

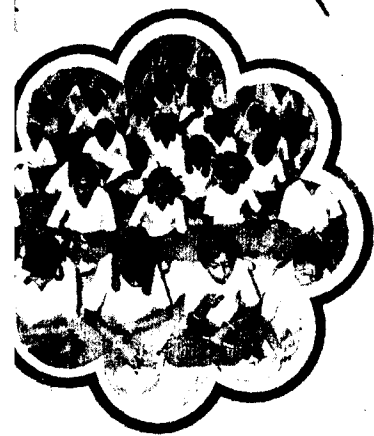
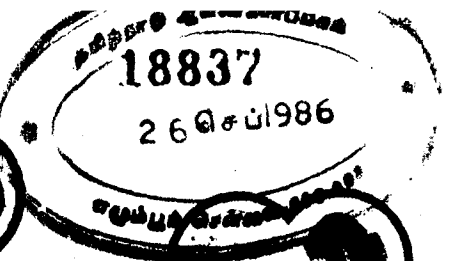
July 1986-1
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Tamil Arasu

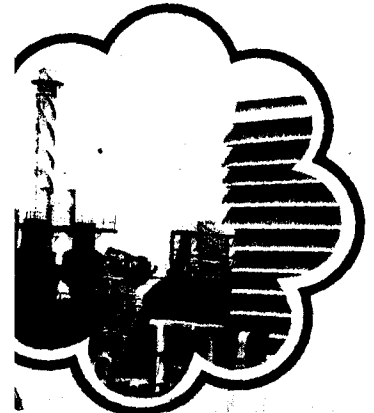
Vol. III



A. L. K. 453



Tamil Arasu



Venkat
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JULY 1986 Re. 1



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SPECIAL ISSUE

TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

The Star behind the star Performance.

A profile of "The Star behind The Star performance" of the Tamil Nadu Government. A reproduction of the doctorate citation by the Madras University on the Chief Minister given in 1983.

The Star Performance

Tamil Arasu presents you The STAR PERFORMANCE. A glance at some of the choicest achievements of the Tamil Nadu Government since 1977.

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Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

THE STAR PERFORMANCE (1977 - 1986)

Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE STAR

behind the Star Performance

94196

Dr. M.G.R.
Hon'ble Chief Minister

When the M.G.R. Drama chandran, endearingly known to us as M.G.R., was born in 1917 at Kandy, hunger, squalor and poverty were the enervating conditions his family was forced to endure. Subsequent to the death of his father and other family members, M.G.R.'s family settled at Kumbakonam, but the problems of the family did not permit young Ramachandran to pursue his education beyond the primary stage at Anayadi school. To support the family M.G.R. first joined work in the Madurai Original Boy's Dramatic Company and later in the Uraiyur Moideen Drama Company for paltry salaries. Rivalries, jealousies and partialities amidst the actors of these companies brought home to his mind the perversities to which man's motives are liable.

It was against these abnormal conditions of life that several pieces of morals rendered by his mother had struck roots in young M.G.R.'s mind. It was because of her grooming that M.G.R. began to imbibe two characteristic attitudes in his life, viz., fostering the qualities of being human and resisting the tendencies that degrade a human being.

M.G.R. began to cultivate good habits from his very early life. He used to be simple, soft-spoken, gentle, patient, courageous and wished to learn from others. He had always believed in truth, friendliness, duty, discipline, mercy and sacrifice. His innate trait has been to "forgive and forget" even those who committed treachery and deceit against him. Equal respect to those who praise and condemn him, equal dignity for physical and mental labour, and equal courtesy to the rich and poor—these were his forte from his younger days. He staunchly believed that progress is possible through reforms and that sincere service to the poor is the gateway to the kingdom of God.

M.G.R. proceeded to Madras in the early thirties with the fond hope of conquering the emerging, new world of cinema. Between 1934 and 1976 most of his 136 films had become thunderous popular hits. Since most of his films depict his own personal experiences in life, his idealism and remarkable humanism, they had all become extremely ideological. M.G.R. has personally held that Art is always for the sake of the people and had eagerly used that medium to fight

superstitions, conservatism and outmoded practices. In the process of film making, M.G.R. had also excelled himself in direction, stagecraft, dialogues and other details of filmic art. Befittingly the Government of India had honoured him with the highest award "Bharat" for his acting in RIKSHAKARAN in 1972.

When riches came his way, M.G.R. began to help the poor directly. He was always the first to give disaster reliefs, to support several orphanages, hospitals, and schools, and to help his colleagues in the film industry and outside. This has earned him the affectionate epithet philanthropist par-excellence. Truly, the reciprocity of his love for the society and in turn, its love for him, is the secret of his success in mass relations.

His association with the D.M.K. and especially with Anna from 1953 onwards, opened up a new phase in M.G.R.'s life. M.G.R. has taken to Anna and the friendship between the two grew. Because of his cooperation with the D.M.K. as its propagandist, organiser, financier and electoral strategist, M.G.R. became a political force within the D.M.K. in his own right. He

was elected to the Assembly in 1967 and 1971 from Parangimalai Constituency. However, following his differences with the D.M.K., M.G.R. founded the A.I.A.D.M.K. in 1972 to

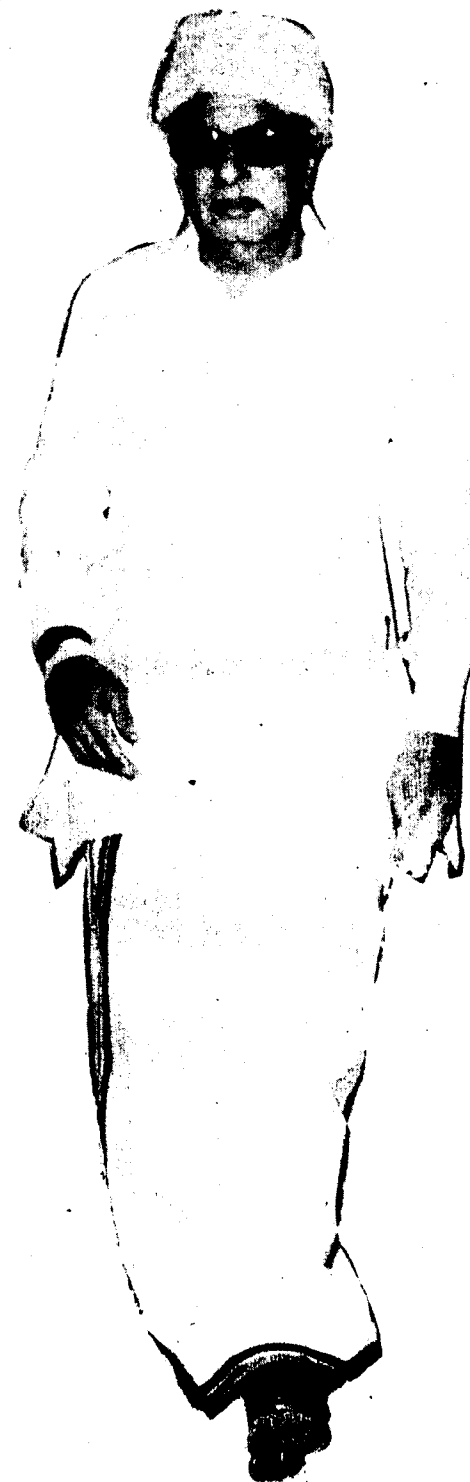
preach the ideals of Anna and Humanism.

"None should suffer like me" is the motto of M.G.R.'s life. When the A.I.A.D.M.K. was voted to power in 1977

and 1980 Assembly Elections, M.G.R. as the Chief Minister, fulfilled some of the aspirations of the poor people by launching such schemes as 50% reservation of seats in educational institutions and in Government employment for the backward communities; special component plan for the Adi-Hindus; the tribal sub-plan for the Scheduled Tribes; several social welfare schemes for the helpless women; Nutritious Meal Programme and Integrated Child Development Services for the rural communities; and the scheme of "Employment" to one member a family for the weaker sections; and Unemployment allowance for the educated youth. Further, he has been playing an instrumental role for facilitating the rapid growth of education both in quantity and quality in Tamil Nadu, by creating new universities—Anna University of Technology, Bharathiar University, Bharathi dasan University and the Tamil University.

His distinct and significant contribution to Tamil Culture and language have been evidenced by the successful conduct of the Fifth World Tamil Conference at Madurai, the introduction of the Periyar scripts and the sanction of liberal financial aid to those who sacrificed their lives for the cause of Tamil, and to artists, writers and Tamil poets who faced indigent circumstances.

Thus M.G.R. has been fighting for the cause of humanism. He did not hesitate to use films and politics for this purpose. Therefore he has become the Makkal Thilagam, Puratchi Thalaivar and Ponmana-Chemmal of the Tamils. In fact Rajaji had called him a "Crusader like Arjuna"; Periyar described him as a "Man with large heart"; and Anna admired him as a "Poem with serene beauty and emotion".



THE PERFORMANCE

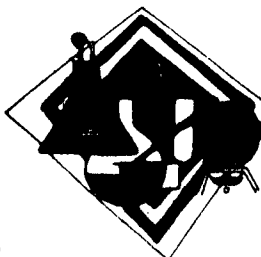
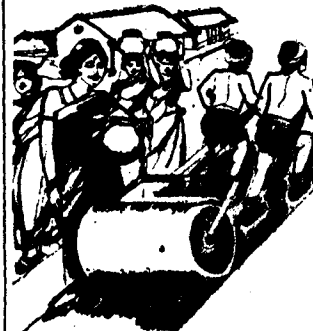
PLAN SCHEMES.

Tamil Nadu enjoys the fine reputation of implementing the Five year Plan programmes effectively and has achieved all Plan targets. The increased plan outlay, by the Planning Commission for Tamil Nadu for 1986-87 is because of the State's satisfactory performance in 1985-86.

Tamil Nadu enjoys the fine reputation of implementing the Five-year Plan programmes effectively and has achieved all Plan targets. As against the outlay of Rs. 3,150 crores for the Sixth Plan, the State had spent Rs. 3,675 crores.

In the first year of the VII Plan for the State, the expenditure is anticipated around Rs. 1,050 crores as against an approved outlay of Rs. 960 crores. In the second year of the plan i.e., for the year 1985-86, the Annual Plan will cost Rs. 1,153 crores.

The Annual Plan for 1986-1987 has 'Power' as a major thrust with an outlay of Rs. 387.36 crores. The break-up for the other sector of the Annual Plan is: Water supply and Sanitation Rs. 125 crores; Social Welfare and nutrition Rs. 110.42 crores; Agriculture Rs. 94.44 crores; Rural development Rs. 47.89 crores; Irrigation and flood control Rs. 77.94 crores; Industry and minerals Rs. 54.38 crores; Transport Rs. 57.75 crores; Science, technology and environment Rs. 1.68 crores; General economic services Rs. 3.98 crores; Education, art and culture Rs. 60.15 crores; Health Rs. 26.76 crores; Housing Rs. 47 crores; Urban Development Rs. 33 crores; Information and Publicity Rs. 60 lakhs; Welfare of SC, ST and Backward classes Rs. 15.50 crores; Labour and Employment Rs. 3.99 crores; General Services, Stationery and Printing Rs. 4.98 crores. The increased Plan outlay, by the Planning Commission for Tamil Nadu is because of the State's satisfactory performance in 1985-86.



THE PERFORMANCE

AGRICULTURE

Tamil Nadu's Sugar yield of 100 metric tonnes per hectare is a world record. About 35 lakh acres in Tamil Nadu have Sugar Cane grown on them.

Agriculture is the mainstay of Tamil Nadu's economy. The yield of rice amounting to 2.5 metric tonnes per hectare is among the highest in the Indian Subcontinent.

At the end of the Sixth plan period, Tamil Nadu achieved a production level of 69.17 lakh metric tonnes of rice and other cereals, 3.42 lakhs metric tonnes of pulses and 13, 425 lakh metric tonnes of oilseeds.

For the Seventh plan period, the targets of production level are 105 lakh metric tonnes of food grains, 6 lakh metric tonnes of pulses and 18.98 lakhs metric tonnes of oil seeds.

Tamil Nadu's sugar yield of 100 metric tonnes per hectare is a world record. About 35

lakh acres in Tamil Nadu have sugar cane grown on them.

Cotton is grown in 2.8 lakhs and is expected to yield 6 lakh bales.

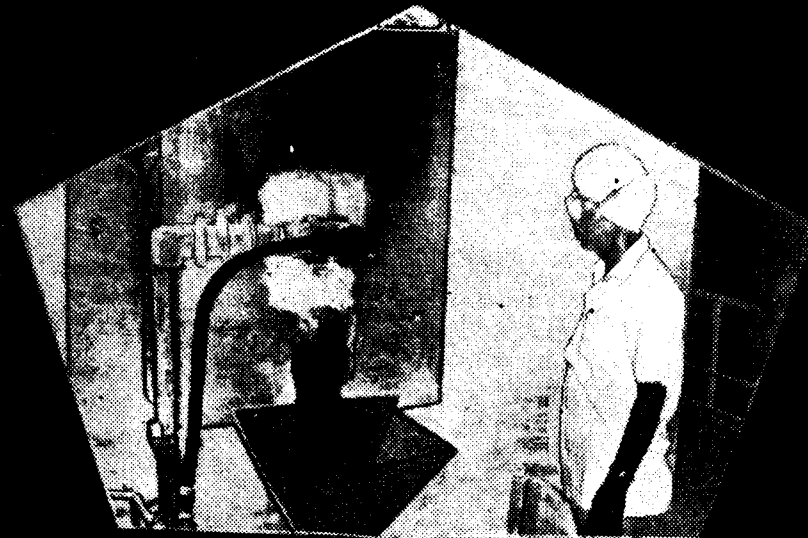
23 grant orchards prepare quality grafts of fruit plants that are supplied at nominal rates to farmers.

Despite the drought in 1984-85, efforts to increase production of pulses and vegetable oil seeds are a success. Against a target of 14.67 lakh hectares of cropped area for oilseeds there was a 5 percent increase and the production saw an increase of 12 percent. Tamil Nadu produced 3.7 lakh tonnes of pulses, over an area of 10.4 lakh hectares, thereby breaking growth records.

20,723 fair price shops cater to the needs of people in Tamil Nadu. 11,965 thousand card holders are benefited by essentials. Tamil Nadu warehousing corporation manages 123 godowns in 43 centres. Rs. 403.64 lakhs has been earned as profit since 1980.



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Limited,**
(A Govt. of Tamilnadu Undertaking)
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THE PERFORMANCE

INDUSTRIES

Tamil Nadu is a torch bearer of industrialism in India.

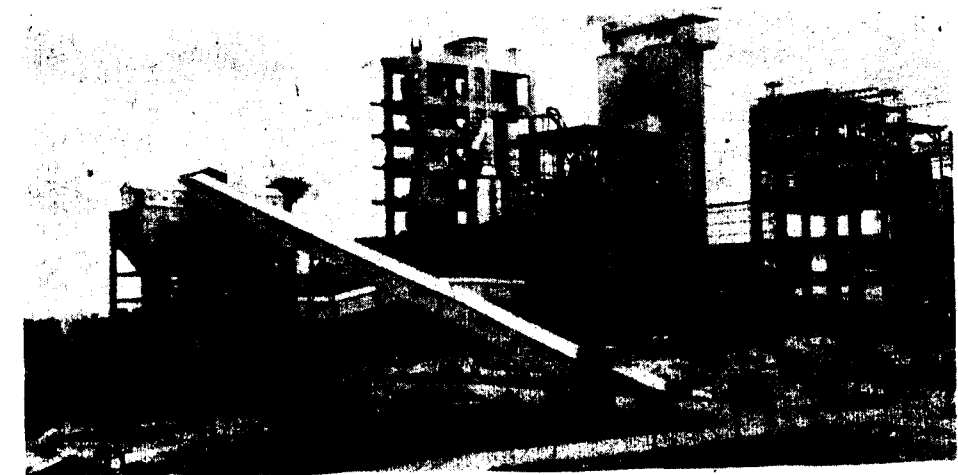
The State's industrial growth during the past seven years had been steady, the tempo of growth maintained by a host of favourable factors such as power availability, supply of crucial inputs, the peaceful labour situation and the turnover of the farm sectors. According to the Annual survey of industries, the share of Tamil Nadu in the value added in the factor sector is about 10%.

Tamil Nadu is first among states in India in respect of reimbursement obtained from the Government of India as capital subsidy of new units as well as expansion of new units.

With about 1650 medium and large scale units and about 64,000 small scale units, Tamil Nadu is ranked high in terms of industrial production. The state accounts for nearly one fourth of the spinning capacity, nearly one fifth of cement, caustic soda and nitrogenous fertilizers and one tenth of the nation's production of sugar, bicycles and calcium carbide. Tamil Nadu produces 60% of safety matches, 77% of finished leather and accounts for 60% of the country's leather export.

Industrial progress in TamilNadu is by its ideal climate for industries to prosper. Abundant skilled manpower, a fine transport system, good power situation and the States Governments' encouragement created vast scope for industrial activity.

Tamil Nadu accounts for nearly one fourth of the spinning capacity in India, one fifth of cement, caustic soda and nitrogenous fertilizers and one tenth of the nation's production of sugar, bicycles and calcium carbide. Tamil Nadu produces 60% of safety matches and 77% of finished leather.





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TELEX: 41-6081 TNML IN

GRAMS: MINESALITE

DIPR/26231/363/86-27/SAS

THE PERFORMANCE

SOME PRIMARY INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT

Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has floated a Rs. 23 crore industrial explosives Ltd. This unit is the third of its kind in the country. Commercial production has already begun on the 700 acre site in North Arcot District.

A Rs. 22 crore detonator project and Rs. 23 crore ammonium nitrate acid project, both promoted by (TIDCO) are also coming up in the region.

The Myiladuthurai co-operative sugar Mill set up at a cost of Rs. 1,777 lakhs will commence production by the end of 1986.

Tamil Nadu Magnesites Ltd. (TANMAG) is implementing a project costing Rs. 80 crores for the beneficiation of magnesite. A plant for chemically beneficiating the magnesite from mined ore is to be started in 1987 at a cost of 28.7 crores.

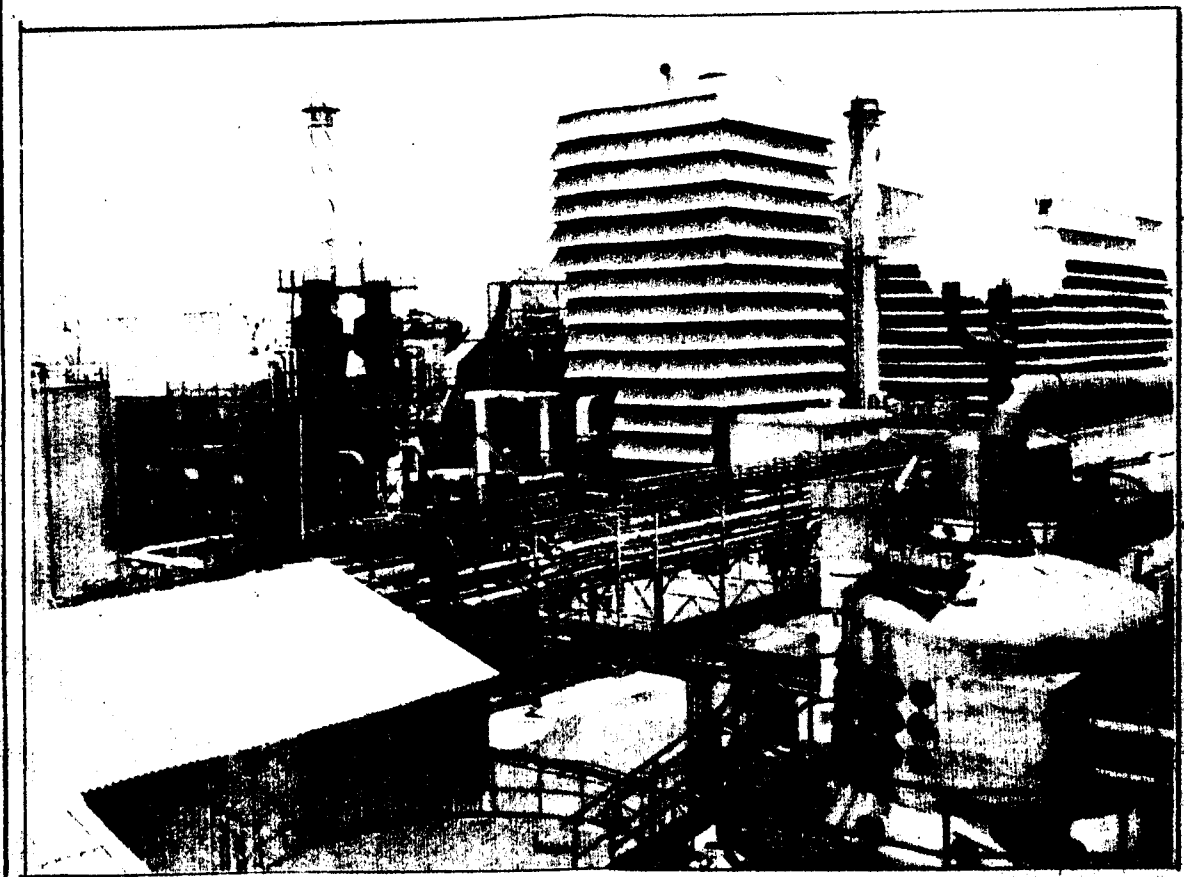
Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd.

at Pugalur is one of the unique plants on earth for its raw material is sugarcane bagasse for manufacturing newsprint, printing and writing paper.

The Ariyalur cement plant, a unit of the Tamil Nadu Cement Corporation, is expanding its capacity. A letter of intent has been applied for setting up a new cement plant in Palayam in Madurai District.

The Electronic Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) has set up projects such as the Aluminium Electrolytic capacitor manufacturing unit at Hosur, communication systems project at Madras and the Digital electronics watch project at Madras.

The Tamil Nadu Government, has provided about 158 acres of land for first stage of Government of India's Export Processing Zone at Madras. 300 acres of land will further be provided to the 370 units that are coming up.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

EDUCATION

In 1983-84 itself, Tamil Nadu had more than half of the 1600 vocational training institutions in India. Out of the 3.32 lakh higher secondary students in Tamil Nadu, 61,502 were studying in vocational courses.

Education has gained utmost priority in the State and Tamil Nadu has the second highest percentage of literates among States. Since the present government came to power, innumerable portals of education have been opened. New universities such as the Bharatiyar University at Coimbatore, Bharathidasan University at Tiruchirappalli, Alagappa University at Karaikudi, Tamil University at Thanjavur, Mother Teresa University for Women at Kodaikanal and Anna University of Technology at Madras were opened. To improve the number of trained personnel in the State, self-financing Medical colleges, Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics are encouraged apart from increasing the seats and facilities at the Government institutions.

Tamil Nadu now has 193 colleges of Arts, Science and Commerce. Before the commencement of the Sixth Five-Year Plan (in 1979-80), 1,36,000 students were studying in these colleges. Now the strength has touched two lakhs.

In 1985-86, alone as many as 85 new high schools and 49 new higher secondary schools were opened.



The State has attached great importance to vocationalization of education. In 1983-84 itself, Tamil Nadu had more than half of the 1600 vocational training institutions in India. Out of the 3.32 lakh higher secondary students in Tamil Nadu, 61,502 were studying in vocational courses. Vocational courses have been introduced in 969 out of the 1,541 higher secondary schools.

During the year 1984-85, 355 new elementary schools were opened.

With an outlay of Rs. 468 crores, Education in the state accounts for 20 per cent of the revenue expenditure in 1985-86. School education accounts to Rs. 384 crores.

740 school improvement conferences have been conducted since the inception of the programme. About 13 lakhs of poor pupils in Standards 1-3 are given text books free. This scheme costs Rs. 1.6 crores every year. During the current year (1985-86) the Government has extended the scheme to poor children studying in Standard 1 to 8. Apart from this 36,533 schools have book banks that benefit 13 lakh of pupils. 1,123 high schools have been equipped with science laboratories.

THE PERFORMANCE

NUTRITIOUS MEAL

On 1st July 1982, Tamil Nadu pioneered the Nutrition noon meal programme, now acclaimed internationally, as a welfare project. Tamil Nadu takes care of all the basic needs of children starting from nutritional support and health back up to free provision of clothes and text books. Presently 88.88 lakh children are benefited by the Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal programme and 58.16 lakh children benefit by the free supply of school uniforms.

The Rs. 180 crore Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme has created additional benefits to people at large. Within two months after the implementation of scheme, 1.64 lakh children have been additionally enrolled in schools. Another impressive benefit is the employment opportunity provided by the scheme to 1,05,802 women, thereby being hailed as the single largest employment programme for women in Independent India. Children upto 10 years of age receive scientifically prepared tooth powder, free of cost.

The Nutritious Meal programme has been extended to exservicemen and exservicemen's widows who draw pension. About 63,600 people are served by this.

On 1st July 1982, Tamil Nadu pioneered the Nutrition Meal Programme, now acclaimed internationally as a welfare Project. Presently 88.88 lakh children are benefited by the Chief Minister's Noon Meal Programme. The Scheme also provides employment to 1,05,802 women, thereby hailed as the single largest employment programme in India.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

CO-OPERATIVES

Tamil Nadu's Co-operative movement is believed to be the best in the country. Co-operatives have reached every and nook corner of the State and cater to the needs of the farmer, the worker, the artisan and the consumer.

The Cooperatives play a significant role in supporting the farmer, the worker, the artisan and the consumer.

For every group of three villages, an Agricultural Cooperative society is in existence. There are 4,655 cooperative societies in Tamil Nadu along with 183 Primary Co-op Land Development banks.

The Co-operative Societies have had great success in improving their funds and reserves that will facilitate easy loans to the needy. In 1976-77, the total funds were Rs. 159.89 crores. This saw an increase of 326 percent totalling Rs. 666.80 crores during 1985-86.

On account of various natural factors, Rs. 88.32 crores worth of short term loans were converted to medium term loans. Rs. 3314

crores worth medium term loans were rephased to be repayable by five years duration. Long term loans worth Rs. 45.90 crores were either postponed or restructured.

The Consumers-co-operatives numbering 3,839 primary Co-operative stores had a retail sales of Rs. 605 crores during 1985-86. The sale during 1985-84 was Rs. 285 crores.

It has been decided that no fair price shop will have more than 1000 cards and shops with more card holders are being bifurcated. 11,159 ration shops are being managed by cooperative societies.

7.25 lakh huts have been electrified. 10,74 10,74,184 pumpsets and 26,211 Adi Dravidar tenants are receiving powers.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

TRANSPORT

10,201 buses, 5,230 bus routes, 75,700 employees 14 bus transport corporations, 187 bus depots, a daily coverage of 32 lakh kilometres and an average of 9.2 lakh passengers describe the Tamil Nadu's state transport system.

Tamil Nadu's transport system takes the cake among all the systems in India. This has been proved, repeatedly, by the seventeen national awards showered on the state transport systems. The national awards in 1985 are:

Outstanding Metropolitan Transport
Productivity increase among buses
Outstanding productivity
Award for employing the handicapped

The statistics that describe the growth of Transports in Tamil Nadu, are staggering. From 4974 buses in 1977, today, there are 10201 buses

run by the State, 5230 bus routes, 75700 employees, 14 bus transport corporations, 187 bus depots, a daily coverage of 3.2 lakhs kilometres and an average of 9.2 lakh passengers every day are some of the growth statistics.

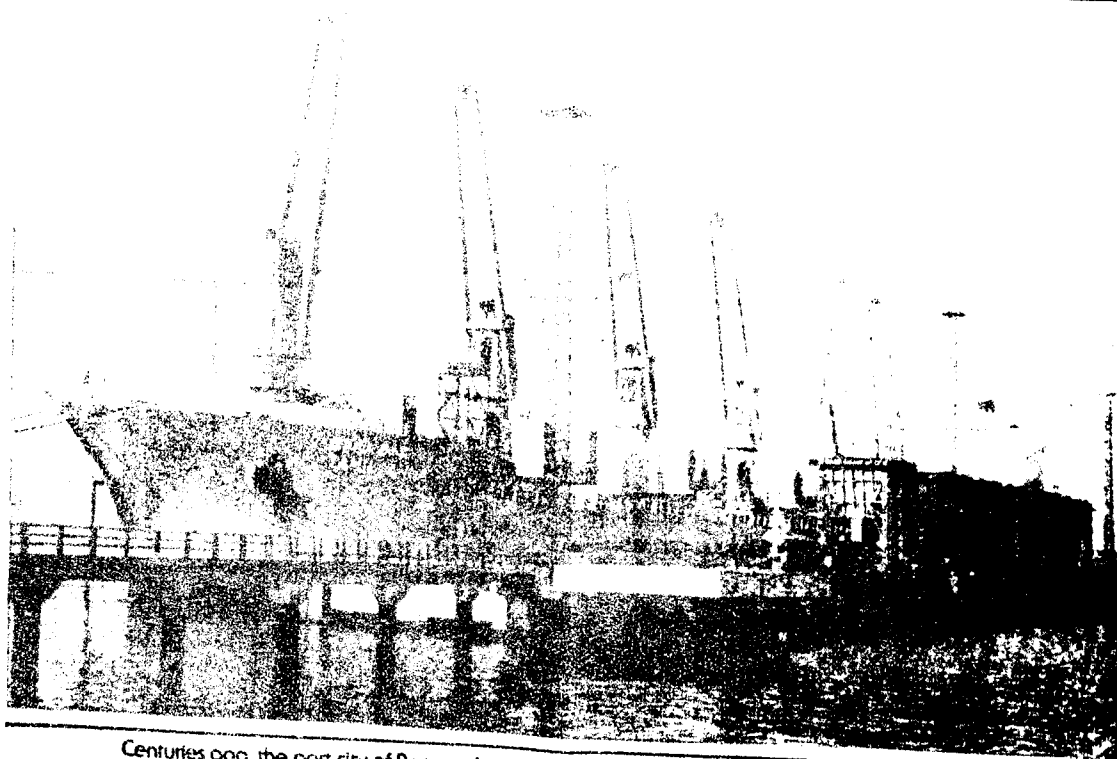
Tamil Nadu came up with the first sleeper coaches in India, acro dynamically designed Jecva Jet buses and the articulated bus with a large passenger capacity.

It must be kept in mind that the fares for the travelling public is among the minimum in India.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

Like the port after which it's named,
Poompuhar Shipping Corporation
itself has made some history.



Centuries ago, the port city of Poompuhar in Tamilnadu was bustling with ships, sailors and hectic commercial activity. It made history, exporting the famous silks and spices of India to far-off countries around the world. As Poompuhar Shipping Corporation, we've made a bit of history ourselves. We're the largest movers of coal along the Indian coast: 24.50 lakh tonnes of coal in 1985-86. All the way from Haldia and Paradeep to thermal stations in Tamilnadu. Moreover, we've acquired our own 39,990 DWT bulk carrier, mv TAMIL ANNA, from Japan to speed up the transport of coal and to economise our operations. Two more bulk carriers will be delivered before the end of 1986. To streamline unloading, we have our own specially trained personnel and other facilities. This enables us to maintain a very high rate of coal discharge comparable to international norms. In fact, we offer integrated shipping and handling services that no other shipping company offers! Now, isn't that making history?



