official language and adopt the language in all the wings of the Government. In pursuit

of this policy, the Government has ordered that from today all judgements, decrees and orders in Civil Courts will be written in Tamil.

The recent under-sea archaeological exploration conducted by the State Archaeological Department in collaboration with the National Institute of Oceanography off the coast of Kaveripoompatinam has yielded interesting results. The survey which extended upto Tranquebar (Taranganpadi) seems to suggest that there are buildings and ship wrecks at Poompuhar and Vanagiri areas, lying submerged under the sea. It is proposed to continue this survey.

The State Government will be launching from the coming academic year, a massive screening programme to detect the incidence of leprosy among school going children. At the time of admission to schools, children will be checked up for any incidence of this disease and suitable curative measures will be taken.

In pursuance of the progressive labour policy of this Government, a number of legislative measures were introduced for the benefit of the workers. The Minimum Wages (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act, 1981 came into force on 1st October 1981. The Tamil Nadu Payment of Subsistence Allowance Act, 1981 and the Tamil Nadu Industrial Establishments (Conferment of Permanent Status to Workmen) Act, 1981 came into force with effect from 1st January 1982. The Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers (Conditions of Employment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1981 will also be brought into

also been taken for their economic development. The Government has recently formed the Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation to finance schemes and trade activities taken up by them. During last year, the Government had announced that preference would be given to widows in indigent circumstances for employment in medical institutions. Seats have also been reserved in professional and arts Colleges for them. A proposal to give suitable preference for admission in educational institutions and in employment to the children born of inter-caste marriages is now under consideration. During last year, which was the year of the physically handicapped, various schemes for the benefit of physically handicapped had been started. Certain specific posts in Government and Local Body institutions have been reserved for the physically handicapped persons. They have been accorded suitable priority for sponsorship by the employment exchanges against State Government vacancies. Three per cent of vacancies in public services and educational institutions have been reserved for the physically handicapped. Though the year of the physically handicapped is over, schemes for their welfare will continue to be implemented.

With the intention of holding the elections to Panchayats early, the Government had made arrangements for conducting them by the end of January this year. After consulting leaders of all political parties, the Government had taken a policy decision to reserve

effect as soon as the rules are finalised. For the Industrial Disputes (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1981, the President's assent is awaited. The State Government proposes to extend Employees' State Insurance Scheme to the districts of Dharmapuri and the Nilgiris and widen its coverage in some other areas.

For improving the socio-economic conditions of the Adi-Dravidars, the Government is implementing the Special Component Plan since 1980-81. During the last financial year, the size of the Plan was of the order of Rs. 71.64 crores and in the current year it is Rs. 83.04 crores and during the next financial year it will be Rs. 114.04 crores. About 1.67 lakhs of Adi-Dravidar families will be covered during the next financial year. Under Special Central Assistance, income generating schemes for Adi-Dravidars are being implemented. During the last financial year, the sum earmarked was Rs. 9.56 crores while during the current financial year it is expected to be Rs. 10 crores. During 1982-83, the Special Central Assistance is likely to be of the order of Rs. 15 crores. Apart from socio-economic measures for improving the life-style of Adi-Dravidars, the Government is also establishing special courts to try offences against Adi-Dravidars under the P.C.R Act. The Government is firmly resolved to improve the living conditions of the Adi-Dravidars in the State through various schemes as mentioned above.

Many schemes for the benefit of the Backward Classes are now under implementation in Tamil Nadu. Apart from educational concessions, measures have

the seats for Adi-Dravidars and women and a suitable Ordinance was promulgated. As a result of the stay granted by the High Court on certain Writ Petitions, the elections could not be held. As soon as the Court clearance is obtained, the Government is ready to conduct the elections.

The development schemes implemented by this Government in the last few years contain many programmes like expansion of irrigation facilities, increasing the production of oilseeds, implementation of land ceiling laws and compilation of land records, implementation of programmes for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, maximisation of power generation, augmentation of primary health care facilities, control of leprosy, implementation of programmes for the welfare of women and expansion of public distribution system all of which form part of the twenty point programme recently announced by the Prime Minister of India. The State Government welcomes this twenty point programme which aims at improving the condition



of the poorer and weaker sections of the Society. This Government will give all its support to the Government of India in the active implementation of this Programme.

The law and order situation in the State has been satisfactory. The activities of extremists have been curbed and the anti-social elements have been kept under control. The Government has started various projects for the welfare of Policemen. Construction of houses for Policemen through the Police Housing Corporation is one of these projects. About 150 acres have been taken possession initially in Navalpattu village in Tiruchirappalli district, where about 700 houses will be constructed. Suitable lands in other parts of the State are also being located by the Police Housing Corporation for putting up additional houses for the Policemen. A new scheme has been introduced during Pongal this year, for award of the Chief Minister's Police Medals to Constables and Head Constables who have rendered meritorious services. About 1,500 Police Constables and Head Constables will benefit from this Scheme, which provides for the award of a medal and a monthly allowance.

As mentioned by me earlier, the State has gone through a trying period because of the severe drought

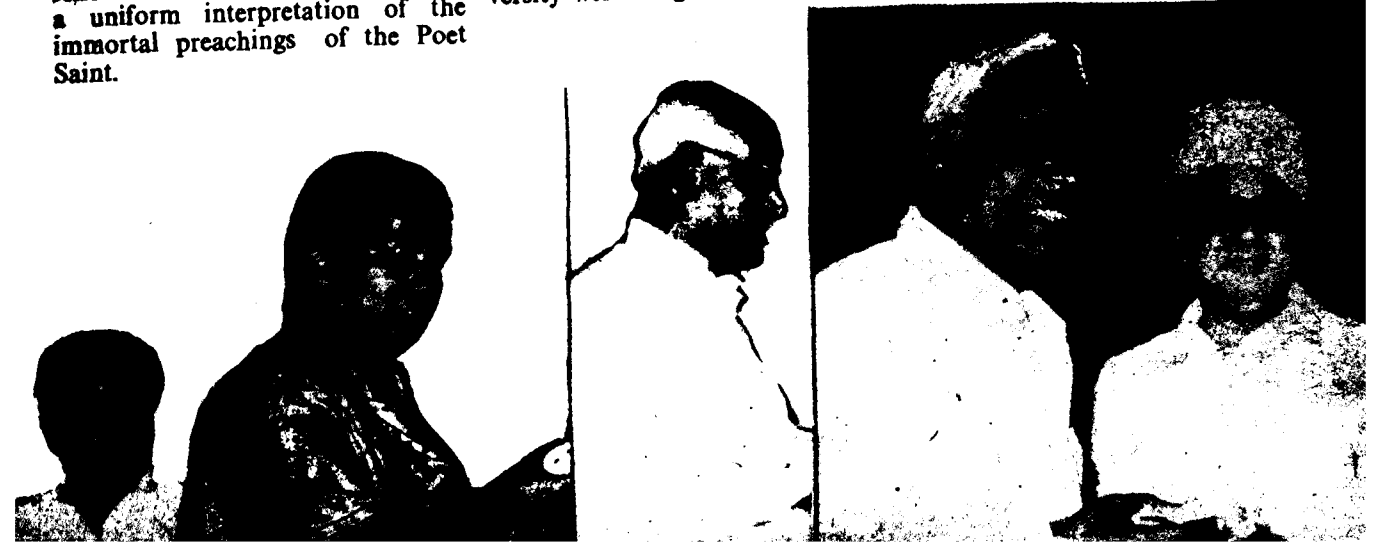
during the last year. But the situation is changing now, due to favourable monsoons which have helped in filling up the various tanks and reservoirs throughout the State, excepting a few isolated pockets. My Government has been doing its best through various socio-economic policies to improve the living conditions of the people of the State.

I hope the deliberations of this House will be useful and constructive and contribute to the progress of the State. I wish you success in your endeavours.

Vanakkam.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TAMIL NADU LEGISLATURE

Thiruvalluvar Year 2013—Thunmathi—Thai 19
1st February 1982



He welcomed the plea of Kundrakudi Adigal for the creation of a Centre, where Tamil savants and scholars could sit together and give a uniform interpretation of the immortal preachings of the Poet Saint.

He regretted that the Tirukkural should have been interpreted in so many ways by different authors leading to a lot of confusion. If the law permitted, the Government would consider banning such interpretations.

The Chief Minister was participating in the Tiruvalluvar Day celebrations organised by the State Government at Valluvar Kottam.

The proceedings in civil courts in Tamil Nadu will be conducted in Tamil from February 1, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister announced.

He commended the suggestion made earlier by Kundrakudi Adigal for framing and implementing laws based on the Tirukkural. The Government would try to implement this plea within its powers, he said.

He instanced how the conduct of the fifth World Tamil Conference and the creation of the Tamil University were sought to be criticised.

The Chief Minister deplored that there should be opposition from some quarters even to the steps taken by the Government for developing Tamil and helping Tamil scholars in penury.

The Centre, he said, had earlier expressed its inability to do so on the ground that there were various other works and that it would not be proper to accord national status to Tirukkural.

The Chief Minister said the Government had no response from the Centre to its suggestion to make Tirukkural a national literature.

Thiru C. Ramdas, Education Secretary, welcomed the gathering.

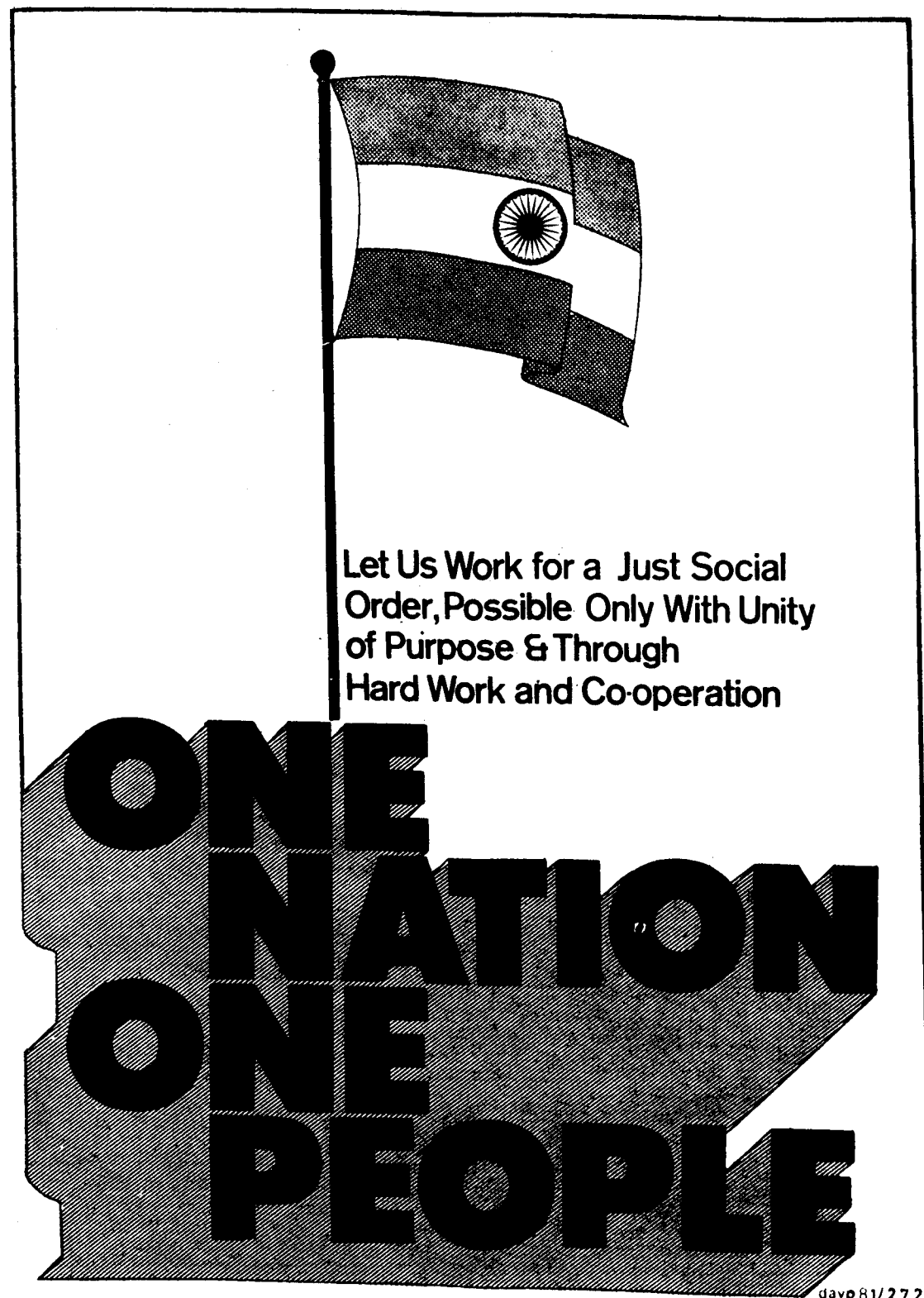
Thiru C. Aranganayagam Education Minister, appealed to the teachers in schools and colleges to help spread oneness among students and stamp out the evil of casteism.

Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian, Finance Minister, said Tirukkural was peerless and no other work had such a universal acclaim.

The Chief Minister gave away cash awards to 76 Tamil authors, whose books have been selected for the honour by a committee of Tamil scholars. Forty five authors secured the first prize of Rs. 2000 each and 31 others got the second prize of Rs. 1000 each.

Day.



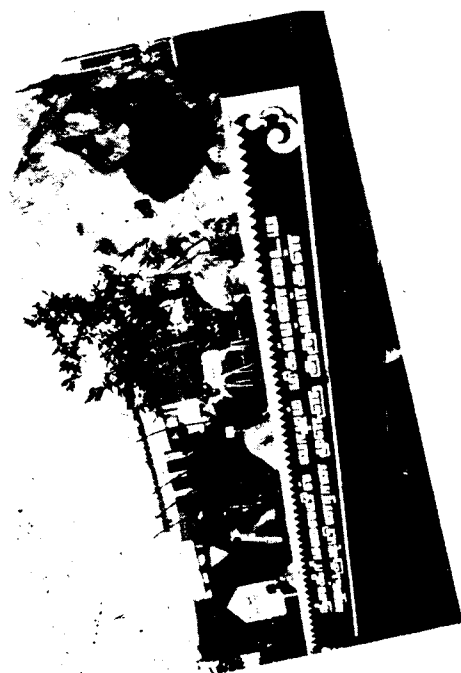


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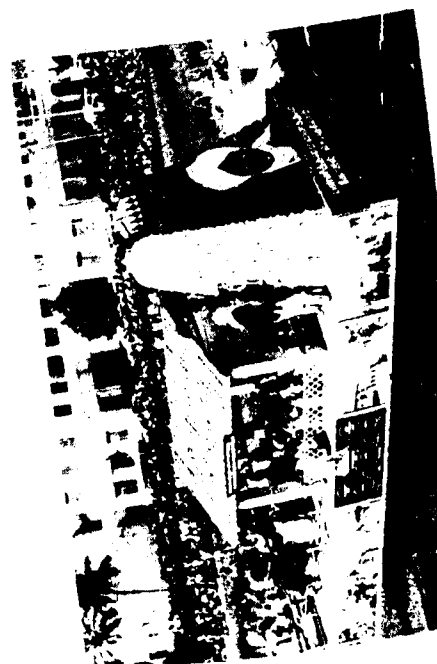


"As an Indian Citizen who has a deep regard for the Indian Constitution, I am aware of the fact that untouchability has been outlawed by the Constitution. I hereby solemnly affirm that I will not practise untouchability with or without knowledge in thought, word or deed.

It is my duty to work truthfully and honestly for the creation of a society free of difference in caste and religion, as envisaged in the Constitution. Moreover, I shall work with the realisation that it is our duty to eradicate the feeling of untouchability amongst the people who have been subjected to the evil of untouchability. I pledge that this will be a permanent evidence of my regard for the Indian Constitution."



26-1-1982



Artistes Honoured

The "Kalaimamani" Award function was held at Kalaivanar Arangam on 26-1-'82 organised by the Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram.

Thiru Sadiq Ali, Governor of Tamilnadu presided over the function and presented gold pendants to 33 artistes who were awarded "Kalaimamani" title.

Thiru V. R. Nedunchezian, Finance Minister, conferred the title and unveiled portraits of 14 eminent artistes.

Thiru C. Aranganayagam, Education Minister presented cash award of Rs. 1,000 each to 12 artistes, who are now in indigent circumstances.

Thiru P. R. Gokulakrishnan acting Chief Justice and Chairman of the Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram welcomed the gathering.

Thiru D. V. Narayanaswami, Secretary of the Mandram read the report.

Addressing the gathering, the Governor Thiru Sadiq Ali said that the Government has to play a helpful role in promoting arts. The Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram, apart from giving awards to artistes, has to its credit numerous other activities to foster arts. It has helped to revive and preserve folk music and dance in our State. It has published some rare books in music, dance and drama. It helps institutions which offer training facilities. It has so far honoured over 500 artistes.

The Finance Minister announced that the Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to give monthly

pension to 100 more artistes in the current year. He disclosed that 1010 artistes were already being given pension involving an annual budgetary allocation of Rs. 21 lakhs. He also said that the pension amount has been raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150.

He said the Mandram, on behalf of the State Government had so far conferred "Kalaimamani" titles to 571 artistes including the 33 for this year.

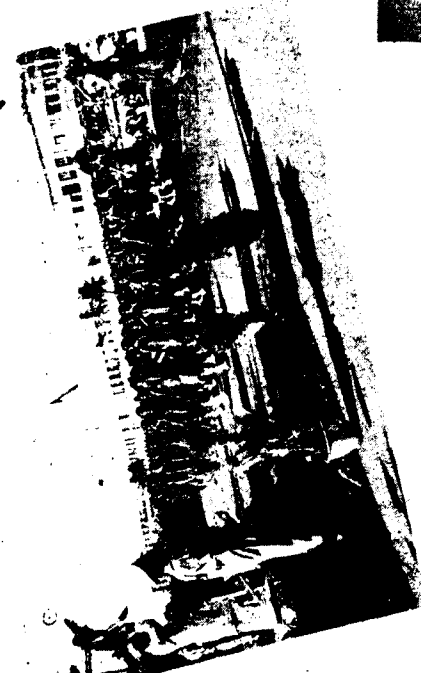
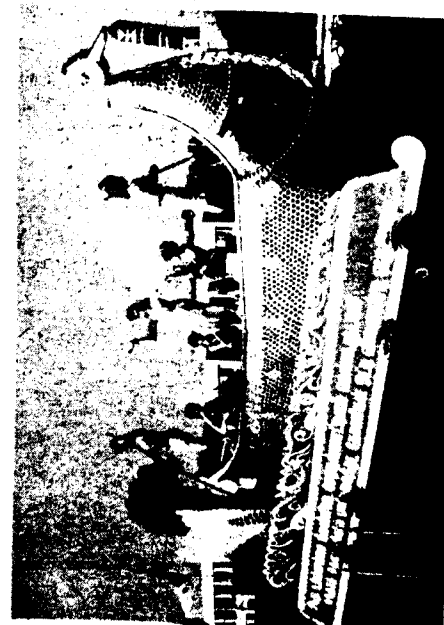
The Education Minister emphasised the importance of research in

the arts. He disclosed that such research would get top priority in the new universities that had come up in the state.

Thiru D. V. Narayanaswami, Secretary of the Mandram said till last year 71 artistes had received the Rs. 1,000 cash award. Film Director, Thiru S. Durai, Musicologist, Salem S. Jayalakshmi, Litterateur, Purisai S. Murugesu Mudaliar all thanked the Mandram and the State Government on behalf of Kalaimamani holders.

KALAIMAMANI AWARDEES (1981-82)

Purisai Thiru S. Murugesu Mudaliar	..	Eyal (Tamil Literature)
Madurai Thiru N. Krishnan	..	Vocal Artiste
Dr. Salem S. Jayalakshmi	..	Musicologist
Thiru M. Chandrasekaran	..	Violin Artiste
Nagore Thiru T. S. Ambi Aiyar	..	Mridangam Artiste
Thiru T. H. Vinayakram	..	Ghatam Artiste
Pudukkottai Thiru S. Mahadevan	..	Muharsingh Artiste
Thiru Senthil M. K. Chinna Subbiah	..	Nadaswaram Artiste
Vadapathimangalm Thiru V.N.G. Dakshinamoorthy	..	Thavil Artiste
Thiru K. Veeramani	..	Devotional Music Artiste
Swamimalai Thiru S. K. Rajarathinam	..	Bharatanatyam Teacher
Selvi Chamundeeswari	..	Bharatanatyam Artiste
Tmt. Abhayambika	..	Bharatanatyam Artiste (Special)
Thiru T. G. Pavu Pillai	..	Bharathanatyam Mridangam Artiste
Thiru Rajaraja A. P. Perumalraj	..	Drama Actor
Selvi S. R. Sivakami	..	Drama Actress
Thiru S. K. Karikkol Raj	..	Drama Comic Actor



Republic Day



Pattukkottai Thiru Kumaravel	.. Drama Playwright
Thiru C. V. Rangaswami	.. Drama Producer
Prof. N. Sundaram	.. Drama Mono Actor
Thiru Srikanth	.. Film Actor
Selvi A. Sridevi	.. Film Actress
Thiru Ravindar	.. Film Playwright
Thiru Thanjaivanan	.. Film Lyricist
Thiru Durai	.. Film Director
Tmt. T. V. Rathinam	.. Film Playback Artiste
Trichy Thiru Loganathan	.. Film Playback Artiste
Thiru M. V. Krishnappa	.. Musical Drama Actor
Tmt. T. S. Ranganayaki	.. Musical Drama Actress
Thiru A. S. Thangavel	.. Musical Drama Lyricist
Thiru N. M. K. Shanmugasundara Kavirayar	.. Musical Drama Actor
Thiru T. K. Appukutti Baghavathar	.. Musical Drama Mridangam Artiste
Thiru N. Ayyammal	.. Folk Artiste.
Sabha	.. Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha, (Vani Mahal) Madras.

—G. Bhaskaran.

