

Tamil Arasu



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TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

The New Chidambaranar District

To perpetuate the memory of Late V. O. Chidambaranar, the Tamil Nadu government has named the new district formed by carving out of Tirunelveli district as Chidambaranar district. A statistical report.

Late V. O. Chidambaranar, an inspiration

Late V. O. Chidambaranar was one of the leading patriots in Tamil Nadu whose contribution to the freedom struggle is immeasurable. A brief sketch on the great man.

The birth of Chidambaranar district

After two days of thoughtful seminars and pageantry at Tuticorin, Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. inaugurated the Chidambaranar district on October 20th. A report.

Mahatma Gandhi

On the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, an essay that is the sample of the profound thoughts of the Father of the Nation.

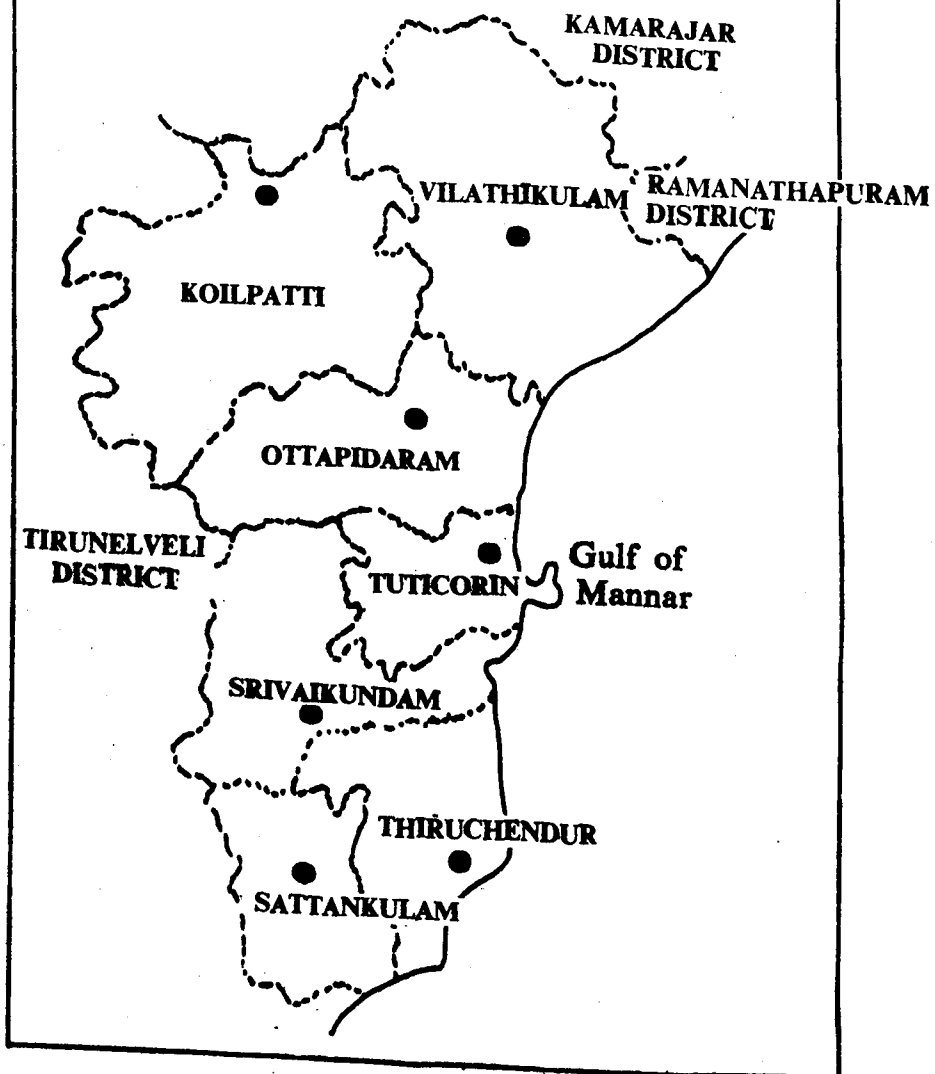


Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

October 1986

Purattasi - Iypasi

Chidambaranar District



CHIDAMBARANAR DISTRICT

TALUKS

1. TUTICORIN
2. SRI VAIKUNDAM
3. THIRUCHENDUR
4. SATTAN KULAM
5. KOVILPATTI
6. OTTAPIDARAM
7. VILATHIKULAM

PANCHAYAT UNIONS:

1. PUDUKOTTAI
2. SRI VAIKUNDAM
3. KARUNKULAM
4. SATTANKULAM
5. ODANGUDI
6. THIRUCHENDUR
7. ALWAR THIRUNAGARI
8. OTTAPIDARAM
9. VILATHIKULAM
10. PUDUR
11. KOVILPATTI
12. KAYATARU

MUNICIPALITIES

1. TUTICORIN
2. KOVILPATTI

REVENUE DIVISIONS — 2

1. TUTICORIN: Tuticorin, Sri Vaikundam, Thiruchendur, Sattankulam.
2. KOVILPATTI: Kovilpatti, Vilathikulam, Ottapidaram

REVENUE VILLAGES	..457
PANCHAYATS	..408
TOWN PANCHAYATS	..20

TOTAL POPULATION ..13,50,581

Men	6,57,303
Women	6,93,278
Literates	7,57,530
Backward Communities	2,17,664

Population for Sq. K.M. 291

Total Area 46,35.1. Sq.KM

Irrigated Area 2,54,971 hectares

Live Stock 6,53,797.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

Elementary Schools	1122
High Schools	58
Higher Secondary Schools	53
Professional Colleges	9
Arts Colleges	8

IMPORTANT ROADS:

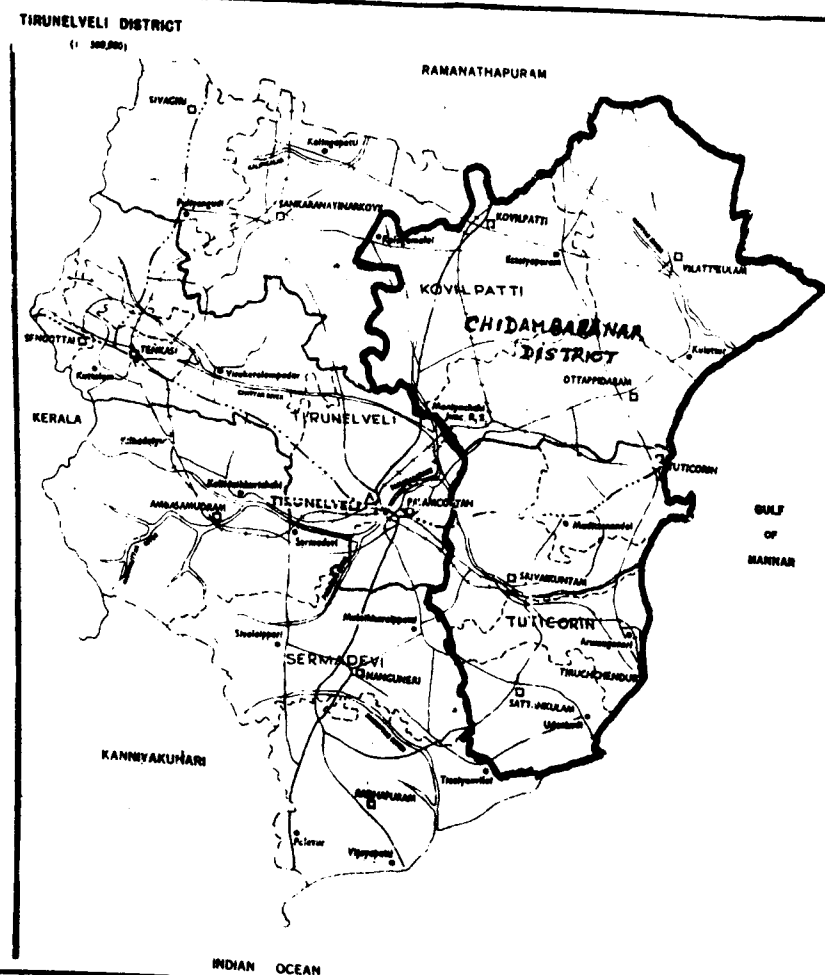
Tuticorin - Madurai
Tirunelveli - Tuticorin - National Highways 7A

AREA WISE POPULATION:

	Total	Men	Women
Tuticorin	2,89,680	1,47,557	1,42,123
Sri Vaikundam	1,83,864	88,063	95,801
Thiruchendur	2,64,194	1,23,618	1,40,576
Sattankulam	1,00,707	46,857	53,850
Kovilpatti	2,47,052	1,21,412	1,25,640
Ottapidaram	1,09,959	54,121	55,838
Vilathikulam	1,55,125	75,675	79,450
Total	13,50,581	6,57,303	6,93,278

INDUSTRY:

Pearl Diving
Match Industries
Tuticorin Alkali Chemicals
Dharangadara Chemicals
Nazareth Spinning Mills.
Palm Products Training Centre
Tuticorin Harbour
Tuticorin Thermal Power Plant
Salt Industries



V. O. Chidambaranar - a legendary freedom fighter



V.O. Chidambaram was born on September 5, 1872 at Ottapidaram and had his early education at St. Xaviers High School at Tuticorin. He graduated in law from the Tiruchi Law College.

VOC married Valliammal in 1894 and started legal practice in 1895 at Ottapidaram. In 1905 he started the Swadeshi Navigation Company to compete with the British shipping interests that monopolised the cargo movement from Tuticorin to Colombo. He organised the local textile workers' strike in 1906 and succeeded in reducing the working hours from 12 to nine.

Charged with treason on March 11, 1908 VOC was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for anti-national activities and another 20 years for his active support to Subramania Siva, a contemporary and legendary figure in the freedom struggle. The sentences were reduced on appeal to six years.

VOC served his sentence at the Coimbatore jail and later Cannanore. Subjected to torture his health was affected. He spent the last phase of his life after release from jail at Tuticorin where he died on November 18, 1936.

To commemorate VOC's birth centenary the late Indira Gandhi released stamp at the Tuticorin VOC College in 1974. The House at Ottapidaram taken over for preservation by the Tamil Nadu Government when Kamaraj was the Chief Minister, now houses a library.



P.M.'s assurance to C.M.

The Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi, has assured the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, that the use of English as an official language would continue as long as the non-Hindi speaking people wanted it.

This is in reply to a telegram sent by the Chief Minister conveying the apprehensions in Tamil Nadu about the recent circular issued by the Government of India on the use of Hindi.

In a communication to the Chief Minister, which was transmitted to the Chief Secretary here, the Union Home Minister Thiru Buta Singh, said: "The Prime Minister has received your communication mentioning your concern over the language agitation in Tamil Nadu following a recent circular issued by the Press Information Bureau. He has asked me to inform you that you need have to apprehension that any change has taken place in our policy regarding the use of Hindi and its applications to the non-Hindi speaking States.

The Government of India's policy in this regard is clear and unambiguous, that there would be no imposition of Hindi on the non-Hindi speaking States and the use of English would continue till such time as the non-Hindi speaking States desired it."

In view of the Prime Minister's assurance, the Chief Minister has appealed to all political parties, to the people of Tamil Nadu and the students community in particular to give up all agitations and demonstrations.