Poompuhar Shipping Corporation Limited
304/305 Anna Salai Teynampet Madras 600 018

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THE PERFORMANCE

POWER.

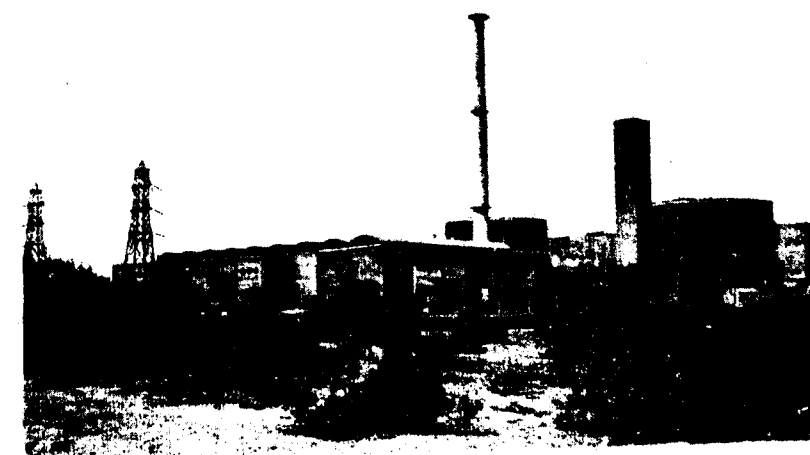
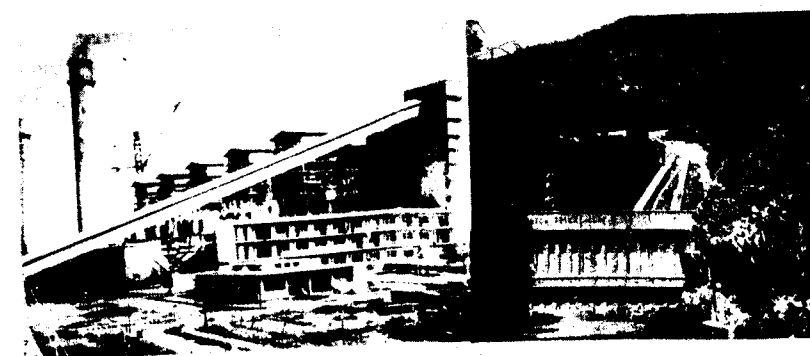
The availability of power in the year 1984-85 was increased to 13,731 million units from 10,377 million units in 1983-84. But the demand is ever increasing.

In the Seventh Plan allocations, the State has earmarked more than 30 per cent. on power development amounting to Rs. 2,000 crores. An additional installed capacity of 1,416 MW will be commissioned during the plan period.

It is worthwhile to note that at the beginning of the first Five year plan (1951-56), only 2,430 villages in Tamil Nadu were electrified. The fact that all but a handful of villages have been electrified now is no mean achievement.

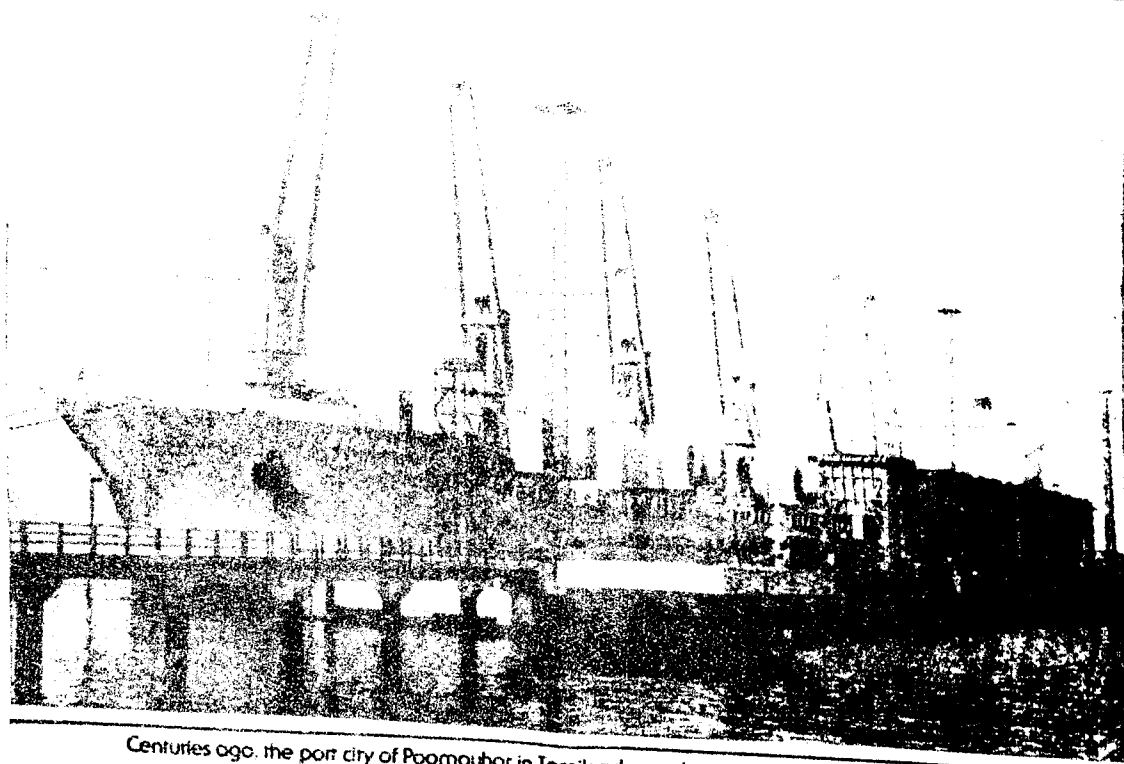
The increased pace of development has necessitated such increased allocation and the power shortage could not be completely wiped out. For example, the availability in the year 1984-85 was increased to 13,731 million units from 10,377 million units in 1983-84, but the demand is ever increasing.

Over a period of year, 15,654 villages have been electrified till March 1984. It is worthwhile to note that at the beginning of the first Five Year Plan (51-56) only 2,430 villages were electrified. The fact that all but a handful of villages have been electrified is no mean achievement.



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Poompuhar Shipping Corporation Limited
304/305 Anna Salai Teynampet Madras 600 018

PGC-422/86 A R

THE PERFORMANCE

POWER.

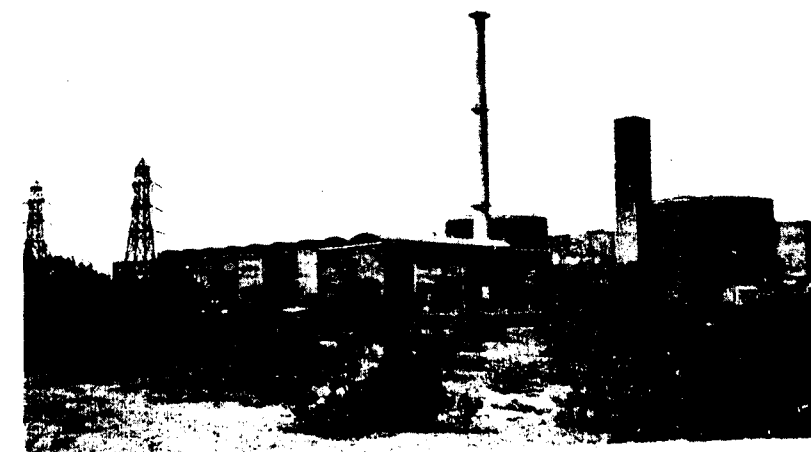
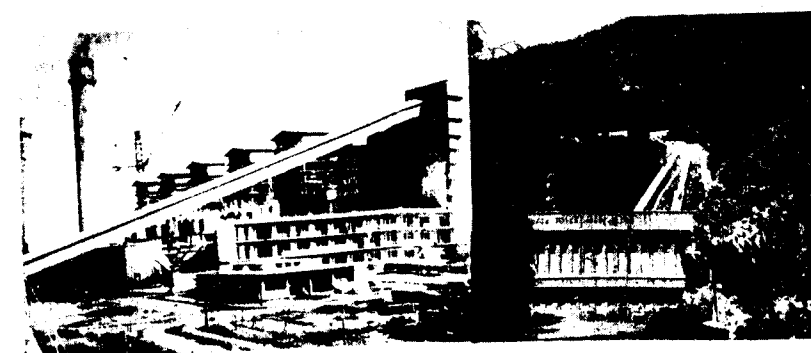
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It is worthwhile to note that at the beginning of the first Five year plan (1951-56), only 2,430 villages in Tamil Nadu were electrified. The fact that all but a handful of villages have been electrified now is no mean achievement.

The increased pace of development has necessitated such increased allocation and the power shortage could not be completely wiped out. For example, the availability in the year 1984-85 was increased to 13,731 million units from 10,377 million units in 1983-84, but the demand is ever increasing.

Over a period of year, 15,654 villages have been electrified till March 1984. It is worthwhile to note that at the beginning of the first Five Year Plan (51-56) only 2,430 villages were electrified. The fact that all but a handful of villages have been electrified is no mean achievement.



THE PERFORMANCE

HOUSES FOR EVERYBODY

During the Sixth Five Year Plan, the Tamil Nadu cooperative housing society had sanctioned Rs. 5440 lakhs as loans for constructing 1,86,523 houses. Of these, 1,53,453 houses are for the Adi-Dravidars.

Housing especially for the economically downtrodden has been one of the primary policies of the Tamil Nadu Government.

20,081 houses for the middle income and upper income group were constructed by 1985 March. 3,761 houses were further constructed by February, 1986.

The Government servants rental housing scheme has completed construction of 15,464 houses. 1961 houses were further constructed by February, 1986.

The activities of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board have been extended to 43 cities apart from Madras. A scheme to provide housing for people living below the poverty line and a low cost housing scheme are being created.

During the sixth five year plan, Tamil Nadu co-operative housing society had sanctioned Rs. 5,440 lakhs as loan for constructing 1,86,523 houses. Of these, 1,53,453 houses are for the Adi-Dravidars.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

LABOUR WELFARE

Handloom workers have to their benefit the Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Act that deals with Employer - Employee relationship, Regularisation of Service, Health and other benefits. This is the first Act of its kind that provides so much benefits to an unorganized sector.

Any labourer who has worked continuously for 480 days during a period of 24 months will be made a permanent employee, by an act brought into force since 4.1.82

Labourers who have been suspended from service are being paid dearness allowance by another thoughtful law of the Government.

During labour disputes and also during lock outs of industries, the labourers are helped by aid from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Handloom workers have to their benefit the Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Act that deals with the Employer Employee relationship, Regularisation of Service, Health and other benefits. This is the first Act of its kind that provides so much benefits to an unorganized sector.

Weavers, workers at Match industries, and toddy tappers are provided with an accident relief scheme. Construction Workers, rural artisans, cart pullers, and the like have a special life insurance programme and a pension scheme to aid them.



I wish all success in
our march towards
the goal of a world —
where life lengthens,
fear dies,
joy deepens,
love intensifies and
man regains his dignity.

—Perarignar Anna

Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

EX-SERVICEMEN'S WELFARE

Seven Jawans Bhavan have been constructed at Tiruchirapalli, Vellore, Salem, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Madurai and Sivakasi at a cost of Rs. 59 lakhs. These Bhavans earn sizeable revenue that are used for ex-servicemen's welfare.

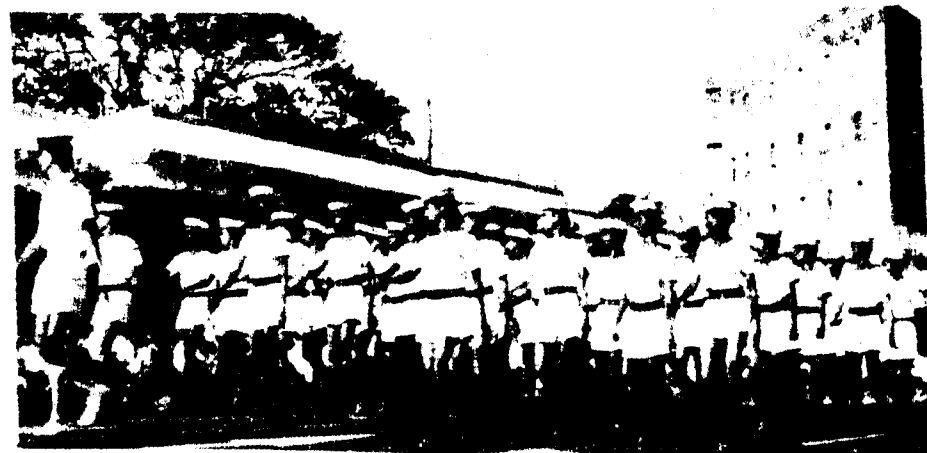
Every year, Flag day is celebrated with utmost seriousness in Tamil Nadu. A committee called the Tamil Nadu standing Flag day organisation committee headed by the Governor of Tamil Nadu organises the 'Flag Day' and donations to the welfare of Ex-servicemen are collected. Towards the Flag day celebrations in 1983, a sum of Rs. 30,75,066.03 has been collected against the target of Rs. 23,35,000. For the year 1984, the committee has set a target of Rs. 31,00,000 and as on 18.11.85 a sum of Rs. 34,70,887.32 has been received at the Directorate.

The Flag collections are the source of income to the Tamil Nadu and Services 'Personnel Benevolent Fund'. During the year 1984-85, 3100 exservicemen and their dependants have

been given financial assistance amounting to Rs. 7,33,362.90 by way of various grants such as monthly pension, lumpsum grant, marriage grant, pocket money to TB/leprosy patients, Immediate relief grant, Funeral grant, fire floor relief, scholarship to the children of Ex-servicemen, training to women dependants of Ex-servicemen and their dependants, etc.

Five tailoring units for training women dependants of deceased / retired/released service personnel are managed by the Tamil Nadu Ex-services Personnel Benevolent-Fund. Jai Jawan stalls numbering 237 have been set up throughout the State for the rehabilitation of disabled Jawans, war widows and deserving exservicemen under the self-employment scheme. Three typewriting and shorthand institutes are functioning at Madras, Thanjavur and Nagercoil for the Ex-servicemen and their dependants. 12-bedded exclusive wards are kept for ex-servicemen in 14 taluk headquarters hospitals. An old age home for destitute military pensioners that can accommodate 58 persons has come up at Vellore, North Arcot district. A printing-cum-book binding training unit for training women dependants of exservicemen has been established at Chengalpattu. An ex-servicemen car park unit has been organised at Madras for engaging ex-servicemen to collect fees for parking fees. Exservicemen's aid is sought in the State for election bandobust duties.

Seven Jawans Bhavan (shopping complexes) have been constructed at Tiruchirapalli, Vellore, Salem, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Madurai and Sivakasi at a cost of Rs. 59 lakhs. These Bhavans earn sizeable revenue that are used for ex-servicemen's welfare.



THE PERFORMANCE

RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS

A Rs. 5 crore fund to provide revenue to poor temples, a Rs. 1 crore fund to finance renovation of village temples and another Rs. 1 crore fund to provide scholarships to the children of temple workers and reimburse their medical bills are unique in the history of temples in India.

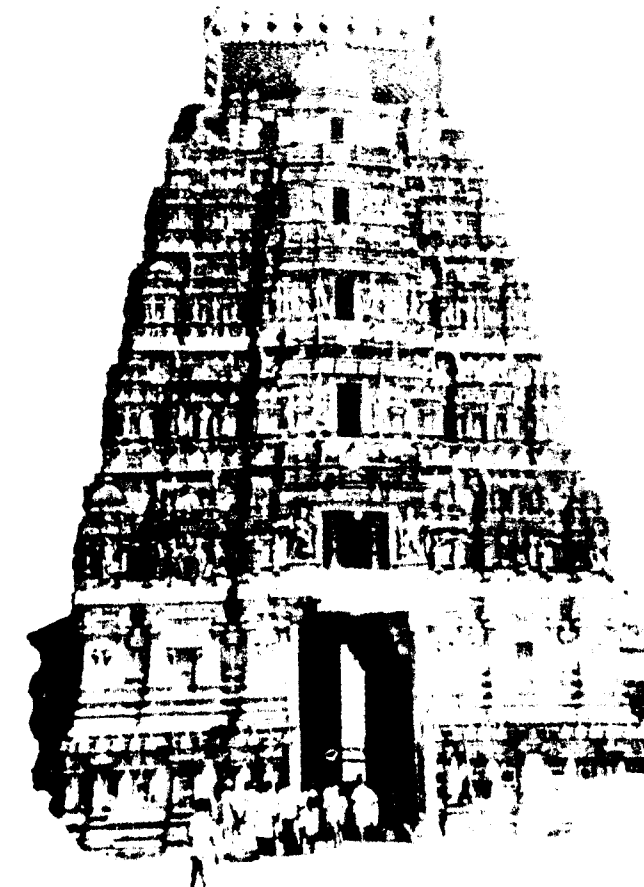
'Religious Endowments' have been playing a pivotal role in improving the life of people. 44 educational institutions, 201 libraries, 20 hospitals & 35 orphanages are being sponsored and managed by this department.

Since 1981, 472 temples have been renovated at a cost of crores of rupees and 'Kumbabishekams' have been conducted.

109 Kalyana Mandapam, 58 Rest houses, 231 cottage and 951 rooms for pilgrims have been constructed. 36 Kalyana Mandapams are being constructed.

A Rs. 5 crore fund to provide revenue to poor temples, a Rs. 1 crore fund to finance renovation of village temples and another Rs. 1 crore fund to provide scholarships to the children of temples workers and reimburse their medical bills, are unique in the history of temples in India.

Under a scheme of conducting the marriage of the poor and the downtrodden, 1245 marriage have been constructed at a cost of Rs.9,61,280 since August 1981. This include the marriage of 979 Adi dravidars.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

HANDLOOMS

Tamil Nadu's handloom exports account for two third of the Indian Exports.

1950 handloom weavers cooperatives are in existent in Tamil Nadu in 1985, compared to 872 cooperatives in 1977. The number of spindles during the same period increased to 7.75 lakhs from 1.82 lakhs. The sale of handlooms have now increased to Rs. 155.29 crores from the sale valued to be Rs. 41.50 crores earlier in 1977.

The salary of an average handloom worker has been raised to Rs. 1300 in 1985 compared to the salary of Rs. 600 in 1977. This proves that the urban handloom worker in Northern India gets lesser salary than his counterpart in Tamil Nadu.

An insurance scheme for handloom worker in the private sector, an impressive housing scheme for handloom workers that has provided 3027 houses till 1985, and a trust to improve the social and economic status of the worker are some of projects that help Tamil Nadu retain its eminent position in the field.

One third of the handloom workers are in Tamil Nadu producing one third of the National output valued at Rs. 170 crores. Tamil Nadu's Handloom exports account for two third of the Indian handloom exports.

Handloom development in Tamil Nadu is a model. One third of the handloom workers in India are in Tamil Nadu producing one third of the National output valued at Rs. 170 crores.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

Tamil Nadu is the leading state in the production of articles by village industries and the runner up in production of khadi in India.

Tamil Nadu is the leading state in the production of articles by village industries and the runner up in production of Khadi in India.

6,45,000 people are employed by the Tamil Nadu Khadi & Village Industries Board. By the end of 1986, another 21,000 will be added to this figure.

The production of Khadi in 1984-85 is valued to be Rs. 844-57 lakhs while the sale of articles by village industries is Rs. 10,583 lakhs.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE

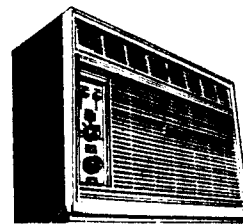
One of the singular achievements of the Tamil Nadu Government was the creation of the Department of Institutional Finance in July 1983 for monitoring the preparation and the implementation of long term and annual credit plans for the districts and for the State. This department is also mobilising bank loans for assisting the weaker sections of society.

In 1983-84 and 84-85, a number of programmes were implemented to extend loans. In 1983-84, about 5 lakh persons received loans and in 84-85, more than 6 lakh persons received loans. A target of 8 lakh persons to be reached is being implemented in the current year.



SIDCO FORTE: MARKETING SUPPORT TO SSI PRODUCTS

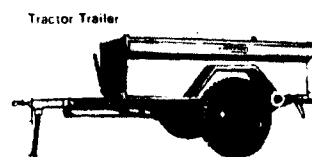
SIDCO assists in a big way to market SSI products. SIDCO establishes contacts with the purchasing departments/organisations both Central and State on behalf of SSI. Scope for supply against DGS & D orders is immense.



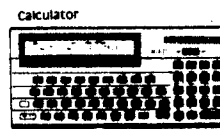
Room Airconditioner



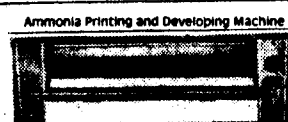
Hearing Aid



Tractor Trailer



Calculator



Ammonia Printing and Developing Machine



Please Contact: Marketing Division
**TAMILNADU SMALL INDUSTRIES
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.**
(A Govt. of Tamilnadu Enterprise)
5, Greaves Road, Madras - 600 006.
Phone : 472171, 475004
Grams : TANSIDCO Telex : 041-7581

Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

IRRIGATION

Numerous irrigation projects such as reservoirs, canals, anaicuts, restructuring and expansion of existing Dams have been completed.

If agriculture is the life line of any economy, irrigation is the life force of agriculture.

The projects that were completed after 1977 include the Kundaru and Karuppanadhi reservoirs in Tirunelveli District, P.T.Rajan Canal System, reservoirs in Marudhanadhi, Karadhamanadhai and Periyar - Vaigai in Madurai District, Palaru-Purundhalaru reservoir systems in Anna District, Kulluru Sandhai and Vembakkottai reservoir systems in Kamarajar District, Cauvery Upper Anaicut, Upparu reservoir systems in Tiruchy District, the restructuring of Thirukovilur dam in South Arcot, Varattu Pallam, Kundari Pallam reservoirs in North Arcot District and the expansion of Parambikulam-Aliyar Dam in Coimbatore District.

The Telugu Ganga Project to bring Krishna waters to Madras is under execution. Efforts are being taken to bring Kerala water to satisfy Madurai's need for drinking water supply.



Tamil Arasu - Achievement Special

THE PERFORMANCE

DRINKING WATER

The Government has now decided to fulfill the needs of 10,900 colonies at a cost of Rs. 275 crores, with an aid of Rs. 100 crores from the centre.

More than 100 lakh people are receiving safe drinking water in Tamil Nadu. In 1976-77, a survey on the drinking water needs of people was undertaken and the quality and availability of water in the State was undertaken. Soon after, 18,167 colonies were designated as 'problem areas' and priority was given to them in providing drinking water supply.

In 1977-78, 1140 colonies were provided water at a cost of Rs. 7.15 crores. During the

sixth five year plan (1980-85) 11,614 'Problem' colonies and new colonies were provided with drinking water supply at a cost of Rs. 198.03 crores.

At the beginning of the 7th Five Year Plan, 13,023 colonies are in need of drinking water supply. The Government has decided to fulfill the needs of 10,900 colonies to a cost of Rs.275 crores, with aid of Rs. 100 crores from the centre.



THE PERFORMANCE

HEALTH

Tamil Nadu is committed to attaining the goal of "Health for all" by 2000 A.D. by provision of comprehensive Health Care Services.

Tamil Nadu is committed to attaining the goal of 'Health for all by 2000 A.D.'s through the universal provision of Comprehensive Health Care Services, which lays considerable stress on the preventive, promotive and rehabilitative aspects of health delivery, especially among the rural masses at their door-step and in which various health care parameters are to be achieved. In order to achieve the above objective it is proposed to establish one sub-centre per 5,000 population, one Primary Health Centre for every 6 sub-centres (30,000 population) and one Community Health for 1,00,000 population.

The Rural Health care facilities are provided by maintaining the Primary Health Centres already functioning and by establishing additional Primary Health Centres, organising Mobile Health Teams, Mini Health Centres and establishing of Upgraded Primary Health Centres to offer specialist services. In Tamil Nadu, 434 Primary Health Centres are functioning as on 31st December 1984, out of 436 Primary Health Centres sanctioned. Out of 434 Primary Health Centres now functioning

383 Primary Health deliver preventive, promotive, curative and Family Welfare Services, while the 51 additional Primary Health Centres established render curative and Family Welfare Services. The 30 Primary Health Centres which were upgraded into Community Health Centres provide specialists services with the employment of 2 Post Graduate qualified doctors, one with M.S. qualification and the other with D.G.O. qualification, together with operation facility. X-ray facility, biological and Pathological Laboratory facilities and facility to admit 30 inpatients. Each of the above upgraded Primary Health Centre will serve as a referral centre for every four surrounding Primary Health Centres. Additional buildings for the 23 Community Health Centres (upgraded Primary Health Centres) are nearing completion. During the first year of the 7th Five-year Plan period (i.e. 1985-86) it has been proposed to establish 2 Community Health Centres (Upgraded Primary Health Centres). A total number of 1,315 posts of Assistant Surgeons are sanctioned and posted to all the 434 Primary Health Centres. Siddha wings are also attached to selected Primary Health Centres and they are functioning.



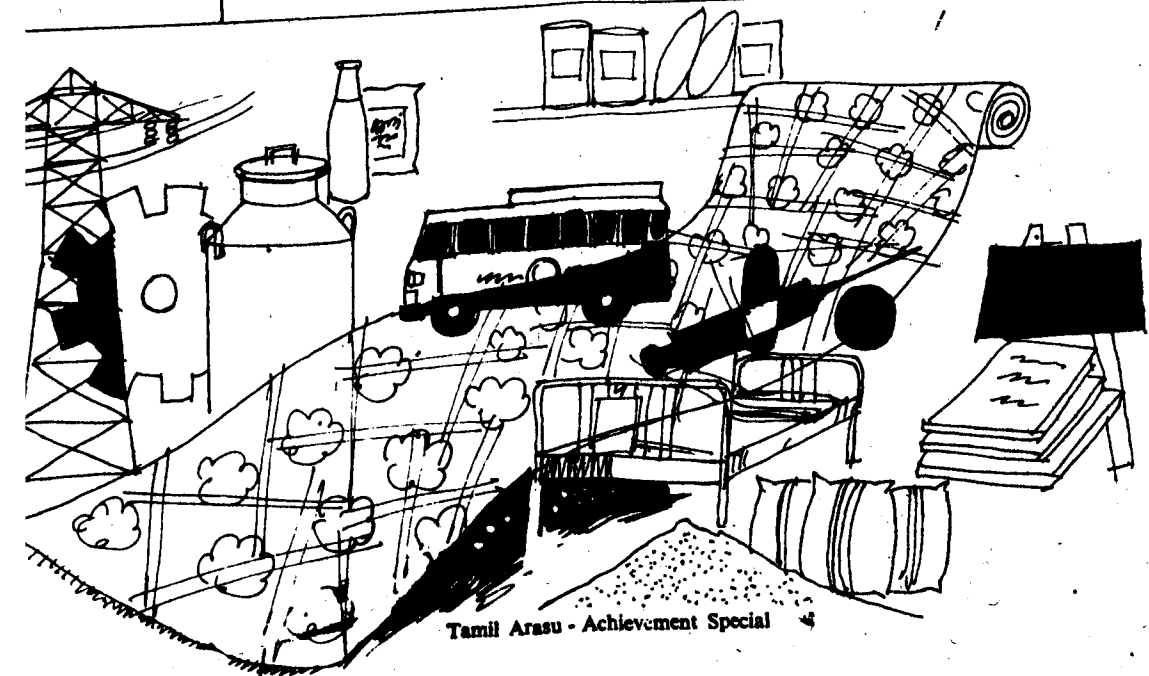
THE PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

YESTERDAY

1977		1986
2,17,589	House Site Pattas	10,27,926
7,645	Sub-Urban Housing - Drinking Water facilities	22,496
4.96	Supply of rice at subsidised prices (Lakhs tons)	13.23
9,287	Fair Price shops	20,723
3.35	Daily Milk Production (Lakhs litres)	10.75
138	Rural dispensaries	7,295
382	Primary Health Centres	651
24,215	Number of beds in Hospitals	31,235
189	Number of villages provided with transport facilities	7,374
35.12	Number of passengers travelling in buses (lakhs)	92
365	Number of schools constructed	7,119
1.31	The number of students studying in Adi-Dravidar Welfare Schools(lakhs)	2.26
4849	Number of students studying in Scheduled Tribes Boarding Schools	10,795
38	Technical Training Centres	129
5160	The number of Students studying in these Technical Training Centres	22,425

TODAY

2,325	Number of students studying in Engineering Colleges	5,700
297	Industrial Co-operative Societies	597
872	Weavers Co-operative societies	1,607
1,663	Milk Producers Co-operative societies	5,535
18,789	Number of Small Scale Industries-granted licences	72,979
8,001	Number of Major Industrial Units Registered	11,920 (83-84)
5,19,445	The number of employees working in these industrial units	7,82,912
8.350	Power stock (Million units)	13.731
6.485	The Unit of power consumed (in Million units)	13.663
7.60	The Production of handloom clothes (in million metres)	206.59
63.37	The production of food stuffs (Metric Tons in lakhs)	69.17
72.158	The value of industrial production (Rupees in lakhs)	174.925 (82-83)



Tamil Nadu is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Family Welfare Programme since 1956 purely on a voluntary basis with the full support of all the political parties and the religious groups as a people's movement. Many voluntary organisations also involved in this programme.

The success of the implementation of the programme in Tamil Nadu is indicated by the following demographic data:

Year	Growth rate in 1971-81 Percent				
	Tamil Nadu		India		Tamil Nadu
	Birth rate per 1000	Death rate per 1000	Birth rate per 1000	Death rate per 1000	Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1977	29.3	13.7	33.0	14.7	113.5
1978	23.9	12.8	33.3	14.2	99.6
1979	29.1	12.0	33.2	12.8	98.5
1980	27.1	10.9	33.5	12.5	99.8
1981	26.1	10.9	33.9	12.5	81.2

THE SUCCESS OF FAMILY WELFARE PROGRAMME IN TAMILNADU



Couple Protection Rate

India	25.00
Tamil Nadu	17.50

The couple protection rate in Tamil Nadu is also going up from year to year as may be seen from the following:

1981-82	28.9
1982-83	30.2
1983-84	34.2
1984-85	39.0
1985-86 (provisional)	43.5

The objective is to bring down the growth rate further by increasing the percentage of eligible couples protected, concentrating at the same item in reducing the birth rate, death and infant mortality. Our plans aim to reduce the birth rate and death rate to 21 and 9 respectively for per thousand in the year 1990 as against the target set for the nation in the National Health Policy for the year 2000 AD.

The following statement shows the achievement under

sterilisation programme with reference to the targets fixed for the period from 1977-78 to 1987-86.

Year	Target	Achievement	Percentage of achievement
1977-78	3,50,000	1,11,587	31.9
1978-79	2,76,700	2,16,428	78.2
1979-80	2,82,000	1,57,642	55.9
1980-81	1,82,000	1,38,831	76.2
1981-82	1,82,000	1,88,828	103.4
1982-83	2,92,000	2,66,279	91.2
1983-84	3,99,099	4,96,780	124.5
1984-85	4,75,000	5,25,431	110.6
1985-86	4,75,000	5,13,990	108.2

It may be seen from the above that Tamil Nadu has exceeded the target for sterilisation during the years 1981-82, 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1986-87.