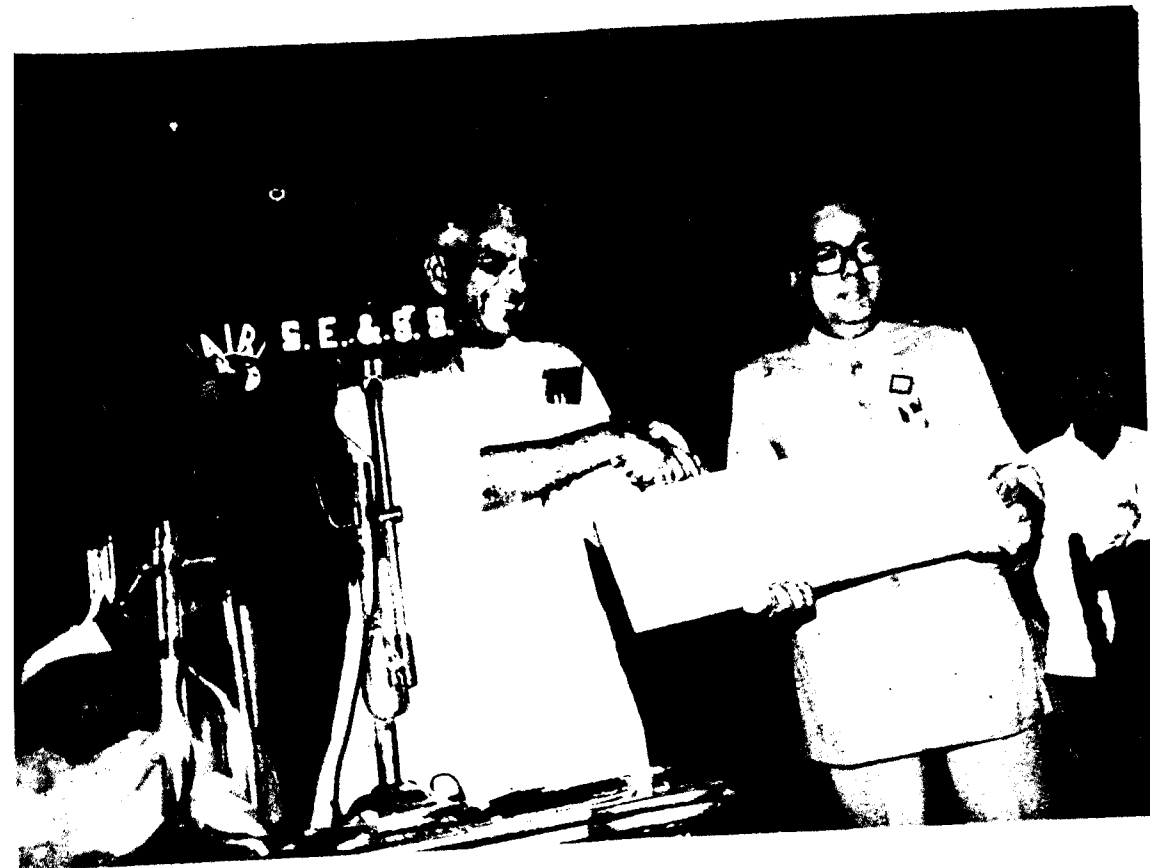


MEDALS PRESENTED

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran presented "Anna medals for gallantry" to three persons including a girl. The award carries a medal worth Rs. 1,000 and a cash certificate for Rs. 1,000.

The recipients are Thiru S. Durairaj, Revenue Inspector, Ramanathapuram, Thiru T. N. Muthiah Velu Thevar and Selvi C. Vallirani.

centennial

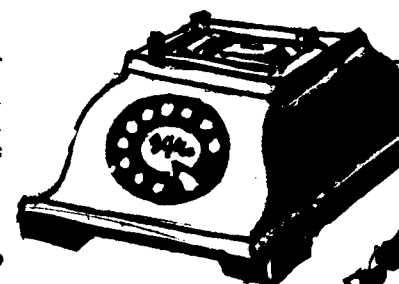


OF MADRAS TELEPHONES

Thiru C. M. Stephen, Union Minister for Communications released a Rs. 2 commemorative stamp album brought out by the department to mark the centenary of the telephones and presented the album to Thiru G. Lakshmanan, the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The Minister said that with his knowledge of the working of the various telephone systems in the country, he would give the first prize to Tamil Nadu and Madras Telephones. 'The people here are a dedicated lot.'

The Governor Thiru Sadiq Ali released the centenary volume and presented the first copy to Thiru M. A. Muthiah Chettiar.



*Sarojini
Naidu*

AND THE

EMANCIPATION

OF WOMEN

DR. R. SARASA BHARATI,
M.D., Ph.D., F.I.C.A.,
Professor of Neuropathology,
Madras Medical College.



Sarojini Naidu was already established as a great poet and national patriot before she took prime interest in the emancipation of women. Her childhood and upbringing adolescence under the watchful eye of tolerant parents who held cosmopolitan views no doubt shaped and influenced her.

At the 18th session of the Indian National Conference held in Bombay a great part of the deliberations were devoted to the emancipation of women. Problems in women's education, the social status of women, polygamy, widow remarriage, child marriage, the purdha system and careers for women were discussed freely and forcibly. Ramabai Ranade's impassioned speech of the ladies gathering, made a lasting impress-

ion on Sarojini who gave no speech but recited a poem 'ode to India' which was highly appreciated. Very soon, writes Sengupta, because of her keen social consciousness and her dynamic energy and her desire to right all wrongs, Sarojini Naidu became a leader of Indian women. It was a time in the first decade of the twentieth century, when the position of Indian women was anything but happy. Sarojini with her brilliant oratory and poetry caused a stir and upheaval which resounded throughout India.

She addressed gatherings of men and pleaded with them to give their wives the freedom which was their birthright and which indeed they had possessed in ancient India. It was Sarojini who told vast audien-

ces of people that women must help men and be their companions and not remain slaves. It was almost entirely due to her untiring efforts that finding a national women's movement was founded in India which became so powerful that even the statutory commission later admitted that the women's movement in India holds the key to progress, and the results it may achieve are incalculably great.

In 1906, Sarojini addressed the Indian Social Conference on 'The Education of Indian Women'. This roused considerable interest and from then the fiery passionate speeches of Sarojini favouring women's education, women's skills and talent in various fields were heard at continuously throughout the length and breadth of India.

She charged the Indian youth to restore to women their ancient rights for without the active co-operation of women at all points of progress, all their congresses and conferences were in vain. In all her many speeches, she fearlessly condemned evil customs, such as suttee, infant marriage, vaze sulkam, kanya sulkam, nautches, extravagant expenditure on social and religious occasions and the glaring disparity of age between girls and men when marriages were arranged.

Large appreciative audiences attended her speeches and were enthralled both by her oratory as well as the profound knowledge she exhibited. For, the first time in March 1908 muslim women attended her lectures many behind screen. The first march consisting of 500 Hindu, Muslim and Parsi girls through the streets of Bombay in aid of their cause was also held.

In 1908, at the session of the Indian National Social Conference held in Madras, Sarojini moved a resolution on Hindu widows preventing their disfigurement, providing them with educational facilities, and the commencement of a widows Home and even encouragement of widow remarriage.

During this period, the first ever ladies conference was held in Madras where over 700 Indian women assembled to have and discuss problems faced by Indian women.

During the time of growth of the Freedom Movement in the country, the women's Movement of India was conceived of and sponsored from its conception by Sarojini. Margaret Consius guided by Annie Besant inaugurated this in Madras in 1917, and the Women's Indian Association was born. This association afforded a platform for women to air their grievances and demand their rights. The slogan of equality between men and women was launched and a battle indeed was fought for this. Soon a deputation held discussions with Mr. Montague, the Secretary of State for India. The clamour for vote for women was made and a non-violent fight for a vote continued for long periods of time. In 1918, Sarojini moved a resolution on Women's franchise at the 8th Session of the Bombay Provincial Council at Bijapur and a deputation waited on Montague asking for women's rights to be recognised and franchise



given to women. Despite the force in strength and the impassioned plea made year after, with many discussions held, the franchise for women was not easy to obtain. At the first all India Women's Conference held in January 1927, delegates from all constituent conferences met to focus women's demands with Sarojini being its friend, philosopher and guide from its inception. So intense was the feeling that even the conference was named the 'All India Women's Conference on Educational Reform.' It was non-political in character, free to discuss all questions with special reference to problems concerning women and children. Thus Sarojini played a large part in channelising the struggle of women into one united effort with the fight for freedom with the achievement of one, the other was inevitable and it was entirely due to Sarojini that the women's movement was put on its footing.

Needless to add that when Mahatma Gandhi came to the scene at the helm of affairs to fight for India's freedom, he gave his blessings and full support for the women's movement. He went to the extent of saying that unless the women came forward to spearhead the freedom struggle, Swaraj will never be obtained. Sarojini accepted Gandhiji as her master and ever afterwards worked together both for the emancipation of the country and for the rights of women without which freedom will be meaningless. The country and especially the women of India can justly be proud of this great lady who gave practically her all and used her God given talents for the women and weaker sections of society in all at a particularly needy period in the long history of India.

REHABILITATION OF

LEPROUS

BEGGARS



World Leprosy Day is being celebrated every year on January 30 reminding how Mahatma Gandhi was endearing himself to the task of treating leprosy with his own hands. While the dreaded disease disfigures most of its victims, some do come out successful thanks to efforts of rehabilitation taken by the Government of Tamilnadu and Philanthropists.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have established ten Rehabilitation Homes at Paranur, Chengalpattu District, Ulundurpet, South Arcot District, Bargur, Dharmapuri District, Pudukkottai, Pudukkottai District, Vinnapalli, Periyar District, Manayeripatti, Thanjavur District, Y. Pudupatti, Madurai District, Mallavadi, North Arcot District, Sellampatti, Dharmapuri District, Deviakurichi, Salem District.

The main philosophy underlying the establishment of these homes is to cure the beggars suffering from Leprosy and rehabilitate them, so that when they are discharged from the homes, they can lead a life of dignity and self-reliance without being a burden either on the society or on their family.

Each home can accommodate 400 adults and 25 children. Leprosy beggars are admitted on a voluntary

basis and when they are convicted for begging. If in a married couple, one spouse is suffering from leprosy and took to begging the other spouse also will be admitted in the home.

Inmates are discharged when they are certified non-infective and are able to work and earn their own livelihood, also when inmates misbehave repeatedly and are a threat to the smooth running of the home.

Facilities in the homes

Inmates of the home are given free boarding, lodging, clothing medical facilities and vocational training. Arrangements have also been made for games, screening of films, library facilities and for variety entertainments.

Each adult is given a diet at a cost of Rs. 2.30 per day and children at Rs. 1.15 and Rs. 3.77 is being spent for the T. B. Leprosy patients. The diet includes a breakfast, lunch, evening tea and dinner. Butter milk is provided daily. Mutton is provided once in a week. Sick patients and T. B. patients get special diet. On special occasions such as Independence day, Gandhiji's Birth day, etc.

special diet is served when extra cost of Re. 1 is permitted per inmate.

The homes are constructed in four blocks with rooms for families in the ground floor and dormitories in the first floor for single person (Bargur and Ulundurpet homes are constructed in single floor pucca sheds).

The inmates are given two sets of clothes per year. This is usually distributed during Pongal and Independence Day.

Besides food and free treatment, each inmate is provided with free clothing, oil, soap, tooth powder, mat, chappals, etc. The patients who are suffering from eye defects are entitled to free supply of spectacles and dark glasses. Recently Government issued orders for the supply of linen to the children of the inmates in Government Rehabilitation Homes twice a year, i.e., on the Independence day and Pongal day.

There is sufficient scope in each Home for entertainment also. The Government have sanctioned a recurring expenditure of Rs. 200 towards sports and games in each home. The Government have also

sanctioned the supply of two daily newspapers and books worth Rs. 250 for each home per year. In order to encourage the artistic talents of inmates of the homes, the Government have also sanctioned the supply of musical instruments to the tune of Rs. 400 to each home.

The inmates are also supplied with Adult Literary Books to help them to improve their level of literacy and general education.

During the days of National importance the inmates are given special diet including sweets. On the days of Anniversary of the Homes, the inmates are enabled to stage dramas and variety entertainments.

Healthy children of the inmates are admitted in the nearby school and for the purpose, the Government have sanctioned an initial expenditure of Rs. 75 per child towards dress, etc.

Recently Government have sanctioned incurring of expenditure as detailed below for each school going child in the Government Rehabilitation Homes for subsequent years of study :

Rs. 20 (Rupees Twenty only) for second standard to seventh standard Rs. 120 (For 6 years).

Rs. 30 (Rupees thirty only) for 8th standard to 9th standard (Rupees sixty for 2 years).

Rs. 50 (Rupees Fifty only) for 10th Standard.

Rs. 75 (Rupees seventy five only) for Eleventh and 12th Standard (Rs. 150 for two years).

Medical facilities—

Inmates are given medical treatment free of charge. In each home there are two Medical Officers, two Staff Nurses, one Laboratory Technician, one Physiotherapist and one Auxiliary Nurse Midwife to attend to the Medical needs of inmates. In addition to leprosy, all other general ailments are also treated. Patients requiring hospitalisation are admitted in the wards where there is provision for 10 in patients and treated on special sick diet. There is a fully equipped operation theatre in all the Homes except the homes at Bargur and Ulundurpet. Surgery on claw hands, drop foot and other

physical defects are being done at Padupatti.

Inmates are referred to Scheffelin Leprosy Research and Training Centre, Karigari for provision of Special shoes and Government have sanctioned Rs. 300 per annum for each home to meet the expenditure in connection with the provision of special shoes, artificial limbs to the inmates referred to Scheffelin Leprosy Research and Training Centre, Karigari.

Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy :

There is one Physiotherapist attached to each home. He is provided with necessary Physiotherapy equipments viz., Electric Stimulator and wax bath. Inmates who are in need of Physiotherapy are attended to by the Physiotherapist.

The Government have sanctioned the appointment of three Occupational Therapists attached to the home at Paranur, Pudukottai and Deviakurichi. The post at Paranur only has been filled up. He will be visiting the nearest homes and help the inmates in vocational training under the guidance of the Chief Occupational Therapist who is attached to the Headquarters at Madras.

Rehabilitation Measures :

An important feature of the scheme is rehabilitation. Able bodied inmates are given training in cloth weaving, mat weaving, shoe making, tailoring, agriculture, carpentry etc., in the homes and they are expected to be discharged and rehabilitated after certain period so that they can live on their own independently without resorting to begging. So far 95 inmates have been rehabilitated.

The Government have established an Envelope Making unit in the rehabilitation home at Pudukottai. The Envelope making unit started functioning from 1st February 1978. One post of Junior Binder has been filled up by appointing an inmate of the home. The 2nd post has been filled up by appointing the candidate sponsored by the Employment Exchange.

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 51,000 per annum towards the purchase of

seeds manure and agricultural implements, payment of wages etc., and undertaking large scale agricultural operation in the vacant lands in the following five Rehabilitation Homes :—

	Rs.
Bargur	5,000
Mallavadi	4,000
Pudukottai	2,000
Vinnapalli	5,000
Deviakurichi	35,000
Total	51,000

Rehabilitation Activities.—

The Rehabilitation activities mainly include farming, mat weaving, cloth weaving, tailoring, shoe making, carpentry, Rural Textile Centre, Sericulture and Rope making. Totally there are 138 looms functioning in all the ten Rehabilitation Homes. There are 77 mat looms functioning and mats are being sold to District Hospitals and other Government Institutions. The Rural Textiles Centre, started recently at Y. Pudupatti are producing roughly 10,000 hanks of yarn every month while the Rural Textile Centre at Ulundurpet produces about 9,000 hanks monthly. There are 34 tailoring machines in the Rehabilitation Homes. The garments that are being issued to the inmates twice a year being stitched by the inmates of the homes.

Modern Factory-cum-Workshop started by the Swedish Red Cross Rehabilitation Industries, Katpadi, at Rehabilitation home, Paranur have trained 23 inmates who were employed by them in their own industries at Tiruchirappalli and Katpadi. The training imparted in this work shop helps the inmates to develop self confidence and independence under strict discipline.

As the inmates found it difficult to take the yarn outside and warp them at high cost, warping machines have since been purchased and installed at the following homes and action is being taken to provide sizing accessories.

Ulundurpet, Mallavadi, Paranur, Y. Pudupatti, Manayeripatti, Pudukottai.

In the Rehabilitation Home, Deviakurichi, the Administrative Officer has obtained Rs. 500 as donation from the Collector of Salem and purchased and installed warping and sizing machines.

over twenty eight million couples

in India are today practising
FAMILY PLANNING

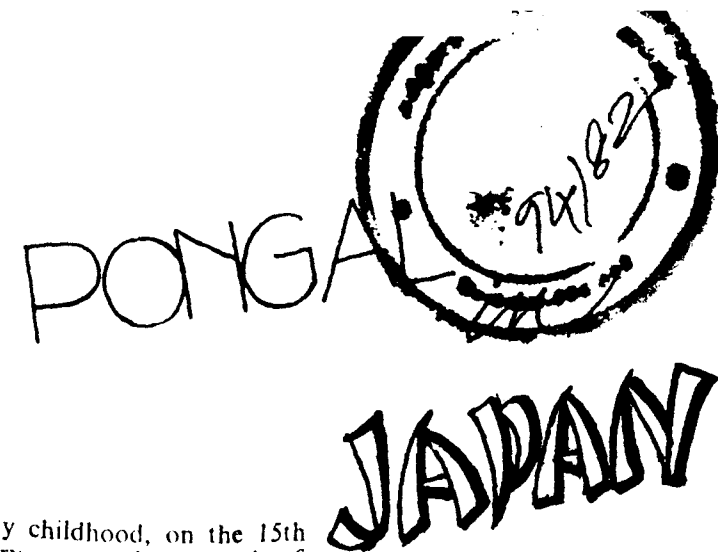
and they are
living better

IF YOU ARE AMONG THEM,
TELL YOUR NEIGHBOURS ; IF NOT, START NOW



SMALL FAMILY HAPPY FAMILY

davp-81/166



In my childhood, on the 15th of January we took a bowl of porridge containing red-beans. We used to scatter some sugar on it, and eat it every year. This custom is prevailing in Japan and it is not of recent origin. In 936 A. D., a famous Japanese poet Tsurayuki wrote in his diary on the 15th of January as follows : 'We cannot boil the porridge with red-beans today.' Being on ship, they were unable to do it. But by this document we recognize that people of the age customarily prepared porridge on that day.

Nowadays, in the north eastern part of Japanese archipelago, we can find such annual functions as below :

	DATE	FOOD	COLOUR	ADDITIONAL INGREDIENT	OFFERED TO
Tamil	15th Jan.	Porridge	Red	Sugar	Crow
Japan	15th Jan.	Porridge	Red	Sugar	Crow

In Aomori Prefecture (a unit like a State), farmers give rice cakes to crows in the morning of the 15th of January.

In Iwate Prefecture in the morning of the same day, with rice-cakes in their bowls, children call the crows shouting, 'Come here crow.' We will give you rice-cakes. Children throw the cakes to the crows.

In Akita Prefecture, farmers cry 'poo, poo', and they give rice-cakes to crows on the same day.

I can show more examples concerning this matter. By the functions mentioned above, we are able to establish a cultural resemblance between Tamils and Japanese. The following table shows the common features.

KOME NUKA (Ricebran)	HONGA !	HONGA !
SOBA NUKA (Wheatbran)	HONGA !	HONGA !
TOFU (Beancurd)	HONGA !	HONGA !
Beanbran,	Honga!	Honga !
Ricebran,	Come flying to us !	
Money.	Come flying to us !	
Toddy.	Come flying to us !	

Beautiful Women Come flying to me !

In Nagano Prefecture farmers drive off the injurious birds by beating wooden plate (using it as a drum), in the morning of 15th January. This implies the wish for abundant crops. In this function, children shout at the end of the recited as Hongara hooi ! Hongara hooi ! In Japan, the people do not know the meaning of Honga or Hongara. The meaning has been already forgotten.

But in the Japanese, the consonant (h) was bilabial (f) before the 17 Century A.D. and it is believed by scholars that the bilabial (f) was pronounced as (p) in the earliest stage of the Japanese.

Therefore 'Honga' and 'Hongara' in Japanese were 'Ponga' and 'Pongara' respectively in the pre-historical age (Honga Fonga Ponga).

All the Japanese words end in a vowel. The consonant ending words when borrowed in Japanese tend to undergo the following changes :

- (a) The final consonant is lost
- (b) An additional vowel (especially 'i' or 'u' or 'a') can be added.

It may be mentioned here that this is almost true in the case of colloquial Tamil as well. For example, English 'street' becomes, 'Stree' or 'Streetu' in Japanese. These changes have already taken place in the native words. We therefore get 'honga' and 'hongara' as derivatives from 'Pongal'. There is no distinction between r and l in Japanese.

In Tami'nadu, I have heard that in the evening of the 15th of January, farmers go around their houses reciting :

Pongalo Pongal
Pal Pongal
Then Pongal
Pongalo Pongal

The reciting phrases in Tamil and Japanese are essentially similar. These facts, I believe, suggest the existence of some fundamental cultural relationship between Tamil and Japanese.

PROF. SUSUMU OHNO
C/o. Department of Tamil Literature,
University of Madras.



The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation has organised the All India Tourist and Industrial Fair for the 9th Year in succession during the Pongal Festival, the peak tourist season in Tamil Nadu. In order to highlight the Industrial Progress of Tamil Nadu, this Year's Fair has been organised as "Tourist and Industrial Fair". The response from the public to the Fair is on the increase year after year.

The Fair, which commenced on 9th January 1982 will be held for a period of 60 days. The site, where the Fair is conducted, extends to an area of about 22 acres on both the banks of the river Cooum.

To mark the Bharathi Centenary Year, a Statue of the Poet Subramania Bharathi adorns the main facade of the Fair on the War Memorial side. The other entrance is decorated with Silapathikaram Motiff "The Thorana vayil".

There are as many as 335 participants which include 43 Tamil Nadu Government Departments and Undertakings and 12 Central Government Departments and Undertakings. 49 Private Sector concerns have also put up their pavilions. Major Industrial units like Hindustan Teleprinters, Hindustan Machine Tools, Southern Petro Chemical Industries, Simpsons, Sundaram Clayton, Southern Asbestos, Farm Implements, Reliance Motors are also participating in the Fair.

The facade of the State Tourism Development pavilion portrays the famous Tamil Nadu Ruralsport "Jallikattu". Places of tourist interest in Tamil Nadu are highlighted here through colour T.V. The pavilion of the Information and Public Relations Department depicts the life and the message of poet Bharathi. In a mini theatre here, shorts and documentaries are screened. One feels as though one has entered a temple when one enters the pavilion of the Hindu Religious Endowments Department. The significant contribution made by Adi Dravida Savants to Hindu Religion is one of the highlights of this pavilion. Beautiful icons and photographs and models of various temples are artistically displayed.

9th ALL INDIA TOURIST & INDUSTRIAL FAIR 1982

Demonstrations of the indigenously fabricated mobile sprinkler irrigation unit is held at the Agriculture Department pavilion. The pavilion of the Industries and Commerce Department highlights the assistance rendered by the State Government to the Industrial units.

The products displayed are television sets, galvanised pipes, tins, synthetic gems etc., manufactured by the units.

At TAMIN the major minerals displayed are limestone, quartz and feldspar, silica sand, rose quartz, fire clay, vermiculite etc.

Models of sanitary ware, stone ware pipes, crockery, stoneware jars, art pottery, mechanized bricks are displayed at the TACEL pavilion.

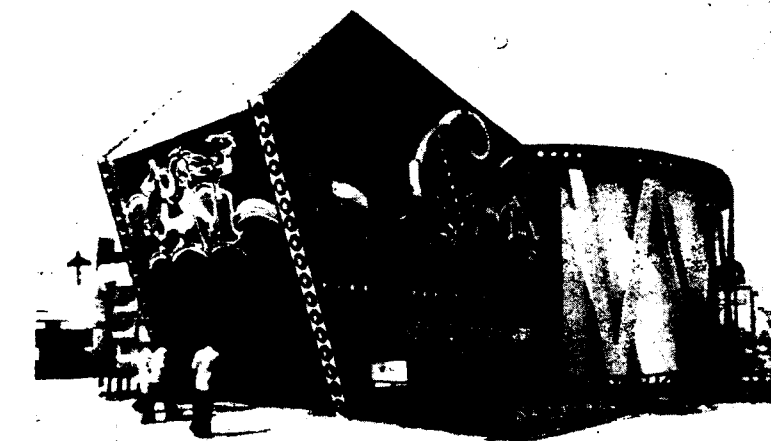
Poompuhar: Beautifully sculpted pieces in stone, intricate wood carvings, metal ware, art plates, icons famed for its beauty are artistically displayed at this pavilion.

Modern and scientific methods of prevention and detection of crimes are explained at the Police Department's pavilion. The main theme of the pavilion of the Corporation of Madras is to educate the public on the eradication and control of Malaria.

The pavilion of the Directorate of Indian Medicine describes the features of Siddha, Ayurveda and Unani systems of medicine. Specimens of various drugs including minerals, metals and herbal pots are on display.

The Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board in their pavilion explain in detail the working of the water supply and sewerage functions through a "Sound and Light" programme.

The Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, in addition to explaining their activities, have displayed their publications which are available for sale.



The Department of Agricultural Marketing displays in their stall models of the various activities in the Regulated Market. Agmark products like oil, ghee, ground spices, honey etc. are sold here.

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producer's Federation with an annual turn over of over Rs. 35 crores provides centralised technical inputs and takes care of marketing of milk in Madras and Madurai and helps member unions in marketing their surplus Dairy Products. This is explained in their pavilion put up in the Fair. Milk and Milk products are also sold to the visitors.

The proposed Kottur Bridge adorns the frontage of the Highways and Rural Works Department's pavilion. The models on display here include Test Track at Highways Research Station, 100 Tonne Test vehicle, a low cost building, Bhavani Bridge near Mettupalayam, L.I.C. Subway etc.

The handicrafts of the five states of the North eastern region; Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram etc., highlight the cultural tradition exclusive to that region.

The Snake Park and the colourful fountains and parks are added attractions.

The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation runs a Restaurant in the Fair grounds this year which is located in a pavilion designed on the pattern of "Hotel Tamil Nadu", the T.T.D.C. Star Hotel at Madurai.

Specially trained cooks have been employed in the TTDC restaurant and the popularity of the food items served here is evident from the fact that there has been record collections in the first 12 days (Rs.31,815).

Seminars and discussions are organised by leading industrial units during the Fair period. A colourful fountain beautifies the Central Plaza. The Handloom Bazaar, the shopping Arcade, the amusement Complex etc. have all been improved upon and made more attractive. The annual features such as the Dog Show, the Horticulture Show, the Food Fair etc. have been organised this year in a more attractive manner. The Arignar Anna Auditorium, and mini Theatre and the open Air Cinema theatre provide cultural programmes like Dance, Drama and Music, and also popular movies. More than 25



lakh people visit the Fair every year and a record turn over is expected this year in view of the unique added attractions.

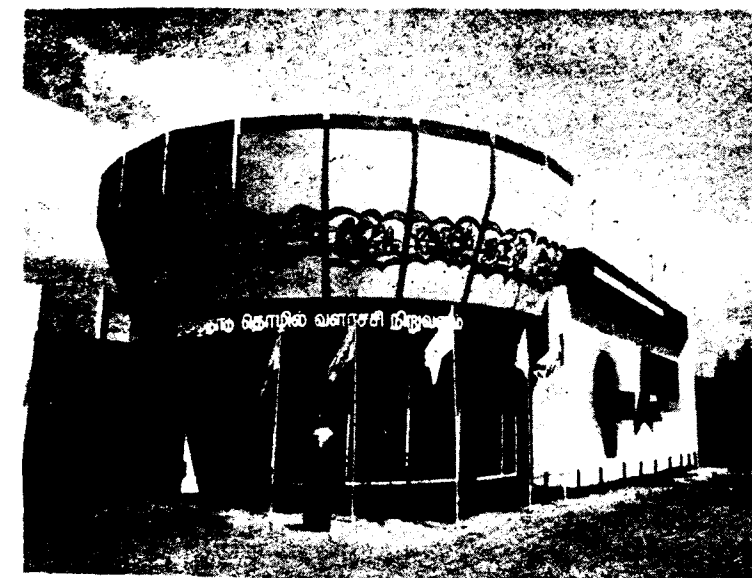
The facade of the Forest Department has been got up aesthetically. Details of the Wild Life sanctuaries and the bird sanctuaries of Tamil Nadu have been displayed in this pavilion. The use of forests and forest products are explained.

The Pallavan Transport Corporation has arranged special buses from various parts of the City and Transport facility will be available till late in the night from fair grounds. The Fair timings are 2 P.M. to 10 P.M. and the tickets for admission are rupee one for adult and 0.50 paise for the child.

The Fair includes a stall with video games, which attracts large number of youngsters in search of amusement.

Another novel feature of this Fair is the live telecast of the programmes held in the auditorium for the benefit of those who come to the garden restaurant attached to the TTDC's Hotel Tamilnadu.

Television sets have also been installed in various places to telecast Madras TV station programmes.

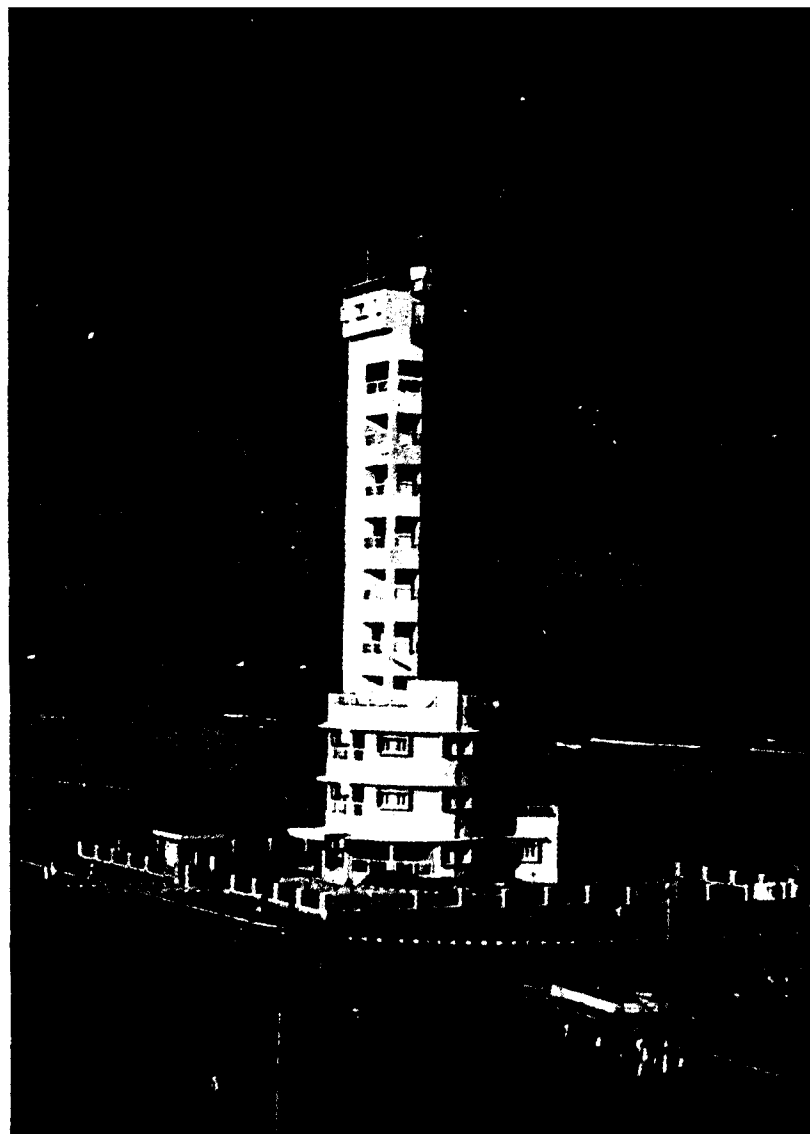


The public areas where the people squat for a break and for taking snacks have been specially beautified with a large number of potted plants, fountains, etc.

The popularity of the Fair may be seen from the fact that in the first 12 days the total collections have been in the order of Rs. 3.5 lakhs, of which Rs.3.04 lakhs accounts for gate collections. It is estimated that about 4 lakhs people have visited the Fair so far in the first 12 days.



100
Years
of



NEW MADRAS LIGHTHOUSE

MADRAS LIGHTHOUSE

Madras is a very important port on the East Coast of India and is the capital city of the southern State of Tamil Nadu in the Indian Union. The history of the Madras Lighthouse dates back to 1795. The vessels approaching Madras those days at night fall from the south were compelled to risk the shoals of Covelong. Those breaking quite close to the walls approaching from the north had to guard against the sand banks of Armagaon and Pulicat. The masters of these vessels therefore suggested a fixed light on Fort St. George in Madras. In those days the sea was very rough and the goods and passengers were brought through the surf by boats and landed on the sandy beach. The original idea was to set up a light on the steeple of St. Mary's Church. The chaplain

who got his authority from the Bishop of London refused permission on the grounds that the Church could not be put to profane or common use. The roof of the exchange in the Fort was therefore selected by the Government. In 1796, a lantern fed by oil bearing wicks, fixed to iron wire supports, was established thereon. A new lighthouse was erected between 1838 and 1843 immediately to the north of Fort St. George and a flashing light consisting of Argand lamps and reflectors was exhibited from this lighthouse with effect from 1st January, 1844. When the High Court building was completed in 1892 it was decided to shift the lighthouse to the main dome of the High Court building. The light from the top of the High Court dome started functioning from the 1st June, 1894. This originally consisted of a wick burner. In 1827 the wick burner was replaced by a 55 mm Auto Form Chance Brothers Burner. In 1953, electricity was introduced by fixing a bulb and that arrangement continued till 1960. Subsequently the operation was reverted to P.V. Burner.

Foundation

The site for the lighthouse is located very near the sea. The soil is mainly sandy. The sub soil water is quite high. It was, therefore, decided to have pile foundation for the lighthouse tower.

Superstructure

The masonry dome, from the top of which the light is exhibited, has developed cracks and the equipment also outlived its useful life and need replacement. Many high buildings have come up between this light and the sea and the structure is not therefore conspicuous. A new tower on the beach was therefore considered necessary. It has accordingly been decided to construct a new lighthouse at a new site on the Marina Beach and install thereon a new powerful electrically operated optical equipment.

The new Lighthouse was commissioned into service on 10.1.1977.

DESIGN

Location

The new lighthouse is located at the end of Marina Beach.

Architecture

As the lighthouse is located in Madras City and on the Marina Beach, a large number of tourists/visitors visit the lighthouse daily. In view of this it was decided that the lighthouse tower which will be a very prominent land mark should be a piece of tourist attraction and should be given architectural treatment.

The tower is triangular in Plan. The external length of this equilateral triangle is 7.162 m. The height of the tower is 45.720 m up to top of top slab. The wall thickness of tower varies from 343 mm at bottom to 254 mm at top. A staircase is provided inside the tower for access to the service room and lantern room. For visitors an electric lift has been provided. The lift machinery is located at the top of lift well in a separate machine room. From the last landing of the lift a staircase has been provided for the visitors to reach the machine room level. The access thereafter to the top is by means of a steel ladder. This has been done with a view to avoid visitors entering the lantern. The tower is having reinforced concrete grill work on its sea side face. Rest rooms, Inspecting Officers' rooms, Powerhouse etc. are provided in the attached 3 storeyed building. The tower has been painted in red and white bands.

Optical Equipment

Lantern

The internal diameter of the lantern is 2.5 metres. The murette which is 1.25 M high comprises 10 segments of cast iron panels bolted together. One of the segments is provided with the door to give access from the lantern to outside. The other segments

Optical Apparatus

The optical equipment consists of a small revolving lens of 375 mm focal radius with four dioptric and catadioptric panels associated in pairs and rotating at a speed of 3 r.p.m. to provide the character of group flashing (2) every 10 seconds, the duration of the flash being 0.33 seconds. The equipment is electrically operated and the effective beam intensity produced is 2.44 million candelas.

The optic is mounted on a third order small mercury float pedestal complete with lens table, through float, float support etc. The rotation is provided by a clock work mechanism consisting of a standard weight driven 12-hour clock. The normal rewinding is by electric motors.

The main illuminant consists of 3000 watt 110 volts electric lamp. An automatic lamp changer with current relay, trip magnet, lamp fuses etc. brings a standby lamp into focus in the vent of main lamp failure. The emergency illuminant comprises an incandescent acetylene ASR-3 mantle with burner of capacity 60 litres per hour. The gas supply is from two D gas accumulators installed at the base of the tower. When the light runs on the emergency gas burner, the optic is revolved by gas motors.

Power Supply Equipment

The light normally runs off local mains supply. A generator set is also provided at the station to act as standby in the event of mains failure. The alternator is protected and self ventilated having an output of 12.5 KVA at 0.8 power factor, the voltage being 220-230, frequency 50 cycles and speed 1000 r.p.m. It is coupled to a two cylinder, water cooled radiator type diesel engine.

Cost

The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 2.3 million including the purchase and installation of optical equipment.

HOPE LIGHTS A CANDLE WILL IT MAKE A CAREER?

When the hands of poverty get hold of a master mind,
one more outstanding brain descends into nothingness.

CANARA BANK's philosophy sought to reverse this unfortunate trend. Thus was born the CANARA BANK Golden Jubilee Education Fund in 1956. Inspired by its founder's love for education the Fund was designed to help needy students on merit-cum-means basis for pursuing professional courses of studies. Granting long term loans, 25 years ago, at 4% interest (simple) repayable a year after completion of education.

SOMETHING UNIQUE. PIONEERING AND PACE SETTING.

A closely linked service is the Book Bank scheme to lend costly professional books to students.

Thousands of students have benefited from these year after year. Some in India and others abroad, working in different disciplines and occupations; Doctors, Teachers, Self-employed industrialists and many more.

ALL BECAUSE, ONE MAN HAD A VISION.
AND HIS BANK SOUGHT TO FULFIL IT.

SERVING TO GROW-GROWING TO SERVE



Canara Bank

75 Years

1906-1981

BEYOND INTERESTS A CONCERN.

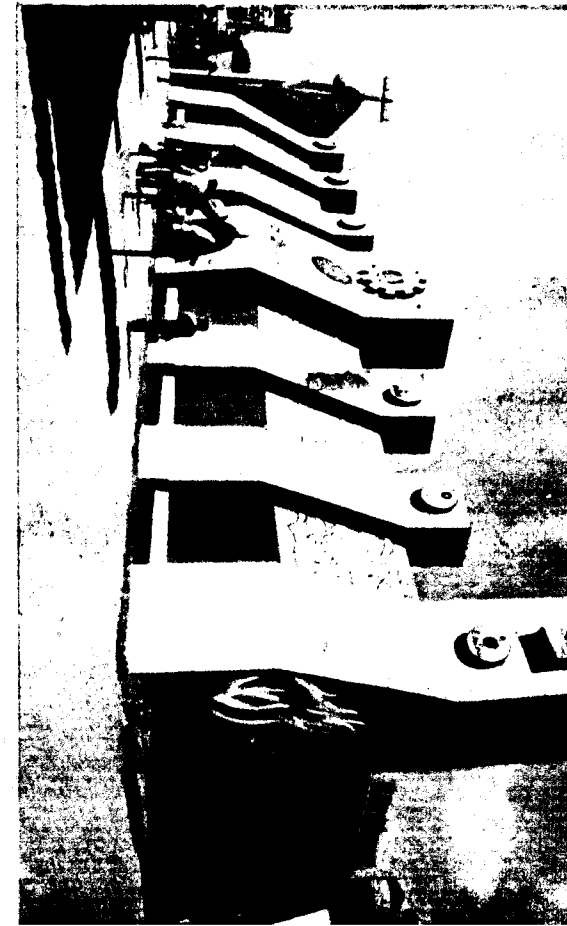
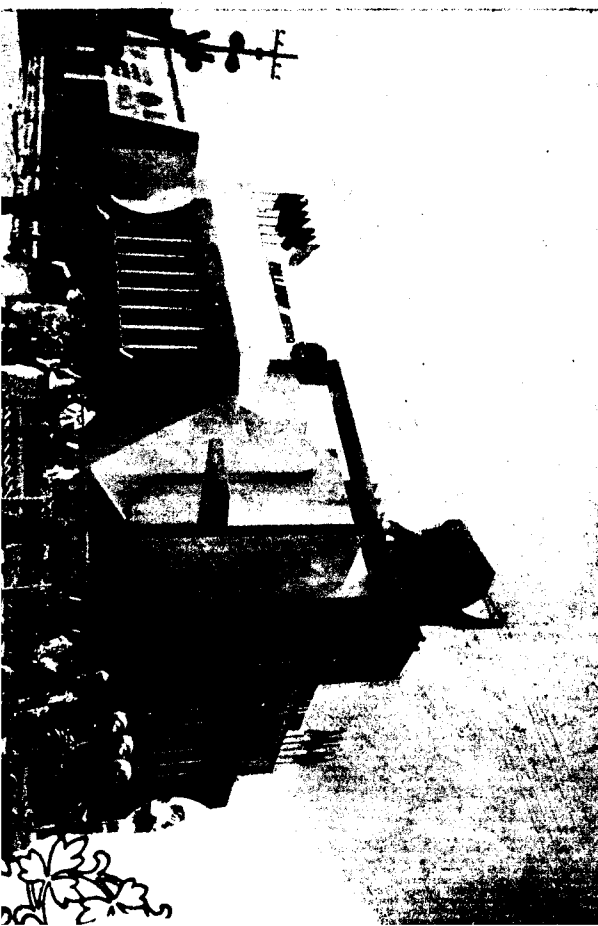
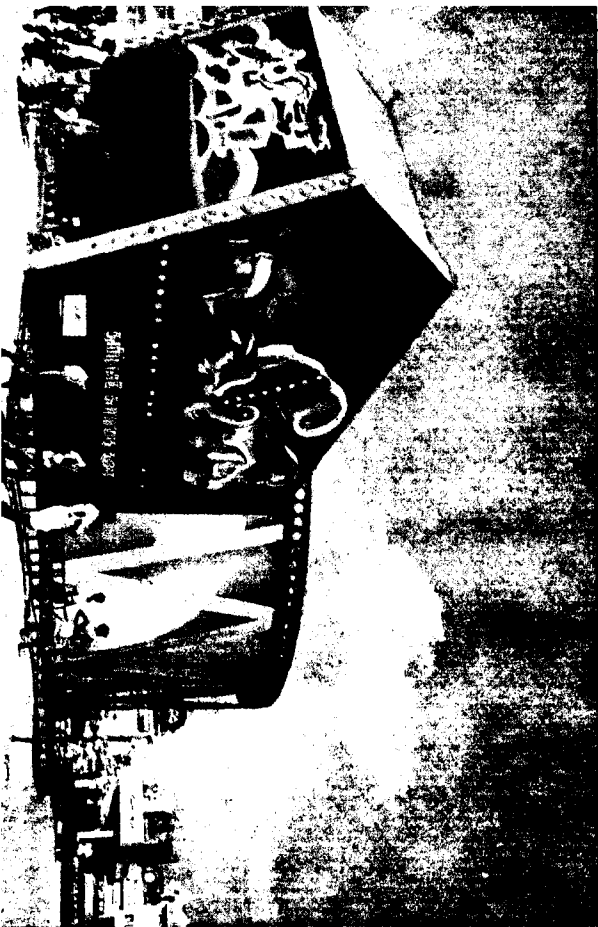
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Bright and
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prints in a variety enchanting
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and designs

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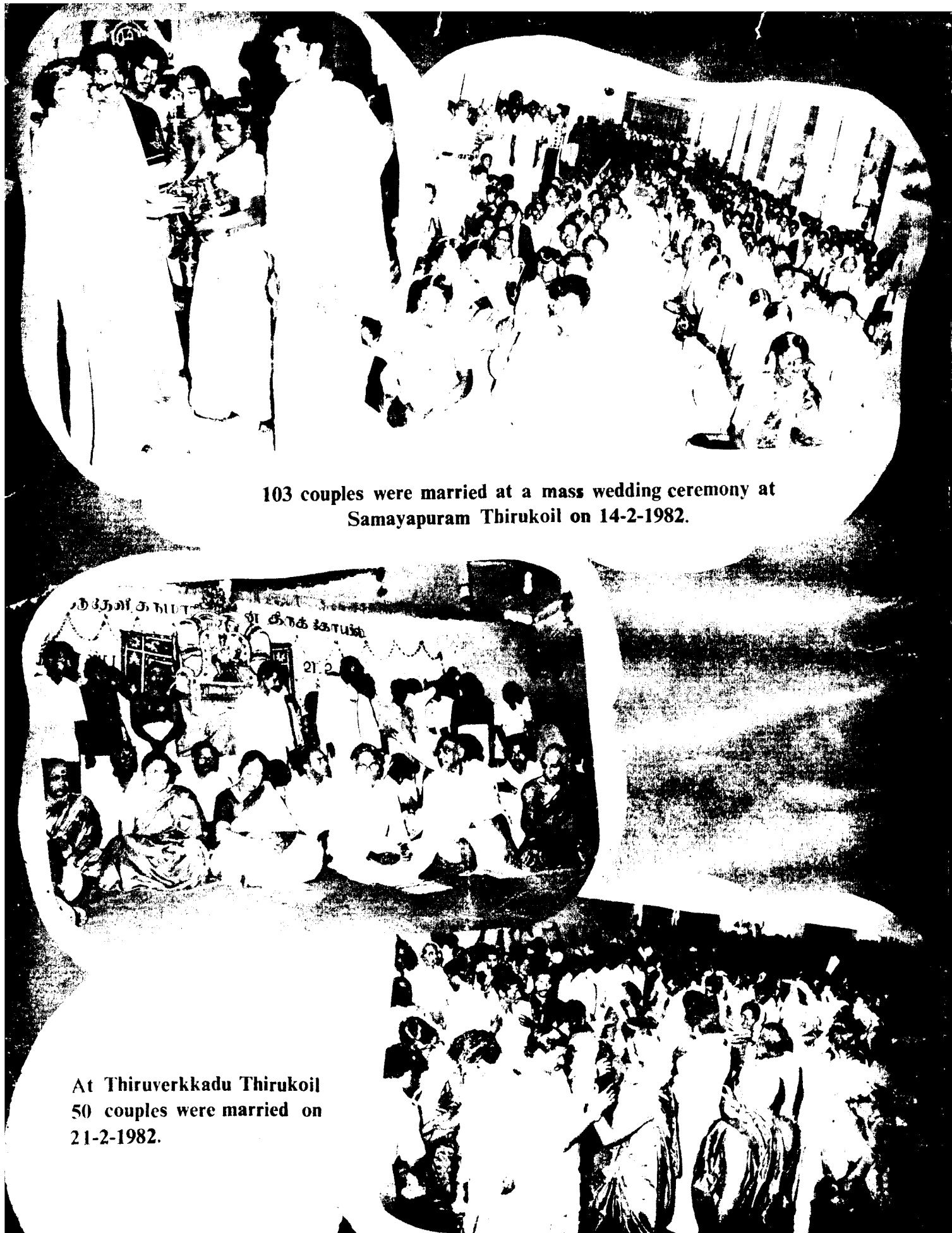


Tamil Arasu

55
MARCH 1982 75 P
Thiruvalluvar Year 2013
Masi-Panguni—Dhunmathi

15000000





103 couples were married at a mass wedding ceremony at Samayapuram Thirukoil on 14-2-1982.

At Thiruverkkadu Thirukoil 50 couples were married on 21-2-1982.