ELIE WIESEL : NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE



At the beginning of this century, philosopher George Santayana cautioned that "those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

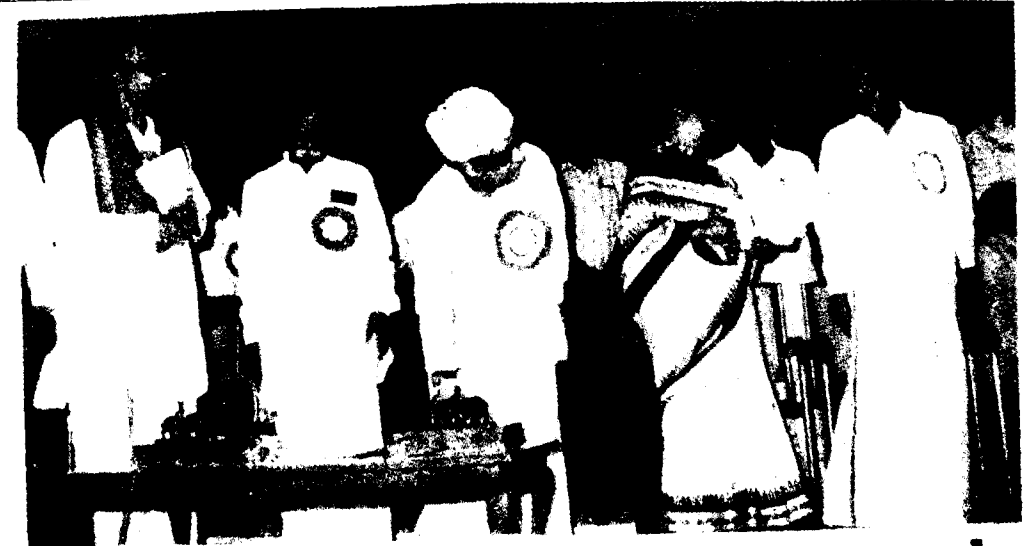
Elie Wiesel received the 1986 Nobel Prize for Peace on October 14 for dedicating his life to a one-word Biblical precept: "Zachor," Hebrew for "You shall remember."

Were it not for World War Two and the Nazi onslaught, Eliezer Wiesel might be in central Europe today—either in his native Carpathian Mountain town of Sighet or in one of the area's cities—teaching in a university or transmitting his

vast Talmudic knowledge to a new generation of Orthodox Jewish youth.

But the Holocaust swept through the continent between 1939 and 1945, killing—among millions of others—young Elie Wiesel's parents and the youngest of his three sisters. Wiesel, however, survived 14 months in Auschwitz and Buchenwald, emerging a generation later to bear witness through his work to a world that no longer exists—the world of European Jewry.

In conferring its prestigious honor, the Norwegian Nobel Committee noted that "Wiesel has emerged as one of the most important spiritual leaders and guides in an age when violence, repression and racism continue to characterize the world." (USIS)



Chidambaranar District inaugurated

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. rechristened Tirunelveli district as "Nellai Kattabomman district" in honour of the freedom fighter who was hanged by the British rulers.

Dr. M.G.R. who was speaking after inaugurating the Chidambaranar district which has been carved out of Tirunelveli district, said Kattabomman in fighting for country's independence, lost his property and his life. In his honour, Tirunelveli district would be named Nellai Kattabomman district from today, he said.

The Chief Minister said that because he felt that there should be closer rapport between the Government and the people, he decided to form new districts named after historic personages. The Chidambaranar district had been named after V. O. Chidambaram in recognition of his role in the freedom struggle.

Dr. M.G.R. also laid the foundation for the new Collectorate complex, TNHB housing complex, rural textile centres and Adi Dravida housing projects on the occasion. He inaugurated the new bus routes of KTC and TTC.



Dr. M. P. Sivagnanam, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Legislative Council presided.



Mahatma Gandhi's
birth anniversary

Gandhiji's crusades

THIS nation has been accursed by the blight of untouchability. What began in the noble ideals of Varnashrama Dharma has been caricatured into a form of religion which is unacceptable to the mind and spirit of the people of India. The worst form of the caricature is the practice of untouchability. As usual the origins are lost in the midst of antiquity. It is the opinion of savants that what began as punitive measure to those indulging in the eating of flesh especially the flesh of cows has degenerated into the practice of abhorring a whole class of persons whose ancestors must once have practised this socially unacceptable custom.

Hindus have generation after generation been aware that a certain amount of injustice has been perpetuated against the untouchables but with the customary faith in rebirth and the certainty that atonement of sins follows the soul in each successive birth, Hindus have habitually continued their own harsh treatment of the fifth Caste. The awakened Hindu, however, must be deeply shocked at this treatment of his own fellow beings determined strictly by reason of birth. It was this deep sense of shock that turned Gandhiji into a crusader throughout his life in the cause of the untouchables. He has recalled the sense of sorrow and the sense of disbelief which he felt at the tender age of twelve when his first conscious thoughts about this social problem was formed. It was at that time that he cleaned himself after protest when he had touched the so-called untouchable. In the various issues of "Young India" and "Harijan", he had repeatedly dwelt upon the experience in his life and his deep analysis of the root causes of untouchability. He describes it as a "snake with a thousand mouths; through which it shows its poisonous fangs. It defies definition" (Young India 11.7.1929). He has repeatedly urged that untouchability poisons Hinduism even as a drop of arsenic poisons milk.

Gandhiji was convinced that Hinduism like all other religions of



the world was on trial and has to prove its worth: He said, 'you must remember that all the great religions of the world are at the present time in the melting pot. Let us not ostrich-like hide our faces and ignore the danger that is at the back of us. I have not a shadow of doubt that in the great turmoil now taking place either untouchability has to die or Hinduism has to disappear.'

Gandhiji has repeatedly brought into focus the fact that untouchability has neither moral nor religious sanction. It is one of those parasitic growths which has sapped the energy of Hinduism.