The target and achievements in the Family Welfare programme under the various methods for the year 1985-86 is as under:

Family Welfare Method	Target fixed	Achievements (provisional)	Percentage
Sterilisation	4,75,000	5,13,990	108.2
I.U.D.	1,68,000	1,92,120	114.4
C.C.Users	2,00,000	1,77,214	88.6
O.P.Users	76,000	47,885	63.0

For the year 1986-87 the Government of India have set the following targets for Tamil Nadu for the permanent and temporary methods.

Method	Target allotted for 1986-87
Permanent Method:	
Sterilisation	5,60,000
Temporary Methods:	
I.U.D.	2,00,000
Oral Pills	76,000
C.C.Users	1,30,000

While the success achieved under the sterilisation programme has been not only significant but also consistent over the years, we are now trying to improve the performance under the temporary methods as well. So far 943 Lady Health Visi-

tors have been trained in the technique of inserting I.U.Ds. The programme is being continued and all the Lady Health Visitors and A.N.Ms. with five years experience will be trained in the technique of IUD insertion before the end of 1986-87.

The Government of Tamil Nadu firmly believes that as far as possible all terminal sterilisations and IUD insertions should be done on an institutional basis. With a view to achieve this, the bed strength in the hospitals for the post partum programme is being progressively increased as indicated here under:

1982-83: 300 beds at the rate of 20 in each District Headquarters Hospitals.

1983-84: 3745 beds at the rate of 25 in each District Headquarters Hospitals.

1984-85: 100 beds in District Headquarters Hospitals.

1985-86: 200 proposed beds in Headquarters Hospitals and Primary Health Centres.

There is a distinct preference among the women acceptors for the traditional tubectomy. However, in view of the ease with which the laparoscopic sterilisation is conducted and the preference of large number of women for this method of sterilisation, with the avowed objective of conducting sterilisation in the institutions, Govt. have supplied 144 out of the 263 laparoscopes to the Government and local body hospitals; 116 have been donated by the Government of India; 3 have been donated by private agencies. Teams of Doctors are being trained as a continuous process to handle these laparoscopes.

The State Government have also a programme of providing 140 Primary Health Centres with operation theatres in order to enable them to undertake female sterilisation in addition to male sterilisations.

To involve as many Private Medical Practitioners as possible in the implementation of the Family Welfare programme the Govt. have delegated powers to a committee headed by the Collector to accord recognition to voluntary agencies for private practitioners as approved surgeons. The private medical practitioners undertaking sterilisation in these approved surgeries are eligible for a remuneration of Rs. 50 per case while the remuneration for insertion of I.U.D. is Rs. 5 per case. Private Medical Practitioners who are members of the Indian Medical Association have been allowed upto 31st October 1985 a remuneration of Rs. 50 per case for under-

taking laparoscopic operation in Govt. Hospitals with their own Laparoscopies.

To expedite disbursement of compensation amount to the legal heirs of the deceased on account of sterilisation complications, the Collectors have been empowered to sanction the amount of Rs. 10,000 per case as per G.O.Ms. No.296 (Health) dated 20.2.85

URBAN FAMILY WELFARE CENTRES

Government Medical Institutions, Local Bodies and Voluntary Organisations run Urban Family Welfare Centres in the State. Almost all urban areas eligible for Urban Family Welfare Centres according to 1971 census have been provided with Urban Family Welfare Centres. The following statement shows the number of Urban Family Welfare Centres under the various agencies:

	Type-I	Type-II	Type-III	Total
Government	83	23	63	169
Local Bodies		6	75	81
Voluntary Organisations	1	2	13	16
Total	84	31	151	266

During 1985-86 Taluk Hospitals have been upgraded as Sub District Hospitals with the implementation of Post-partum programme.

GREEN CARDS AND COMMUNITY AWARDS

The suggestion of the Government of India to issue green cards to acceptors has been implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The emphasis is on providing follow up medical care to the acceptors as well as their children by frequent visits by the Peripheral health workers to their families. The green cards distributed to the acceptors will entitle such visits to their families by the peripheral health workers.



considerable influence on the mothers over child bearing, child rearing and also acceptance of the Small Family Norm by them. 32,847 Dais have been trained in the State upto 31.3.1986.

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act 1971 was passed to reduce the mortality and morbidity among pregnant women resulting from clandestine abortions. Though the Act is mainly a health care measure, it also supplements family welfare programme when the women undergo Medical Termination of Pregnancy, if they are motivated to accept the "Planned Family Norm". At present, facilities are available in 165 Government Medical Institutions and 47 Private Medical Institutions and other organisations for undertaking Medical Termination of Pregnancy.

DAIS TRAINING

The traditional or indigenous Dais play a very important role in the life of the village community as they are close to the mothers and also assist them in a very large percentage of deliveries occurring in the rural areas. The Dais exert

We have also evolved a system of difference kinds of awards to the workers who have achieved the targets and the committees which have involved themselves in the family welfare programme and fulfil the expectations of the Government. The awards are likely to be distributed very shortly.



ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES FROM SRI LANKA

Due to the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka since July '83, persons of Indian origin are coming to India as refugees. Most of them come by sea and arrive at Rameswaram Sea-port while a few arrive by air at Tiruchirapalli/Madras/Trivandrum airports. On arrival, they are received by the officials of the Revenue Department and given Coffee/Tea/Milk. Medical check up is given and they are inoculated against cholera and other infection diseases. After the customs formalities, they are supplied with free meal, and lodged in the choultries at Rameswaram. In a day or two, they are sent to the Transit Camp, Mandapam by train.

2) All Refugees who are admitted in the camps are provided with the following Relief assistance:-

- Free residential accommodation with electricity and water supply.
- Cash doles for maintenance at the rate of Rs. 110/- per adult and Rs. 55/- per child.

iii) Supply of rice at the subsidised rate of 57 paise per Kilo gram.

- A pair of dresses for each member in the family.
- Mats and blankets for all adults.
- Cooking utensils at an average cost of Rs. 620/- per family.

3) The Government of India have permitted the grant of all the above relief assistance to the Refugees coming to India from 24.7.1983. Details of refugees from Sri Lanka arrived in India upto 22.5.86 are as follows :-

Total number of refugees arrived in India ..	1,26,277
Number of destitute Refugees admitted in camps.	32,142
Number of Refugees staying outside the camps.	94,135

4) As the Refugees are expected to go back to Sri

Lanka when normalcy is restored in the island, only the destitutes among them are admitted in the camps and given the above relief assistance. Due to the sudden increase in the influx of Refugees from 5.2.1985, many temporary refugee camps were opened in almost all the Districts to provide accommodation and relief assistance to them. There are 170 camps at present in Tamil Nadu including the Transit camps at Mandapam and Kottapattu.

5) Construction of houses for the Refugees:

The Transit Camp at Mandapam in Ramnad District was set up on a small scale to provide temporary short duration transit accommodation to the repatriates coming from Sri Lanka under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement 1964. Due to the large arrival of refugees, the accommodation capacity in the camps was found to be quite inadequate and therefore construction of new tenements was taken up as detailed below:

i) 200 new Temporary houses at Mandapam Camp at a cost of Rs. 9.065 lakhs have been completed by the Public Works Department.

ii) 500 new houses at Mandapam Camp at a cost of Rs. 92.50 lakhs. This work has been completed by the Tamil Nadu State Construction Corporation.

iii) Construction of another 700 new houses at a cost of Rs. 112/- lakhs at Mandapam camp has been sanctioned and entrusted to the Tamil Nadu State Construction Corporation. Out of this 200 houses have been completed and the remaining 500 houses are under various stages.

iv) In addition to the above, repair works to 141 existing houses at a cost of Rs. 8 lakhs and 160 houses at a cost of Rs. 5.30 lakhs were sanctioned and have been completed.

v) In the Transit Camp at Kottapattu, construction of 100 new houses at a cost of Rs. 6.23 lakhs was sanctioned and completed by the Public Works Department on 31.8'85. Refugee families have occupied these houses.

vi) Sanction was accorded for the construction of 100 new



houses at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs at Mappilaioorani near Tuticorin in Tirunelveli District. The work has been completed by the Public Works Department and Refugee families have occupied the houses.

vii) The outright purchase of 792 ready built houses constructed at Vilangudi in Madurai District by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board has been sanctioned in G.O.Ms.No. 918 Public (Rehabilitation) Department dt. 30.4.'86. Follow up action with the Housing Board is being pursued.

viii) Construction of 1000 thatched sheds at a cost of Rs.10 lakhs at Vedaranyam, Naga-



pattinam and Pillayarpatti in Thanjavur District has been sanctioned and the work is in progress.

6) Some voluntary organisations have come forward to provide succour to the Refugees to supplement the efforts of the Government:-

i) The C.S.I.-C.T.V.T., Madras is imparting training in Carpentry, electrical wiring, Tailoring etc. to the Refugees in Mandapam Camp.

ii) The Catholic institution "MAITHRI" is running a school inside Mandapam Camp.

iii) Ramakrishna Mission Ashram is supplying morning tiffin/snacks to the children in Mandapam Camp. A school has been separately opened in the camp at Kottapattu for the Refugee children.

iv) The Y.M.C.A. is supplying "Play materials" to the children in Mandapam Camp and looks after their physical 'fitness'.

v) In addition to the above, some philanthropic/social service organisations supply dress and food articles to the refugees staying in the Refugee camps in the other Districts.

vi) The Textile Committee, Bombay and Madras have donated 30190 pieces of clothes for free supply to the Refugees.

7) The Government of India bear the entire expenditure on the grant of relief assistance to the Refugees and the construction of houses for them. The State Government have spent a total sum of Rs. 326.81 lakhs on Relief assistance and Rs. 356.66 lakhs on the construction programme (total Rs. 683.47 lakhs) during the period from 27.4.83 to 31.3.86. The Government of India have so far released a total amount of Rs. 651.36 lakhs towards the expenditure incurred by the State Government.

Tamil Arasu

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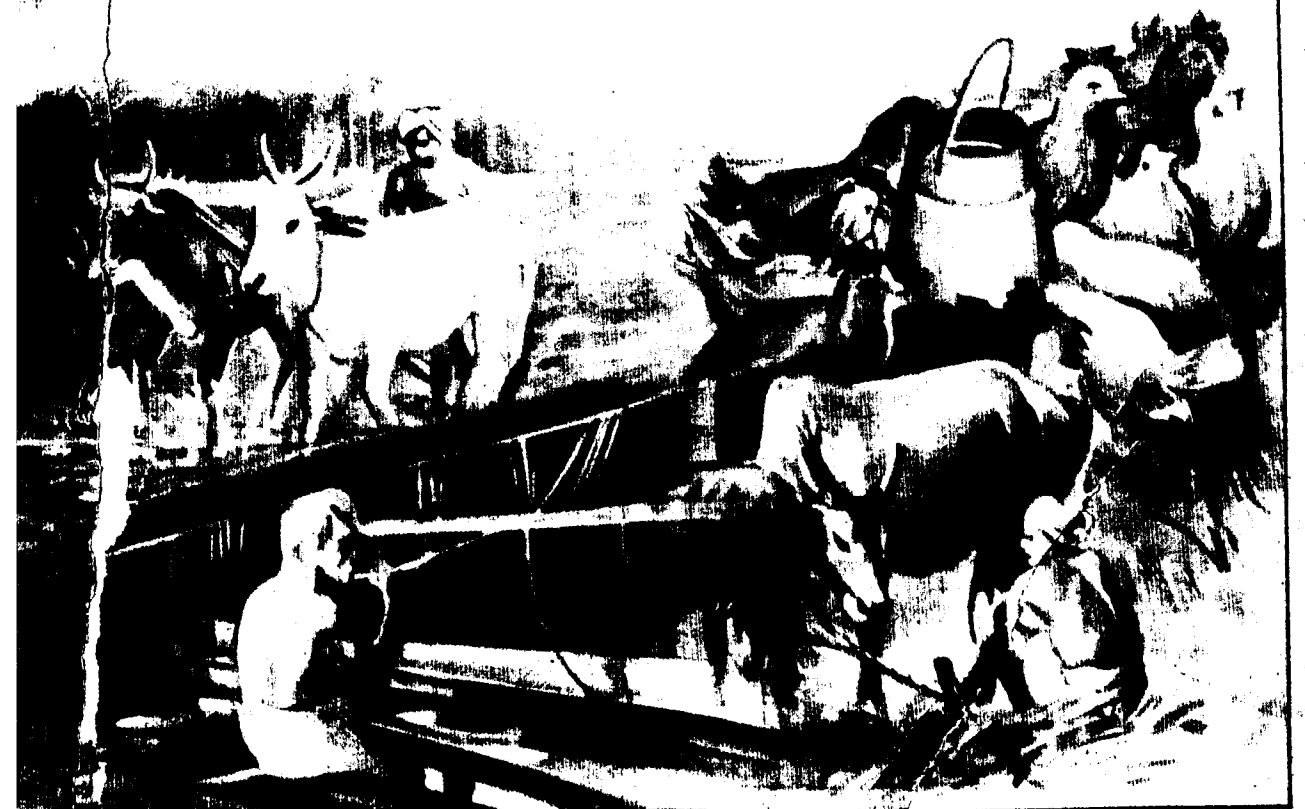
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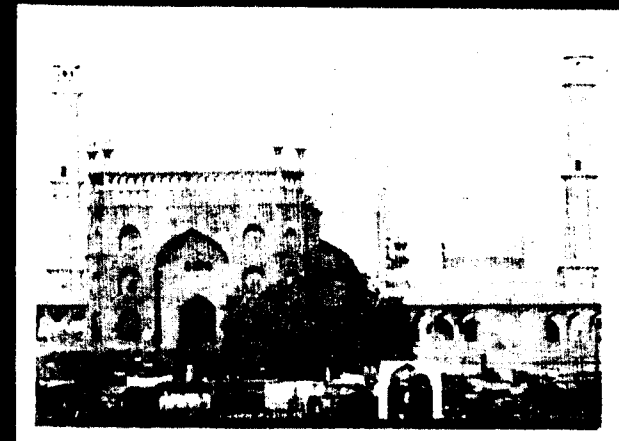
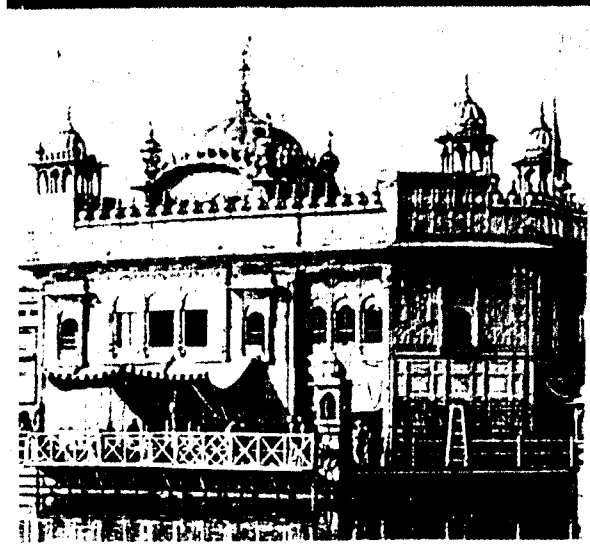
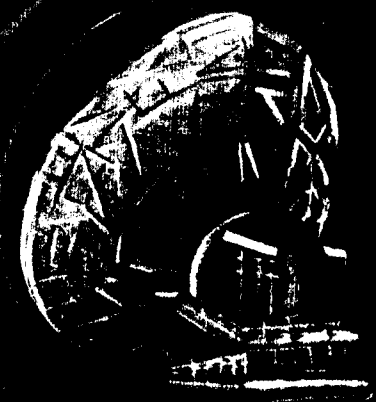
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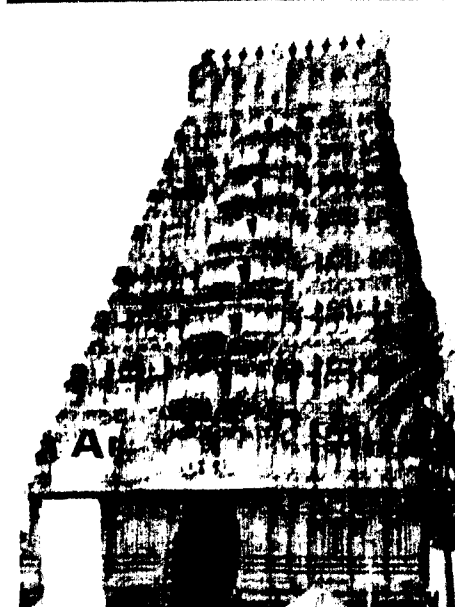
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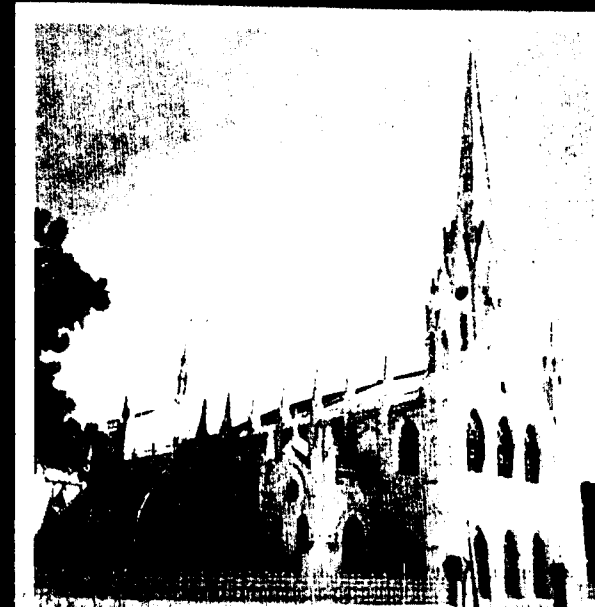


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TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

Muthulakshmi Reddy - India's first woman doctor.

On the birth centenary celebrations of that famous social worker, freedom fighter, legislator and India's first woman doctor, Tamil Arasu presents you a profile of the great lady.

Jagjivan Ram 'battled social evils'

The Chief Minister unveiled the portrait of Late Jagjivan Ram at a meeting at Rajaji Hall on July 10th. A report of the meeting and a resume of the Doughty champion of the Downtrodden.

Further improvement in Metro water supply.

The Chief Minister held a meeting on 1.8.86 to improve the Metrowater supply in the city of Madras. Thousands of residents are to benefit by the decisions of the meeting.

Rabindranath Tagore as I saw him.

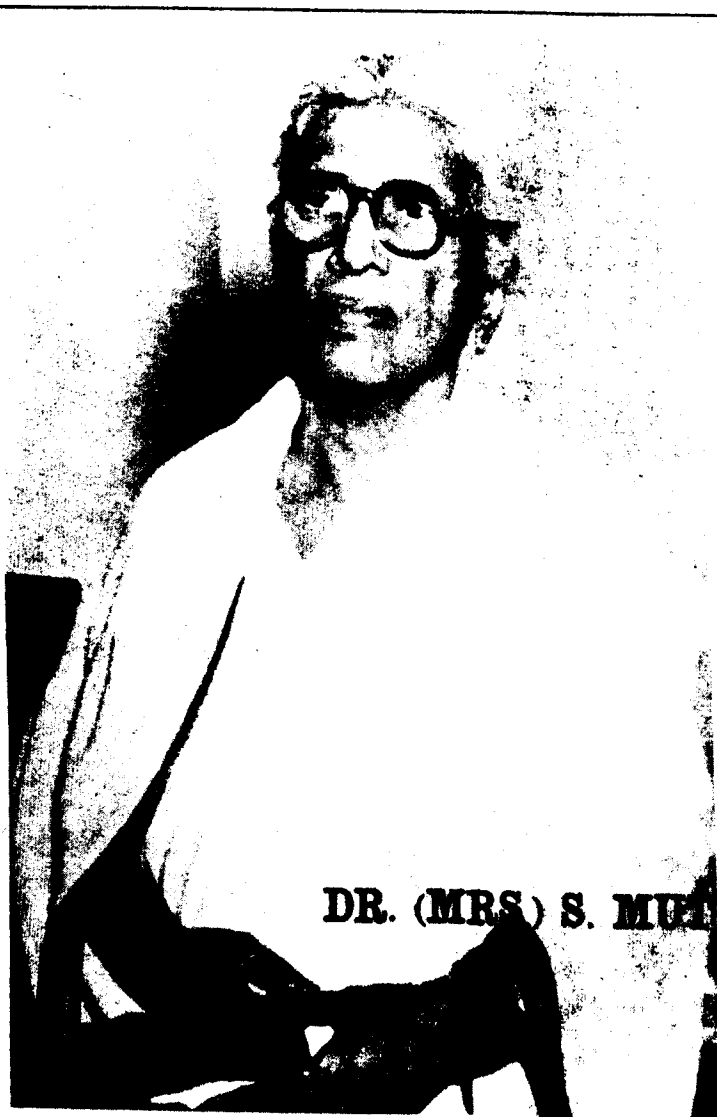
On the 125th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Tamil Arasu brings you an article by Thiru. Nandagopal Sengupta (Courtesy : West Bengal Information). Plus a sample of Tagore's poems.



Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

August 1986

Aadi-Aavani



INDIA'S FIRST WOMAN DOCTOR DR. (MRS.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY

(Adapted from
Tamil Arasu - Tamil)

Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddy was born of middle class Hindu parents in the then Indian State of Pudukottah on July 30, 1886. She was the eldest of four children.

Tradition was, however, still strong and so Muthulakshmi's education was all gone through at home. She appeared for her matriculation examination as a private candidate and passed. Her qualifying for college was the most important news of the day in Pudukottah town.

No girl had ever been admitted to the Maharajah's College, Pudukottah, in all its history. The Principal, the Professors, and alumni of the College heard in stunned silence

that Muthulakshmi had filed her application for admission to the Intermediate class. But the Maharajah was a young man with an Australian wife and issued a special decree ordering the admission. As a compromise Muthulakshmi sat behind a screen, invisible to the boys, but visible to the teacher. At the end of each day the boys would be ordered to stay in their seats till Muthulakshmi had left and only then would the class break. Muthulakshmi passed the Intermediate University examination standing first in her class.

In 1907 she came to Madras to join the Medical College on a stipend from the Maharajah of Pudukottah. Her father came along with her to keep

home for her. He had retired prematurely from service and remained her constant companion throughout her college days. She was the first girl to join the M.B. & C.M. class in the Madras Medical College, but she stood first in her class right through her college career. She graduated in Medicine in 1912, standing first in the University. She was thus the First Woman in India to graduate in Medicine.

After graduation she joined the Women & Children Hospital, Egmore, as a House-Surgeon. No woman had ever been accepted as a House-Surgeon in that hospital before, though any number of L.M. & S. and apothecaries had applied. She was thus again

the First Lady House-Surgeon in Madras Medical history.

After completing her House-Surgeoncy in 1913, she set-up practice in Egmore. It was in that year that Dr. T. Sundara Reddy, the first Indian to qualify for the F.R.C.S., also a self-made man, approached her father for her hand in marriage. They were married in April, 1914 and their first son was born in December of that year. Their second son was born in September of 1919.

In 1923 Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy lost her beloved sister at the young age of 23 from cancer of the rectum. The first symptoms of cancer had appeared in 1921, but the eminent Surgeons and Gynecologists of that day had diagnosed and treated the condition as amoebic dysentery. Dr. Reddy knew nothing about it till 1922, as the sister was married and was living elsewhere. In 1922, Dr. Reddy examining her for the first time, detected cancer, but it was by then too late. From that day she stayed by that bedside of agony for nearly a year till her sister passed away in 1923. It was this personal experience that laid the psychological foundation of all her anti-cancer work in the years to come.

In 1918 the Women's Indian Association of Madras was founded by two European Women theosophists, Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins and Mrs. Jina Radha Dasa. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was its first Indian Member and was for many years its Secretary, and Editor of its journal "Stri Dharma". She later became its life President.

Dr. Reddy visited England for the first time in 1925 for post-graduate studies, and returned in 1927. Very soon after her return she was nominated to the Madras Legislative Coun-

cil and in a short while elected as its Vice-President. She thus became the First Woman in the world to preside over a legislative body.

In 1930, however, came the Salt Sathyagraha campaign of Mahatmaji. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was in Ooty, when the news of Mahatmaji's arrest during the historic Dandi march came through. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy immediately announced her intention to resign and within an hour the letter of resignation, both from the Council and the Deputy Presidentship, was in the hands of the English Governor.

The Devadasi Act, enacted by Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy was to these ill-starred slaves of Hindu tradition and temples a liberation from centuries of slavery. The young girls of that community broke out of the fold immediately, the within a month of the passing of the Act came to Madras seeking their Mother and liberator, Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi, and through her a new life. These girls were innocent and unspoilt, and desired education and livelihood like other girls.

In 1930 the only shelter for Hindu girls were two hos-

tels in Madras City - the Ice House for Brahmin girls and Non-Brahmin Hostel in Big Street, Triplicane, for Non-Brahmin girls. When the first batch of seven girls from the Devadasi community arrived at Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy's house, she naturally directed them to the Correspondent of these hostels with a letter. Dr. Reddy was then the Hon-Medical Officer of both these hostels. But when the girls presented themselves before the Correspondent they were abused as fruits of corruption and driven out incontinently. The girls returned to Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy weeping and related their woe-ful tale. That night the Avvai Home was established in Dr. Reddy's house.

Begun under such circumstances of stress and revolt against an unjust and selfish society in 1930, the Avvai Home has grown from strength to strength, housing 350 children, many helpless adult women an Industrial school, a Basic school, a Basic Teachers' Training School and a High School. Thousands of discarded women and children have walked out of the Avvai Home as Nurses, Doctors and Teachers.

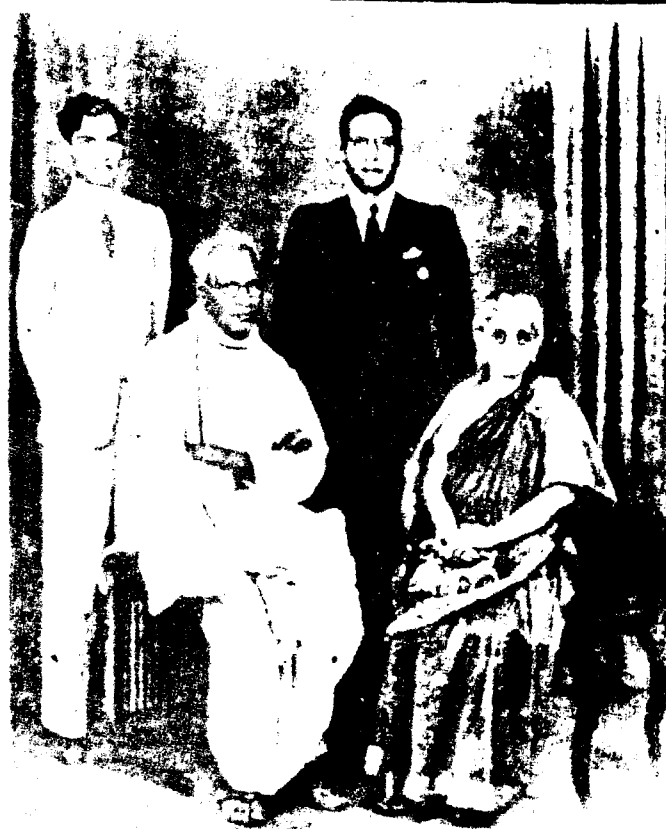
In addition to founding the Avvai Home, Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy



विशेष आवरण SPECIAL COVER



DR. (Mrs.) MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI
BIRTH CENTENARY — 1886 — 1986
30-7-86



What is the meaning of human life or for that matter, of the life of any creature? To know an answer to this question means to be religious. You ask, Does it make any sense, then, to pose this question? I answer: The man who regards his own life and that of his fellow creatures as meaningless is not merely unhappy but hardly fit for life. —Albert Einstein.

organised the first Vigilance Association in Madras, established the first Rescue Home for women (which later became the Sri Sadana) and was for long the Secretary and the life behind the Children Aid Society, a home for delinquent children.

It was while Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was in England in 1926 that she first saw many cases of cancer of the rectum being cured by surgical operation by Sir Ernest Miles at the Royal Cancer Hospital. It became her great ambition that a similar hospital should be established in Madras. In 1947, after Independence, Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy, with her char-

perservance and resolution, formed the Cancer Relief Fund (W.I.A.) to collect funds to establish a Cancer Hospital. In two years of incessant campaigning, which took her across thousands of miles, she was able to collect only Rs. 2 lakhs, but she did collect a lot of insults and abuses. With this small amount of Rs. 2 lakhs, but with great courage and an indomitable resolution she established in 1955 the Cancer Institute. It has been selected by the Government of India as the Southern Regional Centre of Cancer Research and Treatment.

Reddy (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy awarded the Padma

Bhushan by the Government of India in 1956. In 1966, on her eightieth birthday, all the women's organisations in Tamil Nadu, honoured her at Rajaji Hall. On November 5th, 1967, she presided over and spoke for half an hour at the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Women's Indian Association, of which she was the founder together with Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins and Mrs. Jinaradha Dasa. She went to Bangalore in the summer of 1968 to escape from heat of Madras. There, on July 18th she suddenly took ill and was brought to Madras, where she quietly passed away on Monday, the 22nd July, at the Cancer Institute, Adyar, full of years and honours.

August 1986.



JAGJIVAN RAM "BATTLED SOCIAL EVILS"

The Chief Minister, Hon'ble Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, led leaders of various political parties in paying homage to Jagjivan Ram, at a condolence meeting organised by the State unit of the Republican Party of India (Khobragade) at Kalia-nanar Arangam on July 10th.

Dr. M.G.R. unveiled a portrait of Jagjivan Ram.

Dr. V.R. Nedunchezian, Hon'ble Finance Minister described Jagjivan Ram as a great administrator, man of conviction and courageous leader. His political sagacity, concern for uplift of the Scheduled Castes and backward classes and un-

relenting efforts at fighting social evils and protecting the integrity of the nation were praiseworthy.

Thiru K.Rajaram, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, said the death Jagjivan Ram was an irreparable loss to the nation of this juncture. He urged the younger generation to imbibe the spirit of service and sacrifice of the great leader.

Thiru S.Ramachandran, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, said Jagjivan Ram's zeal to uplift the suppressed sections had no parallel. In this demise, progressive forces had lost a great champion.

Thiru M.Palaniandi, TNCC(I) president, said Jagjivan Ram had introduced many progressive legislations for the working class. Till the last moment, he had waged a battle to end social inequalities and injustice.

Messrs Thiru Tiruvurur K. Thangarasu (DK), Thiru Margabandhu (Toilers Party), Chennam Jabbar (Progressive Muslim League) and others described Jagjivan Ram as a symbol of service and sacrifice. Thiru C.K.Thamizharasan MLA(RPI) welcomed gathering.