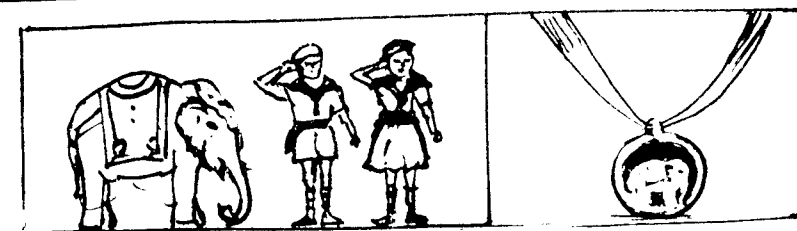
Tamil Arasu

MARCH 1982

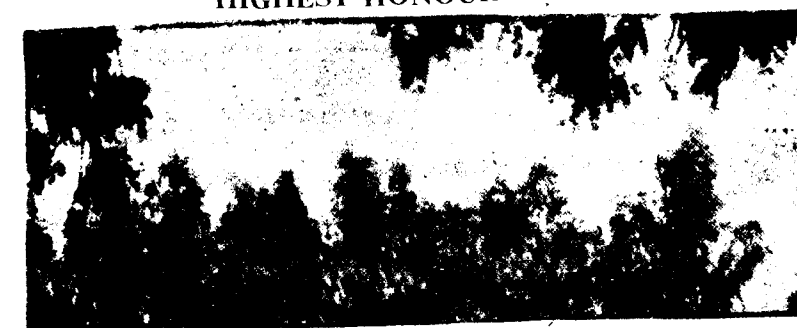
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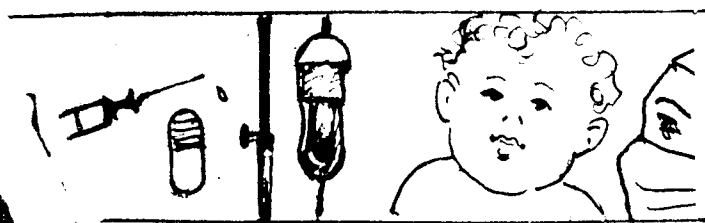
HIGHEST HONOUR TO CM



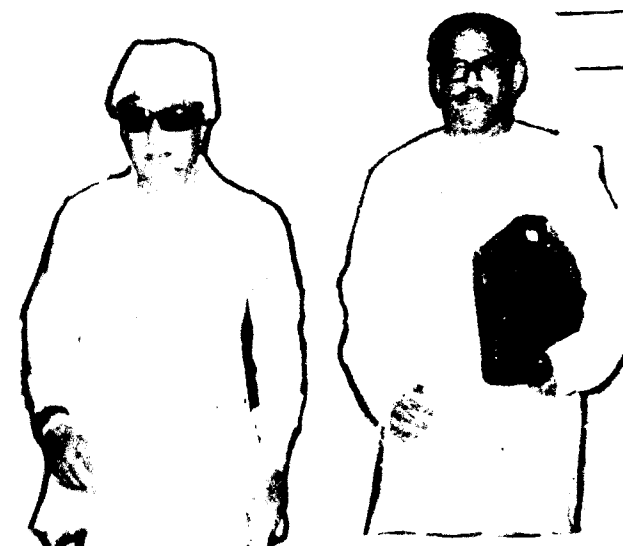
SOCIAL FORESTRY



MASS WEDDINGS.



BLOOD TRANSFUSION





BUDGET 1982-83

Thiru V. R. Nedunchezhiyan

Minister for Finance

"Who swells the revenues, spreads plenty over land,
Seeks out what hinders progress, his the ruling hand"

This is the advice which the universally honoured poet Thiruvalluvar offers to the Ruler. According to the Poet-Savant, only that person who can enlarge the sources of revenue and thereby build up wealth and who is capable of identifying the obstacles and overcoming them is fit to be a Ruler. Adhering to the cardinal, ethical principles laid down by Thiruvalluvar, the present Government is doing its utmost to mobilise and maximise resources for Tamil Nadu and with their help, build up wealth of Tamil Nadu in various ways, identify the obstacles in the path of progress and help to overcome them and ensure a life of peace and prosperity to the people. It is with this approach and outlook that I have come forward to place before this House the Revised Estimate for the year 1981-82 and the Budget Estimate for the year 1982-83.

Tamil Nadu is an integral part of India which shares the trials and tribulations and at the same time contributes to the strength of the country. Any challenge that affects India, affects Tamil Nadu also. For instance, inflation, scarcity of essential commodities, rise in prices, unemployment, poverty, increase in prices of fuels and agricultural inputs, hike in railway and shipping freights—these are problems which affect Tamil Nadu to the same extent as they affect whole of India. The people of the State naturally look up to the State Government only, to solve their problems and fulfil their requirements. Although the State Government carries this heavy responsibility of ensuring the well-being of the people, the financial resources and powers necessary to discharge these responsibilities are available to the State Government only to a limited extent. Only if all parts of the body are strong, the whole body itself can be perfect. Only if the various States of India are strong, prosperous and have adequate resources to meet their requirements, will India be strong and prosperous. It is for this reason that we have been pressing in this House frequently that the Central Government should find ways and means of increasing the financial resources and powers of the States. Perarignar Anna as Chief Minister of our State has reiterated this view in this House at every opportunity. It is but appropriate that we should now recall the words of Perarignar Anna "Our only anxiety is that the Centre desires to take on the burden which it cannot carry. We must accept that the strength of the Centre is no more than the combined strength of the individual States. This alone is logical and this alone is good both for politics and in practice".

While presenting the Budget today, I have tried to express the aspirations and goals of this Government for the development of the State, keeping in mind the national economic picture. The situation in the country does hold promise of progress in certain vital sectors of the economy. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned,

it is always ready to extend a helping hand to the Government of India in their efforts to improve the lot of the common man, which is a cause very dear to this State Government as well. The recent announcement of the Prime Minister spelling out the new 20 point programme is certainly aimed at improving the conditions of the poorer and weaker sections of the society. The State Government whole-heartedly supports this programme and would do its utmost to implement it successfully. Keeping in view all the aspects elaborated by me earlier, I have formulated the Budget proposals for the next financial year to fulfil the economic, social, cultural and various other objectives for the development of the State.

Food Position

When we met at the Budget session last year, the State was going through a spell of severe drought. The acute scarcity of water, did have its effect on agricultural production with the result, that the production of rice, millets and pulses is likely to be only of the order of 60 lakh tonnes, 22-80 lakh tonnes and 3-30 lakh tonnes respectively during 1981-82. But, during 1982-83, it is expected that the production of rice would touch 68 lakh tonnes, millets 23-50 lakh tonnes and pulses 4-80 lakh tonnes. Through an effective public distribution system, the spurt in the open market prices of rice and other essential commodities was effectively prevented. In fact, during the year 1981, upto December 1981, about 6-7 lakh tonnes of rice were distributed to the card holders in the urban and rural areas. This convincingly proves the usefulness of supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities through the fair price shops.

The family cards attached to various fair price shops which are now in circulation were issued in the year 1975 after a door to door enumeration. They have now to be revised and updated. It has therefore been decided to conduct a general enumeration for the issue of new family cards. The work will be completed in the first half of the year.

The distribution of essential commodities, particularly rice, through fair price shops, involves a very heavy subsidy to the consumers from the Government. Although the economic price of rice is much higher, the Civil Supplies Corporation is deliberately keeping the issue price low, in the interest of the consumers. As the Government is bearing a heavy financial burden in supplying these food commodities at a subsidised rate, I would like to make a special appeal to the public to reciprocate this gesture of the Government by discharging their social obligation in furnishing correct particulars, when the door to door enumeration starts for replacing the old cards with the new family cards.

Majority of the people in the State depend on agriculture for their living. Hence, any development programme to be implemented in the State has to take note of this important factor. It is the policy of the State Government to give top priority to improve agriculture. Quality seeds are most essential for increasing the production of foodgrains which, in turn, depends on the production of foundation seeds. To increase the availability of foundation seeds, 2 seed farms, with an area of 200 acres each, will be set up in the next financial year at an ultimate cost of Rs. 80 lakhs. Quality seeds can be produced only if they are processed properly. At present, there are 7 giant seed processing units and 28 smaller units. To augment the seed processing facilities 3 new units, at an estimated cost of Rs. 60 lakhs, will be established in the next financial year.

Improved water management practices are essential for maximising the benefits from the scarce water resources available in the State. To achieve this, farm development works in major ayacut areas have been taken up. While work has already started in Cauvery and Periyar-Vaigai command ayacut areas, it is likely to be taken up in certain other areas of the State.

Increased production of foodgrains requires provision of scientific storage facilities within easy reach of farmers with facilities for pledging their produce and for getting advance payments, in order to avoid distress sales. For this, construction of rural godowns particularly where regulated markets are situated is very essential. A proposal to construct 62 such godowns at a cost of Rs. 62 lakhs, with the assistance of Government of India is under examination.

To give an impetus to increased oilseeds production, an intensive coconut development scheme was started in the districts of Kanniyakumari, Coimbatore and Thanjavur in 1980-81. It will be extended to all the districts in Tamil Nadu in the next financial year. This is expected to increase the production of coconuts from 45 nuts per tree to 60 nuts per tree, in the next three years, thus increasing the total production of coconuts in the State to 40 crores.

It is the policy of the Government that each district should have a State horticultural farm. With the establishment of 2 new farms in Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore districts, the entire State will have one farm per district, by the end of the next financial year.

The Integrated Rural Development programme meant essentially for emancipation of the weaker sections of the society consisting of small farmers, marginal farmers, rural artisans, crop sharers, agricultural and non-agricultural labourers and families belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, continues to receive special attention from the State Government. The outlay for this programme in the current financial year is Rs. 22-56 crores and in the next financial year it is likely to be over Rs. 30 crores.

Animal Husbandry

Under the Special Animal Husbandry Programme, many co-operative societies for sheep breeding have been

organised for the benefit of the small and marginal farmers. In order to provide better health cover and provide adequate treatment to the animals, it has been proposed to construct buildings for 5 veterinary dispensaries, to open 25 new veterinary dispensaries and to upgrade 5 veterinary dispensaries as veterinary hospitals. To eradicate the rinderpest disease among the cattle, 3 rinderpest checkpoints in Nilgiris district will be started during the next financial year. A pilot scheme for the study and control of foot and mouth disease in the Nilgiris district is being introduced with the assistance of Government of India and with the British collaboration, at an estimated cost of over Rs. 3 crores. It will start operating from the next financial year and will be continued for three years. The small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers are given necessary help to set up small poultry and sheep units and for rearing cows. So far under the special livestock production programme 11,083 sheep units and 3,618 poultry units have been estimated.

Dairy Development

The Government has taken a policy decision to set up for dairy development, co-operatives on the Anand pattern. In pursuance of this policy, 3,708 primary milk co-operative societies have been organised so far in Tamil Nadu. To streamline the milk distribution system in Madras City and to eliminate malpractices, consumer co-operative societies are being organised for undertaking distribution of milk to consumers from depots.

Apart from the areas in the "Operation Flood" districts, development activities are encouraged in outside areas also. At present, 4 mobile veterinary units are functioning in the non-Operation Flood districts. Four more units will be commissioned during the next financial year. A dairy, with a capacity of 50,000 litres with 2 chilling centres, will be set up at a cost of over Rs. 29 lakhs in Tirunelveli. A chilling centre costing about Rs. 9-5 lakhs will be established for the benefit of farmers at Pudukkottai.

Co-operation

The Government has been helping the lending programmes of the co-operative societies and primary land development banks through various ways. In order to rephase the loans outstanding with the primary land development banks on account of natural calamities, the Government has contributed Rs. 2-07 crores to the State Land Development Bank. To improve the eligibility of the primary societies, Rs. 47-44 lakhs have been contributed, for notionally reducing the overdues of the banks. Anticipating improvement in the repayment of loans in the coming year, a provision of Rs. 60 lakhs has been made towards the contribution for the debentures that will be floated by the State Land Development Bank for implementation of ARDC assisted schemes. Loans and subsidy will also be provided for 100 rural godowns to be set up by Agricultural Service Co-operatives and for starting 5 marketing godowns by market societies, at an estimated cost of over Rs. 86 lakhs. The programme of increasing the number of motorised cycle rickshaws will be continued and a subsidy of Rs. 11-30 lakhs will be released for purchase of these 1,000 cycle rickshaws.

A scheme to cover one lakh families of

agriculturists belonging to scheduled castes, by enrolling one person from each family to the membership of the agricultural service co-operative societies, to enable them to avail themselves of credit and other services rendered by the apex societies, is being continued. Under this scheme, 20,000 persons are being enrolled during the next financial year.

The LAMP co-operative societies have been started to improve the standard of living of the tribal members by providing them with integrated, credit, marketing and other services under one roof. More of these societies will be started in Nilgiris, Salem and North Arcot districts during the next financial year.

The Government's decision to ensure supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities to the public at reasonable prices without sacrificing the interests of the producers and the consumers, through the medium of the co-operative set up, has already been enunciated in the Governor's Address, earlier this month. As a follow up measure, preliminary action has been initiated in this direction. Necessary financial assistance would be provided to the co-operatives to implement this scheme successfully.

Fisheries

Recognising the fact that the economic upliftment of fishermen requires a stable market for their catch and facilities for landings, the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation has set up its procurement and marketing activities at important centres and the Department of Fisheries is providing landing facilities, fishing harbours, fish landing jetties, auction halls, etc. The Madras Fishing Harbour costing about Rs. 11 crores is nearing completion. It is also encouraging that Government of India have recently given clearance for starting fishing harbours at Chinnamuttam in Kanniyakumari district and Valinokkam in Ramanathapuram district. The State Government has also requested the Government of India for the sanction of the Pazhayar Fishing Harbour Scheme in Thanjavur district.

With the intention of securing prawn in natural conditions, brackish water prawn demonstration farms have been set up in 10 places. A scheme for the starting of prawn farms covering an area of 300 hectares near the estuaries, during the next three years, has been drawn up and it is being sent to Government of India for clearance. The outlay for this project will be over Rs. 2.60 crores.

The present production of finger-lings is about 60 millions. Ten centres are being developed with an outlay of Rs. 1.20 crores, to secure an additional nursery area of 12 hectares which will produce an additional quantity of 50 million finger-lings. This scheme will progressively be expanded so as to produce the entire requirement of finger-lings.

The housing programme for fishermen is being implemented. Over 9,900 houses have been sanctioned for construction. Link roads are also being provided to the colonies of fishermen to enable them to have easy access to the main road and for taking their catches to the markets.

The operation of the two Mexican trawlers of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation has been quite encouraging. They have landed so far 56 tonnes of prawns and 17.66 tonnes of fish valued at about Rs. 34 lakhs from First July 1981.

Forests

The scheme of social forestry is one of the schemes included in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. A social forestry project with financial assistance from the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) is now under implementation in Tamil Nadu with effect from 1st April 1981. This project envisages an outlay of Rs. 108 crores over a period of 10 years. The first phase of the project which has been approved recently, covers a period of 5 years with an outlay of Rs. 45 crores. A sum of Rs. 8 crores has been allotted under this scheme for 1982-83.

While efforts are on for increasing the area under forest plantation, Government is also ensuring that the forest wealth is preserved. For this, additional vehicles and other equipments to the forest staff will be provided, costing about Rs. 20 lakhs, during the next financial year. Formation of new roads and improvement of existing roads will be taken up in the next financial year at an estimated cost of Rs. 36 lakhs. Construction of staff quarters and check posts will be taken up with an allocation of Rs. 34.78 lakhs during 1982-83. To protect the Nilgiris Tahr, a sanctuary will be set up in the next financial year with the assistance from the Government of India.

Irrigation

A provision of Rs. 22.23 crores has been made for major and medium irrigation schemes and about Rs. 2 crores under special minor irrigation programme, etc. During the current year, three new medium irrigation schemes—Noyyal Reservoir Schemes (Rs. 7.13 crores) in Periyar and Tiruchirappalli districts, Kesari Gulihalla Reservoir (Rs. 2.79 crores) in Dharmapuri district, expansion of Tiruparappu canal (Rs. 46.70 lakhs) in Kanniyakumari district, have been sanctioned to irrigate an additional area of about 5,700 hectares. The additional food production from these new schemes is expected to be 14,400 tonnes. In addition, 16 new minor irrigation schemes have also been sanctioned during the current financial year to irrigate an additional extent of over 1,000 hectares with an anticipated food production of about 2,150 tonnes.

During 1982-83, the Uppar Reservoir Scheme is likely to be completed, providing an irrigation potential of 720 hectares. Under Parambikulam-Aliyar Project Scheme, 9,040 hectares are likely to be covered. The Periyar Vaigai Modernisation Project will be continued during the next financial year with an outlay of Rs. 10 crores. The project is expected to be completed by 1984. Apart from reducing the water loss in the existing conveyance system it would provide an additional irrigation potential of about 10,300 hectares. This project is being implemented with World Bank aid.

Along with the major and medium irrigation projects, Government has also been giving importance to the development of minor irrigation schemes. The completion of 30 minor irrigation schemes in 1982-83 is expected to provide irrigation facilities for an additional area of about 2,530 hectares. Government has also decided to take up standardisation of Ex-Zamin tanks. As a first step, tanks in North Arcot and Ramanathapuram districts will be taken up in the next financial year for which an allocation of Rs. 3 crores has been made.

Power

The one sector which is pulling down the financial resources of the State is Power. I will elaborate on this point at a greater length later. The progress of any State, be it in Agriculture or Industry is gauged by the development of Power. Tamil Nadu has done quite well in energy generation, both from Thermal and Hydel sources. This has been due to the high priority that is being given by the State Government in allocating finances for the Power sector in the State. As the Hon'ble Members are aware the outlay on the Power sector is about Rs. 1,023 crores in the Sixth Plan in the State's overall outlay of Rs. 3,150 crores. The approved outlay for Power in the next financial year is Rs. 220 crores. To increase the power generation, various projects are now under execution. They are the third unit of Tuticorin Thermal Station (210 MW), Servalar Hydro-Electric Project (20 MW), Kadamparai Pumped Storage Scheme (peaking only) (4×100 MW), Lower Mettur Hydro-Electric Scheme (120 MW), Kundah Power House (20 MW) and Mettur Thermal Scheme (420 MW). Apart from the above, the State is keenly awaiting the commissioning of the Madras Atomic Power Project (Kalpakkam) with two units of 235 MW each. The first unit is expected to be ready early next year and the second unit a year thereafter. The second thermal station at Neyveli is under construction and the first 210 MW unit is targeted for production in 1984-85. In an attempt to harness further the available hydel potential, the State has taken up 3 Micro Hydel Schemes at Pykkara, at Lower Bhavani and at Vaigai Dam, at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.75 crores. These schemes cleared by Government of India in August 1981, are expected to be commissioned in November 1984.

Till the end of December 1981, about 938,500 agricultural pumpsets have been energised. For the next financial year, 30,000 agricultural pumpsets have been targeted for energisation. In an attempt to reach electricity to the weaker sections of the society, a special scheme to electrify huts in panchayat areas was launched in July 1979 and a total number of 4.05 lakh huts have been electrified so far. As on 1st January 1982, 15,595 villages and 47,454 hamlets have been electrified which represent about 99 per cent of the total villages and hamlets in the State. As on date no Adi Dravidar colony in the State is left without electrification. Tamil Nadu State is the only State in the country to achieve this unique distinction.

Industrial Development

As the Honourable Members are aware the existing incentive schemes have been liberalised for the rapid development of Industries in this State. The special concessions announced to facilitate the growth of Industries are (a) the enhancement of existing ceiling on interest free sales tax loan to industries, (b) development of new industrial complexes at five places in the State where new industrial units will enjoy the facility of exemption from power cut for the first five years, and (c) extension of subsidy for creation of certain new industries in the field of electronics, drugs and ancillary automobile units. In the light of the liberalisation of incentives and consequent to the visit of Industries Minister to certain other States in the country, preliminary enquiries/indications, have been received for starting possible industrial ventures in the near future in this State.

Keeping in view the potential of certain areas in the matter of availability of local resources, raw materials, man-power skills, infrastructural facilities, etc., the Government has decided to declare six more taluks as backward and to extend all the concessions available for backward areas to the entrepreneurs for starting new industrial ventures in these six taluks.

The project for producing newsprint and writing paper based on sugarcane bagasse, at an estimated cost of Rs. 190 crores, will herald a new technology in the country. It is to be financed from the funds provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Indian Financial Institutions and the World Bank. Necessary agreements with the financial institutions and the World Bank have been signed by Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited. Work on acquisition of land and payment of advance for machinery for the project etc., are apace.

Another major activity in the industrial sector is the formation of Non-resident Investment Cell at SIPCOT for tapping investment from abroad for the Industrial ventures to be set up in the State.

The Public Sector Undertakings of the State Government in the industrial field are continuing to render useful service in promoting industrialisation in the State. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TNIC) finances mostly tiny, small and medium scale industries with a minimum of Rs. 3,000 and a maximum of Rs. 30 lakhs. Besides term loan, it also underwrites equity in select cases and extends guarantee for supply of machinery on deferred payment terms. In tune with the policies of the Government, the Corporation has of late been laying much emphasis on the sanctions to mini and small scale industries, which generate larger employment opportunities with lower capital investment. During the nine months of the current financial year, over Rs. 31 crores have been sanctioned as against Rs. 37 crores in the whole of the last financial year. The sanctions in the current year are expected to touch Rs. 45 crores and for 1982-83 TNIC has set a target of Rs. 60 crores.

Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), which has been entrusted with the task of setting up and managing some of the large and medium industries in the public sector and also promoting industrial units in joint sector in collaboration with private entrepreneurs, is managing the Steel Plant at Arakonam and the Cement Plants at Alangulam and Ariyalur. Its activities will be expanded with the setting up of new projects, including an Explosives Project. The application of TIDCO to the Government of India for a letter of intent for setting up of the third Cement Plant in the Public sector is still to be cleared by the Government of India.

The industrial progress of any State depends to a large extent on the investment made by the Government of India in the Central Sector projects. The State Government has suggested to Government of India the establishment of more projects in the Central sector in this State. It is hoped that the Government of India would give necessary approval for these schemes.

The State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) has been entrusted with the job of developing industrial complexes at Gummudiipoondi.

to provide basic infrastructural facilities in these areas. This Corporation continues to give subsidy to industries which are to be set up in the backward areas and extends term-loan facilities to industries.

The Tamil Nadu Magnesite Limited which is raising raw Magnesite from the Mines is expected to earn a net profit of Rs. 81.22 lakhs during 1981-82. This corporation has proposed to set up a Refractory Plant for manufacture of Magnesite Bricks and Beneficiation Plant to produce better quality Magnesite Bricks. As a first stage, a Rotary Kiln, at a cost of about Rs. 5 crores is to be set up for converting raw Magnesite into dead burnt Magnesite. Due to this expansion, the employment potential will increase further.

The Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited (TAMIN) continues to keep up its excellent performance. The corporation has earned an operating profit of about Rs. 25 lakhs during the third year of its operation. TAMIN has proposed to set up a Graphite Concentration Plant at Sivaganga and also a cutting and polishing unit for Black Granite near Madras, during the next financial year.

Government has applied to the Central Government for grant of licence to start a 1,250 TCD Sugar Mill at Tiruttani. It is also proposed to start another sugar mill in Pudukkottai district. The Government has also taken a policy decision to the effect that in case the public sector and co-operative sector do not come forward to set up sugar factories, the private sector would be permitted to set up sugar mills in areas where there is availability of sugarcane, without detriment to the working of the existing mills.

Small Industries

The development of Small-Scale Industries has always been receiving the special attention of the State Government. The Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development (SIDCO) is one of the main agencies of the State Government to promote development of Small Scale Industries. SIDCO provides an umbrella of incentives and assistance to the Small Industries by provision of work sheds and developed plots with infrastructural facilities, distribution of key raw materials, disbursement of Central Investment Subsidy and State Capital Subsidy, etc. It has so far allotted 837 Developed Plots in 5 Developed Plot Estates. SIDCO has completed 300 work sheds in its own Industrial Estates during 1981-82. Apart from this, SIDCO also proposes to set up Industrial Estates exclusively for leather industry, Pharmaceuticals and Engineering Industries in various places in Tamil Nadu in 1982-83.