The practitioners of Sanatana Dharma have continued to cling on to these forms because they felt that stability in society should be obtained at any cost and they were unable to envisage a situation, where caste and together with it untouchability could disappear. It is not a new thing in history that people should be conservative and attempt to preserve known life styles in which they feel safe. But history is also full of illustrations where people who have resisted changes

have found such life-styles swept away by the tidal wave of revolution.

It is on a realisation of this sombre writing on the wall that Gandhiji repeatedly gave the clarion call for a change in the outlook of the Hindus. He was very well aware that if Hinduism failed to face the challenge it would itself be destroyed. As an ardent Hindu who practised the highest spiritual and philosophical and moral concepts of Hinduism. Gandhiji did not wish to see this fine religion perish on account of its refusal to mete out justice to a fifth of the population that is the untouchables.

Gandhiji's deep concern for the welfare of this section of the people is too well known to need reiteration. His compassion for this inarticulate class of persons drove him to spend as much if not more time and energy organize a better life for them as for the freedom movement. We realized that freedom would be meaningless when a class of persons is allowed to live in an atmosphere of poverty, illiteracy and the darkness of ignorance. His ceaseless striving

to make them an accepted part of Hindu society was responsible for many developments which were considered sensational steps in those times. Take for example—the question of temple entry. No doubt Tamil Nadu has seen Tirupanazhvar, Kanappan and Nandan and others who were the chosen of the Gods. But these exceptions never paved the way for the betterment of the class. It required the genius of Gandhiji and the kind of spiritual leadership he provided to view this as a social problem which needed a radical and immediate solution.

After finding that untouchability has no sanction in religion, it is the greatness of Gandhiji that he has proceeded to apply it in everyday life. He has stated that caste Hindus' feeling of superiority over the untouchables has no sanction whatsoever in the sastras. He has said, "If I discovered that those scriptures which are known as Vedas, Upanishads Bhagavad Gita, Smritis etc., clearly showed that they had great authority for untouchability as I have described it to you then nothing on this earth would hold me to Hinduism. I should throw it overboard as I would throw overboard a rotten apple. My reason is offended and my heart is wounded at the very thought that God himself who has created both Savarna Hindus and Avarna Hindus should impose this bar sinister between his children.... But prejudice and superstitions die hard. They cloud the reason, befog the intellect and harden the heart." (Harijan 26.1.1934)

The Mahatma that he was, Gandhiji wanted all distinctions springing from the accidents of birth should be altogether done away with and not only should we have a classless society but also that all religious distinctions should altogether disappear. He was constantly aware of the unity of all life and he was convinced that the true message of Hinduism conveys just this. The mantras for Vishnu Pooja chanting "Jale Vishnu, sthale Vishnu... Vishnu Parvatha masthabe" which roughly translated means that the Lord is present in water, in land etc, is correct Hindu approach showing that everything is the manifestation of God. There is no room for untouchability. In this wide view of Hindu religion.

"I ask you to do one thing. Forget altogether that some are high and some are low. Forget altogether that some are touchables and some

Bye Election results

ARUPUKOTTAI

The results:
Total electorate: 1,23,204;
Votes polled: 91,366;

Thiru V.S.Panchavarnam (AIADMK) 55,125;
Thiru V.Thangapandian (DMK) 34,202;
Thiru A.Ramasamy (Ind) 23;
Thiru T.K.Karuthapandi (Ind) 54,
Thiru V.Thuravi Vipoothi, Govindan Samiar (Ind) 162

Thiru A.Sankaralingam (Ind) 50;
Thiru S.P.Poojiyanathan (Ind) 92;
Thiru M.Marimuthu (Ind) 50;
Thiru G.Muthukrishnan (Janata) 381;
Thiru J.Ravikumar (Ind) 47;
Thiru I.Raman (Ind) 65;
Invalid: 1,115.

TIRUNELVELI

Electorate: 1,31,041; Votes polled: 95,585

Thiru R.M.Veerappan (AIADMK) 52,729
Thiru A.L.Subramanian (DMK) 39,495
Thiru P.Jeyapaul (Janata) 1,006
Thiru P.Jagatheespondian (Ind) 526
Thiru P.John (Ind): 75
Thiru M.Mohammed Mathar (Ind) 66
Thiru T.K.Karudhapandi (Ind) 59
Thiru M.Rayappan (Ind) 46
Thiru S.Suriamuthu (Ind) 44
Thiru M.Ramakrishnan (Ind) 37
Thiru Jayaveerapandian (Ind): 33
Thiru P.Rajagopal (Ind): 25
Thiru S.Murugesan (Ind) 21
Invalid: 1423

are untouchables. I know that you all believe in God as I do; and God cannot be so cruel and unjust as to make distinctions of high and low between man and man, and woman and woman. This untouchability is the greatest blot on Hinduism, and I have not hesitated to say that, if untouchability lives Hinduism dies. If one may use man's language about God, God has been very patient with us. But I have no hesitation in saying that even God's patience can be exhausted and He will no longer be patient towards

this atrocity that man has been doing to man in Hindu India." (Harijan: December 29, 1933).

Are not these observations borne out by the happenings in India today? We require a change in heart, a change in values, a change in the religion which still operates on the four varnas and the fifth which cannot be brought into this fold. The words of warning have been uttered by the greatest Indian of this century and we see that this warning is coming to pass.

In Tamil Nadu, you see the whole of India

COURTESY : FODOR'S GUIDE TO INDIA

RAMESWARAM

This side trip from Madurai might also be your last leg in South India before leaving for Sri Lanka by rail and ship or by air from Trichy or Trivandrum. The sacred island of Rameswaram is some 100 miles from Madurai and Sri Lanka lies only 46 miles away on the other side of Palk Strait. This Silver of land separates the Bay of Bengal in the north from the Indian Ocean and the train ride to this out post of India offers some unique seascapes.