The meeting in a resolution, said the nation had lost a great stalwart and patriot and conveyed its condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

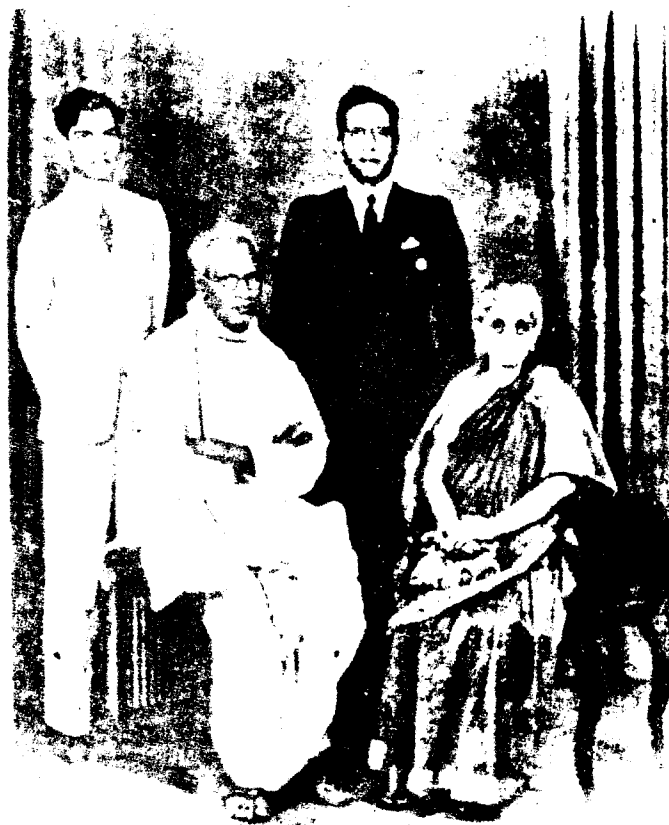
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—Emerson.

Tamil Arasu August 1986.



DR. (Mrs.) MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI
BIRTH CENTENARY -- 1886 -- 1986
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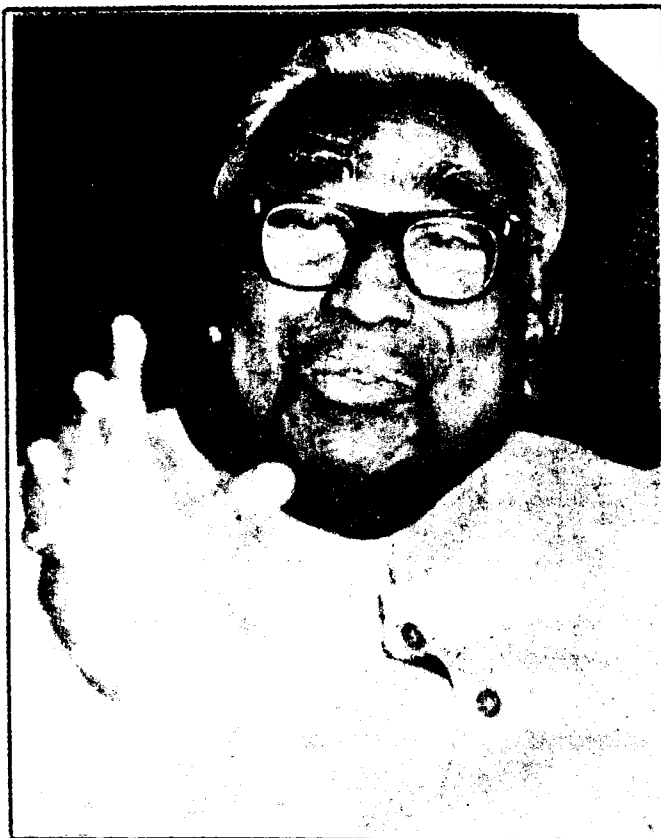
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—Emerson.



DOUGHTY CHAMPION OF THE DOWNTRODDEN

A doughty champion of the downtrodden, Jagjivan Ram was one of India's political statwards whose views on matters of national importance were respected by all sections of leadership and people.

Jagjivan Ram in post-Independent India held office in every successive Government at the Centre.

Quiet confidence, balanced and clear vision, a robust sense of reality, an uncommon courage of conviction, sweetness of temper, affability combined with firmness of purpose sum up Jagjivan Ram's personality.

Affectionately called 'Babuji' his name is synonymous with uplift of the downtrodden. To the younger generations of the post-independent India he appeared in yet another role-the role of a nation-builder.

Born in a poor Harijan family on April 5, 1908 in the Chandwa village in Bihar, Jagjivan Ram was brought up

in an atmosphere of intense religious devotion. Ram's philosophy of life was based on traditional Indian human values. His desire to serve the downtrodden, his zeal to break the age-old superstition of untouchability made him enter public life. He founded the All India Depressed Classes League in 1934 with a view to rousing the awareness of Harijans. He graduated in Science twice from the Banaras Hindu University and Calcutta University.

The young boy who had dreamt of becoming a religious reformer under the impact of his father's personality turned out to be one of India's front rank national leaders.

Simplicity : Coming under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Rajendra Prasad early in his public career, Jagjivan Ram imbibed the great characteristics of simplicity and devotion to service.

By early 1930s, struggle for independence had reached its zenith. This was the period when Mahatma Gandhi launched his salt satyagraha and swadeshi and the Indian National Congress adopted a resolution demanding complete independence for India at its Lahore session in 1934.

Young Jagjivan was observing the Congress Satyagrah in courting arrest. He could not contain himself and resolved to devote himself whole heartedly to the cause of the country's freedom.

In 1934, Gandhiji's refusal to accept the statutory reservation of seats at the Round conference irritated Jagjivan Ram. He wrote a strongly worded letter to the Mahatma. Gandhiji's secretary in reply said that Bapu regarded any kind of segregation as bad, both for the upper caste and the Harijans. During this time an Anti-untouchability League was set up which was later renamed Harijan Sevak Sangh. By 1932

Jagjivan Ram had made up his mind to devote to the uplift of the downtrodden.

Jagjivan Ram made Bihar the launching pad for the crusade against untouchability. His steadfast devotion to the cause led to his appointment as the Secretary of the Bihar branch of the Harijan Sevak Sangh. Untill mid-1930s, he grappled with a plethora of social problems facing the have-nots. Following differences with Thakkar Bapa, All-India Secretary of the Sangh, he resigned his post in 1935 and concentrated all his energies in the work of the Depressed Classes League.

In May 1936, N.B.R. Ambedkar, another staunch fighter for the depressed classes, gave a call to his followers to renounce Hindu religion. Jagjivan Ram, however, differed with him. His approach was nationalistic.

His untiring efforts infused new life and vitality into the Depressed Classes League. When the Congress decided to contest the provincial legislature elections in 1937, the League announced that it would contest all the 45 reserved seats in Bihar and won all the seats.

Jagjivan Ram's nomination to the Bihar Legislative Council about a year earlier had initiated him into parliamentary politics. And in 1937, following his election to the Bihar Assembly, he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary.

Joining the interim Government headed by Jawaharlal Nehru in September 1946, Jagjivan Ram was a Cabinet Minister in successive Congress Governments till 1977 except for a 28 month break from October 1963 under the Kamaraj Plan. Under the Plan some of the senior

Ministers were taken out of the Government and drafted for party work.

Jagjivan Ram was invited by Mrs. Indira Gandhi to re-join the Central Cabinet in 1966.

The portfolios handled by him included defence, agriculture, labour, communications and railways.

Significant role: Jagjivan Ram was appointed Defence Minister on June 29, 1970. He played an extraordinarily significant role in the events of December 1971 when the Indian forces beat Pakistani aggression and liberated Bangladesh.

A member of the All-India Congress Committee from 1940 to 1977, Jagjivan Ram was on the party's Central Parliamentary Board for 22 years from 1950.

COURTESY : THE HINDU

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

WASHINGTON : Moderate exercise not only improves looks and makes one feel better but may also prolong life.

Exercise has about the same life-extending effect as when all cancer had been eradicated from the group, says a report in Science 86.

A comprehensive study which monitored nearly 17,000 Harvard alumni has found that those who exercised lived as much as two years longer.

Those who daily walked briskly for 45 minutes or swam or ran for 30 minutes had a death rate one-quarter to one-third lower than that of sedentary men. Even among smokers and others considered prone to life-threatening diseases, those who exercised had lower death rate than those who did not.

DOLPHALE OR WHOLPHIN ?

HAWAII : The birth of a rare female calf from an Atlantic bottle-nosed dolphine and a false killer whale has been reported at Hawaii's Sea Life Park on Oahu.

The hybrid resulted from the unplanned mating of a female dolphin with a type of killer whale. The calf looks like a whale with dark body, face and numerous teeth. From her mother's side she has inherited dolphin like flippers and dorsal fin but not, the bottle nose.

According to the journal international Wildlife, only one other dolphin-whale calf has been known to survive from such mating.



TAMIL NADU SEEKS RS 310 CRORES FOR DROUGHT RELIEF:

The Tamil Nadu Government on July 24th sent to the Centre a detailed memorandum on the drought situation in the State, seeking assistance to the tune of Rs. 310.02 crores for undertaking drought relief measures.

The memorandum, prepared in the light of the discussions the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, had with the Collectors, the Relief Commissioner and the Secretaries to Agriculture, Revenue and other departments, has highlighted the need for providing drinking water and work to agricultural labourers in the 12 districts declared drought-hit as also to those who have been suffering in the delta areas of Thanjavur and South Arcot.

It has been estimated that, through the departments of Revenue, Agricultural Engineering, Public works and High-

ways, it will be possible to create work opportunities for 1,59,22,450 mandays in the next two months. The funds available under the NREP, the RLEGP and other regular programmes under implementation by the several departments will be made use of for this purpose. The Collectors and heads of department have been instructed to implement these schemes more intensively in the affected areas so as to provide work for agricultural labourers.

The Government has already declared Coimbatore, Salem, Dharmapuri, Anna, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Pasumpon, Muthuramalingam, Kamarajar, Periyar, Tiruchi, Kanyakumari and Pudukkottai districts as drought-affected.

The Chief Minister held two conferences with Collectors in January and May to review

the water supply position. In accordance with the decisions taken at those conferences, the Government issued sanctions to the tune of about Rs.12 crores for sinking 2,622 borewells and 700 wells. Utilising the funds available under the NREP, 3016 open wells were deepened. Arrangements have also been made for transport of water through lorries to the affected areas. The various municipalities have been given funds for improving water supply. For rural water supply schemes, Rs.30 crores had been set apart.

The Special Commissioners for Revenue Administration, Land Administration and Land Reforms have been instructed to tour the drought-hit areas allotted to them to coordinate the works and monitor the progress of the various relief measures, to facilitate a continuous review at the Government level.



HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER'S DISCUSSION ON METROWATER SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS IN CITY

A meeting was taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 1-8-1986 to solve certain long-standing problems in the working of the MMWS & S Board, the T.N.H.B. and the T.N.S.C.B. Hon'ble Minister for local administration, Thiru P.U. Shanmugam, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Water Supply, Dr. K. Kalimuthu and Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Thiru N. Nallusamy were present as also the Chairman of M.M.W.S. & S. Board, Thiru Jeppiyar, Chairman T.N.H.S., Thiru Thirupur Manimaran and the Chairman T.N.S.C. Board, Thiru N.V.N. Selvam. The Chief Secretary to Government, Secretaries to Government in the Finance, MA&WS Housing Departments were in attendance. After detailed discussions, the Chief Minister announced the following decisions:-

(1) In respect of the Housing Board Neighbourhood schemes where the Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board or the Corporation of Madras have not taken over public utilities for maintenance

due to certain unresolved problems, to ensure that the public are not inconvenienced, the Metro water Board or the Madras Corporation as the case may be will immediately take over the utilities such as roads and watersupply and drainage schemes. Amounts required for bringing these utilities to the required standards will be provided by the Govt. to the MMWS & S Board and the Corporation of Madras. The T.N.H. Board set up water supply and drainage schemes at Bharti Nagar, Vyasarpadi, Anna Nagar West, Kottupuram, Raja Annamalipuram, Foreshore Estate area, Villivakkam and Arumbakkam will be taken over and improved immediately at a cost of over Rs. 1.74 crores.

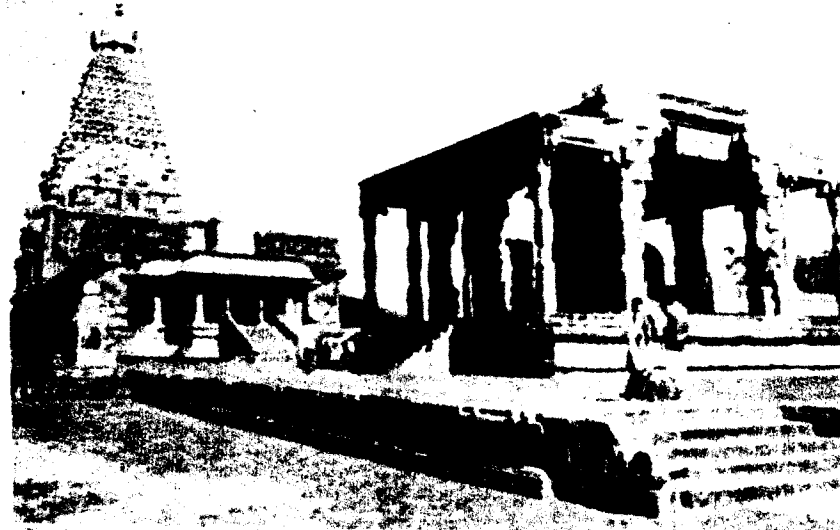
To ensure that such problems do not arise in future layouts of the T.N.H.B., three officers in the rank of Chief Engineer will be deputed, one each from the Metro water, the Madras Corporation and the T.N.E.B. to the T.N.H.B. to advise the T.N.H.B. in establishment of amenities,

conforming to the standards of the local authorities and also to ensure continuous and close liason between the T.N.H.B. & these local authorities.

The Water supply & Sewerage taxes due to the Metro water Board and the property taxes due to the Madras Corporation from the T.N.S.C.B. in respect of Slum Board tenements will be paid by the T.N.S.C. Board. Payment for water supplied through public fountains and through lorries in Slum Board tenement areas by MMWS&S Board will be made by T.N.S.C.B. For water supplied through public fountains, the Madras Corporation will make payments to the MMWS&S Board. Government will make suitable financial allocations to the T.N.S.C. Board and to the Madras Corporation for making these payments on a half yearly basis.

Several thousands of residents of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board tenements will immediately benefit from these important decisions.

Thanjavur, Showplace of Chola Architecture



Time turns back as you penetrate farther and farther into the Deep South of India. For example, forty six miles from Chidambaram on the road or railway to Tiruchirapalli, you encounter one of the oldest cities of the south Kumbakonam, on the banks of the Cauvery River giving life to its surround-

Kumbakonam for a bathing festival in its holy Mahamakham Tank.

Kumbakonam will whet your appetite for a particularly choice morsel of South Indian art and architecture half-an-hour away. This is Thanjavur (formerly spelt Tanjore) lying at the foot

granite weighing eighty tons. The block was inched up to the top along an inclined plane that began in a village four miles away.

The main shrine of the temple lies at the end of a parved courtyard and houses a huge lingam. This courtyard is guarded by another gopuram tower. As you near the inner shrine of Brihadeeswara, you will encounter India's second largest statue of Nandi the bull (the biggest is at Lepakshi near Anantapur). Sixteen feet long in black granite, this is the mount of the god Siva. Other sculptures inside the temple draw upon Vishnu and Buddhism for their subjects as well as Siva. The walls of the inner courtyard of the temple are covered with the excellent frescos of the Chola (10th- 11th century and the Nayak (17th century) periods. These wall paintings are of special interest to lovers of Indian art because for a long time, the earlier and the really more interesting Chola frescos lay hidden under the upper



In Tamil Nadu, you see the whole of India

COURTESY : FODOR'S GUIDE TO INDIA



ding delta. Kumbakonam lives in very much the same way as it did before a highway or a railway ever reached it. Its craftsmen still make traditional gold and silver jewellery, and its gardeners still tend their betel vines. Kumbakonam betel is reputed to be the best in South India. Just ask any chewer.

The old city has 18 temples with some exuberant Hindu sculpture on the Ramaswamy temple in particular. Once every twelve years, pilgrims invade

of what has been called India's greatest temple. Thanjavur was the capital of the Chola Empire from the 10th to the 14th centuries and it was a Chola King. Rajah Chola (he held the throne from 985 to 1016) who built the greatest of its 74 temples, the Brihadeeswara.

The tower of this temple was the greatest feat of the Chola architects. It soars more than 200 ft. high in that Dravidian truncated pyramid form now so familiar to you. But, in this case, the crowing dome of the tower rests on a single block of

layer of the Nayak paintings. Only when the modern archaeologist was able to expose the bottom layer did we come to know of the existence of an excellent school of painting in the Chola period, comparable to the famous frescos in the Ajanta cave shrines.

The Cholas ruled Thanjavur from its palace which also was used by the Nayak and Maratha dynasties. It is a huge pile of no particular architectural interest, but it does contain the celebrated Saraswati Mahal Library with 30,000 volumes

(8,000 of these are manuscripts written on palm leaves). In Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi, Telugu and a number of European languages, it covers subjects from dancing to astronomy. The palace also has a superb collection of bronzes, poorly displayed in an old audience hall.

At Thanjavur you might find time for a few glimpses of the Subramanya Temple, the Sivaganga tank, and the Schwartz Church built by a rajah in 1779 to express his friendship for a Danish missionary, Rev. C.V. Schwartz. Close to Thanjavur lies Tiruvaiyur, the 19th Century home of Sri Thyagaraja, saint and composer. He wrote more than a thousand songs in Carnatic (Southern Indian) music. In his honour a major music festival is held here every January.

The Fort of Tiruchirapalli:

West of Thanjavur and 35 miles by road or rail, you reach Tiruchirapalli, also known as Trichinopoly and, to anyone in a hurry, as Trichy. Tiruchirapalli has always been a seat of power in South India and it bears the scars of wars fought to control it, particularly by the French and English.

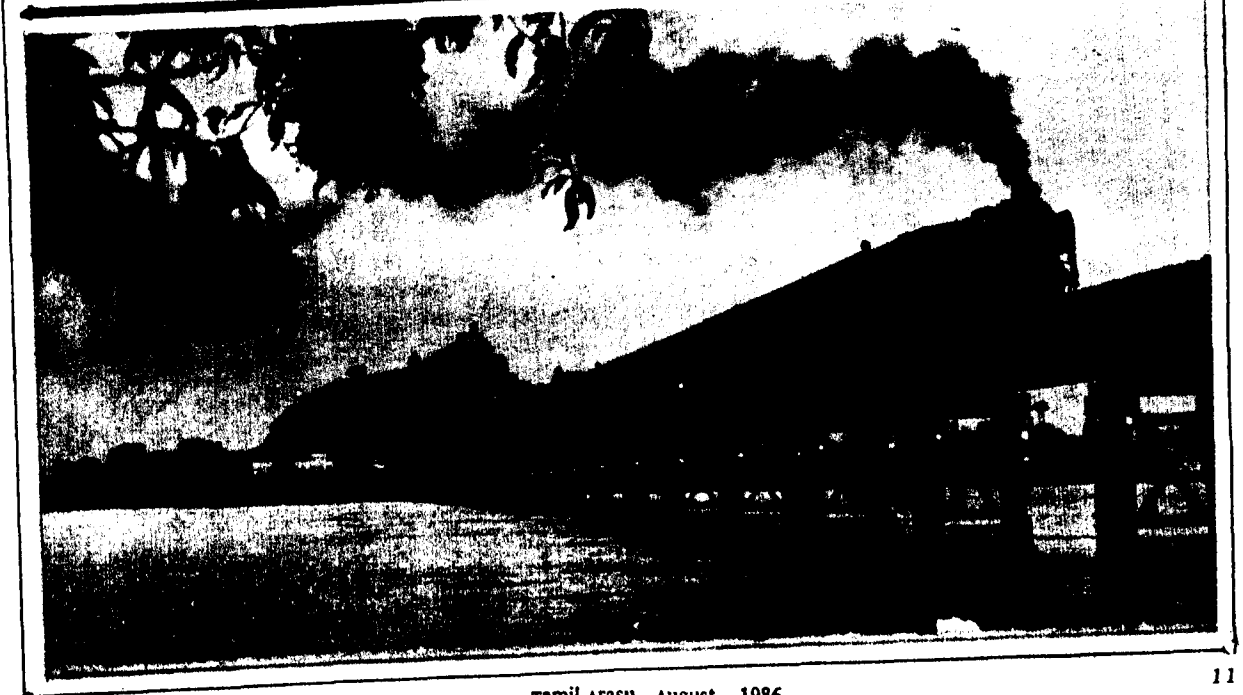


The lingam under the gold-plated dome over the shrine is said to be part of the Rock upon which the temple stands. Finally, at the very top of the Rock Fort, the Ucchi Pillaiyar Koil, a Ganesh temple offers a breathtaking view of the city and the countryside below.

Temples were not only built on the Rock but carved out of its sides as well. The bigger of the two cave temples were executed by Pallava sculptors who placed seven pillars across its facade and a square shrine at one end of a hollowed-out hall.

Below the Rock, Tiruchirapalli offers several other points of interest including St. Joseph's College, a house where Clive is believed to have lived, Christ Church founded by Schwartz and a large tank, the Teppakulam. Trichy is a busy place, industriously turning out handloomed cloth, cigars, mats, textiles and even several kinds of artificial diamonds.

Three miles to the north, though, the glory of religious India burst forth again on Srirangam, an island in the Cauvery linked to the mainland by a bridge of 32 arches. Chida-



Tamil Arasu August 1986.

mbaram, you remember, was sacred to the followers of Siva. Here, the worshipers of Vishnu come to one of India's largest temples dedicated to their god. The town of Srirangam itself lies almost wholly within the walls of the huge temple and there are no less than seven of these walls. The temple itself really begins when you reach the mandapam behind the fourth wall. This is another of those thousand-pillared halls (by actual count, there are 940 pillars) and it is

guarded by three gopuram towers over its entrance gates. Pilgrims from all over India come here every year in December for the Vaikunta Ekadasi festival. It is then that the idol of Ranganatha is brought into the mandapam from the inner shrine under a golden dome. This temple houses a beautiful collection of jewellery.

There is another temple, smaller but of much better design, about a mile to the east and this is a shrine of Siva.

Here, in the Jambukeswaram pagoda, is a lingam, the symbol of Siva, submerged in water.

The water surrounding Srirangam island is not only holy but useful. In the 11th century a Chola ruler built a stone dam below the island to harness the Cauvery River. He built it so well that you can still see it today, a sturdy wall 1,000 feet long and 60 feet wide, serving the purpose for which it was built 900 years ago.

PANDAS DISCOVERED

A Giant Panda family consisting of two cubs and their parents has been discovered in the yunnan Province of China, reports Liberation Daily.

The Giant Panda is considered to be highly endangered and forms the emblem of World Wildlife Fund.

What has baffled zoological experts is that the pandas are being successfully brought up by a farmer while concerted efforts of world-renowned experts have failed consistently in getting these animals to breed.

TRACKING AIR POLLUTION

A method which makes it possible to pinpoint the source of toxic air pollution has been developed by an Austrian scientist, reports News Survey, an Austrian news agency.

The method involves introducing a tracer gas, sulphur hexafluoride, to the exhaust fumes from the industrial plant suspected of causing pollution. The gas, which does not occur naturally, can be identified upto a distance of thirty kilometers, from the point of introduction.

The emissions from the chimney of the suspected culprit are marked at source, and computerized monitoring equipment in the area takes regular air samples and examines them for this gas.

Equipment for implementing this technique is being installed at the newly constructed coal-fired power station near Vienna, which is due to go into operation later this year.

NEW DENTAL TECHNIQUE ELIMINATES PAIN

A simple new American dental technique uses electrical waves to eliminate pain.

Instead of administering a local anesthesia by needle, the dentist uses a small device that sends mild, painless waves through electrodes taped to several areas of the patients' body. The waves stimulate the production of natural body substances, called endorphins, which control pain.

The technique works for patients having teeth filled or gum surgery, say the developers at the University of Colorado.

Comments one dentist: "It holds possibilities for wide spread use and may some day replace needles entirely."



The New Chief Secretary

FROM the bureaucracy and the red tape to humanism and romantic poetry might indeed be a far cry. If the atmosphere of files and VIPs, precedents and standing orders, is not conducive to the rise of poets, it is also true that it might not succeed in killing them either.

Not many might be aware of the fact that the new Chief Secretary, Thiru A. Padmanabhan, a seasoned administrator, known in the Secretariat for his crisp and pointed notes, has also a flair for pleasant and readable verse. He is a man of deep humility, with a respect for all life, and of a wide-ranging humanism, with sympathy for the lowly and the lost.

An impressive variety of themes, covering man, nature, poetry and world affairs, is treated with a light touch by Thiru Padmanabhan in his "Rain Drops", a slim collection of short poems. In 'the Gardener and Garden', he deplores the vandalism of man, when he says:

"The lovely woods and forests/The flora and the fauna
The Peaks and the Mountain/The flowering Valleys
And the flowing rivers/All are laid in gaiety and grandeur
By Nature, the Great Gardener/Alas!
Mankind-the stray cattle
Enters determined/To lay them all waste in a trice."
Are we not too familiar with 'stray cattle' of all varieties in the city?

Not is he content with pretty words. He believes in deeds as well. On reading a news item that a painter of Bombay was suffering on the pavements, Thiru Padmanabhan promptly sent him an M.O. (for Rs. 200) He is a good samaritan, who does not talk too much about himself.

Courtesy : The Hindu.

Thiru A. Padmanabhan, IAS joined duty on 21.7.86 as the new Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu.

Thiru A. Padmanabhan was born on 14.12. 1928. He began his Government service in 1951. He had been Deputy

District Collector(sub-collector), District Collector, Secretary to the Department of Public Works Department, Secretary to the Family Welfare Department and Secretary to Labour Welfare Department. He has also been the Chairman of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. Thiru

A. Padmanabhan was with the Central Government too as Joint Secretary to the Department of Shipping. Prior to joining this new post, he was with the Revenue Board and Commissioner and Secretary, Vigilance Department.

The question "Why an ornamental flower crop originated in Northern America should be introduced as an oilseed crop into India, while we are having a number of conventional oilseeds like sesamum, groundnut, castor etc. in our farming system?" needs enlightenment.

In spite of sincere efforts made to boost the oil production in our country, there is an outflow of Rs. 600—Rs. 800 crores every year in foreign exchange for importing about a

million tonnes of edible oils in India, to meet its shortage. Though sunflower is an introduced oilseed crop, it contributes substantially in the world vegetable oil production (17.77 per cent of the total vegetable oil) and ranks next only to soyabean. The colour, odour and taste of sunflower oil are acceptable. The saturated fatty acids content in sunflower (9.8%) is relatively lesser than groundnut oil (19.4%) and gingelly oil (14.2%). The high production of poly unsaturated fatty acids in sunflower makes

it fit for consumption even by heart patients without apprehension. The oil content in general ranges from 35—40 per cent resulting in higher oil outturn from an unit area than the other major oil crops. Because of its semidrying nature sunflower oil has industrial uses in the manufacture of paints and varnishes, unlike the non-drying groundnut oil.

The protein content in seeds is also considerably higher in sunflower (27.7%), than

The Importance of sunflower and its Cultivation Practices



groundnut (23.6%) and gingelly (19.3%)

In addition, sunflower is also attributed with many agronomic advantages. Short duration (65—90 days), suitability for cultivation in all seasons and all soils both under irrigated and rainfed cultures, suppressing the incidence of abnoxious weed 'Striga' in sorghum crop which succeeds sunflower, are few notable characteristics of sunflower. In general, sunflower remains practically free from the incidence of serious pests and diseases.

In Tamil Nadu the area under sunflower is gaining momentum year after year and now has touched 1.25 lakh hectares with the annual production of about 60,000 tonnes grains. The major area under this crop is concentrated in these southern districts viz. Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Madurai.

Dr. N. Mohamed Sheriff
Associate Professor,
School of Genetics,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural
University.

In breeding programmes the major objectives are high grain and oil yield, resistance to pests and diseases, earliness and wide adaptability. Due to self incompatibility and protandry systems in pollination, seed setting particularly in the central portion of the capitulum are often affected resulting in central hollowness. This would in turn inflict the seed yield considerably. Therefore research programmes are in progress to develop self fertile lines in sunflower. In the mean time to circumvent this problem a simple operation termed 'hand pollination' (rubbing the blooming heads gently with a soft cloth in the morning hours from 9-11 a.m. for 5 to 7 days) is advocated to enhance the seed setting. The results of an experiment conducted at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for four years revealed that by practicing hand pollination an yield increase of 250 kg per hectare (27.2 per cent) could be obtained over the crop not hand pollinated. This works out to an additional net income of Rs. 600 per hectare.

Initially few genotypes of exotic origin, were introduced for cultivation in India. The

breeding research in Tamil Nadu has resulted in the development of two strains from Coimbatore (Co. 1 and Co. 2) and two from Kovilpatty (K. 1 and K. 2). Sunflower Co. 1 is a short term variety (65 days) and suitable for raising as a catch crop in garden lands. Co. 2 is of recent release during January 1986 to meet the needs of sunflower growing tracts of Tamil Nadu. Its duration is 85-87 days. In oil content, yield and resistance to rust disease, Co. 2 was superior to K. 1 (Ec. 68414).

Cultivation Practices for Sunflower :

There are seven popular varieties in Sunflower namely Co. 1 Morden, K. 2, K. 1, Ec. 68414, EC. 68415, CO. 2 and BSH. 1 (Hybrid). The duration of Co. 1, Morden and K. 2 varieties are 65, 75 and 70 days respectively. Other varieties have a duration of 85 to 90 days. June-July and September-October are the best season for both irrigated and rainfed Crops. January - February is the season for irrigated Crops. For Sunflower, apply a basal dose of fertilizer in the ratio of 40 N: 20P: 20K.

The spacing for Co. 1 and K. 2 varieties is 30 x 15 Cm. For other varieties it is 30 x 30 CM. The seed rate for Co. 1 and K. 2 varieties is 30 Kg/ha., for other varieties it is 15 Kg/ha. Before sowing, the seeds should be treated with 2 gm. Bavistin or 4 gm. Thirum per Kg. of seed. The plant protection measures should be under taken by spraying with Endosulfan 35 EC 625 ml and Mencozeb (Dithane M 45) at 1250 gm per hectare on 30th day. If necessary, repeat the spraying 10 days later. To increase the seed setting gently rub the flowers in the morning hours (9-11 a.m.) at the blooming stage for 5-7 days.

At full maturity stage, (basal portion of the flowers turning yellow) the flower heads are to be cut, sun dried and threshed.

Sunflower can be raised either as a pure crop or as a mixture with groundnut and pulses. By identifying suitable new companion crops for sunflower, the avenue will be opened up for further enhancement of area and production of sunflower.

INDOORS MORE POLLUTED

WASHINGTON :
Household products, building materials and cigarette smoke produce air pollution inside homes up to 10 times greater than that found in the air near chemical plants, according to a study by an American environmental agency.

Among the indoor hazards are paradi-chlorobenzene, used in moth balls and home deodorants; styrene used in plastics foam rubber and insulation; benzene present in cigarette smoke and gasoline; and chlorine given off by tap water.

SUPERCITIES

GENEVA Calcutta and Bombay will be among the five "supercities" of the 21st century with a population of 16 million or more.