SIDCO's performance in the distribution of key raw materials has progressed steadily and it is expected to rise to Rs. 24 crores in the current financial year as against Rs. 18 crores in 1980-81. On the marketing side, products worth Rs. 300 lakhs in all would have been marketed by SIDCO on behalf of the Small Scale Industries during 1981-82. During the next financial year, it is proposed to establish one Trade Centre at Madras and 2 Market Information Cells at Madurai and Coimbatore, to help Small Scale Industries Units and Government Departments.

Sericulture

Sericulture gained importance only during the last few years, due to the promotional attitude taken by the Government towards this industry. Various developmental

additional infrastructural facilities which are likely to result in the coverage of mulberry cultivation going upto about 48,000 acres. During 1982-83, an additional area of 8,000 acres will be brought under mulberry cultivation, creating additional employment opportunities to 40,000 persons. Two Demonstration-cum-Training Centres to impart training to 6,000 farmers and 2,000 weavers will be established at an estimated cost of about Rs. 20 lakhs. In order to make available improved variety of seeds, a bivoltine seed farm will be established in the next financial year at a cost of about Rs. 24 lakhs. Forty village level community chowkie rearing sheds will be organised which would go a long way to increase the viability of the sericulture units of the farmers. Infrastructural facilities at Government Farms will be provided with an additional investment of Rs. 58.37 lakhs during the next financial year. To render better service to the Agriculturists on sericulture, District Offices will be set up in Periyar and Chengalpattu districts.

Village Industries

The Khadi and Village Industries Board is promoting and developing Khadi and Village Industries with the main objective of removing rural poverty and eradicating the unemployment problem in the rural areas. The Board accounted for production and sale of goods worth Rs. 48 crores and Rs. 53 crores respectively during 1980-81. It has proposed to produce and sell goods worth Rs. 64 crores and Rs. 70 crores respectively during the next financial year. The Board is providing employment opportunities to nearly 4.26 lakhs of persons and it would create additional employment opportunities for 33,000 persons during 1982-83. By the end of the Sixth Plan period, nearly 8.58 lakh persons would be employed in the Khadi and Village Industries Sector in the State. The Board gives financial assistance to a large number of artisans with a view to raise their standard of living. It is proposed to assist 18,000 artisans to the tune of Rs. 7 crores in 1982-83.

In order to develop the coir industries from the fibre production stage to the manufacturing stage, two curled coir societies, at a cost of about Rs. 8.50 lakhs each and one coir mat and matting society at a cost of Rs. 5.40 lakhs, have been proposed to be set up during the next financial year. The Coir Board has come forward to set up a Research and Training Centre for Brown fibre with the assistance of the State Government which will be providing land at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs for this project.

Handlooms

49. The abiding interest of the State in the handloom industry is obvious from the fact that the financial outlay for handloom sector has been increased from a level of Rs. 27.82 crores during the Fifth Five-Year Plan period to Rs. 84.58 crores in the Sixth Five-Year Plan period. The State Government has taken a policy decision to liberate the poor handloom weavers from the clutches of the master weavers and to admit them into weavers' co-operative societies, to help them to avail themselves of the benefit of various handloom developmental schemes implemented by the Government. It is also proposed to get the assistance of the nationalised banks for sanctioning consumption loans for liberating them from the clutches of master weavers and to admit them into the co-operative fold.

Out of the total of 5.56 lakhs handlooms in the State, 2.89 lakhs (52 per cent) handlooms have so far been organised into 1,251 primary weavers' co-operative societies. The State is aiming at a target of 67 per cent co-operative coverage by the end of the Sixth Plan Period. The provision of common worksheds for the benefit of loomless weavers is the highlight of the scheme. It is proposed to organise 7 new industrial weavers' co-operative societies with common worksheds, exclusively for the benefit of 700 weavers belonging to Adi Dravidar communities, during the current financial year.

The 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills in the State continue to take care of the yarn requirements of the handloom weavers in the co-operative sector. To meet the increasing demand for yarn, 3 new co-operative spinning mills, one each at Pudukkottai, Dharmapuri and Theni have been recently registered and follow up action has been taken to set up these mills with a capacity of 25,000 spindles each and involving a total capital outlay of Rs. 21 crores. It is also proposed to set up a new spinning mill of 12,000 spindles at Ettayapuram in commemoration of the great Poet Bharathi. The existing co-operative spinning mills at Salem and Vellore will be expanded with an addition of another 12,000 spindles each. The above programmes of setting up of new mills and expansion of the existing mills will create an additional employment potential for about 3,000 persons.

With a view to avert possible yarn crisis in the future, the Government proposes to set up a raw material bank with financial assistance from the Government of India on a matching basis. Currently, the silk handloom weavers in the State are experiencing difficulties in getting raw silk at reasonable prices. As a result of the efforts taken by this Government, the Government of India have taken action to import raw silk from China. The first consignment of imported raw silk is expected to be made available shortly.

The Government has been providing marketing support to the Co-optex in a big way. The sales performance of Co-optex during 1980-81 was Rs. 48 crores as against the expectation of Rs. 45 crores. The turnover during the current financial year is expected to be around Rs. 65 crores. With the assistance of Government of India, the Government has provided additional equity of rupees one crore to Co-optex, during the current financial year to achieve the higher turnover target. Welfare measures like the Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Savings and Security Schemes, the Weavers' Housing Scheme, etc., are also under implementation.

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers' (Conditions of employment and miscellaneous provisions) Bill, 1981 which has been passed by the State Legislature has received the assent of the President and has become an Act. This Act seeks to regulate the working conditions of the handloom weavers in the State. With a view to monitor the enforcement of the provisions of this Act and also to render necessary assistance to the handloom weavers in the private sector, the Government is considering a proposal to set up a State Handloom Board with adequate powers.

Housing

The housing activities of the Governmental agencies are mainly carried out through the Tamil Nadu Housing

Board and Slum Clearance Board. In 1981-82 the Tamil Nadu Housing Board has a programme of constructing dwelling houses which will provide residential accommodation to about 8,030 families of the economically weaker sections, low-income groups, etc. During the next financial year, the Housing Board will be providing accommodation for 8,830 families. The construction of rental quarters for Government employees is also undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board. So far, 11,976 quarters have been constructed.

The work of the Slum Clearance Board is progressing well. Till 1980-81, about 31,000 tenements at a cost of about Rs. 35 crores have been constructed. During the current financial year, about 3,000 tenements are expected to be completed. During the next financial year, 3,500 more tenements will be put up.

The rural housing scheme started in the year 1979 has been a great success due to the overwhelming demand from the rural folk. The original target of one lakh houses in five years has been increased to 2 lakh houses in five years. During 1980-81, 40,831 houses were constructed, out of which 34,510 were for Adi Dravidars. In 1982-83, assistance will be given for the construction of 40,000 houses.

Roads

The importance of developing the road net work has been recognised by the Government and formation and improvement of roads under various schemes have been taken up. Under the self-sufficiency programme, link roads to connect villages with a population of less than 1,500 are being formed. Under the same scheme, culverts are also being constructed and about Rs. 43 crores will be spent on roads and culverts during 1981-82. Under the drought relief programme, Government has sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 6 crores for construction of new roads. During the course of this financial year, 31 additional road works have been sanctioned to the tune of Rs. 18 crores. Road works are also being started in the tribal areas of Kalrayan Hills and also in other tribal areas. Under the Hill Area Development Programme, Rs. 6 crores have been sanctioned for improving the existing roads and construction of new roads. These efforts are being continued in the coming financial year as well. New works to the value of Rs. 10 crores will be taken up in 1982-83 and Rs. 11.07 crores have been allotted for the Minimum Needs Programme for the same year. For taking over the roads on which the buses ply in the Panchayat Unions, Rs. 12 crores have been earmarked in the next financial year. Under this scheme, from 1979-80 upto 1981-82, 8,103 kilometres of bus route roads have been ordered to be improved, benefiting 4,052 villages covering a population of over 41 lakhs. The kilometrage to be taken over during the next financial year is about 1,220. In addition, Rs. 22.69 crores have been earmarked for maintenance of the existing roads. From the above, it is clear that a heavy investment is made on the formation, maintenance and improvement of the roads in the State.

Road and Water Transport

Operationally speaking, the performance of the Transport Corporations has been quite good. Though the bus fare was revised with effect from 12th June 1981, to meet the escalation in the price of fuel and other

running costs, the announcement by the Government of India of another steep hike in the price of diesel with effect from 11th July 1981 has upset the calculations of the Transport Corporations. These Corporations which were running on profit a few years ago, are in financial difficulties now. In spite of this, various generous concessions and facilities have been granted to the workers of these Corporations.

It has been decided to set up new Transport Corporations in the State. They are Pattukkottai Alagiri Transport Corporation at Vellore, Jeeva Transport Corporation at Erode, Nesamani Transport Corporation at Nagercoil and Marudu Pandiyar Transport Corporation at Karaikudi. They are expected to start functioning from 1982-83. These are being set up with a view to reduce the size of the existing Corporations and to ensure better management with lesser territorial jurisdiction and a more manageable fleet strength.

The ferry service from the main land to Vivekananda Rock Memorial at Kanniyakumari was being run by the Vivekananda Kendra. This service was stopped because of dredging difficulties and other local problems. The Government has since taken over the ferry service and is running it from 1st October 1981. The Government has also decided to construct a foot bridge from the main land to Vivekananda Rock Memorial as a permanent solution to the problem ensuring a link between the main land and the Memorial. The detailed plans and estimates are under preparation.

Rural Development and Self-Sufficiency Scheme

The food for work programme launched as a Central Sector Scheme in the year 1979 has been modified as the National Rural Employment Programme from October 1980. This programme aims at (a) generation of additional gainful employment for the rural unemployed, (b) creation of durable community assets by strengthening rural infrastructure which will lead to rapid growth of rural economy and rise in the income level of the rural poor, and (c) improving the nutritional status and living standards of rural people. This programme covers all the 378 blocks in the State and it is implemented as a Centrally-sponsored Scheme.

This scheme has provided employment opportunities to the unskilled rural workers and has also created community assets. During 1981-82, a grant of Rs. 22.20 crores and 14,138 tonnes of rice have been allotted to the State. From 1st April 1980 till the end of January 1982, about Rs. 30 crores worth of works have been completed.

The Self-Sufficiency Scheme is aimed at developing the rural economy through various projects. During the year 1980-81, only 69 blocks were covered. After realising the importance of this scheme and the numerous benefits which have accrued to the rural population, the Government decided to cover 150 blocks in the current financial year. All the remaining blocks will be covered during the next financial year. During the year 1981-82, the expenditure is likely to be stepped up to Rs. 89 crores of which the water-supply component would be about Rs. 30 crores. The State Government is giving grants to Panchayat Unions to an extent of Rs. 41 crores and a loan of Rs. 11 crores, while the balance amount will be made available by the Panchayat Unions. During the next financial year, about Rs. 97 crores are likely to be spent in the self-sufficiency blocks for

undertaking water-supply and various other developmental works.

Spurred on by the encouraging results of the successful implementation of the self-sufficiency scheme in the rural areas, it is now being extended to town panchayats and financially weak municipalities, from 1982-83 onwards, with suitable modifications. A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked for this purpose in the Budget Estimate for 1982-83. This programme will be implemented in a phased manner in the coming years.

The Government has been working towards realising the objective of providing protected water supply to all the habitations in the rural areas within a time frame. A scientific survey and analysis of the sources of water has been made and the habitations have been classified into six categories. Work on this scheme is under execution. A scheme for providing drinking-water to 78 towns with the assistance of the World Bank is also under consideration.

Tourism

With the advantages of an efficient transport system, good roads, hotel facilities etc., tourism has been flourishing in Tamil Nadu. The Government's awareness of the tremendous tourism potential of a culturally rich State and the social and economic benefits of tourism development including employment potential, is reflected in the increasing Budget allocation made for the development of tourism. In accordance with this policy, a master plan has been drawn up for the development of identified travel circuits in the State, so as to cover tourist resorts of international importance. Separate master plans for the development of Rameswaram, Mamallapuram and Kanniyakumari have also been drawn up and they are being implemented in stages, even while the assistance from the Government of India is being sought for.

The role of Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation in providing accommodation and transport facilities to the tourists visiting the State has been acclaimed by all. Its efforts in having appointed overseas selling agents at Kuala Lumpur and Singapore, have yielded good returns in terms of increased foreign exchange earnings. The Corporation is implementing the Government's policy of providing tourist facilities to visitors of various income brackets. To cater to the international and high income group tourists, it has commissioned a three star hotel at Madurai and the second three star hotel at Coimbatore is nearing completion. The beach resort complex at Mamallapuram is being expanded to make it a tourist attraction for the high spending foreign and local tourists. The existing hotels of the Corporation are being upgraded and modernised to cater to the needs of the middle income and domestic tourists.

This Corporation is also constructing nine youth hostels to provide inexpensive accommodation not only to the youth tourists but also to the low-income group tourists. One such youth hostel has been commissioned at Yercaud and youth hostels at Hogenekhal, Rameswaram, Mandapam, Uthagamandalam and Mamallapuram are ready for commissioning. The rest will be completed

in the next few months. Tamil Nadu leads other States in the country, in implementing the scheme of providing inexpensive accommodation to the low-income group tourists. The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation has also increased its fleet strength and it is poised for a bigger growth in the coming years, when it will take up new lines of activities to promote tourism.

Education

The fact that the allocation for Education has been steadily on the increase during the last few years is a clear evidence of the emphasis and importance, the Government attaches to Education. The State has been doing very well in the enrolment of boys and girls in the age groups of 6 to 11 and 11 to 14. In order to make the young children school minded, the Government will be sanctioning a nursery section in each of the 4,433 Child Welfare Centres (Balwadis) during the next financial year. The rate of drop-outs at the primary school level, that is, for the age group 6 to 11, has been coming down in the recent years. From 51 per cent in 1973-74, it has come down to 30 per cent in 1980-81.

The teachers in the Panchayat Union elementary schools have been absorbed as State Government employees from 1st June 1981. To meet the growing demand for teachers, it is proposed to sanction a large number of posts during the next financial year. To cover the additional enrolment in the age group 6 to 11 and 11 to 14, one thousand posts of teachers will be created. The other posts, which are likely to be sanctioned are, 500 posts of Tamil Pandits, 150 posts of Physical Education Teachers, 50 posts of High School Headmasters and 300 posts of B.Ed. grade teachers. Construction of class rooms and laboratories in 67 Government Higher Secondary Schools at an estimated cost of Rs. 167.50 lakhs will be taken up during 1982-83.

In order to promote the education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, a scheme of supervised study in English, Mathematics and Science for students in standards 8 to 10, in 500 select High schools has been sanctioned in 1981-82. This scheme will be extended to a number of first and second year Higher Secondary Classes, in Higher Secondary Schools during the next financial year.

The Adult Literacy Education Programme will be continued in 61 blocks in the next financial year. Non-formal education centres in 50 Panchayat Unions and 122 post literacy centres will also be started during 1982-83.

While general education has been given its due place at the school level, collegiate education and technical education have also been given equal importance. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, Universities have already been established at Coimbatore, Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli. New Degree and Post-graduate courses in Government colleges will be opened during 1982-83. Work will also be started on the construction of a building for the Government Law College at Tiruchirappalli and for a hostel for the men students of Madurai Law College.

Twelve Polytechnics have been started during the period from 1979-80 to date. A new Engineering College has been established at Tirunelveli.

New courses in Polytechnics and Engineering colleges will be started and facilities for improving the buildings and equipments in technical education institutions have been provided for in the next financial year. A provision of Rs. 62 lakhs has been made in 1982-83 to enable Anna University of Technology to develop its facilities and for availing itself of the assistance from the University Grants Commission. The Committee constituted to prepare detailed project reports for the science and technology museums to be set up at Madras, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore, has already started functioning.

On the Sports side, a new programme titled "Catch them very young" for identifying pre-school children having aptitude for sports, will be introduced in the next financial year. A Sports School for girls will be started at Coimbatore. One hundred and fifty rural sports centres and eight hobby centres are likely to start functioning during 1982-83.

The Connemera Public Library is being modernised as per the recommendations of a High Level Committee appointed by the Government. The State department of Archaeology will be intensifying the survey and under-sea archaeological explorations, off the coast of Kaveripoompattinam.

Tamil Arts and Culture

Hon'ble Members are fully aware of the very special interest taken by this Government in the development of Tamil, Traditional Tamil arts and other cultural activities. Special programmes are being undertaken during the next financial year in furtherance of this policy.

There are hundreds of old Palm leaf manuscripts in far off villages without proper preservation. It is proposed to identify, collect and publish, worthy Tamil Palm leaf manuscripts on Art and Science, especially the lesser known manuscripts on music, sculpture, painting and some branches of science like Botany, Astronomy, Zoology and Ornithology. It is also proposed to reprint some valuable old books with a view to revive and promote active literary and cultural awareness among the Tamil Public.

scheme for planned documentation of the history and culture, arts and the social life of the villages of Tamil Nadu, is being drawn up. In addition, to what has been brought out in print, there is a lot of worthy material handed down by word of mouth from generation to generation. This material is full of Literary and Artistic value, which would be lost to the new generation if we do not document them. Hence, it is proposed to bring out encyclopaedic volumes by scripting this rural heritage of Tamil Nadu. In addition to these printed books, recordings will be made of folk traditions, reflecting the musical and other artistic patrimony of our village folk.

In addition to folk arts and folk music, it is planned to make exclusive tape-recordings of master musicians for the purpose of preserving classical music, reflecting the 'Pann' system of Tamil Nadu. Some of the great Ragas that have been cultivated and embellished in Tamil Nadu would form the main bulk of these recordings.

Health and Family Welfare

"Health for all by 2000 AD" is the slogan of South East Asia Health Charter of the World Health Organisation, to which, India is a signatory. Towards achieving this committed aim, the State Government is pursuing a policy of progressive measures in the areas of prevention and cure of diseases, improvement in the public health and sanitation and above all in the Family Welfare Programme.

The attention of the Health department is focussed both on the rural and urban areas, on the young children as well as on the adult population. During the next financial year, it is proposed to get the health, of the students studying in standards 1 to 5, checked for which one comprehensive health card to every child in the age group of 5 to 11 will be given. The existing bed strength of 250 at the Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children, Madras, will be doubled to 500 at a cost of Rs. 173.24 lakhs during 1982-83. It is also proposed to open paediatric clinics in 12 Government hospitals in the next financial year. During the next financial year, 15 Primary Health Centres will be upgraded into 30 bedded hospitals at a cost of Rs. 140.49 lakhs.

The Government recently acquired a head scanner for the General Hospital in Madras. During the next financial year, a head scanner at Thanjavur and a whole body scanner at Madurai, at a total cost of about Rs. 1.50 crores, will be installed. Equipment worth about Rs. 20 lakhs will be acquired for the virology laboratory at Madurai during 1982-83. Additional equipments like X-ray and other units will be secured for use in the various hospitals in the State. It is proposed to acquire an ultra sonic apparatus with necessary attachments at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs for Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital at Kancheepuram. Additional accommodation for the trainee nurses and for the nursing staff, would be provided at Coimbatore and Madurai, at a cost of about Rs. 103 lakhs. Generators will also be installed in some of the hospitals in the State where the need for the same has been keenly felt.

The accident and emergency services will be extended to two more districts, namely, Salem and South Arcot, at a cost of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs, as the third phase of the scheme, during 1982-83.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Hathi Committee, the Government has recently separated the drug control administration from the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine and has constituted it as a separate department.

Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront in encouraging the Indian systems of medicine. In the next financial year, Siddha wings will be opened in 10 more Primary Health Centres and a regional pharmacy for manufacturing Siddha medicines will be set up at Pollachi at an estimated cost of about Rs. 20 lakhs. The pharmacy at the Government College of Indian Medicine, Palayamkottai will be strengthened at a cost of over Rs. 10 lakhs. It is also proposed to start a 24 bedded children's ward attached to the Government Siddha Medical College at Palayamkottai. A drug testing laboratory will be added on to Arignar Anna Government Hospital of Indian Medicine, Madras, during 1982-83.

As a part of the programme of dental care of the rural population, it is proposed to supply tooth powder,

prepared on scientific lines, free of cost, to the villagers through sub-centres, Primary Health Centres, Government dispensaries, Taluk hospitals, etc. It is also proposed to treat victims of snake bites in the rural areas, effectively and promptly, by providing Sera through sub-centres, Primary Health Centres, Dispensaries, etc.

Tamil Nadu is one of the States where the Family Welfare Programme has been carried out on a voluntary basis, in a very successful manner. All the economic gains will be set at naught if the population explosion is not contained. The demographic situation in the State, as revealed by 1981 census has been very encouraging. The State has registered a very low growth rate of 17.23 per cent in the decade which probably is the lowest in the country. The effective campaign to educate and motivate the eligible couples to adopt the small family norm, is proving fruitful. Upto the end of December 1981, 83 per cent of the proportionate target of sterilisation fixed for the year 1981-82 has been achieved. The Government has set for itself the goal of cent per cent achievement of target in sterilisation, during the current financial year. For this, the assistance of various associations and voluntary agencies has been enlisted.

A Health Care and Family Welfare Project assisted by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) is now under implementation in the two districts of Salem and South Arcot. The programme costing Rs. 14.40 crores will run for a period of 5 years. The overall objective of the project is to improve the health and family welfare status, specially of the weaker sections of the society. The main activities under this project, relate to establishment and strengthening of the health related infrastructure, provision of Health and Family Welfare services, sanitation programme, nutrition programme, Community Welfare Schemes, etc. The Government has already sanctioned certain components of this project like construction of 58 Health sub-centres, quarters for 20 lady health visitors, establishment of 95 additional health sub-centres, etc.

A supplementary rural water-supply programme to provide drinking water to over 18 lakhs of people in about 3,640 rural habitations in these two districts has been drawn up. An assistance of about Rs. 35 crores has been sought for from DANIDA, through Government of India for implementing this programme in the next 4 years.

Social Welfare

The task of improving the socio-economic conditions of Adi Dravidas has been taken up in right earnest by the State Government in the last few years. It is the endeavour of the Government to see that all the departments work towards achieving the target of 18 per cent reservation in job placements in public services. Under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) about 51,443 Adi Dravidar families have been covered and about 44,900 Adi Dravidar families have benefited under the programme of special Central assistance on the IRDP pattern. Rural textile centres and industrial weavers' co-operative societies and various other activities are being started to help the Adi Dravidas. This involves an outlay of about Rs. 8.04 crores covering 10,384 beneficiaries. Efforts are being made to enforce the Minimum Wages Act in the agricultural sector to help the Adi Dravidas employed as agricultural labourers. A special programme is being drawn up so that, within a period of three years between 1982 and 1985, the Adi Dravidar habitations

with drinking water and certain other facilities, access to main villages, to public roads, to health facilities and provision of essential goods, etc. A special survey has been undertaken to identify the actual and felt needs of each Adi Dravidar habitation to take follow up ameliorative measures. The Government is particular that the house-sites given to Adi Dravidas are made fit for construction of houses. The Collectors have been requested to take up this work on a priority basis. The rural housing scheme has mainly benefited the Adi Dravidar families. In 1980-81, 34,510 out of 40,831 houses constructed under the rural housing scheme were for Adi Dravidas. During the current financial year, out of 9,756 houses completed till December 1981, 8,545 houses were accounted for by Adi Dravidas. The tempo of helping Adi Dravidas in house construction will be kept up in the coming years also.

The programme of construction of hostels for Adi Dravidar students is being continued. During December 1981, revised sanctions for the construction of 51 girls, hostels at a cost of Rs. 3,57.94 lakhs and for 27 boys hostels at a cost of Rs. 2,00.65 lakhs have been issued. For the welfare of the backward class students, 40 new backward class hostels will be opened in the next financial year at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.50 lakhs. Three new hostels for the benefit of denotified communities will also be opened. Rs. 7.5 lakhs has been provided for the construction of school buildings for the denotified community schools.