You will probably have company on your trip to Rameswaram. The island is one of the main goals of Hindu pilgrims who come here to pay tribute to Rama, that hero of the epic Ramayana, who came here in search of his wife, Sita. Rama is one of the ten incarnations of Vishnu and, to many pilgrims, Rameswaram is as holy as Varanasi.

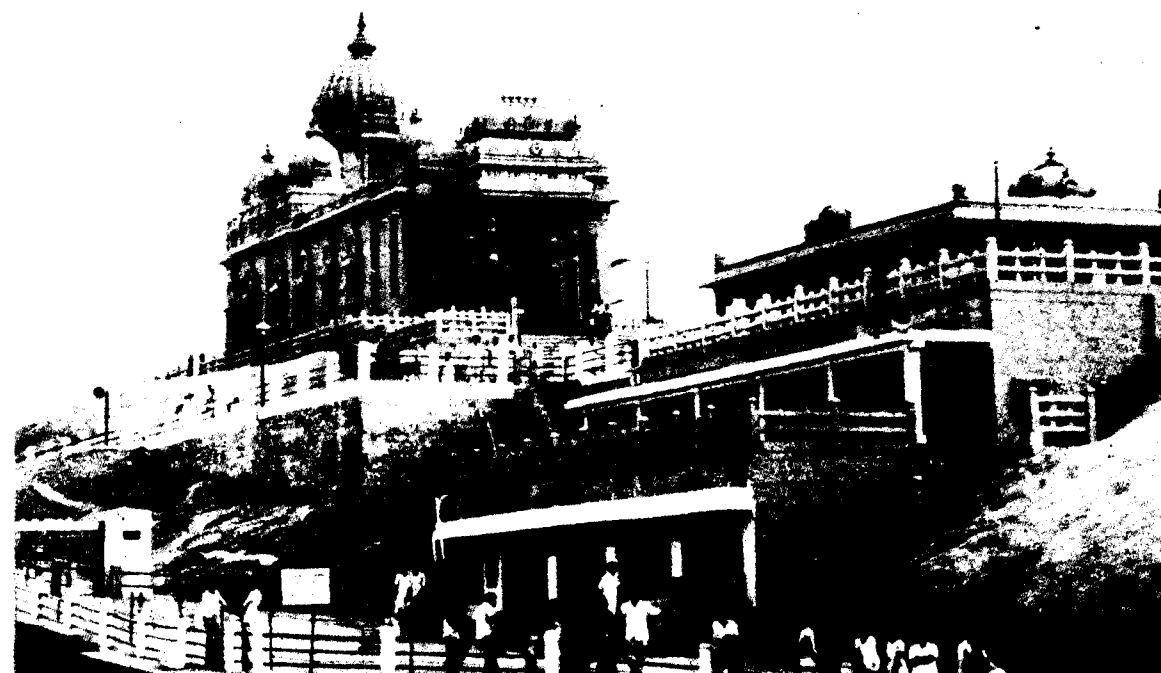
Both you and the pilgrims will head straight for the Ramanathaswamy Temple, built on the site where Rama worshiped Siva in order to do penance for killing the ten-headed demon king of Lanka. Rameswaram is so intimately linked with Rama that, to the Hindus every grain of its sand is considered sacred.

The Temple of Rameswaram is probably one of the most beautiful in all India in terms of sculpture. It rises above a lake as a vast rectangle about 1,000 feet along and 650 feet wide. It dates back to the 17th century although the process of building it took no less than three and a half centuries. The inspiration for its construction came from one of the princes of Sri Lanka.

Here, you will find that tall gopuram as typical of Dravidian temples as the spire is of Gothic churches. But the corridors of the Rameswaram

Temple are unique. They surround the rectangle, stretching out over a distance of 4,000 feet. Through occasional apertures, light filters into these corridors and flits over the carved pillars lining every foot on both sides. Each pillar is an individual composition carved out of solid granite. But it is only one of an army, and the total effect of the two ranks standing watch on the sides of the corridors is quite overpowering. Leading authorities call this the most evolved of all Dravidian temples.

From Rameswaram, you return in to the main line of the Southern Railway and head back to Madurai. Dhanushkodi, at the tip of the island should be visited if time allows. It is a must for Hindus, as bathing at the spot where the Bay of Bengal meets the Indian Ocean is considered one of their most pious duties. It was once part of the railway system, but a huge storm destroyed the connecting line a number of years ago.



Cape Comorin (Kanya Kumari)

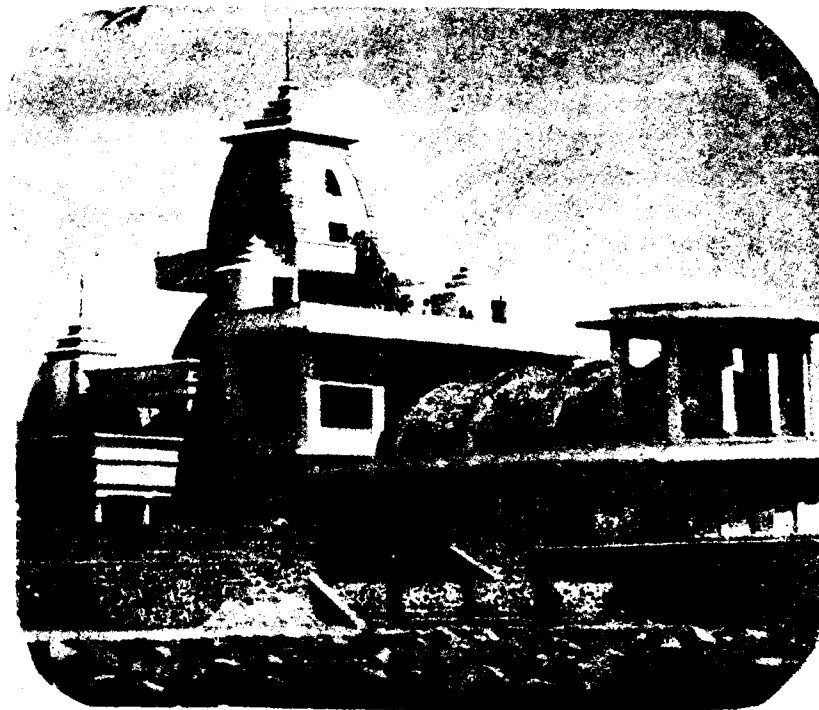
At Dhanushkodi, two seas meet, at Cape Comorin, the southernmost part of India, the waters of three come together. At this point, which India calls Kanya Kumari, the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean can be taken in at a single glance. It was known to the ancients, too: Ptolemy called it (comaria akron) on his maps and Marco Polo knew it as (Comori.)