The United Nation's 1986 State of the World population Report says that by the year 2,000, growing urbanization will create five such supercities with above 16 million population, four of them in the third world.

SCIENCE MUSEUM AND PLANETORIUM FOR CITY:

A massive construction operation is on behind the CLRI campus, which when completed will give Madras a science museum and a planetarium. While the museum is being put up by the Tamil Nadu Government, the planetarium comes as a 'gift' from Thiru C.K. Birla, industrialist.

The construction is in progress even as machines to make models have started arriving and steps have been initiated for the import of equipment.

When completed, the science museum, estimated to cost Rs. 6.82 crores will have, 16 galleries covering the entire gamut of science and technology. The planetarium, which may ultimately cost upto Rs. 2.5 crores, will have a seating capacity of about 280.

Realising the need for creating such a centre, which exists in other cities like Bombay and Calcutta and in every major city in the developed countries, the Tamil Nadu Government set up an autonomous body called the Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre in 1983 and went about the task of formulating plans for it.

The Executive Director of the Centre, Thiru R. Periasamy said the first phase of the science museum and the planetarium would be ready by the end of 1987, with four galleries in the

museum. The museum was expected to be completed towards the end of 1989.

He noted that 75 percent of the galleries would have working exhibits in the push-button type, which could demonstrate scientific functions and tests to the visitors, particularly students. The remaining 25 percent would be models and collections depicting the developments in the realm of science and technology.

Three significant developments which have given a push to the centre are complete customs and duty exemption granted for the import of all equipment, including the massive planetarium dome: IT exemption under Section 35-1(2) for any donations to the centre and a personal letter from the Prime Minister, Thiru Rajiv Gandhi, to the State Government, promising full support from all Union Departments and establishments connected with Science and Technology in contributing to the galleries.

The technology could be useful in other medical fields, say researchers.

The Hon'ble Education Minister Thiru C. Aranganayagam, who was the brain behind this project, made an all-out effort to get the centre going. The Hon'ble Industries Minister, Thiru K. Rajaram recently took over as

chairman of the board of the Centre and has picked up the threads to continue the good work. The State Government decided to name the Science and Technology centre at Kottur (Madras) after 'Periyar'.

Two more science museums are to come up in the State, at Tiruchi and Coimbatore. Construction work will begin at Tiruchi first, some time next year.

Thiru Periasamy said the Madras museum would have something like 12,000 sq. metres of built up area, and the galleries were being designed in a trapezium shape with ideal lighting and ventilation. The planetarium would be laid out over 1,500 sq.m. and instead of the conventional semi-circular dome, it would have a pyramid-shaped top with a semi-circular metal dome for slide projections.

The Federal Republic of Germany has promised to help in planning galleries with the expertise of the world renowned museum at Munich. Thiru Rajaram, met the U.S. Consul General, Thiru John Stempel, to discuss the possibility of American collaboration. The Consul General it is reported was agreed to extend all possible help, including training of personnel, and assistance from the Smithsonian Institution, Exploratorium (California) and another museum at Berekely.



The progress of science museum at the Tamil Nadu Science and Technology centre, Madras.



In India, the foodgrains produced are stored by the farmers, traders, processors, Government and their agencies. While the Central and State Governments have made efforts to take care of the grains in Government hands by increasing the availability of modernised godowns and warehousing facility much remains to be done in respect of grains stored at the farm level which accounts for the bulk of the total output. The losses in quantity and quality in foodgrains lead not only to loss of financial returns to the farmer from his produce, but also result in under-nutrition to consumers; it is ultimately a National loss.

POST HARVEST LOSSES :

On examination of post-harvest handling and storage in the country, it is revealed that at farm level considerable quantities of foodgrains are lost between harvest and consumption. Insects, rodents, moisture, fungus, termites and birds are the main enemies of the stored grain. Estimates of losses during post-harvest

Scheme on Rural Storage-A Fillip in Tamil Nadu

G. P. RANGANATHAN
Deputy Director(S&R)
Save Grain Campaign,
Government of India

handling, processing and storage and as per the Expert Committee appointed by the Government of India are as follows :-

State at which loss is occurred:

	Percentage	
Threshing yard	1.68	2.75%
Transport	0.15	
Processing	0.92	

Storage:

Rodents	2.50	6.58%
Insects	2.55	
Birds	0.85	
Moisture	0.68	

With a view to help the farmers to minimise the losses, Department of Food Government of India, launched the "Save Grain Campaign" as a countrywide programme during 1965-66 as a pilot project and from 1969-70 as a regular plan scheme.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE SAVE GRAIN CAMPAIGN ARE :

1. to impart training to the farmers, traders and extension officials to carry the knowledge of better storage methods,
2. to extend scientific techniques of storage to farmers, traders etc. through demonstration and publicity programmes,

3. to supply improved storage bins to the farmers through State Governments,

4. to arrange intensive implementation of the programmes on modernisation of storage at farm level through creation of State Government teams; and

5. to assist the Farmers Training Centres in propagation of scientific storage at the farm level of farm women.

TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATIONS :

Two types of training courses (stipendiary and non-stipendiary) are conducted by the Save Grain Campaign. Stipendiary Training courses are of 3 weeks duration and are normally held in a village or in Block Headquarters. Fifty educated farm youths including farm women are selected for each course. On successful completion of the course, each trainee is paid Rs. 100 as stipend and a certificate. The trained youths act as Save Grain Volunteers and the message of "Save Grain" is disseminated through this youth force.

ASSISTANCE THROUGH FARMERS TRAINING CENTRES :

Farm women play an important role in propagating

Scientific Storage techniques in rural areas. A fulltime Lady Demonstrator has been appointed at each centre who will have to cover atleast 10 villages every year and train farm women in simple and effective techniques of pest control and scientific storage practices. Presently, the scheme is operated in the Region in eight centres viz., Kancheepuram, Aduthurai, Lalgudi, Navlock, Tindivanam, Tirunelveli, Pudukkottai and Pondicherry (Union Territory).

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT :

The Save Grain Campaign teams are functionally linked with the Indian Grain Storage Institute stations (Nagpur and its field stations at Hyderabad, Ludhiana, Jabalpur, Jorhat and Udaipur) for surveying the storage problems peculiar to different agro-climatic zones of the country for developing suitable codes of practices, for popularising the recommended techniques in selected areas and for obtaining the necessary food back.

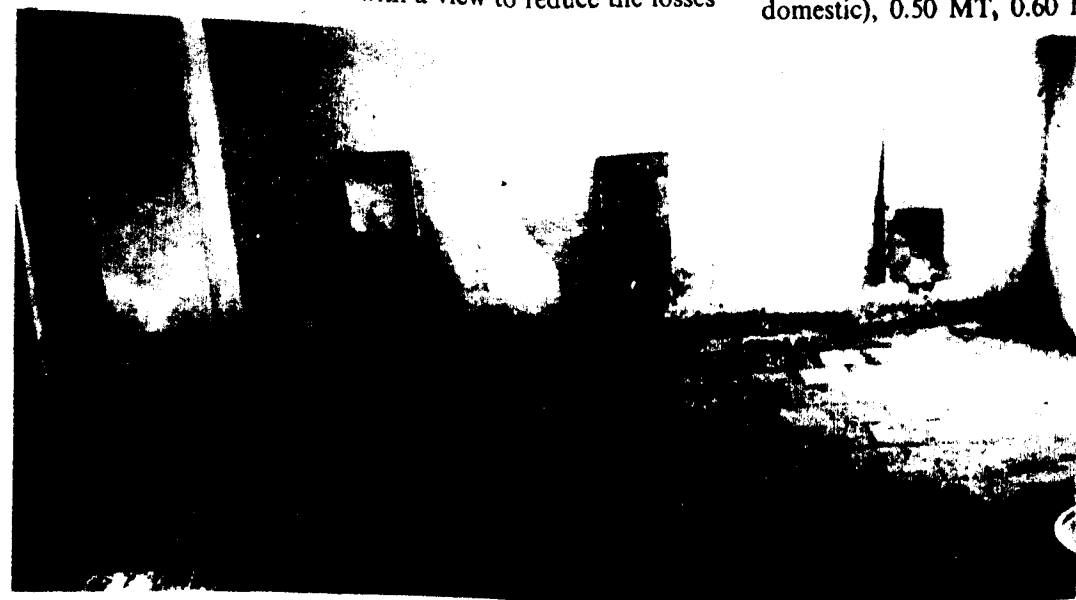
THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SCHEMES UNDER OPERATION IN MINIMISING THE STORAGE LOSSES OF FOODGRAINS IN TAMIL NADU AND PONDICHERRY :

The Government of India with a view to reduce the losses

of foodgrains in storage particularly at farmers' level have launched a no. of schemes through the Central Food Department and provide financial assistance obtained from FAO, UNICEF and EEC to the State Governments. Presently there are four schemes under operation viz., 1. Central Sector Bin Programme 2. Grant in-aid a programme 3. UNICEF assistance and 4. FAO Project.

CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME :

The Government of India has advanced funds to the Tamil Nadu State Government by way of loan assistance for the implementation of the metal bin programme. In Tamil Nadu the job of fabrication and distribution of metal bins has been undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Agro-Engineering and Service Co-operative Federation through its net work of District Centres. The metal bins have been found to be ideal as they keep out insects, rats, moisture and are easy to transport. So far the Government of India has provided Rs. 42 lakhs on loan basis to the State Government. On date as many as 14,205 metal bins of different capacities were fabricated and distributed 13,232 bins. Metal storage bins of various sizes ranging from 0.3 M. ton (urban domestic), 0.50 MT, 0.60 MT,



0.75 and 1.0 MT are being sold at a cost of Rs.320/330,480,575, 585 and 680 respectively, with 25% subsidy at the cost price.

Realising the benefits accrued to the ryots, the State Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs for similar programme in 1982-83.

Grant-in-aid to the State Government :

The Government of India also provides funds to the State Government for improvement of existing traditional storage structures at farmers level and for the construction of non-metallic storage structures like improved mud-brick bin, Pucca Kothi, RB Bin and RCC Ring Bin. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been given a grant-in-aid of Rs. 11.65 lakhs for the implementation of the above scheme in the selected 69 blocks under Self-Sufficiency scheme through the Rural Development Department. Materials like wooden crates, rat-proof stands are to be supplied free of cost to the weaker sections of farming community; the Scheme also envisages to provide inputs like inletse, outlets, for the construction of non-metallic storage structures like mud-brick bin, Pucca Kothis, RCC Ring and RB Bins.

The State Government has allowed Rs. 5 lakhs for similar purpose in 150 self-sufficiency blocks of the Second Phase Programme.

INTENSIVE GRAIN STORAGE MODERNISATION PROJECT WITH UNICEF ASSISTANCE IN TAMIL NADU :

For the benefit of Small and Marginal Farmers a programme called Intensive Grain Storage Modernisation Project, with UNICEF financial assistance, was started in 10 selected blocks in India from June 1977 (Rs. 50 lakhs monitored through the Union Food

Department). The programme is implemented in Kancheepuram Block of Chingleput District in Tamil Nadu. Storage pesticides like EDB, Rodafarin, Aluminium Phosphide and Zinc Phosphide and the cost of improvements to the existing storage structures are out in the scheme. This includes rat proofing to doors with metal sleeves of GI sheets; from supply of wooden crates and rat proof stands; provision of mudbin inlets and outlets; wire-mesh-



ing to windows to prevent bird entry; coal tar coating to mud-bine and wooden structures as moisture barrier; fixing drainage shutters to prevent rat entry; improvement of Kalanjium (a room storage structure) etc. 25% subsidy was also given in the form of GI sheets for the fabrication and distribution of metal storage binds. Thereby the farmers in the blocks of Kancheepuram and also in Walajabad, Uthiramerur and Sriperumbudur are getting additional 25% subsidy in the purchase of metal bins of different capacities from 0.3 to 1.0 MT. apart from the subsidy of 25 and 33 1/3 percent afforded by the SFDA to the eligible farmers.

FAO Project :

The Food and Agricultural Organisation of United Nations has similarly provided a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for the "Improvement of Rural Family Storage conditions and processing of foodgrains in Tamil Nadu" in the selected village of Periyar, Salem and Coimbatore Districts. The scheme envisages to provide financial assistance for the improvement of storage structures and construction of non-metallic storage structures

like improvised mud-brick bin and Pucca Kothis and also make arrangements for getting metal bins to the needy farmers.

MODEL VILLAGE COMPLEX :

250 model and medium contact villages have been adopted in Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli and Thanjavur Districts and Union Territory of Pondicherry. Modern storage techniques are put into practice in these villages. On a conservative estimate, it has been calculated that grains worth Rs. 11 crores were saved from the ravages of insects and rats since the inception of the scheme to date in the region.

SPIRITUAL EXCELLENCE BY PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

"How does the mind grasp the word silence? How does the mind grasp the words: depth, light, delight, joy?"

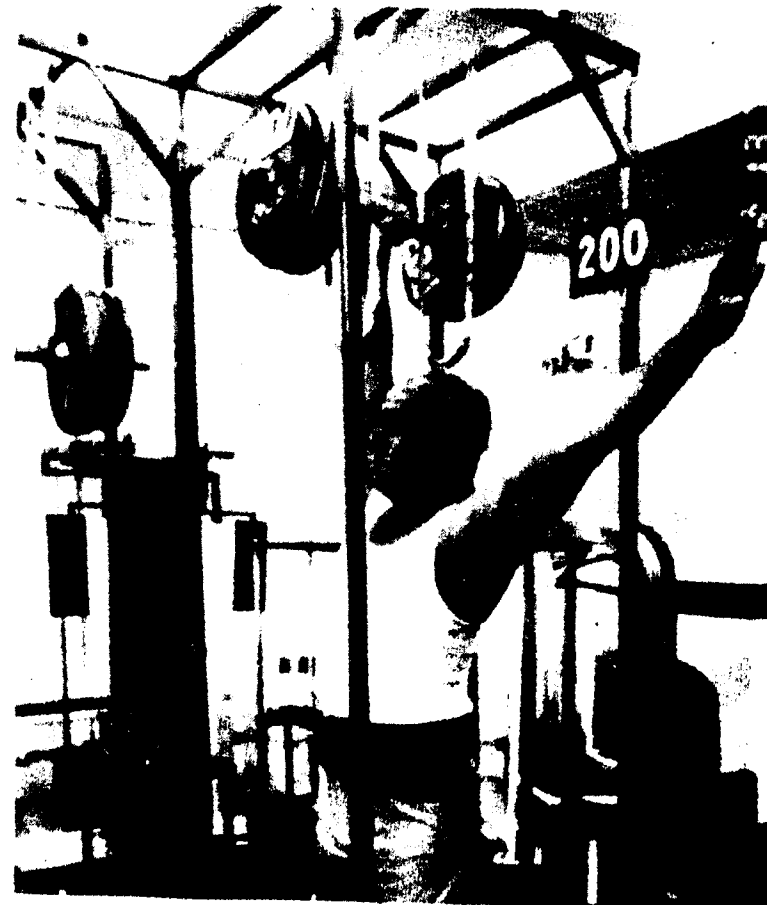
Meditation is not an experience of the mind, it is an experience of the soul".

Almost analogous to Swami Vivekananda, the great Indian spiritual philosopher who believed that physical improvement is as important as spiritual development, a modern philosopher has successfully achieved physical excellence through spiritual intensity. His name: Sri Chinnoy, 54 years old, runs numerous meditation centres in USA including one at the United Nations for the past 15 years.

In May, this year, he lifted 220 pounds-65 pounds over his own body weight in his "Body, Heart, Soul, One Arm Lift". (If you want to realise the effort and achievement behind this try lifting your television in one hand). Carl Lewis, winner of four gold medals in the Los Angeles Olympics, exclaimed

"He's out of my league? His accomplishment is phenomenal. If he can lift that much weight, then he can inspire me to break that long jump record".

A champion sprinter for many years while at the Sri



Aurobindo Ashram, Sri Chinnoy has along valued sports as important to spiritual development. He has founded the international Sri Chinnoy Marathon team. Sponsoring over 500 running races of all distances every

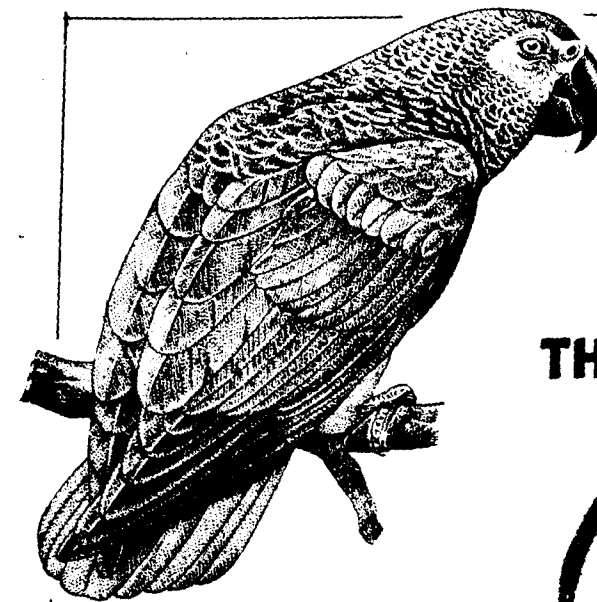
year, the group sponsors the longest race on earth- a 1000 mile race (1986 winner: Stu Mittleman in 11 days and 20 hours)

Apart from Athletics, Sri Chinnoy has other areas to prove that peace and dynamism are complementary to each

other. He has written over 700 books, painted over 140,000 paintings and composed over 5000 devotional songs. Perhaps a fine example that man's potential is limitless, especially when we tap our inner resources.

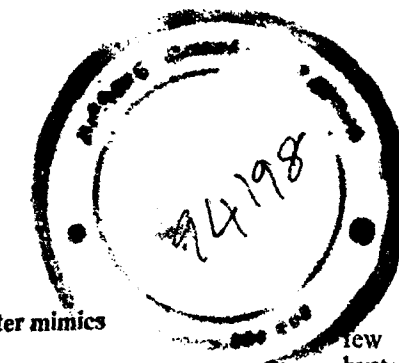
For the great majority of mankind are satisfied with appearances, as though they were realities and are often more influenced by the things that seem than by those that are.

—Niccolo Machiavelli.



THE TALKING BIRDS

By Nita Edwin



"By Jove! What a lot of parrots"! This is not what one of the audience at a parrot show said as one would imagine but what a parrot is reported to have exclaimed as soon as it was presented on the stage.

Whether the parrot was taught to utter a such witticism or whether it picked up the sentence owing to its highly imitative talent, no one can say. But the bird certainly bagged the first prize for its well-timed outburst.

Coupled with their talking ability, parrots have a remarkable sense of association and timing. Polly, the pet parrot is up at the crack of dawn waking up the entire household with harsh screams of 'rise and shine, rise and shine!' Its 'good mornings' and 'good evenings' are not improperly timed either.

However, it has been repeatedly asserted that parrots have no idea of what they are saying. Studies indicate that parrots associate words and sounds with events and persons in much the same way and to the same degree as a two year old child.

Master mimics

Parrots belong to the Psittacidae family comprising nearly 315 species. Parrots form only one third of the group, the rest including cockatoos, cockateels, parakeets, lorries, lorikeets, macaws, love birds and budgerigars. In India there are no parrots. The green birds which have become such favourites with us are parakeets. They can also be taught to talk and sing.

Parrots appeal to people because of their brilliant colours and their human-like qualities like showing affection for each other, reacting to flattery and using their feet almost like hands. They are keen imitators of human voice and can whistle tunes, sing a line or two from songs, address people by name and utter short sentences.

Parrots develop their ability as mimics only in captivity. In the wild, they are raucous birds and shriek and squawk most of the time. These gregarious birds when feeding in flocks are noisy and quarrelsome. But as soon as they sense danger they become ominously silent only to explode from tree tops a

few minutes later, shrieking hysterically. The ensuing chaos is so disconcerting that even hawks and falcons, their predators, are readily alarmed.

Grasping feet

Parrots are distinct from other birds by their prominent hooked bills and characteristic feet. The strong grasping feet with two toes in front and two in the rear function almost like hands. Parrots hold food with one foot in much the same manner as one would hold a sandwich. Their food is mainly seeds, fruits and nuts.

The bill is a highly versatile structure. It performs delicate tasks like preening, at the same time is powerful enough to crush a nut. The strong bill can easily destroy wood and that could be one of the reasons why pet parrots are kept in metal cages. The bill acts as a third foot too, helping the parrot to get a firm hold on the tree while clambering up.

Most parrots are monogamous. Prior to copulation males display in a seemingly

ludicrous fashion by bowing, hoping, wing flicking, clawing the air and strutting and prancing around their mate.

Though they may seem a noisy swarm of birds, parrots follow a social system which is more pronounced during the breeding season. At this time they develop a strong protec-

tive attitude towards their nest and patrol their territorial boundaries, tolerating no intrusions.

Parrots are extremely long-lived and in captivity reach up to 50 years. The African Grey Parrot, the best known imitator of human speech, is reputed to

have lived till the ripe old age of 80 in captivity.

The talking ability of parrots has been their undoing. Many countries like the West Indies trade in parrots threatening the island species. Many species of the parrot family have become extinct within the last few centuries and many more are seriously endangered.

Transquillizer gun for Zoo

In principle, it is just a blow-pipe and dart, and it has a new application as tranquillizer injector in zoos. Tele-injector or blow-injector, as it is known, is widely used in advanced countries for restraining and capturing wild animals for veterinary treatment. In India the Vandalur Zoo is the only zoo to have it, according to Thiru S. Subbarayalu, Director of the Park.

"This is easy-to-operate and relatively less expensive injecting device has several advantages over the conventional tranquillizer guns used in most zoos in the country for handling uncontrollable animals", says Thiru Subbarayalu. In the tranquillizer guns, there are two bullets involved; one to propel the injector and the other to discharge the medicine into the animal's body.

Normally, the burst of the first bullet may frighten the animal away; moreover there is always a chance of missing the target. Again getting the

replacement of spares for the guns is also difficult.

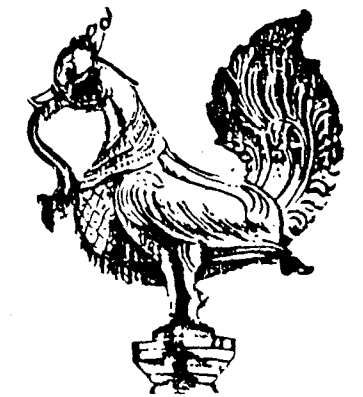
The blow injector makes no noise, and with a little experience any one can use it on animals to administer drugs. It consists of a blow-pipe, whose length can be adjusted to suit the distance of the target, and a specially designed syringe with a guiding stabilizer at its tail.

The syringe has a floating piston and second piston for developing air-pressure for releasing the injectible medicine. The needle is unique in that it has a sharp closed end, and an eccentric hold for discharging the medicine. The hole is first closed with a stopper, which will be pushed back when the needle hits the musculature.

When the syringe is blown out of the pipe, it strikes the muscular part of the target animals and simultaneously the stopper is pushed back. The desired medicine is delivered into the animal in the force of the striking syringe and the needle assembly can be recovered after immobilising the animals, according to the veterinarians at the zoo.



QUICKIE FILMS ON FAMILY WELFARE



the Family Welfare Department has adopted a new strategy and has planned to produce Quickie films at an estimate of Rs. 73.77 lakhs. As a first step, the Department has produced 10 films and these films were released by the Hon'ble Minister for Health, Dr. H.V. Hande at a

With a view to convey the small family norm message effectively to all sections of people,

function at South India Film Chamber of Commerce on 29-7-86. The Director of Information and Public Relations



Thiru R. Karpooarasundarapandian, I.A.S., received the films.

Arrangements will be made for screening the films at theatres all over the State and by all the media wings.

The Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Thiru T.V. Antony, I.A.S. addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Health Minister appreciated the films and said that they could be dubbed into other languages also.

The Director of Family Welfare, Tmt. O.P. Sosamma, I.A.S. who arranged the function welcomed the gathering.

THE WORLD OF PRESS CONFERENCES

TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS' MEDICAL COLLEGE FROM THIS YEAR

The new medical college being founded by the transport corporations, under the aegis of the Institute of Road Transport will start functioning this year.

To start with, the 60 seats allotted for the college (within the existing quota of medical seats in the State) will be provided this academic year in the Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai Medical Colleges at 20 each.

The Hon'ble Transport Minister, Thiru S. Muthuswami, told newsmen on July 2nd that the Government had approved the proposal to set up the college and steps would be taken to construct buildings before the end of the year. Until the buildings were ready, the students would be attached to these medical colleges.

The suggestion to go in for the college stemmed from the decision to construct a full-fledged hospital at Perundurai, near Erode, for the employees of the transport corporations.

A trust was already constructing a 350-bed hospital on a 350 acre spread near the Perundurai sanatorium. The transport corporations, through the IRT, would expand the hospital and make it a teaching hospital too.

The Minister announced, in the presence of the trade union leaders, that the six central labour organisations connected with the transport corporations-INTUC, Labour Progressive Federation (DMK), HMS, CITU, AITUC and the Anna Labour Federation (AIADMK)-had agreed to support the move. The 75,000 employees in the 14 transport corporations would contribute to the funding and running of the college hospital.

Asked about seat allocations and admission procedure, Thiru Muthuswami said a certain quota would be reserved for the wards of employees. The remaining seats would be open to the public and admissions made only on the basis of the regular entrance examinations. While the Government would have overall control of the college, the IRT would run the institution.

The Engineering College, now functioning on these lines-also at Erode- was a boost to the transport workers. Besides being given seats in this college, the children of the employees, were now getting special coaching to appear for the entrance examinations to the professional courses. The PTC was conducting it for 52 boys and 16 girls.

Wage talks: Thiru Muthuswami said the first round of talks on working out a new wage settlement for the employees of transport corporations was held and the demands of all unions had been submitted. The next round of serious discussions, for four or five days, would be held after July, 15, "We will reach a settlement at least 10 days before the September 1 deadline".

GENERAL HOSPITAL TO GET ELECTRONIC PAGER FACILITY

The Government General-Hospital in the city will soon have an electronic pager facility to summon doctors on the campus to attend to emergency cases, according to the Health Minister, Hon'ble Dr. H.V. Hande.

He told newsmen on July 8th that the wireless operated system to be installed at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs would have a central control room to communicate with the doctors anywhere on the 18-acre campus. The receivers given to the doctors would pick up the signals and rush them to their units in times of emergency.

The Minister said the facility, to be introduced for the first time in any Government Hospital, would help doctors rush without wasting time to save precious lives.

300 to get receivers: To start with, 300 medical men in the hospital will be given the receivers which they can keep in their shirt pockets. The receiver will make a "beep beep" sound to alert the doctor and make him rush to the ward. The system would be of great use in Departments like Cardiology and Trauma Care where the services of specialists during crises would make all the difference between life and death, according to Dr. Hande.

The Dean of the Hospital, Dr. S. Arumugam, said though duty doctors would be available at all the wards round-the-clock, the system would help the authorities secure the services of specialists and doctors from other specialities.

Dr. Hande, who went round the hospital, said the Government had sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs for renovating the hospital and its "services areas". Steps had been taken to construct fresh toilets and improve the condition of the existing ones. Plans were afoot to post watchmen near the toilets and at strategic points in the hospital to prevent the patients and visitors from defecating the premises, he said.

Laser equipment to be imported: The hospital would acquire laser equipment shortly. A laser operated Nephelometer to help rheumatologists dealing with acute rheumatoid arthritis and other types of rheumatism would be available for the doctors. The cost of this equipment, to be imported, would be around Rs. 4 lakhs.

Another laser equipment kit for use of doctors attached to the Department of Gastroenterology would be purchased from the U.S. The kit costing Rs. 12 lakhs and which contains sophisticated cutting equipment and knives would help surgeons perform operations without much loss of blood. This would be a boon particularly to cancer patients., Dr Arumugam said.

RECORD LAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS IN CHENGLEPUT DISTRICT

Land revenue collection in Chingleput district the year was a record at Rs. 2.3 crores against the Rs. 2.7 crores, the Collector Thiru K.A.Mathew, IAS told pressmen on July 9th at Kanchipuram.

Show cause notices had been issued to 19 cinema houses in the district for over crowding and licences of four had since been suspended.

He said, noon meal organisers had been asked to deposit Rs. 600 as caution deposit.

Panel visits coastal areas: Thiru Mathew said a high-power 35 member committee led by Tmt. Anjani Dayanand, IAS, Secretary, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, visited the coastal areas from Tiruvanniyur to Mahabalipuram to study the building construction pattern between Buckingham Canal and Bay of Bengal. Though there was a ban, many had constructed buildings.

It had been proposed to establish an International tourist resort on the east coast and non-resident Indians were ready to invest in it, he said.

WATER FOR DELTA: GOVT. WATCHING SITUATION

In view of the low storage in the Mettur reservoir and poor inflow, release of water for irrigation in the Cauvery delta had to be put off indefinitely; the State Government would watch the behaviour of the monsoon for another week and then take all steps necessary, including a dialogue with Karnataka, to safeguard the interests of Thanjavur farmers, the Hon'ble irrigation Minister, Thiru Y.S.M. Yusuf, told newsmen on July 2nd.

Normally, water was released on June 12; however, this year, because of the late arrival and erratic behaviour of the monsoon there had been no significant improvement so far in the storage. The level this morning stood at 21.7 feet with an inflow of 1,700 cu. secs. and consequently, nothing specific could be said about the date of release.

Responding to queries, Thiru Yusuf said the inflow into the Mettur Dam had not picked up yet because Karnataka was trying to store the maximum water it could before allowing the free flow to Tamil Nadu. This had been so for the last seven or eight years. "We hope Karnataka will appreciate the needs and give us our rightful share of water in time," he said.

The Minister did not think that Karnataka would deny Tamil Nadu its due share of the Cauvery Water merely because this State had approached the Centre for setting up a tribunal to solve the long pending dispute between the two States. Naturally, Tamil Nadu should continue to get at least what it had been receiving all these years. The State's stand was that until the tribunal gave its award, Karnataka should not go ahead with constructing new reservoirs which would affect the flow into Mettur.

DIESEL ENGINES WILL REPLACE ALL STEAM LOCOMOTIVES IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Only in the Southern Railway, diesel locomotives have been provided for the entire, broad gauge section, Thiru K. Viswanathan General Manager, claimed.

Talking to newsmen at Madurai on July 1st he said that in the metre gauge section, there were just 35 steam locomotives and they too would be replaced with diesel engines in a phased manner.

Thiru Viswanathan concurred that the quality of coal supplied from Bihar and Bengal was substandard and the percentage of ash content too much. That was why the railways was keen on replacing the steam locomotives. But the replacement could not be done quickly as out of the 120 types of diesel locomotives produced in India, only about 20 were meant for the metre gauge. Thiru Viswanathan expressed the hope of all metre gauge steam locomotives would be phased out in 10 years or so.

Referring to the complaint that the services between Mantapam and Rameswaram were not adequate and that tourists were stranded, Thiru Viswanathan said there were 11 pairs of trains running in the section. But tourists preferred bus travel up to Mantapam, where they took a train for Rameswaram.