The Special Component Plan is now under implementation from the year 1980-81 onwards. The main objectives of this Plan are (a) to help 9 lakhs of scheduled caste families to cross the poverty line during the Sixth Plan period and (b) to provide facilities and amenities like drinking water, link roads, electricity, health, education, etc. The size of this Plan for the period 1980-85 is Rs. 535 crores. During the year 1982-83, it is expected to be of the order of about Rs. 114 crores which will help about 1.66 lakhs of Adi Dravidar families. Under the Special Component Plan, the earning capacity of Adi Dravidas will be enhanced through the establishment of labour intensive industrial complexes and production units. They will not only ensure perennial benefits to Adi Dravidas but will also create new assets. Group projects will also be encouraged. Tubewells will be sunk to help the Adi Dravidas to irrigate their lands in low level areas and at the tail end of irrigation sources. During 1982-83, about 2,000 tubewells will be sunk for this purpose.

Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation is implementing various economic development programmes for the benefit of Adi Dravidas, like providing 25 per cent of the cost of a project as margin money at 4 per cent interest.

The Government is also implementing programmes for the welfare of women and children. 1,000 poor women in the age group of 18-30 are being given training in typewriting, book-keeping, etc. It is proposed to extend this scheme for training in shorthand also. During 1982-83, 200 additional child welfare centres, at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs will be opened.

The Tamil Nadu Nutrition Project which is now being implemented in the State will help in the establishment of health sub-centres and for supplying nutrition

given to destitute widows beyond a particular age, destitute physically handicapped persons, destitute agricultural labourers and blind persons. Apart from cash pension, they are also being given rice and clothes.

The welfare of the handicapped persons receives special attention of the Government. Quite a few of them have been employed in the various milk parlours and automatic vending booths in the Madras City. Two separate sections for training the deaf persons in the trade of fitter and wiremen have been started in the current financial year in the Industrial Training Institute, Guindy. A separate section for deaf girls will be started in one of the Industrial Training Institutes during the year 1982-83. It is proposed to start construction of buildings for 5 special schools for the handicapped during the year 1982-83 at an ultimate cost of Rs. 25 lakhs. All the schemes started during the international year of the disabled will be continued during the coming financial year also.

Revenue Administration

Under the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms Act, 1961, a total of 136,641 acres have been declared as surplus as on 31st December 1981. Out of this, 88,907 acres have been assigned. 4,041 acres have been handed over to the Tamil Nadu Sugarcane Development Corporation Limited and 8,500 acres have been reserved for public purpose. An extent of 16,289 acres is covered by stay. The remaining extent of 18,904 acres is immediately available for distribution. Out of 88,907 acres, an extent of 32,351 acres has been assigned to 29,028 Adi Dravidas.

Under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Land Record of Tenancy Rights Act, 1965, 4,37,117 tenants have been registered as on 30th of September 1981, covering a total extent of 6,26,538 acres.

Hundred office-cum-residence quarters for Firka Revenue Inspectors will be constructed during the next financial year.

The updating registry scheme was introduced in the State with effect from 1st June 1979. Good progress has been registered in the last 2 years. This scheme has been very beneficial to the ryots as they are able to know fully about their holdings, get financial assistance from banks and it also becomes easier for them to carry out property transactions. As this measure is vital to the interests of the rural population, it is proposed to complete the updating work within a very short span of time, within 2 years, if possible. With this in view, Rs. 5 crores have been earmarked for accelerated implementation of this programme during the next financial year.

Labour

In the field of industrial relations, Tamil Nadu continues to maintain an atmosphere of peace and harmony, on account of the pragmatic policy adopted by the Government to secure the welfare of the workmen. With a view to give a better deal to agricultural workers, a proposal to revise the minimum rates of wages is under consideration of the Government. Keeping in mind the welfare of the labour, the Government has introduced and implemented many legislative measures to promote their well-being.

Police, Fire Services and Courts

Compared to the situation obtaining in other parts of the country, the law and order situation in the State is well under control. This is mainly due to the efficient performance of the Police force. The State Government has been strengthening the Police force, acquiring the necessary equipment for helping scientific detection and improving traffic regulations for meeting the law and order situations. During the current financial year, a sum of Rs. 19 lakhs has been sanctioned for synchronisation of signal lights and for installation of flashing beacon lights in Madras City. 31 new Police stations have been sanctioned and all of them have started functioning. A similar number of Police stations will be established during the next financial year also. The replacement of 10 per cent of the old vehicles has been continued during the current year and it is expected that new vehicles to the tune of Rs. 160 lakhs will be purchased during the next financial year. In the current year, sanction has also been issued for the construction of buildings for 150 Police stations at an estimated cost of about Rs. 341 lakhs. About 2,500 additional posts have also been sanctioned for the Police department during the current financial year. A proposal is on hand to reorganise the Madras Metropolitan Police Force at a cost of about Rs. 2.5 crores in order to make Police more effective in dealing with the complex problems of the metropolitan City of Madras and its surroundings. It is also proposed to introduce a metropolitan police set up in Madurai and Coimbatore during 1982-83 for which a provision of Rs. 150 lakhs has been made in the Budget. The Police set up in the districts of Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram is proposed to be reorganised to suitably readjust the jurisdictional area, with the creation of one more Police district. The construction of houses for Police personnel has already been started by the Police Housing Corporation. The work is likely to pick up momentum during the next financial year. The scheme for recognition of meritorious services rendered by the policemen, through award of a medal and a monthly allowance to 1,500 Constables and Head Constables has already been announced in the Governor's address.

The department of Fire Services is well-equipped to meet the challenges of fire hazards and other calamities. As a welfare measure for the Fire Services personnel, the Government has sanctioned the construction of quarters costing over Rs. 40 lakhs during the current financial year at Udumalpet, Ranipet and Sivakasi.

Various measures have been taken by the Government to provide facilities to the Judiciary in the form of equipment, buildings, staff, etc. During the current financial year, the Government has sanctioned supply of Xerox machines to the High Court, District Courts, the Courts of the Judicial Magistrates, etc. Tape recorders will also be supplied to the 464 Judicial officers in the State. A new District and Sessions Court has started functioning from 16th January of this year at Dindigul. Combined court buildings for the judiciary at Dindigul will be constructed at a cost of about Rs. 34 lakhs to accommodate civil and criminal courts. 21 Sub-Courts for trying offences relating to Prohibition have been sanctioned during the current financial year. 4 Sub-Courts of Judicial First-Class Magistrates have also been sanctioned during the current financial year to try offences under the Protection of Civil Rights Act. Sub-Courts at Srivilliputhur and Tiruppur and

District Munsif's Courts at Bhavani and Polur have been sanctioned. Government has also sanctioned 30 cars for the use of District and Sessions Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates.

107. In the next financial year, 9 new district munsif courts, six additional civil courts, four criminal courts and a sub-court will start functioning. To provide additional office accommodation to the lawyers, construction will be undertaken in Madras City, at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs.

Madras City Development

Madras City and its environs have the benefit of certain programmes for improvement of Civic facilities and beautification, with the assistance of World Bank. The first World Bank assisted project estimated to cost Rs. 55 crores is under implementation and is expected to be completed by June 1982 excepting for the sites and services scheme at Kodungaiyur. 26,000 slum families have derived benefit from this programme and on completion, 13,500 serviced plots for economically weaker sections will be provided. The Second World Bank aided project costs about Rs. 74 crores and it is also under implementation. Under this scheme, it is proposed to cover another 50,000 slum dwellers and 15,000 service sites, for economically weaker sections, will also be provided. The special feature of the second project is the grant of title to the slum dwellers in the improved slums for their house-sites and the provision to grant home improvement loans, recoverable in easy monthly instalments, spread over a period of 15 years. It is expected that this will benefit about 30,000 families. These World Bank aided schemes aim at improvement of slums, development of roads, development of housing facilities, improvement of the road transport system, etc.

During the next financial year, the Budget provides for a transfer of Rs. 4 crores from the additional surcharge on Sales-tax to Madras Corporation. In addition, an allocation of Rs. 5 crores has also been made for taking up schemes for improvement of storm water drains, relaying of cables, improvement of roads, etc. Separate provision has been made for improving the distribution system of drinking water and sewerage system. The Government also hopes that the mass rapid transit system would be implemented by the Government of India early, which will provide a great relief to the travelling public of the City of Madras, in the years to come.

Annual Plan

Right from the inception of the Sixth Five-Year Plan, the execution of the Plan schemes has been very good. During 1980-81, a Plan outlay of Rs. 408.25 crores was approved by the Union Planning Commission. The Plan performance for the year was Rs. 456.46 crores, even after helping them extending special concessions to the Agriculturists for meet their co-operative loan commitments. For the current financial year, the approval of Union Planning Commission was secured for an outlay of Rs. 514 crores. While the budget was presented last year, it was estimated that the plan expenditure for 1981-82 would go upto Rs. 559.46 crores. As a result of taking up new programmes and fulfilling of certain other commitments, the State's Plan outlay is likely to go upto Rs. 625.53 crores. For the next financial year, the Planning Commission has given its approval for Rs. 711 crores. But taking into account the on-going Plan schemes and fresh projects which are likely to be taken up during next financial year, an outlay of Rs. 772.61 crores has been indicated

in the Budget. As in the previous years, the Power sector accounts for the highest allocation. As against an allocation of about 26 per cent of the current year's revised Plan outlay for the State, it is expected to go upto 29 per cent of the State's Plan outlay for the next financial year. The next year's plan outlay will be accounted for by the various sectors as follows:— Agriculture and allied sectors will have Rs. 171.54 crores; Irrigation will account for Rs. 40.39 crores; the figure for power sector is Rs. 220 crores; Industry and Minerals are allotted Rs. 42.07 crores while for Transport and Communication it will be Rs. 53.23 crores; as for Education, it is Rs. 29.64 crores and for Technical Education it will be Rs. 5.99 crores; allocation for Medical and Public Health is Rs. 27.56 crores; for Sewerage and Water-Supply it is Rs. 62.15 crores; for Housing and Urban Development it is Rs. 67.97 crores; and for welfare of Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes it is Rs. 21.41 crores; for the remaining sectors the allocation is Rs. 20.66 crores.

Budget Performance

While drawing up the Budget for the current financial year, care was taken to allocate adequate funds for Plan and Non-Plan Schemes. But, in the course of the year there have been certain extra commitments which the Government has to fulfil resulting in an additional expenditure of about Rs. 300 crores over the figure visualised in the Budget. This has been essentially due to the unforeseen expenditure of Rs. 53.49 crores on drought relief works, an additional requirement of Rs. 44 crores for implementing the Self-Sufficiency Scheme in 150 blocks, Rs. 85 crores for giving financial assistance to the Electricity Board, Transport Corporations and Civil Supplies Corporation, an extra outgo of Rs. 8 crores to the Education sector, Rs. 6 crores for Health Programmes, over Rs. 7 crores for Roads, etc.

Financial Position

While the Budget for 1981-82 was presented last year, a closing deficit of Rs. 122.96 crores was indicated. The relaxation of the prohibition policy and improvement in tax revenues helped to narrow down the deficit considerably even after increasing the Plan outlay from the original figure of Rs. 559.46 crores to Rs. 625.53 crores and after extending certain concessions to Agriculturists in the repayment of loans. In the revised estimate now presented for 1981-82, revenue receipts have been estimated at Rs. 1,423.46 crores and the revenue expenditure at Rs. 1,297.83 crores, leaving a surplus of Rs. 125.63 crores. The capital expenditure in the Revised Estimate has been arrived at Rs. 156.35 crores. The surplus in the public debt is expected to be Rs. 126.24 crores, while the net outgo under loans and advances stands revised at Rs. 172.66 crores. The worsening under loans and advances is essentially due to the additional loans and Ways and Means advances given to public sector institutions like Electricity Board, Civil Supplies Corporation and Transport Corporations. The net effect of the transactions now estimated is a deficit of Rs. 77.14 crores in the Consolidated Fund. This deficit has been reduced to Rs. 8.16 crores after taking into account the surplus of Rs. 68.98 crores available under the Public Account. Together with the opening deficit of Rs. 9.61 crores and a deficit of Rs. 8.16 crores during the current financial year, the year 1981-82 is

expected to close with a deficit of Rs. 17.77 crores.

The budget estimate for the year 1982-83 indicates receipt of Rs. 1,569.49 crores against an expenditure of Rs. 1,370.04 crores in the revenue account, leaving a surplus of Rs. 199.45 crores. The capital expenditure for the year 1982-83 has been estimated at Rs. 163.25 crores. Under public debt there is likely to be a net revenue of Rs. 118.91 crores. The net transactions under loans and advances would result in an outgo of Rs. 323.99 crores. Hence in the Consolidated Fund, the net deficit, taking into account these transactions, will be Rs. 170.88 crores. This negative balance, inspite of a substantial revenue surplus, is mainly on account of a provision for a transfer of Rs. 271 crores to the State Electricity Board. The surplus in the Public Account is likely to be Rs. 53.21 crores which would imply that the transactions for the year would result in a deficit of Rs. 117.67 crores. With the financial year 1982-83 opening with a deficit of Rs. 17.77 crores and the deficit for the year being Rs. 117.67 crores, the closing balance for 1982-83 will be a deficit of Rs. 135.44 crores.

The Hon'ble Members will note that the revised estimate for revenue surplus for the current year is estimated at Rs. 127.51 crores as against a budgeted deficit of Rs. 9.57 crores. The revenue surplus for the next financial year is likely to be Rs. 199.45 crores. In spite of increased revenue surplus, the current financial year is likely to end with an overall budget deficit of Rs. 17.77 crores and it is expected to go upto Rs. 135.44 crores, at the end of the next financial year. The following are the main reasons for the deficit in the current financial year:—

(a) The approved Plan for the Electricity Board during the current year is of the order of Rs. 167 crores. The revenue presently earned by the Electricity Board does not even cover the operation, maintenance costs and other essential liabilities. Though the State Government has not been able to fill this gap completely, it has been giving financial assistance in a big scale.

(b) In addition to this, the State Government has also been giving ways and means advance to the Civil Supplies Corporation which loses about Rs. 500 on every tonne of rice sold through the public distribution system. During the current financial year, the loss on the sale of rice alone is expected to be about Rs. 35 crores. The State Government had to help the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation with a ways and means advance of Rs. 25 crores during this financial year to meet their commitments. Till now, Rs. 65 crores of advances from the State Government is outstanding. Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation has not even paid the interest of Rs. 11.44 crores payable upto 31st March 1982. In fact, no interest has been paid to Government from 1st January 1980.

(c) In spite of a hike in the passenger fares, the State Transport Corporations have not been able to meet their current liabilities and other day-to-day expenses. They have also come to Government for assistance.

(d) As implementation of self-sufficiency scheme has proved very beneficial, it has been extended to 150 blocks as against 69 blocks covered during the last financial year.

(e) The extra expenditure incurred over and above the allocation made by the Government of India for

In view of all these factors, the current year is likely to end with a deficit of Rs. 17.77 crores. The most important factor responsible for the huge deficit in the next year's budget, is the total dependence of the State Electricity Board on the State Government for increased funds for implementing their Plan programme and for meeting their other commitments. As mentioned earlier, the Plan outlay under Power sector is Rs. 220 crores for 1982-83. At the existing level of Electricity tariff, the Electricity Board is expected to end up with a deficit of Rs. 51 crores, without taking into account the Plan outlay of Rs. 220 crores. Hence, the financial requirements of the Electricity Board for 1982-83 is a staggering figure of Rs. 271 crores for which the Board has to depend entirely on the State Government. Hon'ble Members will realise that assistance from the State Government to the Electricity Board on this scale can only be done at the cost of new progressive schemes and projects in the State. Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has to battle with a tariff structure which is one of the lowest in the country. As repeatedly advised by the Union Planning Commission, there is no alternative except to go in for an upward revision of electricity rates not only to meet the Board's own financial requirements but also to enable the State Government to fruitfully use its own resources for carrying out many important development projects which are held up due to financial constraints and which are very essential for the welfare of the State. I am sure, all the Members here would agree with me that in these circumstances, it is inescapable that the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has to have a second look at the existing tariff structure.

A free meal once a day to the starving child

"Among all blessings we know of, none lies Higher than begetting children wise"

so says sage Thiruvalluvar. Children, who are the hope of our future, are a great boon not only for the home but also for the Country. The Government is fully aware that it is its immediate and inescapable duty to make an earnest endeavour to the extent possible to redress the sad plight of mothers, living below the poverty line and bemoaning their lot in not being able to provide even a single wholesome meal to their children. Impelled by this awareness, a scheme has been formulated to provide at least one nutritious meal a day to all the poor children in the age group of 2 to 10. This scheme will be implemented from 1st July, 1982 and will provide noon meal, free of cost, to the pitiable poor children in Tamil Nadu, who have no means even for one meal a day. I would make a fervant and earnest appeal to the philanthropists and social organisations with rich experience in this field to extend their whole-hearted co-operation to the Government in the noble task of feeding the poor children all over the State.

To finance the implementation of this feeding programme, which is expected to cost about Rs. 100 crores, the State Government intends to introduce certain changes in the tax structure. They are as follows :—

(a) The handloom silk fabrics are used mainly by the affluent sections of the society. Government intends to impose a single point sales tax of 5 per cent on handloom silk fabrics.

electrical goods falling under item 41 and the electrical instruments, apparatus and appliances falling under item 41 (A) of Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Act will be increased to 10 per cent.

(c) The rate of sales tax on imported foreign liquor and Indian made foreign liquor will be increased from 25 per cent to 50 per cent.

(d) Sales tax on parts and accessories of motor vehicles will be raised from 13 per cent to 15 per cent.

(e) The existing multi-point sales tax of 4 per cent will be increased to 5 per cent.

(f) Sales tax on tyres and tubes used for motor vehicles will be raised from 10 per cent to 12 per cent.

(g) Sales tax on biscuits, chocolates, toffees, confectionary, etc., sold under a brand name registered under Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, will be taxed at 10 per cent as against the present rate of 8 per cent.

(h) Sales tax on machinery operated by power will be increased from 6 to 8 per cent.

(i) The present rate of sales tax of 10 per cent on cement will be increased to 12 per cent.

(j) The cotton yarn and blended cotton yarn sold for use in powerlooms in the form of cones will be subject to a tax of 4 per cent as against the present rate of 3 per cent.

In order to help the poorer sections of the society who are the main users of kerosene, it has been decided to reduce the sales tax from the present level of 8 per cent to 4 per cent.

The above changes in sales tax will take effect from 1st March 1982.

The existing structure of urban land tax is based on the market value of lands as on 1st July 1971. It is proposed to update the market value of the lands as on 1st July 1981. The tax will be levied on the basis of this new valuation. The provisions of Urban Land Tax Act will be extended to 16 additional towns. Suitable legislation for the above purpose will be brought before the House.

With the rising price and inflationary trends in the country living has become very difficult for those drawing the lowest pension of Rs. 100 per month. In order to help this class of retired Government employees it has been decided to raise the minimum pension including Family Pension to Rs. 125 per month. This welfare measure will benefit about 43,500 retired employees of the Government.

The old age pensioners in the State are undoubtedly one of the poorest sections of the society. This is another section of the population that needs some assistance from the Government. The Government has decided to increase the old age pension from the present level of Rs. 25 to Rs. 35 per month. These pensioners will continue to receive the foodgrains and clothes as before in addition to the increase in the monthly pension. This increase in pension would benefit about 2 lakhs of people who form the poorest sections of the society, namely, destitute persons of 65 years and above, destitute widows of 40 years and above, physically

handicapped destitute persons of 45 years and above, destitute agricultural labourers of 60 years and above and destitute blind persons irrespective of age.

Due to the increase in fuel costs and higher transport charges, Government feels that the travelling allowance, daily allowance and fixed travelling allowance of Government employees need to be revised upwards. Separate orders will be issued by Government in this regard.

The concessions mentioned above, viz., increase in minimum pension, increase in old age pension and revision of travelling allowance, daily allowance and fixed travelling allowance rates will take effect from 1st April 1982.

As a result of the changes suggested in the tax structure, Government expects to get a net revenue of about Rs. 38 crores in the next financial year. The concessions announced above to Government employees and pensioners will amount to Rs. 7 crores. Hence, in the next financial year there will be a net increase of resources by about Rs. 31 crores. The implementation of the programme for feeding the children between the ages of 2 and 10 is likely to cost the exchequer about Rs. 100 crores. As a result, the budgetary gap for the next financial year will widen further and as against the earlier figure of Rs. 135.44 crores, it is now likely to go up to Rs. 204.44 crores.

The hardships of the people living below the poverty line and languishing without adequate facilities have to be removed. It is the duty of the Government to improve the living conditions of the socially and economically backward and downtrodden sections and provide them security. The people who contribute in various ways to the tax and non-tax revenues of the Government, in return largely expect a distinct improvement in their living conditions. Although, this Government is deeply committed to and actively engaged in taking steps to fulfil this expectation, it is only the inadequacy of resources that stands in the way of the Government not performing to the total satisfaction of the people.

The task and duty of implementing the principles and plans, formulated by the Government lie with the persons working in Government and local body institutions. This Government functions only expecting and relying on their support and co-operation. I wish to acknowledge with thanks the willing and voluntary co-operation offered by a majority of them, which has enabled the Government to discharge its duties effectively and successfully. As mentioned earlier, although the Government has been plagued in various ways by financial difficulties, it has been taking every step to look after the welfare of the Government and local body employees and has been taking appropriate decisions consistent with the reasonableness of their demands and the compulsions of the economic situation. I request every Government and local body employee to appreciate the conditions prevailing in the country and the financial position of the Government and to extend his full co-operation, in a spirit of service. Government employees and certain other sections of labour have put forward several demands. I would like to appeal to their sentiments of paternal affection and to bring home to them our obligation to provide at least one meal for the poor, starving children. If they would be patient for a while, when our financial situation improves, we can discuss their demands and arrive

at a nappy decision. I would appeal to them to accept this with trust and confidence.

In the words of the Great Poet Kalidasa in his great epic Raghuvamsa, just as the Sun absorbs water from lakes, rivers and sea with out causing any detriment to the water-spread, only to pour down useful rain over a wide area, so also, a Government collects taxes from a few sources capable of bearing the



burden and expends the money over a wider section of people for their benefit. Following the same principle, this Government gathers its resources from sections which can withstand the strain and uses it to implement several plan schemes to benefit large sections of the population.

This budget is standing proof of the fact that the Government has been following the principles of Anna, who gave the call to "tap the rich and pat the poor".

I have explained through this Budget the progress of the State, the economic context, the developments expected in the future and our financial situation. I request all Hon'ble Members to accept the Budget proposals, offer their constructive suggestions and recommendations for the welfare of the State and its people and render valuable help to the Government in its efforts.

I offer my whole-hearted thanks to the Finance Secretary, Thiru K. J. M. Shetty and the officers and staff who worked with him for their valuable assistance to me in preparing these budget proposals.

Once again, I request that this House may approve the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1982-83.

26th February 1982.

Masi 14, Thunmathi,
Tiruvalluvar Aandu-2013.



The 20th All India President's Scouts and Guides rally was held in the city for a week between 17th to 21 February '82 at the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education. About 3,400 scouts and guides participated in the rally. Guides from 16 states and scouts from 20 states and the largest contingent-383 boy scouts and 246 girl guides were from Tamil Nadu.

Rally:

On the closing day, the Chief Minister and the Education Minister reviewed a rally. The Chief Minister then took the salute and gave away the President's certificates to the boys and girls.

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, was presented the "Silver Elephant" the highest national award of the Bharat Scouts and Guides at the valedictory function of the President's Scouts and Guides Rally on 21.2.'82.