By road from Madurai to the cape is a good 120 miles or more, depending upon the number of side trips in which you decide to indulge. It's best to plan this excursion as a leisurely journey. Fortunately, it can be broken rather comfortably at Courtalam.

Courtalam lies in the Western Ghat mountain range and you probably will appreciate its revivifying climate after a trek through South India. Its main claims to fame are the 300-foot waterfalls of the Chittar River and, nearby, an interesting temple. The falls themselves

have a local reputation as a spa-bathing in them is supposed to be good for both mind and body. With all these assets, Courtalam has developed into a pleasant resort. From here, it is a four-hour drive to Cape Comorin.

As you'll see on the map, though, there is no straight and easy road south from Madurai to take in all points of interest on the way. Courtalam in 35 miles to the west of Tinnevely (or Tirunelveli) on the main highway. About the same dis-





tance to the east is Tuticorin, a seaport and a centre for pearl-diving. To the south east, also on the sea, is Tiruchendur with a temple on the seashore, dedicated to Subrahmanya.

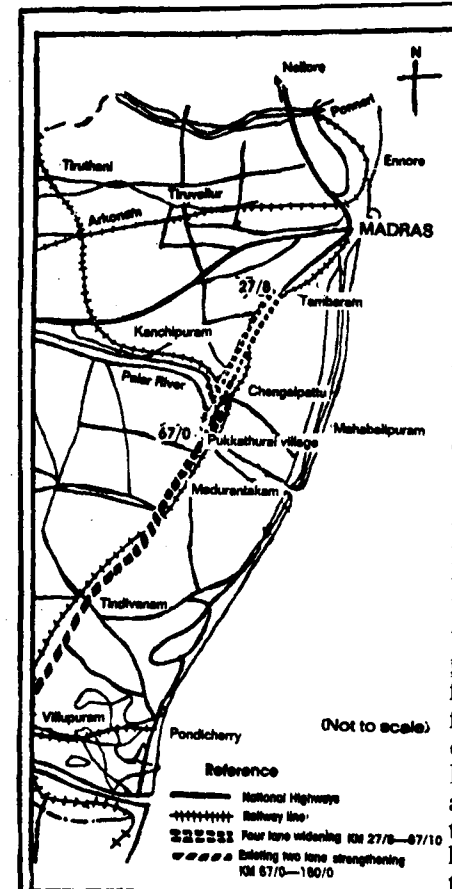
Then, driven through this Tirunelveli district, believed to be one of the earliest centres of civilization in India (discoveries of prehistoric burial urns have been made here), you reach Cape Comorin. Here, the Western Ghats, which begin in Mysore run into the sea, leaving jagged

rocks which make the Cape a danger point to shipping. It's a fantastic composition of sand, rocks and sea at the foot of green hills. According to a charming legend, this is where Siva married the goddess Parvati, daughter of King Himalaya. The seven varieties of rice thrown at the wedding were transformed for eternity into the seven coloured sands of Cape Comorin. You can see them in red brown, yellow, silver, orange, dark-blue and purple as they have been preserved by Varuna, God of the Sea. The Kanya Kumari Temple, erected on a pro-

montory of the cape, is revered by Hindus. Offshore lie the two rocks where Vivekananda sat in meditation before he left for the United States. The Nagercoil wild life sanctuary is only a dozen miles northwest of Cape Comorin and, in turn, it is just a matter of minutes to drive from Nagercoil to Padmanabhapuram with its old fort and a palace in the shape of a pagoda. From here you can either return to Madurai or else continue up the Malabar coast, towards the lush landscape of Kerala, the beach resort of Kovalam and the ancient port of Cochin.

All humane actions have one or more of these seven causes: chance, nature, compulsions, habit, passion, desire.

—Artistotle.



The gala function on the banks of the Palar river in September 1986 marked the beginning of a much-awaited and long-talked project for the development of Tamil Nadu's "life line"—National Highway 45, otherwise known as the Grand Southern Trunk Road.

The Rs. 54 crore programme includes 'four laning' of the National Highway from Tambaram to Pakkathurai, a distance of about 40 km. into a divided four-lane road to segregation of traffic on two sides: slight widening and complete strengthening of the GST Road from Pukkathurai to Villupuram—a distance of 93 km., construction of three road overbridges (across railway lines) and a second bridge across the Palar at Mamandur and provision of by-pass roads for the towns of Chingleput, Mamandur, Madurantakam Melmaruvathur and Vikravandi. There will also be a pedestrian subway at Melmaruvathur.

Widening the Southern traffic artery

This is one of the six highway development projects to be funded by the World Bank in India and the whole programme is slated for completion in 42 months.

Though the formal function to launch the project was held in September to coincide with the National Highways Week, actual work on strengthening the Pukkathurai-Villupuram section will be taken up from November 1st this year, followed by the construction of a second bridge across the Palar river from January 1st, and then commencement of the expansion work for four lanes from Tambaram to Pukkathurai from February 1 next year. Meanwhile, land acquisition work for the widening scheme has been set in motion.