Asked about the interruptions caused by sand dunes on the track between Mantapam and Rameswaram, Thiru Viswanathan said the problem was no longer there. The sand dunes were cleared by planting casuarina trees on both sides on the track. Also, a bulldozer had been stationed to clear the sand dunes.

TEXT BOOKS TAKE A LEAP

Books production: The Managing Director of the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, Thiru K. Liakath Ali Khan, told newsmen on July 28th that steps were being taken to commence work on production of text-books for the next academic year even by August. Hitherto, the process was set in motion in September but quite often there were complaints that the books did not reach students in time. "We shall try to get the books ready by June 1st in future".

The society had approached the Centre for adequate sanction and release of paper at concessional rates (under the 20point - programme). It was forced to buy paper in the open market, at an increased cost.

It is stated the allocation by the Centre for the society is about 8,800 tonnes of paper a year at concessional rates, but it gets only 50 percent from the specified mill. Some of the 7 mills identified to make supplies to the State are unable

to deliver the quota. As such, the society is forced to buy 3000 to 4000 tonnes in the open market, involving an additional cost of about Rs. 1 crore. Consequently, the cost of books and note - books is bound to go up. Though it is not expected to meet the entire demand for note - books, the society has monopoly in supply of school text books.

Asked about the stock and supply position of text-books and exercise note - books this

NABARD SCHEME TO STRENGTHEN COOP. BANKS

The NABARD has a scheme to strengthen the credit delivery system and it will be implemented in Chingleput district from July.

Thiru R. Santhanam IAS, Registrar of Co-operative Societies who gave this information to newsmen at Madurai on July 2nd said that a similar scheme already implemented in Aurangabad in Maharashtra, Houshangatad in Madhya Pradesh and Sabarkanta in Gujarat had been a success. If the Chingleput model proved successful, efforts would be made to extend the scheme to other areas.

Among other things, the scheme envisaged strengthening of the cooperative banks through additional staff members after making an assessment of the staff requirements and the area to be covered by each bank in the district.

THE NABARD would provide vehicles to the staff to meet the farmers who had been extended credit. The period of operation of the scheme by the NABARD was three years and subsequently it was left to the State Government concerned to take appropriate action. Thiru Santhanam said what was lacking today was mobility to meet the borrowers. If frequent visits were made, it would ensure quick repayment of loans. The State Government would watch the performance of the cooperatives in Chingleput district and take appropriate steps to extend the scheme to other districts.

The State Government he said, proposed to intensify the jewel loan schemes. This year, a credit of Rs. 300 crores will be given through the cooperatives for agricultural purposes. The allocation under jewel loans last year was Rs.250 crores.

year, Thiru Liakath Ali Khan said most of the supplies had been completed. Steps were being taken to despatch books and note - books to places of schools where they had not reached yet.

The society had six centres in Tirunelveli, Madurai, Kumbakonam, Coimbatore, Salem and Madras to distribute books. Two more branches could be opened next month in Tiruchi and Vellore.

The Society, which was buying the minority language

text - books — Kannada, Malayalam and Telugu — for Standards IV to X from other States would from this year supply the books to students at cost price, instead of taking a margin.

He said text - books worth Rs. 13 crores would be distributed free to children in Standards I to VIII under the Chief Minister's special programme this year also.

Buildings maintenance: The society had doubled its annual

grant for maintenance of school buildings and construction of additional blocks in deserving schools to Rs. 50 lakhs with effect from this year.

This Society had been regularly contributing to this programme of maintaining and improving school buildings. Till now about 100 schools had been benefited. The funds were made available to the Director of School Education for distribution to the most deserving schools.

MRL Record output

The feasibility report for the Rs. 600-crore naphtha cracker/aromatic plant, the largest in the southern region, to meet the synthetic fibre needs, has been approved by the Government of India and the sanction is expected from Delhi, Thiru V.R. Deenadayalu, Chairman and Managing Director, Madras Refineries Limited (MRL) told the newsmen on July 28th.

He said eight large business he sees in the country had evinced keen interest in taking up the project under the joint sector as envisaged by the MRL. Discussions with these businessmen centred on their competence and technological capability to secure foreign knowhow to operate the plant, with minimum cost of foreign exchange and their ability to raise the adequate rupee counterpart funds. The foreign exchange content to produce 1,50,000 tonnes of PTA, 30,000 tonnes of ortho-xylene and a minimum

of 10,000 tonnes of benzene annually, would be around Rs. 180 crores.

This project had been forwarded to Delhi as part of the MRL's corporate activity to develop downstream industries in the Manali area and achieve the objective of developing petro-chemicals, thereby making the MRL have a strong foothold in the petro-chemical arena in the coming years.

The petro-chemical industry was poised for unprecedented growth in the coming years, with the hitherto unimplemented applications coming into use.

Consortium of refineries: The MRL had formed recently Petroleum India International (PII), a consortium of eight refineries in the country consisting of experts to secure several contracts for secondment of personnel to overseas indus-

trial units mainly in the petroleum and petro-chemical industries.

He said the MRL had achieved new records in crude throughput, decrease in fuel and loss, increased sales turnover, profit and contributions to Central and State Governments in 1985-86. The sales turnover was Rs. 1,291.52 crores, with a profit of Rs.26.15 crores. The contribution to the Centre and State Government was about Rs. 381.68 crores.

LPG production: The FCC unit which was commissioned in 1985 to increase production of LPG, petrol, kerosene and high speed diesel, achieved a total throughput of 5.33 lakh tonnes, LPG production was highest last year at 1,10,000 tonnes. Petrol 1.85 lakh tonnes, kerosene 6.15 lakh tonnes, and diesel oil 1.62 lakh tonnes.

MODERN PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AT MADRAS

M/s. Sulabh International a Voluntary Organisation at Patna has been putting up Sulabh Souchalayas (Public Conveniences of an improved variety) all over the country. The organisation has been constructing and maintaining Public Conveniences in different cities in India very successfully. The Government have permitted the Corporation of Madras to entrust construction of 8 modern Pay and Use Public Conveniences to M/s. Sulabh International.

1. Moffusil Bus Stand, Broadway,
2. Loane square, Broadway,
3. Kalyanapuram, Vyasarpadi,
4. Canal Street, Triplicane (Alternate site at Besant Nagar),
5. Giriappa Road, T. Nagar,

6. G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar,
7. Mylapore Tank (Alternate site at Manicka Maistry Street), &
8. Wall Tax Road.

The Public Conveniences at G.N. Chetty Road and Giriappa Road have been completed in all respects and were opened on 19-8-86 by the Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration, Thiru P.U. Shanmugam.

The cost of construction of the two Public Conveniences complex is as follows :

	Rs. Lakhs
1. G.N. Chetty Rd.,	3.20
2. Giriappa Rd.,	2.63

M/s. Sulabh International and the Corporation of Madras have entered into an agreement

under which the organisation will maintain Public Conveniences for a period of 30 years and will collect nominal payment of 20 Paise for the use of toilet and bath facilities. Any increase in the nominal rate now agreed to will be done with mutual consultation.

The standard of hygiene and environmental sanitation of the Public Conveniences maintained by Sulabh International has been of a high order. The Public Conveniences will be provided with Electricity and water supply and will be maintained round the clock.

The 2 Public Conveniences which are ready for use are located very close to slums and are provided with the facilities of toilet, bathroom, children's Public Convenience, and clothes washing facilities for women.

TO Believe.....Or Not To Believe.....

THE GREAT PYRAMID of Cheops contains more than Five million tons of stone. It is 481 feet high and covers more than 13 acres.

The British Houses of Parliament cover Eight acres, have more than 1000 rooms, over 100 staircases and Two miles of passage.

According to the Mayans of Central America, Time begin in 3113 B.C.

MILOS OBRENOVIC, formerly a pig dealer, became ruler of SERBIA in 1817.

The Armistice ending the first World War was signed on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

The height of fashion in the 17th century was to tint the lips with Green or Black.



Fruit Bat

The Flying Mammals

SANTOSH K. GUPTA.

Flight is only for birds, or so most people think, but some mammals too fly. There are flying squirrels and there is a flying marsupial too in Australia, but only the bats have taken to the air in the manner of birds. All the others, though they cross wide distances in the air, are not essentially flying, but gliding.

Bats have undergone great adaptations to become masters of the air. Before they learned to fly, they learned to live in trees and to leap into the air. Though converted into wings the limbs of bats are also used for walking and climbing. The wings are an adaptation from the simple fore-limb. The finger bones have been greatly elongated and a thin web of skin stretches between them. This flap extends along the side of the body to enclose the legs. These leathery wings are as efficient for flight as are the more sophisticated feathered wings of birds. The hindlimbs, despite their claws, are very weak. They are useful only for landing onto ledges and cervices.

The bat while sleeping or resting hangs downwards from a perch. This way of hanging spells death for the bats in towns and cities where the perch is often an electric wire. Usually their body is longer than the distance between the

two wires of electricity lines, and so many bats die of being electrocuted.

There are two main groups of bats, the fruit eating (Megachiroptera) and insect eating (Microchiroptera). As their name suggests, the fruit eating bats are larger and are entirely fruit or nectar feeders. The Indian Flying Fox (Pteropus giganteus) is one of the fruit eating bats. The large size of this bat makes it unmistakable. Its head and body length is about 23 cm and wing-spread is about 1.2m.

Nocturnal animals

Bats are nocturnal, and it is believed that this is because of the competition from birds which are largely diurnal.

During the day time, the fruit eating bats rest in large colonies on high trees, often in the middle of towns and villages. In all fruit bats, the fruit is chewed, but only the juice is swallowed while the pulp is spit out. A small fruit bat may eat more than its own weight of fruit at a single sitting. When twilight falls, they fly from their resting places to their food trees. Many times they first visit a watering place, touching the water surface briefly and drinking in flight.

All fruit bats possess very large eyes capable of superb night vision though they are of course unable to see in complete darkness. Only a few fruit bats (like the genus rousettus) use the famous rader system to find their way in the dark. The method is more commonly used by the insectivorous bats.

These bats omit supersonic sounds which vibrate through the air and striking any object in their path get reflected back to be instantly picked up by the bat's ear. Even in total darkness, these bats can find their way with this radar system.

Bats have been associated with evil because they fly at night and lurk in dark places. Their great value as insect destroyers and even as pollinators and dispersers of plant seeds is often overlooked. The large fruit eating bats are considered harmful by orchard owners. But Dr. Tuttle, a bat expert, has been quoted in the 'Hornbill' the quarterly magazine of the Bombay Natural History Society, that the damage fruit bats cause is over stressed as they mainly eat fruits which are already in an advanced stage of ripening, and are of little value as marketable products. In the words of Dr. Tuttle, 'Man is far from outgrowing his long dependence on bats.'



Rabindranath Tagore

AS I SAW HIM.

NANDAGOPAL SEN GUPTA

I shall narrate a few personal reminiscences of Rabindranath Tagore, as I saw him in my youth. Incidentally let me tell that I had the privilege of coming in contact with Tagore. For it is he who wanted me join his personal staff as literary secretary. Besides I had been a lecturer of literature in the Visvabharati also.

Naturally I saw the great personality from very close quarters. I might say that I almost lived in the same apartment with him for quite a number of years, during which I got enough of opportunities to see and study him under all circumstances. I saw him in good health and in fever and indisposition. Saw him read,

write, talk, take his meal and go to sleep. So I could easily see the creature man from out of the impersonal man that resided in him as poet and philosopher.

Some of my earlier illusions and misgivings, were thus dispelled. I was told in my adolescence that the poet was never accessible to the common man, that his ways of life were princely and he was indifferent to what was happening in the outside world. But I was over taken by surprise to find that he was a typically industrious man a man highly generous and amiable and all alert and that there was nothing, one could term as extravagant and unbecoming in his modes and manners.

He used to get up early at 5.30 daily in the morning, take his bath and then sit down at his table with tea, tiffin and writing materials. Letters came in their dozens from all corners, written by known and unknown persons, one seeking advice, another one praying for a suitable name for his or her new born child. Yet another wanting an autograph on a four line poem. He would himself read them and

write with his own hand brief replies to all, irrespective of the fellows, who wrote them. Visitors, used to pour in from all quarter and he would admit them one by one with affectionate indiscrimination and would not grudge a few moments talk with one all. His daily pre-occupations however would go on undisturbed in

the midst of everything and no one ever heard any word of disgust for such diversions.

At noon he would never lie down for rest after lunch and preferred sitting on a cushionless chair, reading, writing, or occasionally painting too. Indolence and wastage of time was what he disliked most. One word a two would not perhaps be out of place in this connection to stress on his dress and diet. He would usually wear a long hose and loose pyjamas in all seasons, either in summer or winter or rain. In winter some times he added a Turkey cap and that was all. His diet too was not rich or princely. He was a connoisseur of good food indeed, but good food never meant spicy and oily cooking. He happened to be a careful student of dietetics and would invent from time to time culinary recipe and wanted them to be put to experiment.

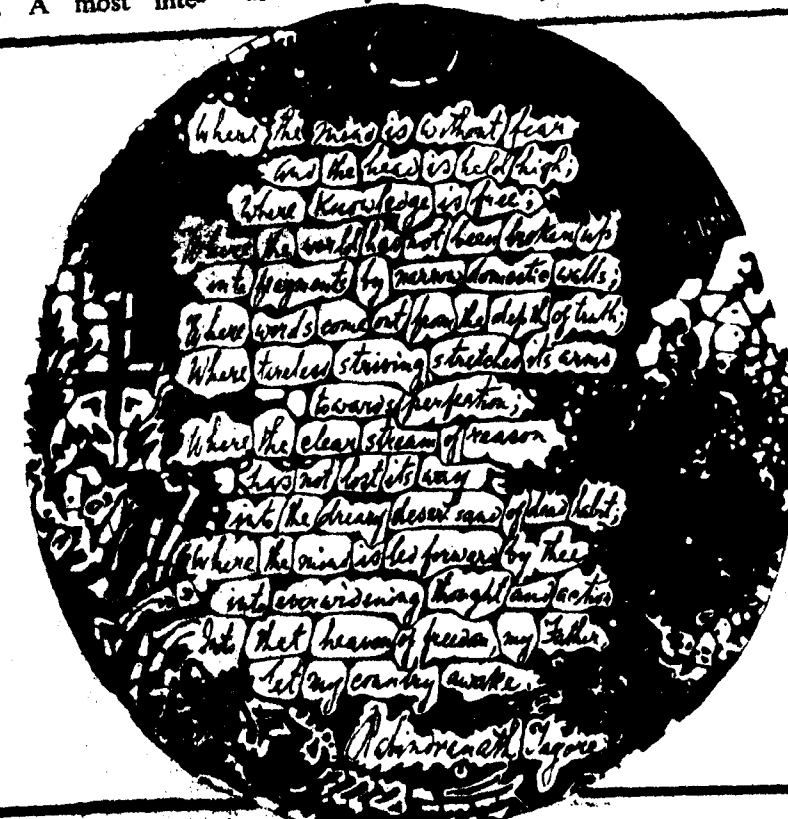
His evenings were generally devoted to conference or musical parties or dramatic performances. A most inte-

resting trait in his character was that he was a self-taught homeopath and often used to administer medicine to any one who sought his advice. But the most noteworthy or significant section of his daily life was his genial humour, with which he greeted all. His guests and relations, friends and associates, even menials, none ever missed it. Be it told here that his humour, that enlivened every one, both big and small was never used hit or bite anyone. The person targeted could also participate in the chorus of laughter, he used to evoke by clever punning or twisting of words. He could invent impromptu verses to suit the occasion and thereby amuse his audience. It was really something which brought down the great personality to the level of our humdrum life.

But was that all? Did anyone comprehend the full stature of Tagore the man and poet, from a casual study of all these personal traits alone? Not at all. The inner man, I mean the real man in his spiritual identity was not easy to

grasp. That real man could in a moment transport himself to a region beyond our reach and rise above all earthly cares and petty considerations and be almost an abstract self. So to say, on several occasions I had had chances to watch that inner man, coming out all on a sudden and overpower the creature man, who lived in our midst.

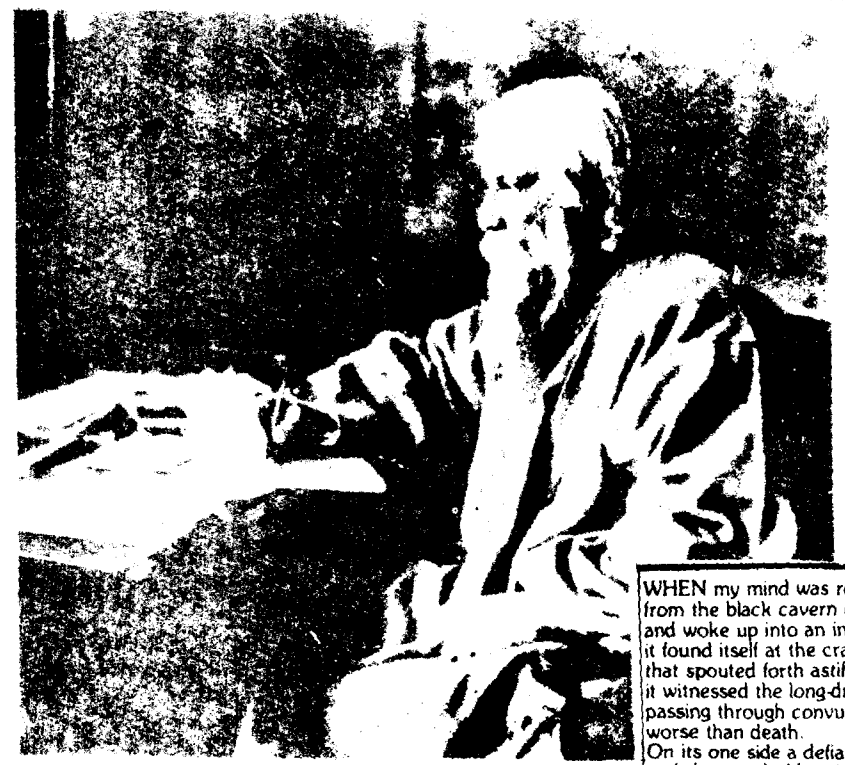
But it was pleasing to note that the two selves of the same Tagore were so meticulously blended together that the elite and the commoner, both might reach the Master, the former getting deep into his inner region of his mind, the latter enjoying the grace of his human generosity. He was thus at once one of us and one head and ears above us. In that spirit man survives and for centuries to come, inquisitive scholars shall discover new horizons from the works he left behind. But the earthly man alas is no more and the coming generation shall never know how magnificent that man had been to us, his contemporaries.



125th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Tamil Arasu August 1986.

TAMIL ARASU AUGUST 1986.



WHEN my mind was released
from the black cavern of oblivion
and woke up into an intolerable surprise
it found itself at the crater of avolcanic hell—fire
that spouted forth astifling fume of insult to Man;
it witnessed the long-drawn suicidal agony of the Time—spirit
passing through convulsions of a monstrous deformity
worse than death.
On its one side a defiant savagery
and the growl of homicidal drunkenness,
on the other timid powers tied to the load
of their carefully guarded hoardings,
meekly settling down to a silent safety of acquiescence
after miscalculated bursts of impatience.
At the old nations' council—chambers
plans and protests are pressed flat
between the tight—shut prudent lips.
In the meanwhile across the sky rush
with their blazing blasphemy
the soulless swarms of vulture machines
carrying their missiles of ravenous
passion for human entrails.
Give me power, O awful Judge,
sitting on the throne of Eternity,
give me a voice of thunder,
that I may hurl imprecation
upon this cannibal whose gruesome hunger
spares neither women nor children,
that my words of reproach may ever rock
upon the heart-throbs of a history humiliated by itself,
till this age choked and chained
finds the bed of its final rest in its ashes.

Forgive my languor, O Lord,
if ever I lag behind
upon life's way. Forgive my honours
that vanish its worth
upon an unprofitable feast,
in its service.

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E.V.K. SULOCHANA SAMPATH
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TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

Independence Day Celebrations

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. M.G.R unfurled the National flag at the Independence day celebrations on August 15th. A report.

Arignar Anna - his life and thoughts

On the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, Tamil Arasu presents, the life and thoughts of the leader, in brief.

Thanthai Periyar

On the birth anniversary of Thanthai Periyar a look into the mind that changed the course of Tamils history.

One Year of Anna District

The birth anniversary of Arignar Anna is also the birth anniversary of many new districts in Tamil Nadu. Anna District with headquarters at Dindigul completes one year of existence. A development report.

ஆணையர்
தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம் பற்றும்
புரத்தாறு ஆராய்ச்சி

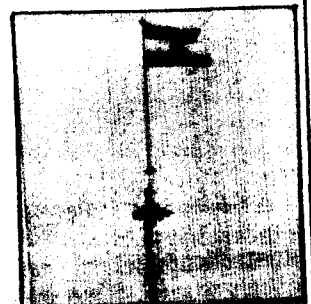
17 DEC 1986

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
எழுத்துச் சென்னை-8.

ஆணையர்
தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம் பற்றும்
புரத்தாறு ஆராய்ச்சி

17 DEC 1986

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
எழுத்துச் சென்னை-8.



Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

September 1986

Aavani - Purattasi

CM ASKS PEOPLE TO FIGHT SEPARATIST FORCES



A four-minute address by the Hon'ble. Chief Minister, Dr. M. G. Ramachandran, exhorting people to put down separatist and disruptive forces, highlighted the Independence Day Celebrations in the City on August 15th.

Dr. Ramachandran, who unfurled the National Flag at an impressive function on the ramparts of Fort St. George, was given a big ovation by a

large gathering who had assembled on the lawns.

The Chief Minister reminded the people of the call of Thiru C.N. Annadurai that they should all work untiringly for the establishment of a new socialist society where every one would be treated as equals and said; "Let us discharge our duties first and earn the rights and privileges. We shall work and progress keeping before us

the goal of peace, unity and prosperity."

Conveying his good wishes to the people of the State on the occasion of Independence Day, Thiru Ramachandran, said the services of the late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, to the nation was green in their memory. Following in her footsteps, the present Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi was leading the country admirably.

He hoped that under Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's guidance, the Sri Lanka Tamil's problem would be settled amicably.

As the Chief Minister hoisted the flag and was delivering his address, the State Government's helicopter dropped flower petals.

The function was attended, among others, by the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, Mr. M. N. Chandurkar, the Chairman of the Legislative Council, Mr. M. P. Sivagnanam, the Speaker of the Assembly, Mr. P. H. Pandian, Ministers,

senior officials of the Government and Consular representatives.

Among those present was a group of tribal women from the Kalrayan Hills of Salem district who had come to the City to witness the Independence Day celebrations. They were presented to the Chief Minister by the Director of DANIDA project, Mrs. C. K. Gariyali.

Thiru Ramachandran distributed food packets to a number of physically handicapped children.

The Chief Secretary, Thiru A. Padmanabhan, received the Chief Minister and other guests on arrival.

Governor gives reception: In the evening, the Governor Thiru S. L. Khurana, gave a reception at the lawns of the Raj Bhavan, which was attended by the Chairman of the Legislative Council, Thiru M. P. Sivagnanam, the Speaker of the Assembly, Thiru P. H. Pandian, Thiru V. R. Nedunchezian, Finance Minister, and other Ministers, senior officials of the Government and prominent citizens.



Anna - a life sketch

Born on September 15, 1909, in a lower middle class family in Conjeevaram, Natarajan Annadurai endearingly called by the masses as Anna is by any test the darling of the masses.

He took his early education at Conjeevaram. After taking Master of Arts Degree at Pachaiyappa College, Madras, he plunged headlong into Justice Party politics. While in college he took leading part in college debates and evinced keen interest in politics. Dr. Annadurai first met Periyar

Ramaswamy in 1934. By slow degrees and relentless efforts, Periyar and Dr. Annadurai provided a mass base for the aristocratic Justice party. Their efforts were crowned with success at Salem in 1944. Dr. Annadurai's resolution renaming the Justice party as the Dravida Kazhagam was adopted at the Conference.

Though a follower of Periyar, Dr. Annadurai did not hesitate to differ from his leader when occasion demanded. Periyar in his own way declared in 1947, that August 15 the Independence Day was a day of mourning.

Dr. C. N. Annadurai who was responsible for this "big change" in the political life of Tamil Nadu has been in office as Chief Minister hardly for two years. Yet within the short period he proved himself an able administrator and statesman.

Dr. C. N. Annadurai was a many sided personality. He was a politician, a statesman, a social reformer, a powerful speaker, a journalist, a dramatist, an actor, and above all a man of the masses. Rightly has he been affectionately called as "PERARIGNAR ANNA".

ANNA'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

The Mind of Anna



"Cast away fear. Never lead a life of servility even for earning bounteous wealth. Have the strength to stand by truth. Be brave enough to go through fire and hell for the sake of truth. Prove yourself worthy of such Tamil traditions."

Does one dive and take precious pearls from the noisy sea simply to adorn his parrot? No. He takes them only for adorning his beloved wife. Is sandalwood paste for the enjoyment or smearing it on the body or for burning? Similarly, are not degrees obtained and training undergone only for giving the people a fair and decent life? Or is it for pursuing one's own selfishness?

Let Tamil be your drum of victory. Let Tamil culture be your armour. Let wisdom be your weapon. Let Virtue be your guide and companion. March with determination. Act with enthusiasm. Gain laudable victories not only for the honour and glory of our mother land but also for the good of all mankind. I wish you all success.

The supreme task before the University is to give those who seek a vision of knowledge in its true proportions and perspectives to maintain the sovereignty of ideas and ideals in the world. A balanced mind, the ability to discriminate between what is merely trivial and what is important, the capacity to look at a problem from all its angles without fear or favour, to be tolerant of the other man's point of view; these are fundamentals which are unalterable and it is only the Universities that can provide society with a continuous stream of men and women endowed with these qualities.

Democracy is not a form of Government alone—it is an invitation to a new life—an experiment in the art of sharing responsibilities and benefits—an attempt to generate and co-ordinate the inherent energy in each individual for the common task. Hence, we cannot afford to waste a single talent, impoverish a single man or woman or allow a single individual to be stunted in growth or held under tyranny and the Universities should, through the graduates it sends forth year after year, annihilate the forces that attempt at aggrandizement and tyranny, fight against cant and hypocrisy and enthrone human dignity.



Anyone, who proposes to do good must not expect people to roll stones out of his way, but must accept his lot calmly if they even roll a few more upon it. "A strength which becomes clearer and stronger through its experience of such obstacles is the only strength that can conquer them," says Albert Schweitzer.

The teachings of Mahavir constitute a noble code of conduct. "Have control over the five senses. Avoid excessive desire of things," said the great Mahavir. If people had really released the full significance of these teachings, there would have been no wars or conflicts in the world; there would have been no necessity for the United Nations.

It is customary on our part to ask any body if he acts abnormally and behaves unusually "What? Are you drunk"?

The heroes will not drink. The villains only will be shown as addicts to drink. You might have noticed this even in films and dramas. In this regard our story writers have to be congratulated. Even in stories drinking is portrayed as an undesirable act. Good people do not drink. Drunkards are not good people. Even good people are spoiled when they take to drinking.

There is no danger to democracy by our people. As was pointed out by Vasan, it is the duty of the leaders to preserve and safeguard democracy. Therefore, the defect lies with the leaders and not with the people. If there are any defects with the people, they can be easily rectified. But unless the leaders mend themselves, they cannot be rectified. Only to correct the leaders, people make an effort once in five years through the ballot. But it is not known if the leaders will rectify themselves in spite of their defeat at the polls once or twice. We need not mention the leaders who refuse to mend themselves in spite of the lesson taught to them by the people. Such is their sincere faith in democracy! Democracy will shine still better if these leaders learn to respect peoples' verdict.

Art can arouse emotions. It is no good if our emotions are aroused continuously. Nor is it right if they are dormant.

Emotions should be stirred by art. But the stirred emotions should be properly canalised and directed by politics for our own good.

There is nothing wrong if politics is in the hands of artistes who can arouse emotions. It is not only correct but also appropriate and proper. The time is opportune for the world to realise and act on these ideas.



The Thoughts of Thanthai Periyar

WHAT IS EDUCATION?



Education is not for mere earning to live! If we sincerely mean that education is for gaining knowledge, it must be for attaining self-respect and freedom. It must make the people live with love towards all and have no hatred towards any one. It must create a sense of unity. No one should think of harming or insulting others. Everyone must be made to feel for others and lead a disciplined and honest life.

Understanding the value of education, Thiruvalluvar had long ago stated that one who declines to suit himself to the world, cannot be considered to be educated at all, even if he be distinguished in the field of education. In short, he says in his couplet curtly that such people are illiterates. In another couplet Thiruvalluvar defines that an educated person is one who aspires the entire world to enjoy all things he enjoys. In another couplet he says, that he who does not compare with others and take the good for his own development is merely one amongst the dead.

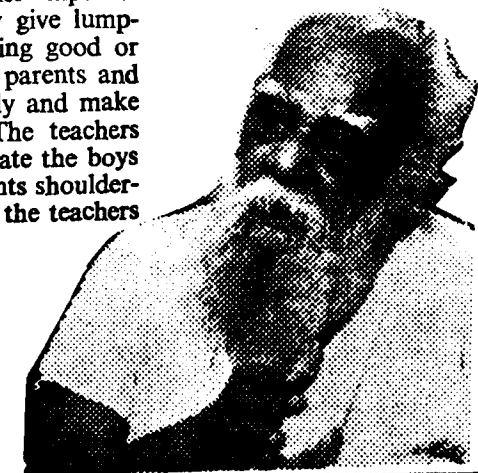
Now, I would like to ask you as to what you do to evaluate our education on these lines. What are we going to gain by merely tutoring children, that a dog has four legs- a cat has a tail-the blind have no eyes-do not steal-do not beat and so on. All these things the children could learn by themselves, without the help of a teacher. They know that if one beats a person, he would weep and abuse. They know that if one steals he would be caught and beaten black and blue. They know which animal has four legs and a tail, the moment they see the animal. So, I am of the opinion that there is no need to spend so much money and precious time to teach all these things. It is not also necessary to make such a gullible propaganda about primary education.

To start with you must impart to children what self-respect is. You must first teach the children what manly actions are. You must teach things to make them safeguard their dignity, honour and prestige. Teach them to live with equality. Teach them to be kind towards all. They must be taught about universal brotherhood. They must be taught to be patriotic. I would like to ask you know now whether you are all able to do so. It is for you to think over the matter yourself.