Tmt. Lakshmi Mazumdar, National Commissioner for Scouts and Guides, decorated the Chief Minister, the first Chief Minister to receive the award with the insignia of the Silver Elephant in recognition of his "most distinguished and exceptional services to the movement".

HIGHEST HONOUR to

C.M. by

BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES

Thiru S.K. Das, National Secretary presented a citation on the occasion. The citation says that the Chief Minister had given a gift of 21 acres to the scouts and guides for a camping-cum-training centre on the way to Mamallapuram. He had also come forward to grant Rs. 5 lakhs for free supply of uniforms to 10,000 poor Scouts and Guides.

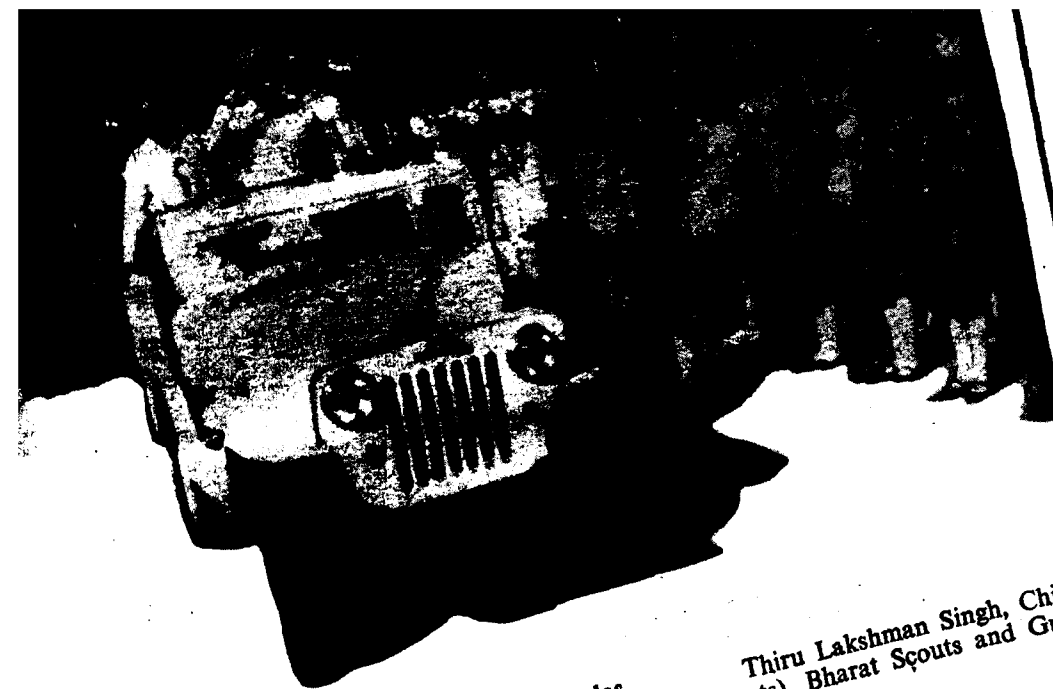
Thiru Das described as a pioneering step, the State Government's intention of giving priority to Scouts and Guides in Government employment.

The Chief Minister, in his presidential address, appealed to all educationists and other State Governments to follow the lead given by Tamil Nadu in the matter of enrolling school children in the movement. It was gratifying to note that Tamil Nadu was leading in the matter of membership, he said.

Thiru J.P.A. Sylvestre, Regional Executive Commissioner of the World Bureau, presented a memento to the Chief Minister, which is a larger version of the Silver Elephant. He said Scout organisations the world over were reluctant in bestowing such honours on public servants. But a leadership of this nature, under which the movement had doubled its membership in four years, deserved the award he said.

The Education Minister, Thiru C. Aranganayagam, handed over the Government order allotting the camp site of 21 acres of land to the State's Chief Commissioner, Dr. K. Venkatasubramaniam.

Thiru K. Diraviyam, Chief Secretary to the State Government released a special souvenir brought out on the occasion. He said that it was significant that such a rally was being held in Tamil Nadu, when the State was busy celebrating Bharat's centenary and spreading the message of national integration.



The Education Secretary, Thiru C. Ramdas, inaugurated the Founder's day flag sale and said Tamil Nadu had nearly 1.5 lakh scouts and guides of the country's six lakhs.

Thiru M.P. Sivagnanam, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Legislative Council in his valedictory address said the honour given to the Chief Minister was a tribute to the State.

Thiru E.C.P. Prabhakar, Chairman of the Board of Management, YMCA, where the rally was held, said both the YMCA and the Scouting movement had similar objectives and goals.

Thiru Lakshman Singh, Chief Commissioner (Scouts), Bharat Scouts and Guides, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the morning, Thiru Sylvestre inaugurated the 75th year celebrations of the scouting movement. Thiru Aranganayagam, presided.

Tmt. Lakshmi Mazumdar, National Commissioner, thanked the Government of Tamil Nadu for the hospitality and expressed her gratitude to the Chief Minister for accepting the Silver Elephant. As part of the programme tree planting ceremony was held.



Social Forestry

A People's Programme

It is really a pleasure and privilege to be called upon to address the first Convocation of the State Forest Service College, Coimbatore. This is the second college started by the Government of India to train the officers for the State Forest Services and this centre has had the opportunity and capability of training officers for Provincial Service as far back as 1948 to 1951. When I see that trainees from Kanyakumari to Kashmir are assembled here, I am convinced of the oneness of India and we all feel glad and proud about it.

Forestry Education in India has just gone through its First Hundred Years. The Forest Research Institute and Colleges have done outstanding service to the cause of Forestry, by training Officers at the highest level both from within the country and abroad. Trainees of this Institution have managed the Forests of our country with devotion. I am, therefore, grateful to the authorities of the Government of India for giving me this unique opportunity.

I congratulate all the Officer-trainees, who are passing out to-day's Convocation and I have no doubt that they will maintain the highest traditions of the Forest Service in their respective States and discharge their duties to fulfil the aspirations of the society in Forest Sector.

When we go through Indian History, epics and other scriptures we cannot fail to notice that in the past the natural resources were abundant to meet all the requirements of the

STATE
FOREST
SERVICE
COLLEGE,
COIMBATORE

30-1-1982



CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Thiru R.M. VEERAPPAN
Hon'ble Minister for Information and
Religious Endowments

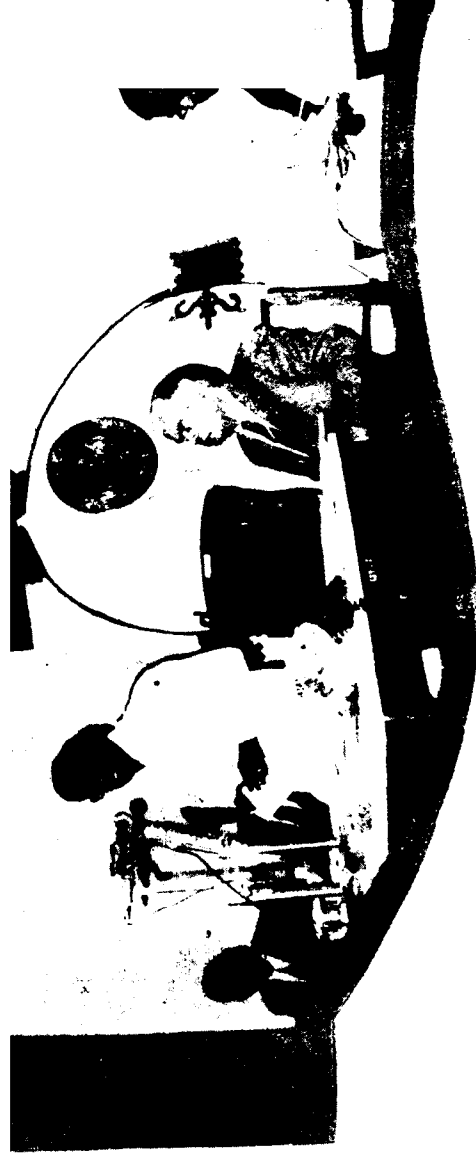
society and inspite of scientific advancement, our people were happy and contented. As time passed, the population increased, area under agriculture had to be extended to feed a clothed the ever-increasing population. Natural resources were not really scientifically managed. All these resulted in shrinkage of forest area and over exploitation of forests and Forest products. With the advent of science, large scale forests were set apart for Hydro-Electric projects, roads, railway industries besides agriculture. Setting up of industries based on Forest raw material led to over exploitation of forests. The cumulative effect of all these, we see now in terms of widening gap between demand and supply of forest products.

As things stand to-day, we are not in a position to provide enough and reasonably cheap fuel for population, timber for

bamboos for poor men and cottage industries, sandal and rosewood for local consumption and export, cellulose for paper, rayon grade pulp for textile industries, cane for furniture industry, medicinal herbs for health, wild life for recreation, and things like resins, tamarind, katha, myrobalams and dyes for consumption. Not enough importance has been given to our Minor Forest Products and for want of a correct estimation of their availability, the Government loses a large amount of revenue every year on this account. I lay great importance on this aspect of Forestry which has been neglected in the past.

The importance of forests and their contribution to the society has not yet been realised by the common man, though in every day life, he tends to complain about the shortage of fuelwood, high cost of timber and other materials manufactured from forest products. Now it is your duty to educate the public and ultimately see that India becomes self-sufficient in forest products.

You are aware that there is an energy problem threatening the country and the world. The majority of village population are unskilled or unemployed or under-employed. As Forest Officers your duties are manifold. You are the trustees of very extensive and highly valuable resources of this country. With the launching of Extension Forestry and Social Forestry, we have to tackle and plant the denuded hills, saline lands, desert and shifting sands, coastal belts, the village waste lands, industrial compounds, roadsides and railway line sides, bunds, stream-banks and wherever you can find vacant sites. This will also help to develop a balanced ecosystem for man to live in. While inaugurating the centenary celebration of Forestry Education recently, our Prime Minister called on the Foresters 'to concentrate more on Social Forestry, while tending the old areas.' Recently, the word 'Social Forestry' has become a household term in our country. The extent of reserved forests in India cannot be extended very much. But,



the creation of more and more woodlots outside the forests is absolutely necessary, not only for catering to the usual needs of agriculture and industries, but also, to combat against the threatening problems of environmental pollution and energy crisis. The one and only useful answer for this is 'Social Forestry'. Apart from the official machinery being geared into action, the involvement of each individual-citizen in this onerous task is the real and true spirit of 'Social Forestry'. It has to be ultimately a people's programme, creating Forest based assets, by the people and for the people. The inherent inhibitive characters in our society has to be positively counteracted and the co-operation of society has to be roped in at the earliest possible time. The illiteracy of population as well as the ignorance of literates are to be combated effectively and their co-operation achieved efficiently. This effectiveness and efficiency, I wish to impress, cannot be achieved, unless the Foresters shed their conservative approach and form a new concept, take stock of social conditions and society's needs, create intimate and pleasant contact with the public, especially the ever-afraid, khaki-hating, rural mass. In my opinion, I feel that special training for this 'Social Forestry' should be imparted to the Forest personnel, especially in the lower ranks of the services. This reminds me of the strong opposition

put by one of the members of a Foreign Aid Panel against the inclusion of 'Forest Guard' in the Social Forestry activities. But, this apathy against Khaki-clad personnel of the Forest Department, is not their fault since so far their main job was to act as a 'Forest Police' only, which necessitated an aggressive approach in dealing with the law breaking people. I would also like to stress that you cannot belittle the importance of Agriculture, Hydel projects, industries, roads, mining, etc. but, what is required is the proper understanding of the priorities. **Conservancy-oriented Forest Policy has given way to production-oriented policy** and the need of the hour is a balanced multiple use concept. This includes preservation of Biospheres, protection and improvement of our Wild Life, our priceless heritage. Tourism Industry also depends on how effectively we are going to maintain our forests with the Wild Life living in them, since India has got rare birds and animals.

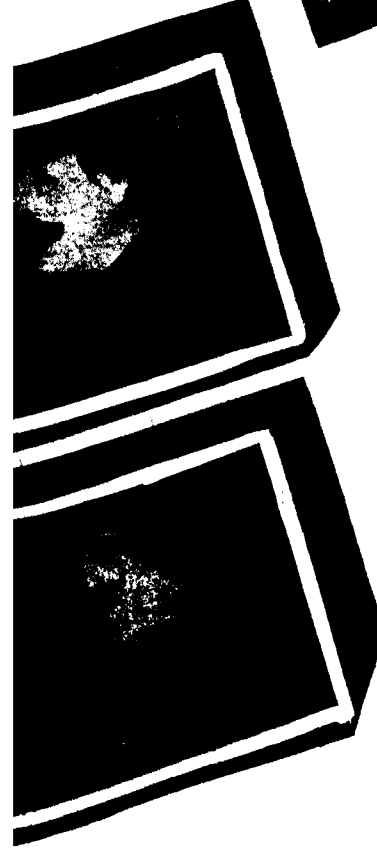


I would like to quote the advice given to Indians by Dr. E.F. Schumacher the author of the book "Small is Beautiful".

"The Good Lord has not disinherited any of his children and as far as India is concerned, he has given a variety of trees, unsurpassed anywhere in the world. One of the greatest teachers of India was the Buddha who included in his teachings the obligation of every good Buddhist that he should plant and see to the establishment of one tree at least every five years. As long as this was observed, the whole large area of India was covered with trees, free of dust, with plenty of water, plenty of shade, plenty of food and materials. Just imagine you could establish an ideology which made it obligatory for every able bodied person in India, man, woman and child, to do that little thing-to plant and see to the establishment of one tree a year, five years running. This, in a five year period, would give you 2000 million established trees. Anyone can work it out on the back of an envelope that the economic value of such an enterprise intelligently, conducted, would be greater than anything that has ever been promised by any of India's five year plans. It could be done without a penny of foreign aid; there is no problem of savings and investment. It would produce food stuffs, fibres, building materials, shade, water, almost anything that man really needs...

To-day the "One Tree One Child" programme initiated by our Prime Minister aims at achieving this and teaching children to love and respect trees.

The evil effects of destruction of environmental equilibrium are well known. Floods in our country cost annually about Rs. 10,000 million in terms of crops, houses and public utilities. The loss of top soil due to erosion may be around Rs. 10,000 million. People suffered from parasitic and viral



diseases. Silting up of dams, rivers and canals has reduced their water carrying capacity which results in less water storage and low utility and nullification of the very purpose of those projects. These are all due to the indiscriminate destruction of forests in the catchment areas. This destruction in the name of development should stop. The magnitude and far-reaching ill-effects of environmental pollution has created a new and necessary awareness and recently we started celebrating "World Environmental Day" and a separate "Department of Environment" was created in India.

In Tamil Nadu we have particularly in the last three years, enacted several laws to prevent destruction even of private forests and trees, particularly in hilly areas. We have also taken special steps to conserve our sandal wealth, since ours is a State to-day with the largest sandalwood population in the world, covering nearly 500 square kilometers. Our planting programme covers about 65,000 hectares a year, 35,000 hectares under Social Forestry and 30,000 hectares inside reserved forests. **This is perhaps the largest plantation programme undertaken by any State in India to-day.**

Young friends! So far I have pinpointed the present day needs which expect much help from forests and everyone is sure that Forestry can play a decisive role in these spheres. I wish to remind you all, the young budding Forest officers passing out to-day going to be transplanted in different parts of our country, and that the..



"Foresters of yesteryear were lucky as they had Forests to manage, Foresters of present day are trying to have forest to manage, but you, Foresters of to-morrow have no sizeable forests to manage but to create forests away from forests,

and so heavy a responsibility is being thrust on your young shoulders, as in addition to managing the conventional forests, you have the need for a changed outlook to carry the people with you in the changed context. I am confident, that not only are your broad shoulders competent but also your minds are so strong to take up this challenge and deliver the goods to the present generation as well as to the generations to come.

Training of foresters is vital to bring in this change and the Government of India is well seized with this matter. However, I wish to bring a point to the notice of the authorities concerned. I am given to understand that there is a great difficulty in securing instructors for the Forest Colleges at Coimbatore. So far Tamil Nadu has spared

the bulk of the teaching staff for these two Colleges. I feel it is better that teaching staff is drawn from various States in India, so that the students will have the benefit of experienced Officers coming from different States. Moreover, this will not throw a heavy burden on one State, particularly since we are already short of Officers and have large forestry programmes to tackle. I would like the Inspector-General of Forests to study this problem in depth and find a solution early.

Before I conclude, I wish to put forth once again some useful suggestions for the youngsters to bear in mind throughout their would-be adventurous potential career.

Firstly, you should spare no pains to utilise your professional knowledge with regard to the best possible utilisation of "available" forest land. In a nutshell "Intensive Forestry" should be your motto. And as far as possible, you have to resist the attempts of further reduction in the already reduced forest extent.

Secondly, please study well the local needs of people around with reference to their social conditions prevailing and plan your Forestry programmes in such a way that their legitimate needs are met with to the maximum extent possible, so that clandestine, illegal assault on forests can be minimised.

Thirdly, though you have to be strong in protecting the valuable national asset, with changing concepts and ideas, a pleasant and instructive, pacifying and cajoling attitude should be developed by you and inculcate the same in the minds of your subordinates.

Fourthly, more emphasis on research shall be given as your future work involves on "Intensive Forestry".

Lastly, I request you to develop a character of honesty, sincerity and integrity coupled with tactness and patience which are the basic needs for a Forester who has to successfully perform multi faceted task and come up high in the Department.



Once again, I congratulate you for having chosen a profession, which, although arduous gives you a chance to live amidst nature, away from the polluted cities. I have no doubt that by devotion to duty and by maintaining a high standard of integrity, you will prove worthy of the noble traditions of the great Institution that has trained you and the confidence the nation has in you.

As Foresters to-day you have got a different role to play compared to the past. In olden days you had very little to-do with the people and confined your activities to the interior forest areas. To-day, this position has changed, and you have to move amongst the rural population and carry them with you so that they realise the importance and value of forests and help to preserve them. Your role is similar to that of a Doctor or Teacher who helps the society in the building up of its welfare while the Foresters help to build up the ecological welfare of the country. In your hands lies the great task of extending and maintaining the environmental climate of the country, which is very important for the survival of mankind. I am sure you will play your role successfully as social and ecological Foresters in the present context.

I wish you all the best of luck and success in your career.



MASS Weddings

Fifty couples were united in wedlock on 21.2.82 at a mass marriage ceremony organised by the Arulthiru Devi Karumariamman Temple authorities at Tiruverkadu. Thiru R.M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Religious Endowments presided over the function. Tmt. Rajambal Veerappan gave away the Thali to the couples.

Each couple was presented a golden Thali, one stainless steel kudam, two stainless steel plates, kuthuvilakku, kumgumasinizh, saree and dhoti. A day's requirement of rice, dal, salt, tamarin was also presented. Total expense for one couple was Rs. 807.38.

Information Minister and his family gave Rs. 100 as gift cash to each couple.

The Minister said that there is a proposal to conduct more such marriages in future.

The Minister said that after the present Government assumed power, the temple administration in the State had been streamlined and collections had shot up.

He said the total collection of all temples put together stood at Rs. 4,69,38,224.88 in 1978 whereas it was only Rs. 15,27,86,558.20 in December 1981.

The collections of the Palani and Tiruchendur temples alone had gone up from Rs. 1.06 crores to Rs. 1.95 crores and from Rs. 28 lakhs to Rs. 55 lakhs respectively.

He said that the Government raised about 40 percent of the Pay and Dearness Allowance to temple employees.

Thiru R. Surveswara Rao, Chairman, Board of Trustees welcomed the gathering.



Thiru J.C.D. Prabhakaran M.L.A., Thiru U. Subramanian I.A.S. Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Dr. R. Raghunathiyagarajan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Arulmiku Dhandayudhapani Temple, Palani, Thiru Kuppusami Mudaliyar, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Kapaliswar Temple, Mylapore all spoken on the occasion.

—G BHASKARAN.

Ensure Proper Tax Deduction from Salaries

The Income-tax Act requires every person responsible for payment of salary to deduct tax at source at the prescribed rates and deposit the same to the credit of the Central Government immediately in the case of Government employees and within seven days in the case of other employees.

Default of the Employer Attracts :

- (i) Recovery of the entire amount of tax from him;
- (ii) Levy of interest and penalty; and also
- (iii) Prosecution which may lead to rigorous imprisonment and also fine.

Avoid Penal Action

ENSURE that the tax deductible on salary has been correctly deducted and deposited into Government account within the time.

ADJUST short deduction, if any, out of salary payments made in the month of February/March, 1982.



Director of Inspection
(Research, Statistics & Public Relations)
INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT
New Delhi-110001

davp 81/325



free legal aid for the poor

Thiru P. H. PANDIAN,
Deputy Speaker,
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

The Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board is a Registered Society. It was sponsored and registered by the State of Tamil Nadu and published by order of Government in a gazette, Extra ordinary, dated 4.1.1976. It is acknowledged that the Board is the instrumentality of the State Government for the fulfilment of the State's obligation to a citizen under Article 39-A of the Constitution.

The Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board is one of the youngest Legal Aid institutions in the country. It is financed mainly by the Tamil Nadu State Government. The management and control of the Board vests in the High powered body constituted at present, with the Governor as the President, the Chief Justice as Patron in Chief, the Minister for Law as patron, two retired Judges of the High Court, the Secretaries to Government in the Departments of Home, Finance, Law and Social Welfare, the Director General of Police, the Registrar High Court, the Inspector General of Prisons, the Chief Probation Superintendent, as Members of the Executive Committee (ex officio), and eight non official members, 6 elected and 2 nominated by the President.

Among the aims and objects of the Board are the following:

- a to offer legal aid and advice to poor and deserving persons;
- b to render assistance to the members of the weaker sections of the society in complying with necessary legal requirements in order to secure the benefits under the various schemes sponsored by or on behalf of the Central or State Government for the welfare of the general public or any section thereof.
- c to educate members of the weaker sections of the society and in particular about the civil rights and the benefits made available to them under various

enactments;
d to spread legal literacy among the people of Tamil Nadu.

e to arrange for publicity for legislation having bearing on weaker sections of the society with special reference to agrarian reforms, minimum wages, welfare of labour, women and children, agriculturists, bonded labour, rural indebtedness and the socio economic reforms and to render legal assistance wherever necessary;

f to conduct and promote research in the area of law relating to the removal of poverty and promotion of economic and special uplift of the weaker sections of the society;

PRIORITY FOR LEGAL AID AND COMPROMISE ORIENTATION:

On 7.7.1977 the policy of the Government in this aspect was enunciated by the Governor of Tamil Nadu in his address to the Joint Session of the Legislature in the following words:

"In my regulatory aspects of Government, the poor and the weaker sections of the people continue to encounter delay and difficulty in securing simple justice in Administrative and Judicial Forums. The new Government will give a special emphasis to the provision of free Legal Aid to the poor."

In matters involving relief before Courts and Tribunals, the stress on the legal advice part of the programme provides initially an opportunity for compromise, before resort to Court. It can really relieve the poor, who can ill-afford litigation, aided or otherwise, it will reduce the burden of cases before Courts.

MACHINERY:

The Board has constituted District and Taluk Committees as the core of its organisation. The Byelaws

provide for the constitution where there is a District Judge functioning at the headquarters and the constitution of Taluk of a District Committee in each area where there is a Chief Judicial Magistrate, a Subordinate Judge, a District Munsif, a Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate or a First Class Magistrate at the Headquarters. The District Judge is ex-officio the President of the District Committee and the senior most judicial Officer serving in the area where a Taluk Committee is formed is the President of the Taluk Committee. The Executive Committee of the Board has laid down from time to time guidelines for the working of these committees.