According to the National Highways Department, the 'four laning' work alone will cost Rs. 22.7 crores, while the strengthening of the road upto Villupuram is estimated to cost Rs. 23.28 crores. The new bridge at Mamandur will cost Rs. 2.87 crores and land acquisition another Rs. 2.71 crores.

Of the three road overbridges to be taken up under the project, two will provide for an additional two-lane carriageway to go with the existing overbridges at Tambaram and Pararur. A new four-lane overbridge will come up across the Chingleput-Kanchipuram - Arakonam railway line near Chingleput. These three works are estimated at Rs. 2.57 crores.

Ultimately, a semi-circular by-pass around Madras will connect three main national

highways radiating from the city—to Nellore, Bangalore and Tiruchi / Dindigul. This will enable vehicles going from one highway to another avoid coming into Madras.

In the strengthening works from Pukkathurai to Villupuram, it is proposed to widen the road from the present 6.6 m to 7.5 m with a median, spaced at intervals for changing over from one side to another. Further, 'hard shoulders' for a width of 1.5 m and turfed shoulders for a width of 1 m on either side of the highway will be provided in the four lane section of 40 km. while the next 93 km will have 2.5 m wide hard shoulder and 0.5 m turfed shoulder to increase the 'trafficable width' and facilitate segregation of slow moving traffic. This is being tried for the first time in the country.

This national highway, described as the 'life line' and 'artery' of Tamil Nadu, is estimated to carry something like 80 to 85 per cent of the traffic in the State and hence the importance attached to this project.

A special significance is attached to the site (Mamandur) where the function was held to launch the programme—besides laying the foundation stone for the second bridge on the Palar, it was pointed out that some 35 years ago it was on the existing bridge prestressed concrete technology was applied for the first time in the country.

Courtesy : THE HINDU

THE WORLD OF PRESS CONFERENCES

Noon meal scheme evokes interest in European countries:

The Noon Meal Scheme for children in Tamil Nadu, had evoked interest among parliamentarians in the Scandinavian countries known well for their social security measures, the Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker, Hon'ble Thiru P. H. Pandian, told newsmen on Oct. 16th.

Thiru Pandian, who had visited Norway, Sweden and Denmark and some other European countries during September-October, after participating in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's 75th anniversary in London, said that wherever he had occasion to address meetings, he highlighted the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Programme for children. The subject generated a lot of interest in many places, especially in the Scandinavian countries and there was keenness to know more about the scheme; some even expressed a desire to visit Tamil Nadu for a first-hand study, he said.

The Speaker said he was very much impressed with the arrangement in the British Parliament for collecting petitions on public grievances from the members. Behind the Speaker's chair was a 'petitions bag' into which any member could drop representations. The Speaker's office would process them and have necessary action taken on them expeditiously. "I am thinking whether such an arrangement can be made here also," he said.

8.33 p.c. bonus, ex-gratia for bus Corporation employees

Employees of the State-owned transport corporations in Tamil Nadu will receive bonus at 8.33 percent for 1985-86, besides an ex-gratia payment.

The Hon'ble Transport Minister Thiru S. Muthusamy said here on October 16th that the ex-gratia amount would be Rs. 475 for PTC workers and Rs. 500 for those in the other transport corporations. The bonus and the ex-gratia would be disbursed on October 20.

Last year, the workers were paid a lumpsum of Rs. 425 in PTC and Rs. 475 in other corporations, in addition to bonus at 8.33 percent.

The Minister said the workers of engineering corporations would be entitled to bonus and ex-gratia payment at the rates applicable to the corporations to which they were attached. For employees in the Goods Transport Corporation and the Pallavar-Transport Consultancy Services, the ex-gratia would be Rs. 475. The employees of the Poompuhar Shipping Corporation would get Rs. 375 in addition to the 8.33 per cent. bonus.

The bonus and the ex-gratia announced would involve an out go of Rs. 10 crores and benefit 77,500 employees in the transport sector.

Centre urged to compensate loss on prohibition

The Tamil Nadu Government has urged the Centre to compensate monetarily for the loss it will incur to the tune of Rs.250 crores from January 1st 1987 by enforcing prohibition, the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Dr. V.R. Nedunchezian told pressmen here on October 16.

There was no going back on the decision to reintroduce prohibition from January 1. However, the bottling plants might continue to operate as marked could always be found for arrack in the States where dry law was not in force. Even today, bottling plants in Tamil Nadu were supplying arrack to their neighbouring States like Karnataka.

Refusing to be drawn into discussion on how the State would meet the loss of over Rs. 250 crores, Thiru Nedunchezian said the exercise on mopping up of resources for the Annual Plan and budget discussions would begin in November or December. At that time the Government would consider in-depth how to offset this loss.

Pointing out that financial strains were mounting because of the inflating non-land expenditure like the recent commitment by the Government to write off Rs. 145 crores by way of interest on agricultural loans and the spending on other welfare schemes to the poor.

Handing over of raffle tickets said to a single wholesale

agency for Tamil Nadu was engaging the attention of the Government as it would relieve the pressure on treasury officials.

Rs. 95 to Rs. 275 wage rise for busmen

About 75,000 workers belonging to the 14 State-owned transport corporations in Tamil Nadu will get a pay rise ranging from Rs.95 to Rs.275 a month under a new wage accord.

The three-year agreement, effective from September 1, 1986, was signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Transport Minister, Thiru S. Muthusamy at the end of protracted negotiations between the managements and the workers representatives which lasted 142 hours spread over 20 days. Leaders of workers unions affiliated to the AIADMK, DMK, HMS, AITUC, CITU and INTUC participated.