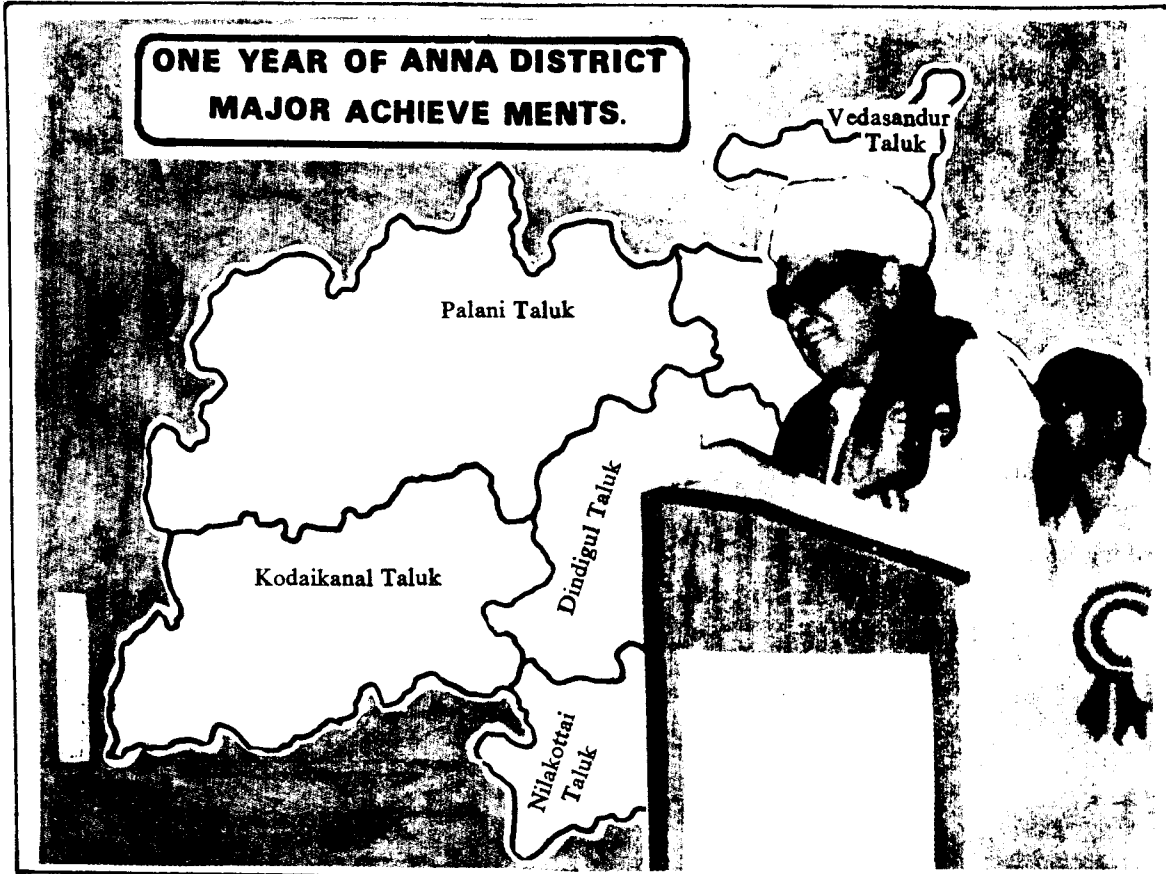


In the olden days if one fails to repay the loan, a cow and a calf would be tied in the backyard without providing grass, hay, oil cake and water. Realising that it is condemnable to leave the cow and calf without food, the debtor would remove even the 'Tali' from the neck of his wife and sell it to repay the loan. It is only after settling the dues, he would walk in the streets with a raised head. My father told me about all these. If one should do like that in these modern days, the educated lawyer would counsel his client to milch the cow and get the milk to him. He would boldly say that he would face the disgrace. In this sort of way, the lawyer would make his client bold enough to do anything good or bad. That is the reason why we now find so many magistrates, munisif courts, session courts, high courts. Were all these found in the olden days, when people were uneducated. Is not our modern education system that is responsible for the degradation amongst our people? Is not our education responsible for the increasing dishonesty? What is wrong if I say that our modern educational system has ruined the nation and the people.

In the olden days, the teachers had no worry about their life. It was enough if they simply had a small hut. A small 'pandal' in front of the hut was enough for the students to learn. It was enough if there were a few palm leaves and a cartful of sand to learn. Any pointed, thin stick was enough for writing. Teachers had no worry about anything else. If the teacher puts a word to the boys during the harvest season, many baskets full of food grains would come to his doors. It would become very difficult for him to find adequate space to store up the grains. So, he will have to say 'enough' to the boys. Firewood will be supplied for a month. Vegetables would be gifted to him daily. During festival days, he would get the new clothes needed for his entire family. To meet his other expenses the parents would whole-heartedly give lumpsums, out of gratitude. If anything good or bad takes place in his family, the parents and boys would extend help voluntarily and make the function a grand success. The teachers took up the responsibility to educate the boys entrusted to their care. The parents shouldered the responsibility to look after the teachers welfare.



ONE YEAR OF ANNA DISTRICT MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS.



Last year, when the Anna District was inaugurated in September, there was acute water scarcity in Dindigul. Water was brought to Dindigul by lorries from Peranai and the Government was spending Rs.1.00 lakh per day on the supply of water to Dindigul town. After the formation of the district, the water distribution in Dindigul town has been streamlined. Water has been supplied to several new areas, which have not been receiving water for several years and by judicious water management, acute water scarcity is not felt in Dindigul this year, despite very poor rainfall. To tide over the situation, the Government has made arrangements to take over 6 private wells near the Kamarajasagar Dam, which would supply about 7 to 10 lakh gallons of water a day for Dindigul town, till the rains come by the end of September.

The Honourable Chief Minister had inaugurated the Peranai Water Supply Scheme, which

would permanently solve the water problem in Dindigul. Work on this scheme, costing Rs. 9.00 crores has started and is progressing rapidly. There has been a total number of 6 infiltration wells and the works have already been completed in the Vaigai river in Sithargal-natham village and the work of laying pipelines from the pumping main to the I Reach has also commenced. Work orders have also been given for laying of pipe lines for the II Reach and the work is under progress. So far, a total of 2.50 crores have been spent on the scheme. All efforts are being made to ensure that Dindigul town gets pilot water supply from July '87. The Government have also sanctioned a comprehensive scheme for Kodaikanal at a cost of Rs. 2.50 crores. Pilot water supply will be given to the citizens of the Kodaikanal town by July 1987.

The Government has also taken steps to remove encroachments in the major towns of the

district. In Kodaikanal, all the encroachments in the lake area were removed and a special cleanliness drive was launched. Similarly, the Government have appointed an expert to prepare a revised Master Plan for the development of Kodaikanal, keeping in view the need to maintain the ecology and environment of this old hill station.

The removal of encroachments at Palani town has greatly widened the roads and pilgrims are now able to move freely around the town. In Dindigul also, encroachments have been removed in a phased manner.

The Government have also sanctioned Rs. 30.00 lakhs for a shopping complex at Old Bus Stand at Dindigul, as well as Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the development of Kumaran park. Government have also sanctioned a Kalaingarangam for Anna district at Dindigul to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 6 lakhs. The Government has also complete

acquisition of about 150 acres of land as a first phase for the Collectorate complex and the Government have sanctioned Rs. 1.70 crores for the construction of the Collectorate and other buildings and work is expected to commence shortly.

AGRICULTURE

Production of millets reached the level of 87,800 M.T. and pulses 12,300 M.T. 42,000 bales of cotton was produced which was 4400 bales more than the previous year's attainment. Sugarcane, which is another important commercial crop, produced 68,400 M.T. of gur against 55,900 M.T. of previous year.

A radically new approach was made by the department, for the first time to launch village level planning for production. This five step approach as it is called, formed the main thrust of the department in not only bringing the adoptable technologies to the very doorstep of the farmer, but also provided him with a real "See for yourself" demonstration plot in each and every village throughout the district, to give a convincing proof of the soundness of the low cost technologies recommended by

the department. 1208 such technology development and demonstration centres of T.D.D.C as they are called, were run during the year.

Rainfed dryland which accounts for nearly 70% forms a big chunk of the total extent cultivated in the district. To boost the proverbially low production of the dryland "Thousand Acre Watershed Demonstration plots" were organised. 5 such plots covering a total extent of 3920 acres were run. Two chief factors, namely (a) Low moisture level of dryland and (b) low nutrient level of the soil were tackled by doing soil and water conservation measures, and by demonstrating technologies like, forming broad bed and furrows, using enriched farm yard manure, fertilising, lime sowing, adopting high yielding varieties, etc., By the cumulative beneficial effect of these techniques, yield level of dryland went up by 30% to 35% over that the previous year. Similarly a specially impetus was given to the Drip Irrigation System, which was installed in various locations and evoked a tremendous response from the farmers as it proved a great boon for the farmers suffering from inadequate water.

INDUSTRIAL FRONT

On the industrial front, Anna district being an industrially backward area, special efforts had been made to encourage the setting up of new centres. A Rs. 2.50 crores soap factory set up by a Non-Resident Indian has started functioning in the industrially backward taluk of Palani and a Rs. 1.50 crore fruit-processing unit is being set up near Palani. There is also a proposal to set up a distillery, at a cost of 2 crores in Nilakottai. In Thandigudi area a Rs. 8.00 lakh Honey-extraction project, sponsored by District Rural & Development Agency is being set up. Similarly a mushroom cultivation project under Western Ghat-Development Programme in Kodaikanal would benefit the farmers of this area, and poultry development programmes have also been taken up in Natham.

A full-fledged District Industries-Centre, with a General Manager has also been established and Motivation campaigns are being held in the district. To encourage the entrepreneurs to set up small industries, a large number of seminars and motivation camps are being held by the District-Industries Centre.



An ambitious credit lending plan of 58 crores for Anna District is being implemented by the Lead Bank that is Canara Bank and other banks in the district and the progress of this is being constantly monitored. There has been substantial progress in the sanction of applications for the various types of loans namely Agricultural loans for increasing irrigation facilities, soil conservation, loans for starting small industries etc.

ASSISTANT TO WEAKER SECTIONS

As against a target of 25000 persons to be benefitted under loans to be given to weaker sections, Anna District has achieved 37684 which represents 130% increase. A sum of Rs.9.50 crores has been advanced to various weaker sections of society, such as landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled-tribes, physically handicapped, villages artisans, etc.,

HOUSING ACTIVITIES IN ANNA DISTRICT

The Tamil Nadu Housing Board has acquired 152 acres at Dindigul and developed a neighbourhood scheme called Rani Mangammal Colony. In this colony, a total of 200 flats have been constructed at a cost of Rs 186.00 lakhs for Govern-



ment servants. Apart from this, under Phase I, 49 EWS houses, 74 LIG, 100 MIG and 24 HIG houses have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 161 lakhs. The above scheme was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu during September '85.

Under Phase II, 180 MIG houses and 25 HIG houses are being constructed at a cost of Rs. 74.00 lakhs. The houses are likely to be allotted on Hire-purchase basis to public during December, 1986.

Under Phase III, 204 Nos. of M.I.G. flats and 96 Nos. of H.I.G. flats are constructed at a cost of 233.00 lakhs.

At Kodaikanal, a proposal to construct 48 houses in an extent of 6.00 acres is in process.

Anna District has also been taken up as the first district to implement Chief Minister's Massive Housing programme for the poor. Based on a survey conducted by the School of Architecture, Madras, 10 villages in the district have been identified for taking up this pilot project. 1000 houses will be constructed in these villages, and the construction will be done by the beneficiaries themselves on a cooperative basis. The emphasis of the project would be provision of water supply, adult education, health facilities, setting up of small industries, especially ancillary industries for house building such as brick kilns, training for workers in carpentry masonry etc., so that there is overall economic development in the village.

TRANSPORT FACILITIES

A separate Bus Corporation has been formed for Anna District called "RANIMANGAMMAL TRANSPORT CORPORATION" which has started operation. As a result of this, new Bus routes have been opened and better bus facilities have been provided for the people of Anna District.

The progress in the various development activities in Anna district has clearly shown that the Government's decision to bifurcate large districts is a wise one.



CENTRAL TEAM HAPPY WITH RELIEF MEASURES

The Central team, assessing the drought situation in Tamil Nadu, has expressed general satisfaction with the relief measures already launched by the State Government, especially in supply of drinking water and provision of alternative employment to agricultural labour.

The four-member team returned to Madras on August 25th after an intensive tour of the drought-hit districts in the last two days. The members had a discussion at the Secretariat with the Chief Secretary, Thiru A. Padmanabhan and the Special Commissioners in-charge of drought relief work, followed by a one-hour meeting with the other secretaries and heads of departments concerned

with the implementation of the relief programmes.

Replying to a question, the leader of the team, Thiru Sunil Sud, Joint Secretary, in the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, said the team would submit its recommendations to the Centre "at the earliest".

Summing up the team's impressions, the Chief Secretary told reporters that in several places the members saw for themselves the difficulties encountered by the people in getting drinking water, they also saw how deep the groundwater table had gone adding to the severity of the problem. They noted that rain during the south-west monsoon was not as wide-spread as it should be

and that the earlier north-east monsoon was also not quite favourable in all the areas.

While appreciating the State Government action releasing Rs. 35 crores for relief in anticipation of Central assistance, the team said these relief programmes might have to be continued until the State got a bountiful northeast monsoon. "We have agreed with this view, and all works will be continued vigorously to give relief to the people," the Chief Secretary said.

Thiru Padmanabhan conveyed to the team the Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran's thanks to the visiting members and the Centre for responding to his request for assistance.



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GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS PAY PANEL SUGGESTIONS

The Tamil Nadu Government has accepted a number of suggestions mentioned in Part II of the report of the One Man Committee set up to go into the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations.

This follows a meeting of the State Civil Services Joint Council held today under the Chairmanship of Thiru A. Padmanabhan, Chief Secretary.

The following recommendations have been accepted by the Government, according to an official press release.

1. Washing allowance for office assistants raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15; (2) minimum special pay enhanced from Rs. 5 to 10; (3) the condition of taking earned leave for leave travel concession removed and leave travel concession can now be availed of even on CL;

(4) the percentage for promotion from among record clerks to Junior assistants has been raised to 25 percent and from other categories raised to 10 per cent subject to concurrence of the TNPSC; (5) special grade has been created for record clerks on 610-1075 for those persons who have put in ten-years of service under selection grade.

(6) The personal pay which comes as a result of fixation in selection grade will now be continued as personal pay till next fixation or promotion and not absorbed in the next increment; (7) special grade created for reporters of the Assembly department, (8) special pay of roneo operators raised from Rs. 15 to 20 a month and Rota print operators from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25; (9) personal secretaries to commissioner and Secretaries and Additional Secretaries to

Government given Rs. 100 a month as special allowance.

(10) Supervisory allowance of Assistants raised from Rs. 10 to 20 and from Rs. 15 to 25 in respect of assistants supervising less and more than two junior assistants respectively.

(11) orders relating to regularising staff paid out of contingencies will now be issued by the heads of departments concerned in respect of straight cases and later sent up to and Government for ratification: and

(12) in respect of categories where the special-grade of the lower post and the ordinary grade of the higher post is the same, the service put in the selection grade of the lower post will be counted for awarding selection grade in the higher post.

NO AGE BAR TO ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

There should be no restriction on age for admissions to adult education centres, the Hon'ble Education Minister Thiru C. Aranganayagam said at Madurai on September 2nd. Now only those in the age group 14-35 were being admitted.

"An illiterate, whether six or, 60, is a burden to society", he said. UNESCO at a recent meeting recommended that age restrictions for adult education programmes should be removed.

Thiru Aranganayagam also said it was not enough if a person were taught only to read and write. The person should be taught some skills to take out a living. He was inaugurating Adult Education Programmes in connection with the All-

World Literacy Day.

Under the programme, 600 centres would be opened in five districts. Madurai, (Mayiladuparai), Anna (Chanaarapatti), South Arcot (Nallur), North Arcot (Jannapudhur) and Nilgiris (Ooty). Preference would be given to Harijan women.

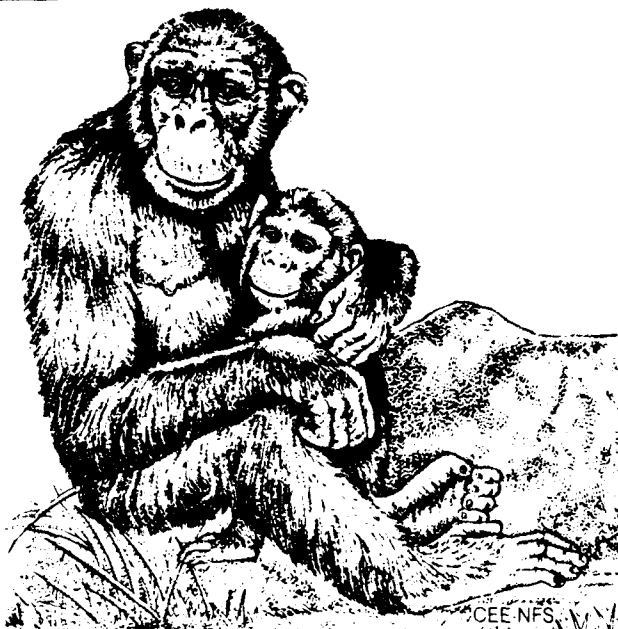
The policy of the Government was to educate the most backward first, and help them come up socially. There was a complaint that the Government was concentrating more on adult education than on children's education. And only literate parents would send their children to school.

There were now 8,400 adult education centres run by the Central Government, 12,100

centres run by the State and 1,540 run by university and voluntary organisations.

The Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Dr. K. Kalimuthu, inaugurating an exhibition on literacy programme said farmers found the adult education programme useful. The Director of Non-formal Education, Thiru V.A. Sivagnanam, welcomed the gathering. He said the literacy movement was active in 800 villages of 24,000 students was being benefitted. The movement was started in Erode in 1965.

The Vice-Chancellor of the Madurai Kamaraj University, Dr. S. Krishnaswamy, said literacy programmes at times failed, for those who went through the courses forget what they learnt the next year. There were no books for feedback.



Chimpanzee

APE SO HUMAN

Not only do many monkeys and apes look very human, but seem to behave in a human way too. The chimpanzees surpass them all in this. The similarity between man and chimpanzee is quite intriguing and has attracted the attention of scientists for several decades. They have examined chimps thoroughly and have found them, along with the other apes, to be man's closest relatives in the animal kingdom. Zoologists therefore put all three: men, apes and monkeys in a single order called primates.

There is a remarkable similarity between man and chimps. The chimp's brain structure is quite close to our own. The life cycle of the chimps is also not very different. Their life span is about 40 to 50 years in the wild during which first five years are of infancy or childhood. After that is the adolescent period till they become 14 and the old age is around 35 years.

Chimps are creatures of unpredictable temper; aggressive one moment, amicable the next. There is cooperation in hunting. They share food with one another. They care for each

others offsprings. They exchange friendly greetings. Many-a-times they are incredibly human-like as they hold hands, pat one another, groom each other, embrace affectionately and even gently kiss the companion. They also display various emotions like pleasure, sadness, anger, curiosity, alarm dislike, etc. These emotions seem similar to our own but quite difficult to prove.

Tool-user

Few animals are known to use tools. Next to man, the chimps are the best known tool-users. Not only do they use a variety of tools, but make them also according to needs and necessities. They use tools with intelligence and not instinctively like many other animals. In captivity they are known to balance one box on the other or to open the lock of their cage with the key.

In the wild also the chimps use a variety of tools. The most common among them is the stick used to extract honey, ants or termites. Very rarely but still the chimps do use stones as missiles. The stone is also used as an aid to crack

hard nuts. Surprisingly, leaves are also used as tools. The leaves are used as a natural tissue paper to wipe sticky lips, cheeks or even hands stained by mud, blood or fruit juice. More than that, the chimps have been observed plucking leaves, chewing them sufficiently and then using the same as a sort of a sponge. They put this self-made sponge in water that has collected in hollows of a tree. When water gets soaked into the sponge it is squeezed out and consumed by the chimps.

Social ape

The chimp is one of the two great apes found in Africa, the other being the gorilla. It is the smaller of the two. An adult chimp weighs 36-50 kg. Males are usually larger than females. Characteristic of an ape, the chimp does not have a tail. It has long arms, broad chest and short thumbs.

There is only one species of chimpanzee. But there are four subspecies, namely Masked, Black-faced, Long-haired and Pygmy chimpanzees.

The chimps are very social and gregarious. They live in a

group of 60 to 80 individuals. But the whole group does not always stick together. They split to form smaller groups of 6 to 8 individuals during the day. These smaller groups are of four kinds; adult bisexual group, all-male group, female-juvenile group and a mixed group. Approximately 6 to 8 hours a day are spent for foraging. Though their arms allow them to swing with ease from trees, nearly half their time is spent on the ground.

They usually feed on fruits but leaves, nuts, barks, ants, termites and even meat at times is relished. Every night chimps

make their own nests high in the trees.

Women with the apes

As soon as we think of chimpanzee and its behaviour in the wild, the name of a woman who lived with chimps in the wild for years springs up in our minds. That name is Baroness Jane Van Lawick Goodall. She is the British scientist who has lived among the chimpanzees of Tanzania's Gombe Stream Game Reserve since 1960. She recognises every chimp and she studies by its name through the individual's walk, voice and facial expres-

sions. From the incredible relationship Goodall conceived the book "My Life Among Wild Chimpanzees". She hopes that the knowledge of chimps' ways and habits may help us in understanding our own. The amazing coincidence lies in the fact that the other two apes in the animal world namely Gorilla and Orangutan are also closely studied by women. While Dian Fossey lived and died studying Gorillas, Birute M.F. Galdikas still enjoys her life observing Orangutans. The contributions of these three women in knowing the behaviour of apes is till today unsurpassable.

INDIA BORN SCIENTIST SOLVE COMPLEX UNIVERSAL PROBLEMS

The mathematical invention of 28 years-old Narender Karmarkar two years ago is today revolutionizing international communications, say spokesmen at the American Telephone and Telegraph (At and T) Bell Laboratory.

To date, the "Karmarkar Algorithm" has been used to verify facilities, design and routing plans for At and T's billion-dollar Pacific Basin network to be built over the next decade and to extend the plan to the next 45 years. The formula is also used to analyze capabilities and projects demand upon Bell's existent domestic network. And it is expected to undergird a third project to enhance U.S. telephone service by devising more efficient call routing patterns.

When the India-born Karmarkar first invented a new linear programming algorithm in 1984, permitting computers to solve problems at heretofore impossible speeds, its potential applications were only broadly envisioned. Still it has been hailed by the American scientific community as a "historic breakthrough in the computer mathematical decision-making process" and a "stunning improvement" on classic methods of solving incredibly complex universal problems.

Mathematicians illustrate these problems as complex geometric solids with millions or billions of facets. Each corner or each facet may represent a solution. The purpose of the algorithm is to find the best solution without having to calculate the location of each step. Classic solutions heretofore have run along the perimeter of the solid. By contrast, the Karmarkar algorithm, in one "stunning" short cut, plunges through the middle of the solid selects an arbitrary interior point repeatedly warping and reshaping the entire structure to find a chosen point.

"The Karmarkar algorithm has enormous potential as an aid to planning facilities and designing routes for these extremely complex and costly telecommunications network," says Laboratory vice president Eric E. Sumner. "The algorithms' speed saves money on processing time, but more importantly, it permits us now to work on much larger problems that couldn't be solved by other optimal methods."

Briefly sketching the evolution of its applications, Ford says the algorithms first application outside Karmarkar's laboratory was on the Pacific

Basin project, a problem whose 60,000 plus variables exceeded the capacity of other linear programming systems. "With it, the problem was solved in only a small fraction of an hour" Ford says.

Another Bell Labs group is preparing the algorithm to analyze the capabilities of and demands on facilities of AT and T's land network, a problem containing over 800,000 variables.

In the third and still more complex application being explored, Bell Labs' traffic network engineers plan to use the algorithm for improving call routing patterns to enhance customer service. The problems is said to have over 1,233,000 variables and 164,000 constraints involving more than 100 long-distance switching offices.

AT and T has filed for patents on various aspects of the algorithms implementation. While new applications continue to emerge, research results have already brought Karmarkar two major U.S. Scientific Boards: the Operations Research Society of America (ORSA/TIMS) Lancaster Prize and the annual RAC Marconi Young Scientist Award. (USIS)



THE MAN WHO GIVES AWAY BILLIONS

"The world is one family, all mankind are brothers and sisters. This is the message on the visiting card of Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa, the 87-year old Japanese who may be world's greatest philanthropist. By his own reckoning, the little known son of a sake brewer has given away around \$3 million of his personal fortune every year for the past 30 years.

Apart from governments, he is the largest single donor to the United Nations, having contributed more than \$40 million over the years. The World Health Organisation in particular has been well supported. Thiru Sasakawa was the principal financier behind WHO's successful campaign to eradicate smallpox and is now heavily involved in efforts to combat leprosy.

Personal contributions pale into insignificance beside the sums donated by various charitable organisations associated with Sasakawa. Over the years, through the Japanese Shipbuilding Industry Foundation and other Sasakawa organisations international charities and agencies around the world have received a total \$12 billion.

Born just before the beginning of the century, Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa has led an eventful life. The son of a prosperous brewer in Osaka, he ran away from home when he was 17 to join Japan's first flying circus. Working as a commodity broker, he made a fortune before he turned 40. He became well known for his generosity, but also for his political activities. He was a prominent Japanese nationalist in the 1930 and was jailed for two years prior to World War II for "attempted intimidation" of political opponents.

At the end of the war the U.S. Army jailed him on suspicion of war crimes, claiming his businesses had helped the Japanese war effort. Characteristically, Thiru Sasakawa eventually was acquitted of all charges. While in jail, he encountered a cell-mate who was an admiral and an expert on small motor-boats. On release in 1948, Thiru Sasakawa raised the money to finance the design and production of a one-man motor boat. Within five years, Japan's first motor boat races were being staged. The government saw the races as a fund-raising device and gave Thiru Sasakawa a monopoly to orga-

nise them which continues today.

Motor-boat racing now is Japan's biggest spectator and betting sport, averaging annual profits of \$100 million for the past 30 years. Three quarters of the revenue generated is returned to fortunate gamblers, but 3.3% passes to the Japanese Shipbuilding Industry Foundation, founded and still run by Thiru Sasakawa. The Foundation rebuilt Japan's shipbuilding industry before switching to international philanthropy some 20 years ago.

The record of donations is extensive in 1980, the U.S.-Sasakawa Foundation was set up with \$48 million. Last year the UK-Sasakawa Foundation was created with \$15 million in initial funding and further foundations are planned for Europe.

Thiru Sasakawa stepped in this month with an offer to bail out the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, which will have a deficit of at least \$5 million as a result of the boycott by African and Asian countries over Britain's attitude to South Africa.

Asked why he gives away so much, Thiru Sasakawa replies, "I give money to do good". His political feelings can be important. He has reportedly said, "I don't want to give money to organisations which are influenced by left-wingers, or Communists". A number of institutions have refused his offers of funding for that reason most notably the Tokyo-based United Nations University.

Friendships with Moonie cult leader the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the late President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua and deposed President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines have done little to improve Thiru Sasakawa's image. He had been particularly criticised for his links with Moon's Unification Church and contributions to it.

Moon was jailed in the United States last year for tax evasion and his church has been denounced by a British court for brainwashing young members and breaking up families. On the other hand, Thiru Sasakawa did help underwrite the Palme Commission on Disarmament, which was far from his political views, and he does not attempt

to exert influence once contributions have been made.

Despite a high profile in Japan, Thiru Sasakawa is relatively anonymous elsewhere in the world. His name does not appear in such reference books as the internationally known Who's Who?. His philosophy is: "For peace to be

true and to endure for centuries, it must be built on strong foundations. That means the poorer nations of this world should be helped to provide the basic health and material needs of their people". The real reasons behind his generosity, however, remain an enigma-Compass News Features Andy Crump. COURTESY: THE HINDU

FRESH CONCESSIONS FOR TEACHERS



A package of concessions has been extended to the teaching community by the Tamil Nadu Government on the occasion of the Teacher's Day on September 5th.

Announcing this, the Hon'ble Education Minister, Thiru C. Aranganayagam, told a gathering at Valluvar Kottam that these were in addition to the benefits already announced on the basis of the one-man commission appointed by the State Government.

The new benefits include: Increase in special pay for craft teachers from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 per month., special pay scale of Rs. 1800-2900 for the heads of higher secondary schools who had put in over 10 years service in the selection grade, increase in pay from Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 p.m. for the part time vocational teachers in higher secondary schools if they had worked for 18 periods a week and counting of period spent on FIP (faculty improvement programme) for earned leave purposes in the case of aided colleges teachers on par with Government college teachers.

Similarly, the aided college teachers in colleges of education who go on tour for supervising project work of students must get travel allowance on par with Government college teachers and orders to the managements were being issued for this, the Minister said.

The Minister said teachers shaped the country's future and they had a responsibility to inculcate good characters among the pupils entrusted to their care. Teachers must see that students absorbed knowledge. He deplored the deterioration in the standards of handwriting of students and said teachers ought to bestow attention on these aspects also.

There was no difference of opinion regarding the high status to be accorded to the teachers in society, Thiru Aranganayagam said.

Thiru T.D. Sundararaj, Education Secretary, presided over the function. Messrs. Thiru M. Masilamani, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Teachers' Housing Board, Thiru K. Liaquat Ali Khan, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu

Textbook Society, Thiru K. Gopalan, Director of School Education and Tmt. C. Sarojini, Director of Elementary Education spoke.

Thiru G. Bujanga Rao, Collector, Madras district, welcomed the gathering. Thiru A. Erskine Devasirvatham, Chief Education Officer, Madras, proposed a vote of thanks.

Teachers honoured: Over 220 teachers were honoured with the good teacher award by the Minister. Thiru C. N. Shanmugasundram, Headmaster, Corporation Middle School, Nungambakkam, replied on behalf of the recipient teachers. The four teachers who have been named for the national award are: Thiru Shanmugam of the Government Higher Secondary School, Nandanam, Tmt. Saraswathi of Saraswathi Matriculation School, Kodambakkam, Tmt. G.K. Parvathi of RKM Elementary School, T. Nagar and Tmt. Bagyalakshmi of the Rosary Matriculation School, Mylapore were introduced to the gathering.

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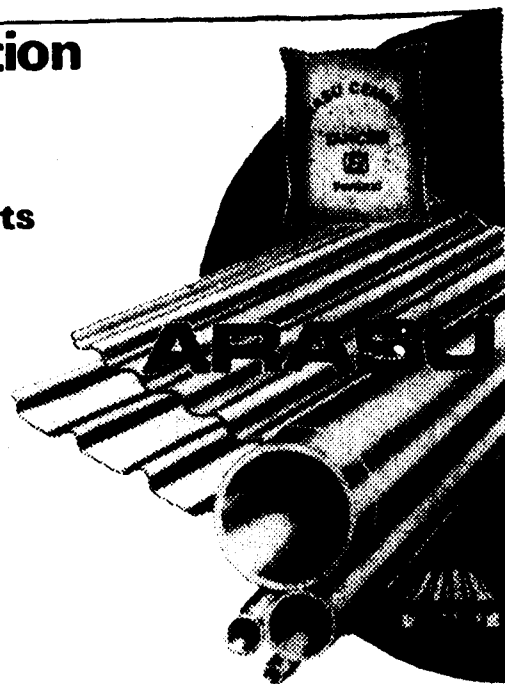
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- ★ Kodaikanal, ★ Uthagamandalam, ★ Yercaud,
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INSURANCE COVER FOR SIVAKASI WORKERS

Nearly 48,000 workers of match and fireworks factories in and around Sivakasi have obtained insurance cover against death or disability resulting from accidents, whether during or outside their employment.

At the instance of the Tamil Nadu Government the facility is being provided by the National Insurance Company under a special "Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme" launched on July 1, 1986.

At a function at the Secretariat on August 28th, the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Dr. V. R. Nedunchezian received from the Assistant General Manager of the company, Thiru S. S. Tulsi, the master policy for the first batch of workers covered.