In the District Committees and the Taluk Committees, Presidents of the Local Bar Associations are made ex-officio members. Representation is provided for the Government Departments of Revenue, Police, Labour and Harijan Welfare as also for members of the Bar in general and for social service organisations. In this way endeavour is made to involve in the programme all the various agencies who can contribute effectively for helping the poorer and weaker sections of the Community. There are now 90 Committees functioning in the State.

Each District and Taluk Committee maintains two panels of lawyers, panel "A" and panel "B" which are selected by the Sub-Committee. Selection is made from social service minded lawyers who have shown interest in the objectives of the Board.

Processing of Applications: At the Counselling Centre, lawyers of the "A" Panel are detailed to attend every day by turns at notified hours. If the problem is a simple one, which can be resolved after furnishing him with the necessary advice, this is done by the lawyers. If it is a non legal problem where relief is to be got from an administrative authority, the lawyer can request the Assistant to obtain the information by addressing the appropriate Government department under the authority of the Committee.

Effecting of compromises: As litigation is costly and time consuming especially for persons of inadequate means, the assistance to be given by the lawyers at the counselling centre is compromise oriented and every effort is made to see that a just compromise is arrived at. Considering the status and impartiality of the lawyers giving legal assistance at the counselling centres and the awareness of most people of the

time and expense which would be entailed if they go to Court, it is found that a good number of cases can be solved in this way by compromise.

Means Test: For the initial scrutiny for the purpose of advice at the Counselling Centre, no elaborate enquiry for the means test is prescribed and the declaration of the applicant about this means is acted upon.

While the several reports of expert legal aid committees have outlined elaborate tests to determine the indigency of the applicants, we have found from our experience, that over emphasis on proof of indigency will be self defeating in the initial stages of any legal aid programme, and that a flexible approach should be adopted to begin with.

PROGRAMME OF LEGAL AID BEFORE COURTS / AND TRIBUNALS:

The programme for this purpose can be considered under the following heads:

i Legal Aid before the Court in Civil matters. ii Legal aid for assistance before other Tribunals like Motor Accident Claims Tribunals. iii Legal Aid before Criminal Courts. iv Legal Aid for prisoners. v Legal Aid for servicemen and their families, and vi Legal Aid for undertrials.

PRIMA FACIE TEST:

At the scrutiny by the Counselling centre, if a respondent does not appear or if after the best efforts he is not co-operating and the attempts at compromise fail, the claim of the applicant has to be examined on an ex parte basis. In such cases, the lawyers at the counselling centres would have reached an overall assessment of the problems including the prime facie nature of the applicant's case, which means that there is a fair and reasonable probability of its success if a suit or proceeding filed by the indigent person.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNALS:

The Board launched a programme of assistance to victim of motor accidents who are not able to afford a lawyer. There have been frequent complaints of exploitation of these unfortunate people by touts, middle men and petty officials and sometimes by lawyers as well.

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Tribunal helps to get compensation signed by the



victim or legal representative of the deceased victim without waiting for the result of the investigation into the accident.

Project for assistance to remand prisoners, under trials and converted prisoners:

When the Board was formed in 1977, the Board considered a judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States, *Arger Singer Vs. Raymond*, in which the Supreme Court categorically ruled that:

"Absent, a knowing and intelligent waiver, no person shall be imprisoned for any offence, whether classified as a petty misdemeanor or a felony unless he was represented by counsel at the trial."

The principle was that representation by counsel was essential to ensure a fair trial. The Board felt that the situation under Article 21 of the Constitution, our due process clause would also be the same and prepared a project for assisting the accused persons in trial before Magistrates and appeals therefrom.

The Board has now appointed Duty Counsels to central Prisons in the State. The Counsel assigned by the committee, visits the jails for two hours a day and examines the problems of all prisoners who seek legal assistance. Guidelines have also been issued for the Legal Aid Committees for organising visits by Legal Aid lawyers to the sub jails also. The duty counsel visits prisons not only to examine the problems of the prisoners in the context of their indictment but also their other problems relating to family property etc.

The salient features of the Tamil Nadu Scheme are as follows:

i. The Board's programme of Legal Aid is basically a socio economic project and covers not only assistance for securing relief through courts and tribunals, but also for seeking relief from administrative forums. This is a significant compo-

nent of Legal Aid to the poor in a country like ours.

ii. The programme places advising at the forefront and the advice is supplied through the counselling centres manned by lawyers. They are also the instrument for effective settlements where ever possible.

iii. It is the Board's conviction that the 'not so poor' are not likely to misuse the facilities afforded to the poor, in any systematic manner so as to bring the scheme into disrepute.

iv. For dealing with the applications, the Board has opted for the panel system.

v. The Board relies for its finances on grants made by the Government.

vi. The Administrative machinery for the implementation of the programme is in the hands of the Judiciary.

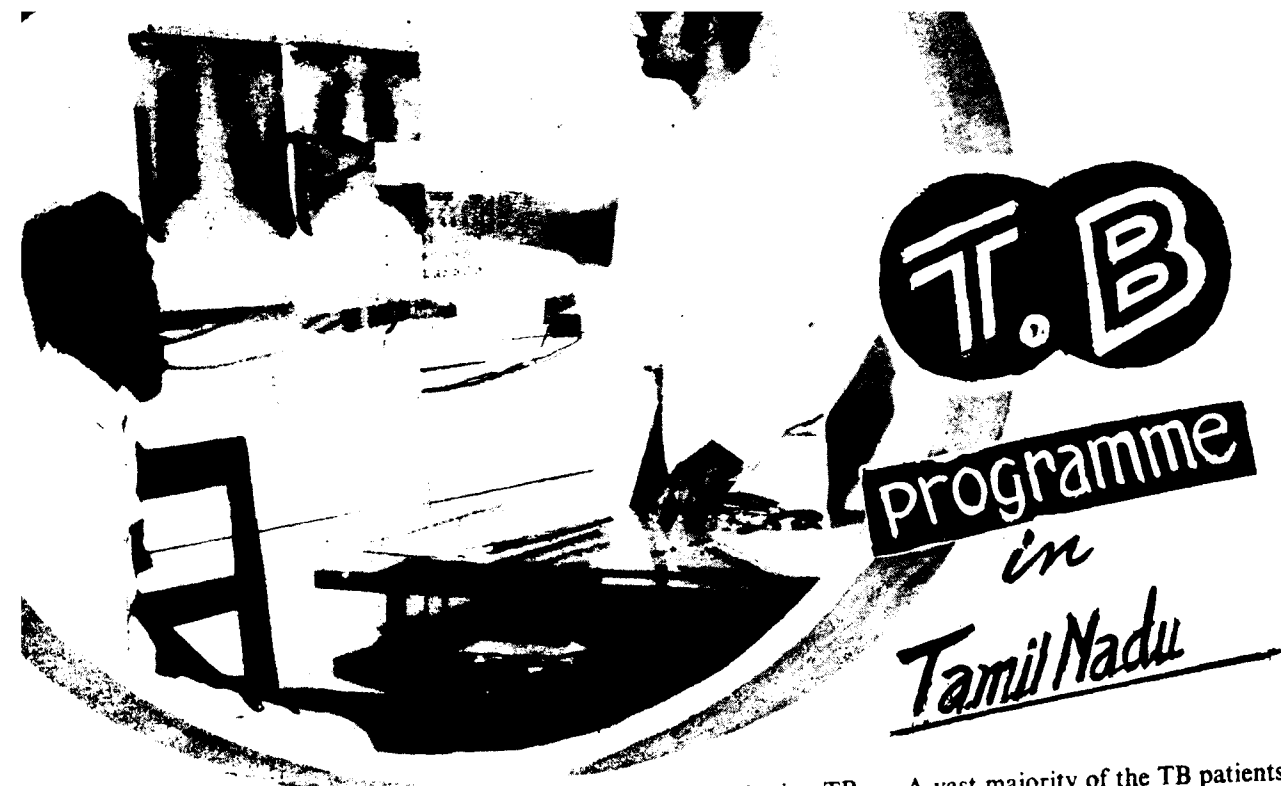
It has the effect of the distribution of work among a large number of lawyers in preference to a favoured one or two.

vii. Another merit of our scheme is that it turns on a high degree of decentralisation.

viii. In our scheme the decision making for sanction of rejection of aid is given to the legal profession.

Keeping a vigilant eye for defects and readily initiating proposals for reforms in the substantive law, as well as the law of procedure where needed, are also important aspects of our legal aid programme.

(Excerpts from the papers presented by Hon'ble Thiru P.H. Pandian, Advocate and Member, Bar Council of Tamil Nadu, India, Deputy Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly at the First Conference of Asian Lawyers at Kochi City, Japan.)



The National Tuberculosis Programme is an organised anti-TB programme fully integrated with the existing health services, the functioning unit being District TB Programme. The District TB Programme is practical, mainly based on case-detection by sputum microscopy, contemplating uninterrupted domiciliary treatment of sputum positive cases. The objectives of the District TB Programme are:

i) to detect the maximum number of TB patients among persons attending health institutions with symptoms and treat them effectively.

ii) to give priority to sputum positive patients.

iii) to vaccinate with B.C.G. a majority of the susceptibles in the community efficiently.

iv) to undertake the above as an integral part of the general health services to enable the symptomatics and the TB patients to be provided with preventive and curative services in health and medical institutions near their homes.

DISTRICT TB PROGRAMME IN TAMILNADU

The District TB Programme was introduced in Tamilnadu in the year 1963. During the III Plan 12 District TB Centres were established. During the IV Plan a District TB Centre was formed in Dharmapuri District.

During the V Plan a District TB Centre was established, by upgrading the Chest clinic at the District Headquarters Hospital in the newly formed Pudukkottai District. During 1979 certain staff have been sanctioned for the formation of a District TB Centre at Tirupur (In the bifurcated District of Coimbatore). The institute of TB and Chest Diseases at Madras carries out the District TB Programme work in Madras City. Thus the programme has been implemented in Madras City and in all the districts in Tamilnadu.

Each District TB Centre is headed by a District TB Officer, a specialist in TB and Chest Diseases, trained at the National TB Institute, Bangalore. The District TB officer coordinates the anti-TB activities of the peripheral health institutions in the district, trains the staff of the general health services and exercises general supervision. The district TB programme has been implemented in all the Government Hospitals, primary health centres and Government Dispensaries in Tamilnadu. Some Panchayat Union dispensaries and voluntary organisations are also participating in the District TB programme. Free diagnostic and treatment facilities are available for TB patients in all these centres. Under the District TB programme so far over 9 lakh pulmonary TB cases have been diagnosed and put on treatment in Tamilnadu.

A vast majority of the TB patients can be effectively treated at home through domiciliary treatment. In-patient treatment is required only for the acutely-ill TB patients. There are 8 Government TB sanatoria and 3 private TB institutions in Tamilnadu. Beds for TB patients are provided in all the district headquarters hospitals except at Tiruchirapalli, Dharmapuri, Nagercoil and Tiruppur. At Tiruchirapalli and Nagercoil full-fledged Government TB Hospitals are in existence. A limited number of TB beds are also available in certain big taluk headquarters hospitals. In all there are 3593 TB beds available for TB patients in Tamilnadu.

The B.C.G. vaccination drive forms part of the district TB programme. There are 23 B.C.G. Teams, attached to the district TB Centres, functioning in Tamil nadu. These teams move taluk-wise, house-to-house, to administer B.C.G. vaccination to the population.

Under the revitalisation of the National TB Control Programme, Government of India have formulated a revised strategy for B.C.G. Vaccination. This will shortly be introduced in Tamilnadu as soon as the orders of the Tamil Nadu Government are received in the matter the B.C.G. personnel will be diverted to the Primary health centres to give B.C.G. training

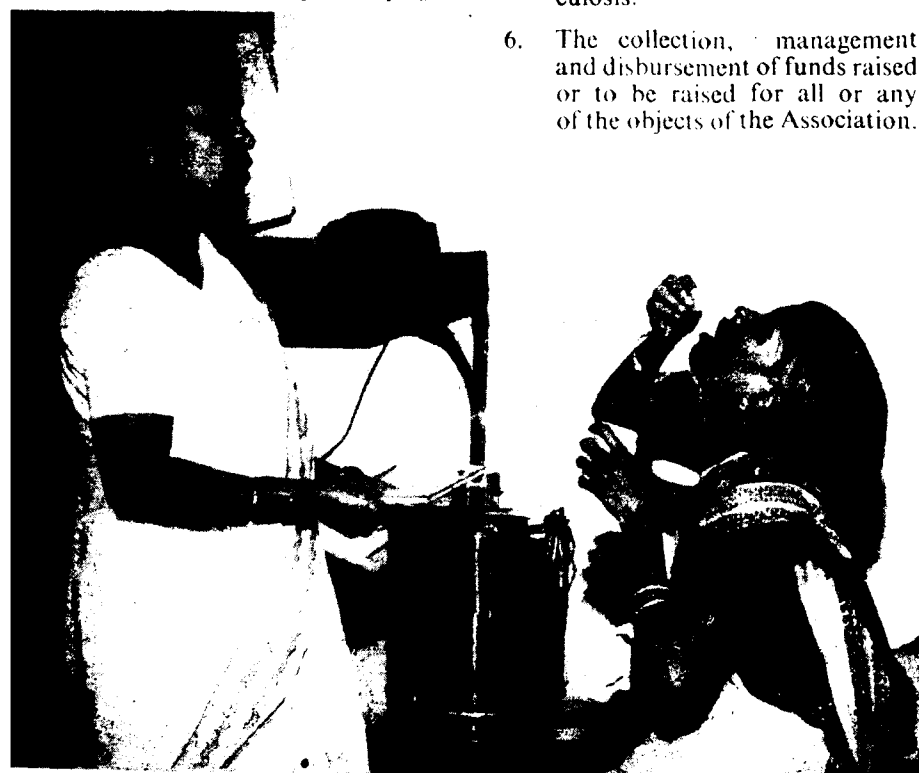
to the health peripheral workers in the technique of B.C.G. vaccination.

Under the district TB programme so far over 160 lakh persons have been given BCG vaccination in Tamilnadu.

PUBLICITY AND HEALTH EDUCATION:

There are two TB publicity units in Tamilnadu with headquarters at Madras and Dindigul. These units conduct film shows on TB in schools, colleges, exhibitions and in slums and enlighten the public on the facilities available for diagnosis and treatment of TB.

By way of group talks, discussions and meetings the publicity officers attached to the TB publicity units



do advance publicity and propaganda about the necessity for BCG vaccination.

THE TAMILNADU TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION

The Tamilnadu TB Association, an affiliate of the TB Association of India, supplements the activities of the government in its efforts to control Tuberculosis.

The main objects of the Tamilnadu TB Association are:—

1. The prevention, control and treatment of Tuberculosis.

2. The encouragement of and the assistance in the establishment throughout the State and other Association having objects similar in whole or in part to those of the Association.
3. The affiliation or control of, and the rendering of assistance (financial or otherwise) to any Association or Institution having objects similar in whole or in part of the objects of the Association.
4. The taking over the assets and or activities of any person or body for the advancement of the objects of the Association.
5. The administration of endowments having for all or any of their objects the prevention, control and treatment of Tuberculosis.
6. The collection, management and disbursement of funds raised or to be raised for all or any of the objects of the Association.

necessary or convenient for the purpose of the Association.

HOW YOU CAN HELP ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN:

Join the Association and help the Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign.

The fight against Tuberculosis cannot be done only by the Doctors and Nurses.

It is the duty of everyone to help them in the Campaign.

YOU CAN DO SO:

- (i) By becoming a member;
- (ii) By donating some amount to the Association;
- (iii) By trying to secure the requisite funds or help through some social or charitable project for the treatment of TB patients;
- (iv) By removing the dread and stigma attached to the disease from the minds of the public.
- (v) By educating the public on the preventive methods and on the modern ideas about the disease and by emphasising its curable nature;
- (vi) By advising TB patients to go to the nearest TB Clinic for advice and treatment;
- (vii) By trying to secure suitable jobs for ex-TB patients as per the Doctor's advice;
- (viii) By helping the TB Seal Sales Campaign every year;
- (ix) By advising Family Planning for TB patients which is a MUST for them; and
- (x) Lastly by protecting your Children with B.C.G. vaccination.

HELP BY THESE WAYS ALSO:

By sending a donation, large or small by cheque or cash;

By making a collection from your friends and neighbours by selling TB seals supplied by our Association.

By running a money-raising effort for us;

By inviting the secretary to talk about the TB control programme at your school or organisation or a group of friends at your home.

ROBERT KOCH AND THE TUBERCLE BACILLUS

Robert Koch was born on 11th December 1843 in the village Clausthal in the State of Hanover in Ger-



many and qualified as a doctor from Gottingen University in 1866. After graduation, he worked as an assistant under several masters of his time to get practical experience and then started private practice in his village. He worked as a military doctor in the Franco-Prussian War in 1870-71 and after demobilization obtained the diploma in public health. Thereafter he was posted as a physician in the village of Wollstein with a population of 4,000. He was responsible for local public health, vaccinations and control of epidemics.

In 1881 he attended the first International Medical Congress in London where he was so stimulated on hearing of the world wide ravages of tuberculosis that he returned determined to find the causative organism of this scourge. 17 years earlier, a French scientist, Villemin, divined but never proved the possibility of an invisible agent which was responsible for the causation of tuberculosis and its transmission from person to person and animal to animal. Robert Koch isolated this agent, the microbe, and proved it to be the cause of tuberculosis. He called it Tubercle Bacillus. When the result of his discovery was announced to the world on 24th March, 1882, Robert Koch became an internationally famous figure. An Institute of Microbiology and Hygiene was established in Berlin and Robert Koch was appointed as its Director.

The Epoch making discovery of tubercle bacillus by Robert Koch will always remain a landmark in the fight against tuberculosis. Tuberculosis was the 'Captain of the men of death' all over the world in Robert Koch's time. Although this disease was known since time immemorial, its cause was not known. Some thought it to be hereditary, others attributed it to deficiencies in food, hygiene, housing etc. When Robert Koch demonstrated that the disease is caused by tubercle bacillus and is transmitted from person to person by this micro-organism, it not only initiated research to find out drugs which could kill this microbe, but also laid the foundation for evolving preventive measures concentrating on blocking the channels of transmission. It is because of these two measures that tuberculosis is now nearly controlled in the western world where resources are adequate. In the developing countries, like ours, the resources for implementation of the above measures being inadequate, the disease still remains public Health Enemy No. 1.

The Centenary of the Discovery of Tubercle Bacillus is being celebrated with the dual object of honouring the great man who discovered this bacillus and also highlighting the need for augmenting the resources and strengthening the health services and developing these in such a manner that control of tuberculosis is achieved as early as possible in our country as well.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Services of MADRAS VOLUNTARY BLOOD BANK

Blood transfusion, the term used in medical literature for the process of transferring the blood from the circulation of one living animal to that of another. The first authentic record of it was not made until the middle of the 17th century. A florentine physician, Franseco Folli, claimed to have transfused blood from one animal to another on August 13, 1654. Subsequently many experiments bearing on the subject were made.

During the 17th century blood for transfusion was taken from a lamb or calf and although good therapeutic results were claimed at first, the operation soon fell into disrepute and was almost entirely abandoned. The coagulation of the blood outside the body was always the prime difficulty.

Transfusion did not, however, come into general use as a therapeutic measure during the 19th century. Improvement in techniques were experimented.

The method of performing direct transfusion by means of an anastomosis between an artery of the donor and a vein of the recipient was worked out in 1907. It was also found that an analogous incompatibility exists in all races of man between the bloods of different individuals, so that a given recipient may safely receive the blood of certain selected donors only. Human beings since that time have been classified into four different groups, the blood of only one of those being suitable for more or less indiscriminate injection into all recipients.

The latest tools and techniques evolved over the years for preventing and curing sickness are of revolutionary significance. These have brought down mortality rates and have vastly improved the chances of people living more healthy lives.

But science has not discovered a substitute for human blood which is so necessary to save life through surgical interference involving heavy loss of blood requiring replacement. The gift of blood can save people in dire need of it.

Madras Voluntary Blood Bank:

The Madras voluntary Blood Bank was started in 1975, for the purpose of securing blood and providing it to the needy at all times, through the right means.

The main objectives of the organisation are three fold:

1. To make Blood easily available for those in dire need.
2. To remove dependence on paid donor, chiefly to ensure the supply of healthy blood.
3. To promote a sense of civic responsibility, encourage voluntary donation and remove vague fears about blood donation.

The Madras Voluntary Blood Bank started the one and only *Rare Blood Group Donors Club* in India on the 26th January 1977.

The objective of this club is to provide a permanent body to which people can contact for Rare Blood and it hopes to mobilise a large number of volunteers of Rare Blood Group to enrol them as members. Any member of the public who falls in this *Rh negative group* is eligible to become a member.

There is always a constant need for transfusion of blood. Accident victims, operation cases, women in child birth all of whom stand in need of that amount of blood which makes the difference between life and death, and, this blood has to come from healthy donors.

Group A	Group B	Group D	Control
Name: J. S MEET Age: 25		Blood Group: A Rh: +	Date: 15-7 Signature:



The Blood Donation Camps are conducted with the help of trained personnel from Government Royapettah Hospital, Government Kasturibhai Gandhi Hospital, Government General Hospital and Government Stanley Hospital.

The Madras Voluntary Blood Bank has progressively increased the number of donors from 212 to 2172 in 1976, in 1977, 2541 in 1978, 3380 in 1979, 3373 in 1980 and 3564 in 1981. There are now more than 17,000 donors.

To involve the citizens in Voluntary Blood Donation Camps, the Madras Voluntary Blood Bank makes it a point to appreciate every effort in this direction.

The Anniversary is celebrated every year, and Certificates are distributed to institutions which send more than 20 donors. Shields are presented for those institutions or organizations which get 100 donors. Rolling Shields are also awarded for the institutions sending maximum number of donors. The MVBB Rolling Shield was awarded in 1978-'80 to I.I.E.T.; for the year 1980-'81 it goes to Guindy Engineering College. T. T. Ranganathan Rolling Shield to be given to the

Industrial Institutions which send the maximum number of donors. The company which won the Shield for the year 1979-'80 and 1980-'81 was Madras Refineries and this year goes to Ashok Leyland respectively. The Pallavan Transport Corporation Main Office, will also receive the Shield for distinguished services for the year 1981.

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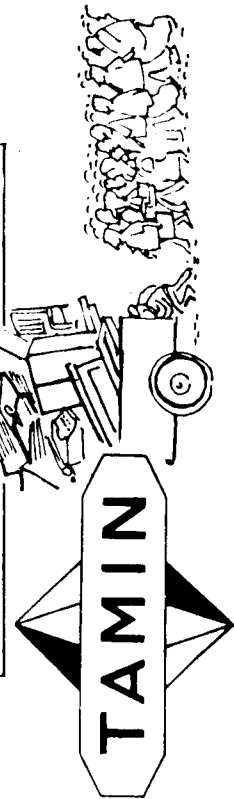
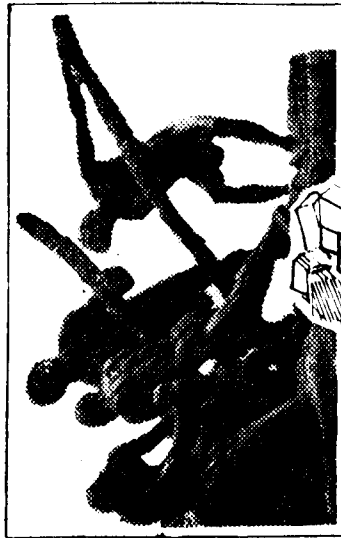
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