Thiru Tulsi informed the Minister that the scheme was designed more as a social security measure than as a commercial proposition. It was now restricted to match and fireworks unit, and the company intended to cover atleast 80 per cent of the 55,000 worker in the Sivakasi area before the end of the year.

Any worker in the age group 14-65 can join the group insurance. The cover will be available against accident death or loss of limbs or loss of sight and will not be confined to accidents arising during actual occupation. The annual premium has been fixed at Rs. 7 to help the weaker sections. In the case of death or permanent total disablement, the compensation is Rs. 16,000 in other cases, the risk occurred will be to the extent of Rs. 8,000.

"CARDIO - DIABETOLOGY DIVISION FOR ROYAPETTAH HOSPITAL"

A cardio-diabetology division to diagnose comprehensive risk factors in patients suffering from diabetes and heart diseases will start functioning at the Royapettah Hospital on September 5th.

Dr. G. Anandthasubramaniam superintendent of the hospital, told newsmen on September 3rd that heart diseases in diabetics contributed significantly to mortality and morbidity. Diabetes was said to involve directly the heart muscles (myocardium) and contribute to the formation of a diabetic cardio-myopathy which produce stiffness of the heart and led to congestive failure. The division would provide total care to diabetics by identifying the cardio vascular diseases in time.

Diabetic patients had a three to five fold increased risk of myocardial infraction and the incidence was very much higher in women, apart from the usual risk, factors like lipemia and smoking, diabetes, hypertension and arteriosclerosis which often joined together and created varied problems for a diabetic. Already cardiology and diabetes clinics were functioning separately in the hospital and the new division was an attempt to pool the expertise of the specialists in both the fields.

Dr. T. K. Ramana Kumar, diabetologist, said the hospital had acquired a three-channel equipment to record ECG, heart sounds and carotid pulse tracing simultaneously. A computerised modulator for biochemical examinations, and a computerised treadmill ECG equipment costing Rs. 3.5 lakhs had been installed. The cardio-diabetology laboratory would get a two dimensional echocardiograph machine with Doppler facility, costing Rs. 8 lakhs.

BEACH LANDING CRAFTS TO REPLACE TRADITIONAL CATAMARANS

Beach landing crafts, that could land in the beach, and put into sea from any coast, would be introduced in Tamil Nadu, in a phased manner, with a view to gradually replacing the traditional catamarans.

Thiru L.K.Tripathi, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation, told newsmen on August 6th that about 500 such crafts, each costing Rs. 4.2 lakhs, would be introduced before the end of the Seventh Plan. This craft would enable fishermen to increase their catch at least by 10 times then the conventional catamarans.

The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) would give 50 per cent subsidy to fishermen for purchasing the craft. The banks would advance 45 per cent as loans and the rest would be borne by the fishermen themselves. The craft fitted with eight to 12 HP engines could carry five people and the trial run made by the corporation with two crafts at Injambakkam had proved to be highly satisfactory, Thiru Tripathi said.

The State exported about Rs. 60 crores worth of fish, roughly around 16 per cent of the total exports. With a view to increasing this the Corporation proposed to purchase a fleet of trawlers for deep sea fishing to harvest 'tuna' fish, which had a tremendous export market.

Thiru Tripathi said, the Corporation would soon start several 'pen farms' for the development of 'prawn' in the backwaters of the Bay of Bengal. The project would be taken up in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

FULL - FLEDGED MICRO SURGERY RECANALISATION UNIT BEING SET UP

A full-fledged micro-surgery recanalisation unit is being set up at the Government Kasturba Gandhi Hospital for Women and Children, Triplicane, for achieving greater success in reversal of sterilisation procedures in mothers.

Dr. C.R.Kanthamani, Hospital Superintendent, told newsmen on September 6th that every year more than 4,000 women underwent the terminal methods of contraception at her institution.

"For one reason or the other, one to 1.5 percent of women undergoing sterilisation

operation in the country sought the reversal procedure". And, as maternal mortality in India was still high, there was a need to make available the recanalisation facilities at various centres.

Dr. T.K. Mohanlakshmi, Additional Professor of Micro-surgery, said women undergoing sterilisation need not have any apprehension that once and for all they could not conceive. If they so desired the procedure could be safely reversed. The pregnancy rate with conventional reversal surgery was very low, just five to 20 per cent. But the micro-surgical technique had brought about a great improvement and it was now possible to achieve more than 80 per cent pregnancy rate. In the last four years 53 women underwent the recanalisation procedure using the 'operating' microscope. Nine of these women had become pregnant later, she said.

Dr. Kanthamani said the hospital would soon be getting a sophisticated operating microscope, costing nearly Rs. 2.5 lakhs and other instruments necessary for microsurgery.

TAMIL NADU CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL EDUCATION

Tamil Nadu received encomiums for its contribution to the national scene in the education at sphere and its pioneering efforts over the past decade at the eight national conference on School textbooks.

The Joint Director of NCERT Dr. A. Jalaluddin, spoke of the influence Tamil Nadu had come to wield in national discussions on education. The State's Education Minister, who had provided the leader-

ship for this effort, was always looked up to for guiding the discussions at any conference.

Dr. Jalaluddin noted that Tamil Nadu had achieved a literacy growth rate of 45 per cent in the decade, from 1977 to 1981, more than double the national growth rate of slightly over seven per cent. "It is clear indication of what could be achieved within the constraints faced by the country as a whole and an example which other States can follow."

The NCERT Joint Director suggested other States record, analyse and study the developments in Tamil Nadu and profit from them.

He referred to the series of incentives and impetus given to literacy programmes and school education - be it the noon meal scheme, free uniform or free textbooks schemes and they all had an impact. Unfortunately, the developments were not properly documented.

TAMIL NADU MASTER PLANS ON TOURISM

The Tamil Nadu Government has submitted to the Union Tourism Ministry, 15 master plans estimated to cost over Rs. 150 crores and they are under consideration, Thiru Sonthosh Mohan Dev, Hon'ble Central Minister of State for Tourism, told newsmen on August 19th.

Since tourism had been declared an industry, he expected many more joint venture in construction of hotels, for which concessional finance could be secured. The Centre was now promoting construction of hotels in the categories of one, two and three stars to encourage domestic tourism and to help other budget tourists.

The Ministry would open duty free shops in all metropolitan cities and other important towns which had tourist potential. Foreign tourists could purchase their requirements on payment of dollar. These shops would be run by the India Tourism Development Corporation.

Replying to questions, the Minister said the Government had permitted tourists charter flights to land on any civilian airfield now being used by both Indian Airlines and Air India. The Prime Minister, Thiru Rajiv Gandhi had personally taken the decision.

The runway at Port Blair was being extended by another 2000 feet to take on bigger aircraft. Two other uninhabited islands in the region were being developed to cater for foreign tourists.

Earlier, inaugurating a week long in service training programme for tourists officers of Central and State Tourism departments in the southern region, organised by the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, the Minister said tourism as an industry was becoming highly competitive and demanded high standards of service and professionalism. Tourism was labour intensive and provided employment to both skilled and unskilled labour. In the global context and in a highly competitive market, the quality of services had a big say in determining the popularity of tourist destinations. For qualitative improvement of services, trained manpower was essential. Hence the emphasis now was on training of personnel.

Thiru K. Kirubakaran, Tourism Secretary, said the Union Ministry had last year sanctioned Rs. 4.35 crores for tourist projects.

Thiru M.K.Sen Gupta, Director-General of Tourism, New Delhi, said the Centre had adopted aggressive method to promote India in foreign countries through better sales promotion measures and wider publicity about the infrastructure available in the country to cater for tourist needs. The Government was also keen on promoting leisure of holiday travel from abroad in addition to attracting budget tourists.

Selvi Vatsala Pai, Regional Director, Government of India Tourist Office, Madras, proposed a vote of thanks.

POWER CUT REDUCED

The power cut on the 2380HT consumers in Tamil Nadu has been reduced to 20 per cent

from the 40 per cent imposed in December 1985. The relaxation will be effective from August 22.

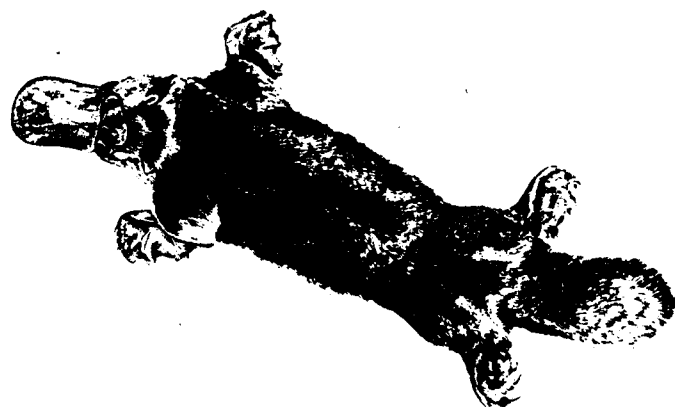
Announcing this here the Electricity Minister, Thiru S.Ramachandran told newsmen on August 19th that the reduction in power cut was made possible by the improvement in storage in the hydel reservoirs in the State. The position would be reviewed in December.

The total hydel storage in Tamil Nadu as on date was 1490 million units compared with 1094 m.u. this day last year. There was the prospect of the storage going up before the start of the summer months, the Minister said.

Expressing optimism about a "bright future" Thiru Ramachandran said the 210 MW first unit of the Mettur Thermal Station would be commissioned in December. In February next, the second unit of the second stage of the Neyveli Thermal Station would start generation, adding another 210 MW. By then the second unit of the Kalpakkam Atomic Power Station was expected to perform better.

As regards the proposed North Madras Thermal Station the Minister said that the assistance sought for was still being processed by the Asian Development Bank. A team of the Bank would be visiting Madras in September, for the final appraisal of the project.

On the proposal to decentralise the Electricity Board the Minister said the Government was yet to take a decision. His personal view was that even if decentralised units were created, "we cannot sustain them as viable units for the simple reason that agricultural consumption is heavily subsidised."



THE ANIMAL PUZZLE

If you could take the tail from a beaver, the fur from a cat, the bill from a duck and the feet from an otter and assemble all these and then make the resulting animal reproduce by laying eggs, you would have created a Duckbilled Platypus.

As if the animal is not odd enough, it also happens to be among the few 'poisonous' mammals known. Both ankles of the male's hind limbs have inwardly directed hollow spurs which are connected to venom glands. Females too have spurs but only as juveniles.

The platypus belongs to a group of animals called 'monotremes'. These are also mammals but they differ from other mammals in that they lay eggs. After monotreme babies hatch, however, they are fed with milk as are other mammal babies. The only other mammal that lays eggs is Australia's Spiny Anteater.

The bill

The most fascinating part of the platypus's body is of course its famous duck-bill. The bill is a sensitive elongated snout and is soft, not bony as is popularly believed. The nostrils are situated above the tip of the bill. The bill acts as a sensory organ, which is jam packed with tactile nerve endings.

Inhabitant of the freshwater lagoons, lakes and the pools in small and large rivers of Tasmania and Australia, where alone it is found, the platypus is a beautiful animal specialized for hunting underwater. It is small in size, some 60 cm. in length but the thick loose skin makes the barrel shaped body appear larger than it is. The pelt consists of woolly undercoat and shiny guard hairs. The colour varies from brown to black above and is tinged with pink or yellow underneath.

Adapted to a life underwater, it walks clumsily on land on its stubby legs whose webbing extend much beyond the toes in the forelegs. But on water it is another story. The legs are then transformed into efficient paddles. The platypus can remain under water for up to five minutes.

When under water, the platypus closes both its eyes and ears, and nuzzles along the bottom of the pond or river with its rubbery bill in search of prey. The prey consists of various crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic insect larvae and any flying insect which may fall into the water.

Egg laying

In the months from July to October, the winter season in Australia, the animal mates after an elaborate courtship. When the time comes to lay eggs, the female chooses a stream bank, and into it, starting from above water level, drives a burrow that may be as long as 25 metres long. At the end of this she builds a snug nest of leaves and grass, in which she lays from one to three eggs which are a bit leathery in texture. The eggs are incubated for about 42 days during which period the mother rarely leaves her burrow.

A newly hatched platypus is about 2.5 centimeters long, blind and naked. It suckles in a primitive fashion, simply lapping up the milk from the fur of its mother's abdomen where it is directly secreted, there being no nipples.

Although it has few natural predators, the newly introduced rabbit of Australia threatens it in a different way. Where rabbits have dug too many burrows, the platypus cannot breed as it needs undisturbed soil for this purpose. Fortunately, however, though reduced in numbers, it is strictly protected and is in no danger of extinction (CEE-NFS)

CENTRE TO CONSIDER TNEB'S PLEA FOR GAS TURBINES AT BASIN BRIDGE PLANT

Tmt. Sushila Rohatgi, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Power, Petroleum and Natural Gas on August 26 promised to look into Tamil Nadu's plea for clearance of its proposal to set up four gas turbines each of 30 MW capacity at the Basin Bridge thermal power station to meet the shortage in peaking capacity. The project would cost of Rs. 57 crores.

The Minister, who was laying the foundation for the 40MW gas turbine plant of the public sector Madras Refineries Limited (MRL) at Manali was responding to an appeal made by Thiru B. Vijayaraghavan, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) for sanction of the project which had been pending clearance from the Centre for the past few years.

Thiru Vijayaraghavan, presiding over the function, complained that the Centre which had sanctioned the MRL's gas turbine power plant was not as kind to the TNEB in clearing its gas turbine project. "We have been knocking at the doors of the Secretariat in Delhi for the past four years and are shunted

from department to department to department". If the project was sanctioned, it could be operated as a combined cycle project along with the coal operated/thermal unit at Basin Bridge power station.

The Union Minister promised that the matter would be looked into bearing in mind the financial implications. The centre had no 'grudge' against the TNEB.

Tmt. Rohatgi said the demand for crude and petroleum products in the country was expected to go up from the present annual demand of 43 million tonnes to 54 million tonnes by 1990 and to 96 million tonnes to 2000. It was a matter of pride that 70 per cent of the needs were indigenously met. However unless more oil was found, the imports could not be avoided.

The present drop in the crude price in the global market should not lead to complacency as the prices might again go up. The country should "save energy and help development". She urged the oil industry to show the way, as it used about five per cent of fuel. All refineries should conduct detailed energy audits periodically.

She complimented the MRL for designing its plants on the total energy concept and achieving a reduction in energy consumption.

Welcoming the gathering, Thiru V.R. Deenadayalu, MRL Chairman, said that with the installation of the new gas turbine plant, the MRL would become self-sufficient in power. The company had a good track record with technological manpower and he hoped that its Seventh plan schemes would get Central approval. Thiru R. Shiva Kumar, General Manager (Projects), proposing a vote of thanks, said the gas turbines power plant would be commissioned by the end of June next year.

The MRL's power plant project, costing Rs. 9.79 crores, is part of its Seventh Plan schemes. Its installed power generation capacity would go up to 37 MW with the installation of this plant which is to be supplied by Mitsui Inc. of Japan. The company proposes to install a waste heat boiler to be supplied by HCG of Holland along with the gas turbine. The combined cogeneration efficiency of the plant would be 72 per cent. The World Bank is funding the project under its 'Refinery rationalisation Scheme.'

The MRL's self-sufficiency in power would reduce the burden on the TNEB. The plant would also augment the MRL's steam generation by 45 tonnes an hour at every high pressure.

ACCORD ON ADB LOAN FOR MADRAS POWER UNIT

A memorandum of understanding is to be signed by the Asian Development Bank, the Centre and the Tamil Nadu Government on the Rs. 150 million loan the Bank proposes to give for the construction of two 210 MW sets at the new North Madras Thermal Station.

Discussions to finalise details of the long agreement were

held between officials of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and the legal expert of the Bank, Thiru John Boyd. Three other representatives of the Bank are expected to join the discussions later this week.

The loan is expected to cover about one-half of the total cost of the project, and will come an addition to the funds already allocated to it by the Planning Commission, for the Seventh Plan.

Thiru B. Vijayaraghavan, TNEB Chairman, told news-

men that on September 1st the first unit of the Mettur thermal power station was likely to be commissioned by December as scheduled. He noted that two of the pre-commissioning exercises were gone through successfully last month, the boiler was lighted up on August 8 and the alkali boil-out done on August 28.

Also due for commissioning in December was the first set of the Lower Mettur hydro electric project, down trodden 15 MW units. The second is stated to be ready in May 1987.

Rs. 130 CRORE WATER SCHEME FOR SIX DISTRICTS

The Tamil Nadu Government has prepared seven combined water supply schemes, with Cauvery and Ponniyar as their sources, to benefit perennially water-starved areas of the State.

According to the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Dr. K. Kalimuthu on September 9th, these schemes costing a total of Rs. 130.65 crores, will be executed with World Bank assistance during the seventh and eighth Five year plans.

Two of the schemes will be in Tiruchi district, one serving Thuraiyur, Perambalur, Tathayangarpettai, Mettupalayam and nine villages en-route, and the other in Manapparai.

There will be one scheme each in the districts of Salem (Edappadi, Konganapuram, Attaiyampettai and 110 wayside villages), North Arcot (Tiruvannamalai), Periyar (Modakkurichi), Dharmapuri (13 major panchayats and 3,352 habitations in Hoggenekal area and South Arcot (Tindivanam, Gingee, Ananthapuram and wayside villages).

Drainage schemes: The State Government is also seeking World Bank finance for executing seven drainage schemes at a total cost of Rs. 40.18 crores. There will be implemented in Vellore, Udhangamandalam, Kumbakonam, Mayiladudurai, Madurai Nagercoil and Cuddalore.

To meet the immediate drinking water needs in municipa-

lities, major panchayats and townships in the drought-hit districts, the Government has sanctioned an additional Rs. 55.75 lakhs. With this the allocations for provision of drinking water as part of the drought relief programme have totalled Rs. 2,399.26 lakhs.

The latest sanction consists of Rs. 24.75 lakhs for sinking bore-wells and deepening of public wells in townships. Rs. 11 lakhs for construction of new wells and distribution of drinking water through lorries in major panchayats, Rs. 20 lakhs for supply of water through lorries in municipal and panchayat areas, and Rs. 10 lakhs for construction of ring wells in Ramanathapuram and Pasumpon Murthuramalingam districts.

'Telugu Ganga project will be completed in four years'

The Rs. 13 lakh scheme to augment the water supply in West Mambalam was inaugurated on September 11th by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Tourism. Thiru R. M. Veerappan.

The scheme envisages laying of feeder mains to a distance of 1.8 km from the Railway Border Road Junction to West Mambalam to improve supply. It will benefit over 16,000 residents in 15 streets. The laying of the feeder mains follows complaints from the residents about erratic water supply.

The Minister said the Government was doing its best to provide water and he sought the co-operation of the public. The scheme to bring Krishna water to Madras was delayed for unknown reasons despite the efforts taken by the Tamil Nadu Government to see through the project as early as possible. He appealed to the Central Government to intervene as the project, if it came through, would fulfil one of the wishes of the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who inaugurated the scheme in Madras.

Presiding over the function Dr. K. Kalimuthu, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Water Supply said the Telugu Ganga project would be completed before 1990 and there was absolutely no impediment in its progress. At present technical experts from both States were engaged in deliberations to iron out certain minor problems. The Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. would have another round of talks with his Andhra Pradesh counterpart on his return from the United States, he said.

Tmt. Vijayanthimala Bali, MP, wanted the Centre to nationalise rivers. She said there was no point in blaming the Centre for all the ills and misunderstandings among States as water was a State subject.

Dr. K. Sowrirajan, Thiru Saidai Duraiswamy and Tmt. Valarmathi, MLAs, praised Metrowater for taking steps to solve a long pending problem of the residents of West Mambalam. Thiru V.R. Manimaran, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and Thiru P. Angamuthu Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, addressed the gathering.

Thiru Komal Swaminathan, thanked the Government on behalf of the residents.

Thiru Jeppiyar, Chairman of Metrowater, welcoming the gathering said the Board had proposed to the Government to insist on a no objection certificate before sanctioning construction in view of the problem of water shortage in certain areas. It has decided to supply water to multi-storied buildings and hotels on commercial rate. Thiru S. Daivamani, Engineering Director, proposed a vote of thanks.



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COURTESY : POCOR'S GUIDE TO INDIA

This is where you throw away all your points of reference and bases of comparison. This is where architecture and sculpture are not passive monuments but living backdrops for scenes that must have once been acted in the cathedral cities of the Middle Ages. This is Madurai, the beating heart of the land of the Tamils and, in our opinion, the high point of this journey south from Madras to the tip of India.

It's 96 miles from Trichy to Madurai-and the trip is not long enough to prepare a traveler for what is in store for him. Madurai was thriving when Augustus took the throne of Rome (coins found here points to the existence of trade with Rome). Until the 14th century, it was the capital of the Pandya rulers of South India who made it the mother city of Tamil literature with their generous patronage of poets and academics. Then the Nayaks ruled Madurai from the middle of the 16th century to 1743 and their majestic imprint is still fresh. The ten tall gopurams of the Meenakshi Temple raised during their dynasty are your first glimpse of Madurai whether you arrive by car, train, or airliner.

From the air, though, you can also see the two hills of rock marking boundaries between the "sweet place" (that's the meaning of "Madurai") and its surrounding green paddy fields. They are known as Yanai Malai and Naga Malai (the elephant hill and the snake hill). Two miles long, the Yanai Malai of gray and pink granite does seem to resemble a recumbent elephant. The sweetness of Madurai comes from the nectar which fell from the hair of the god Siva upon the city.

It is Siva and his wife, Meenakshi, who are honoured in Madurai's greatest man-made landmark, the Meenakshi Temple. This, incidentally is the first big Indian temple whose towers are in the process of being restored to their original polychrome colours. Concrete moldings and bright fresh paint have replaced the gentle pastels and crumbling stones of weathered Hindu sculpture. The result to foreign eyes is often horribly fascinating. A few hundred incarnations of deities out of the Hindu pan-

theon leering at you from one of the Meenakshi gopuram are not a sight you will forget in a hurry.

Rich Pandemonium:

So leave your inhibitions at your hotel when you set forth to visit the Meenakshi temple. You will find yourself in a human tide on which the Southern women float gracefully, flowers in the jet black hair and bright saris draped around their straight bodies. There are stalls inside the temple, huddled around most

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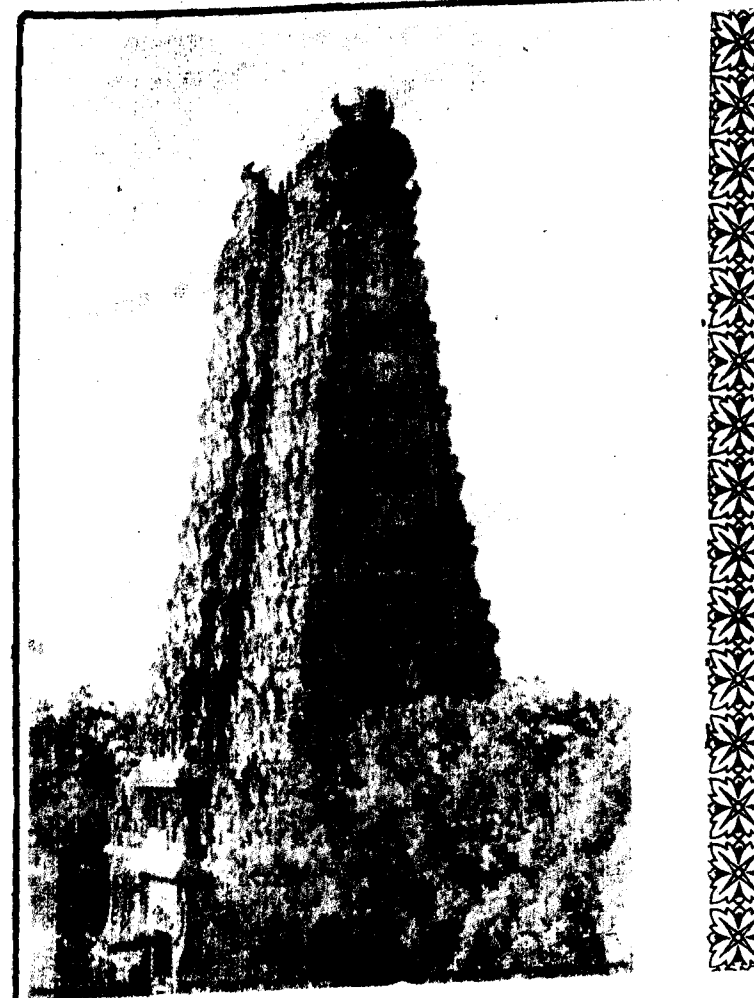
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குறைந்தது
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கிராப்ட் விற்பனை
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ELEGANT



of its entrance halls. The swirling life of the Meenakshi temple never abates, for Madurai is known as the "city of festivals" and there seems to be one just about every day of the year. Trumpets and drums and religious chanting constantly fill the air, but do not seem to disturb pilgrims taking a midday nap under the shady arcades.

While the non-believer is denied access, of course, to the two sanctuaries where Meenakshi and Siva, in his incarnation as Sundareswarar, are enshrined, he can visit the rest of the temple quite freely. Hindus have no corporate worship and perform the puja (worship of the Gods) either themselves or through the intermediary of a priest. It is possible to climb to the top of one of the gopurams from where the panorama over the city of temples is extraordinary.

The Soaring Towers of Madurai

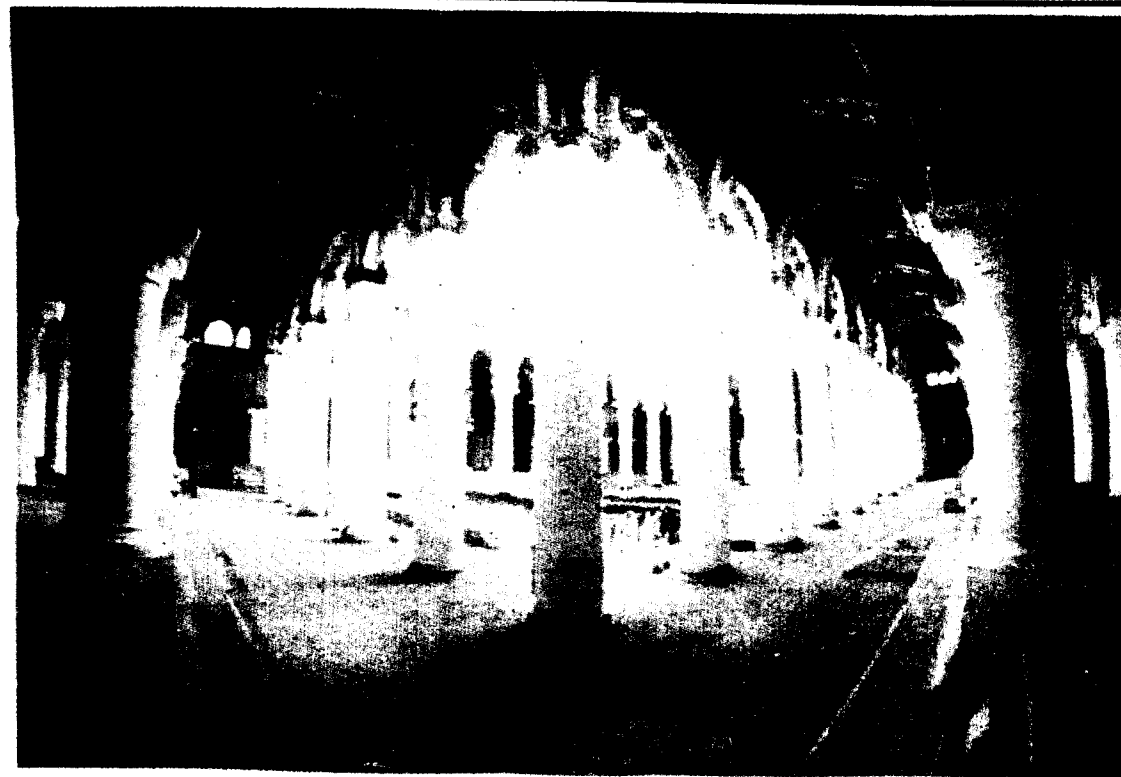
A legend says that this temple was founded by Indra, the king of the gods, who found a lingam in the jungle and ordered his builders to house this Siva's symbol in a temple. When Indra set foot in the temple, he found that its tank was filled by some miracle with golden lilies. The present day visitor can see this tank, surrounded by a colonnade (from which you get an excellent view) of the gopurams, as well. Worshipers bathe in the tank of the Golden Lily women perform some marvelous sleight of hand that enables them to change saris without ever appearing to be undressed. In the past, a bath in the lily tank served another purpose: tradition has it that a Tamil author's works were judged here by the simple expedient of placing his manu-

script on the water. If it stank, it sank.

The high point of the Meenakshi Temple, however, is its "Hall of a Thousand Pillars" which is always open for visitors. Here, again, the figure is an approximate one; the exact number of pillars is 997. But you will probably be too fascinated even to think of counting them. This hall was built around 1560 and is as great a work of structural engineering as it is of art. The pillars are a picture-book in stone and what pictures! They run the whole gamut of human expression from stateliness and grace to lusty humor and ribaldry. It has been said that a visitor can wander through these pillars - which represent a grove of a thousand palm trees where a god was once found-and see something new no matter how often he returns. Some have been a kinship with the baroque churches of Western Europe, but this should not be taken too literally. Still, baroque is about the only European style approaching the exuberance of this Dravidian temple.

Outside the Hall of a Thousand Pillars are more pillars. But these are the famous "musical pillars" of the Meenakshi Temple and they play musical notes when they are struck. The temple also contains a hall known as the Kambatti Mandapam where Siva in all of his various manifestations is represented on sculptured pillars.

At any time, this temple of Siva and his wife is filled with worshipers pouring oil on minor gods, depositing flower offerings and going through pujas in front of their deities. But its greatest day comes around the end of April during a festival celebrating the marriage of the sacred couple. The wedding is re-enacted in the temple and then the images are paraded through the streets of Madurai. In all, the festive proceedings last three days. During the celebrations of the Tamil New



Year (which is mid-April), the evening processions have a particular charm.

Once outside the majestic entrance gopurams of the temple, you have still to see another example of the architectural mastery of the Nayakas. This is the palace or mahal of Tirumala Nayak, a blend of Hindu and Saracen architecture. Its curved dome, which soars without any visible support, is quite an accomplishment. In the evening it is the location for an impressive son et lumiere presentation.

The modern city of Madurai lives side-by side with its tradition. Spinning and weaving mills turn out some of the best cloth of all South India and the city is an educational centre as well. One of its colleges was founded by an American Protestant mission. Madurai was headquarters for missionaries as early as the 17th century when an Italian Jesuit came here and learned Tamil.

Outside the City in its immediate vicinity, two short

executions are worth making. Three miles from town there is the famous Teppakulam (a tank) with an island temple. In the crowd, milling around the sheet of water, you will easily recognise the groups of pilgrims from the north; their skin is lighter and the women folk-subdued

and shy-throw their saris around their heads. Then, eleven miles away, is Alagar Koil with some excellent sculpture in the hall of a temple dedicated to Vishnu. Alagar, by the way, is the brother of Meenakshi in Hindu mythology.



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