The earlier three-year agreement, concluded in 1983, expired on August 31. The revised pay scales will be reflected in the salaries for September to be drawn on October 1. On account of the revision, the wage bill of the transport corporations put together will go up by Rs. 15 crores a year.

The Minister pointed out that it was for the first time all the trade unions which took part in the talks signed the agreement. "This shows the terms are satisfactory to all sections of workers," he said.

The Chief Minister had instructed that a new agreement to be signed before the expiry of the earlier accord. He had also wanted the managements to be generous towards the workers. "We have been able to carry out his instructions both the counts", Thiru Muthusamy said, adding a majority of nearly 100 demands put forth by the unions were conceded.

The basic pay of the lowest category of workers would go up from Rs. 400 to Rs. 540 for new entrants for existing employees it would go up to Rs. 590. The overall increase would be Rs. 105 in Madras, Rs. 100 in district headquarters and transport corporation headquarters and Rs. 95 in rural centres.

The annual increments were also revised upwards. In the lowest scale, the rate would be Rs. 10 instead of the present Rs. 7.50 and in the highest scale, it would be Rs. 60 as against Rs. 40 now.

The washing allowance would go up from Rs. 10 to 15 month, and the uniform stitching allowance from Rs. 90 to 135 for those taking terrycotton sets once in two years and from Rs. 45 to Rs. 66 in respect of cotton set issued every year. The ceiling on medical allowance would be removed. The sick leave entitlement would go up from eight to nine days and earned leave from 18 to 20 days.

The basic pay of drivers would be Rs. 15 more than that of conductors (the present difference is Rs. 10). This had been one of the unanimous demands of the unions.

To a question how the corporations proposed to meet the additional pay bill, Thiru Muthusamy said great attention would be paid to reducing the operational expenditure. He expected that the overall efficiency would improve further as a result of the "satisfactory agreement reached."

Cargo carrier: The second cargo carrier to be acquired by the Poompuhar Shipping Corporation would be delivered on October 1. The Transport Secretary, Thiru A.K. Venkatasubramanian, would receive the 40,000-tonne vessel at the Japanese yard costing 4,610 million yen, the ship had been named Tamil Periyar. The third carrier, "Tamil Kamaraj" also from Japan, was expected

to be delivered by the end of December.

Govt. to fix soon ceiling on edible oil price:

The Tamil Nadu Government will fix shortly a ceiling on selling prices of edible oils in the State.

This follows a steep rise in the prices of the commonly used groundnut and gingelly oils in the past three months by about Rs. 10, a kg.

The Honourable Food Minister, Thiru S. Thirunavukkarasu, met representatives of oil producers and wholesale dealers at the Secretariat on September 19th and discussed measures to bring down the prices. The meeting was attended by the Food Secretary, Thiru A.S. Padmanabhan, and the Civil Supplies Commissioner, Thiru V.T. Thuraiaraj, besides traders from predominantly oil producing areas like Virudhunagar.

One of the reasons attributed to the rise in prices was the fall in production of oilseeds. In a normal year, the production of groundnut and gingelly oil seeds in Tamil Nadu will be 3.72-lakh tonnes, which would be adequate to meet the edible oil needs of the people. However, due to drought and other factors, the production this year had fallen to 2.50-lakh tonnes resulting in short supply of this essential commodity.

It was also pointed out that there was no restriction on movement of oilseeds from State to State, as the whole country had been treated as a single zone for the purpose. As the ruling prices of oil in States like Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal were much higher than in Tamil Nadu, there was a tendency for a large movement of stocks to these States, accentuating the shortage in Tamil Nadu.

The Minister appealed to the producers and traders to cooperate with the Government's efforts to keep the prices under check, and suggested to them to work out, on a voluntary basis, a ceiling price which would be fair to both the producers and the consumers, so that the Government might enforce the same throughout the State.

The Minister later told newsmen that the merchants had agreed to discuss among themselves, work out a reasonable ceiling price, and meet him again on September 30. He said following the State-level meeting, the District Collectors would hold discussions with the traders at the district level and seek their cooperation to bring down the prices.

The Minister told the dealers that the Government would, in the meantime, strictly enforce and earlier order under which no trader can keep more than 80 tonnes of edible oil at any given time. Stocks held in excess of this limit would be seized by the Food Cell police as a measure to check hoarding and profiteering.

HDFC houses for Government employees

The Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) has had preliminary discussions with the Tamil Nadu Government on meeting part of the finance needed for its project to construct 30 lakh houses in three years. "Finance to the extent possible would be made available by the HDFC", Mr. K.S.L. Narasimhan, Branch Manager, Madras, told newsmen on September 11th.

The HDFC is already assisting the allottees of World Bank aided sites and services schemes of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and MMDA for construction of houses

under a special arrangement, he pointed out. It has also financed companies to provide staff quarters in backward areas like Hosur in Dharmapuri district, Arakonam in North Arcot district and Virudhunagar in Kamarajar district.

The Madras Branch of HDFC which caters to the needs of the people in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry had approved loans to the tune of Rs. 65 crores to benefit 15,000 families in Tamil Nadu since its operations began in 1979, Narasimhan said, last year (1985-86); it has disbursed Rs. 14 crores as loans to benefit 2,500 people. The home savings plan which was introduced last year had caught on and so far 358 persons had opened accounts totalling Rs. 113.3 lakhs under the scheme.

Drug peddling in south declines

Peddling in drugs has shown a decline in the south owing to large seizures increased penalties and surveillance on the borders, according to Thiru K.K. Rajasekaran Nair Inspector-General of Police, CID, Crimes.

He told newsmen on September 11th that the amendment to the Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs Act of 1985 and imposed a minimum imprisonment of 10 years for possession of drugs. In fact, the first conviction in Tamil Nadu was made recently under the new provision.

Thiru Rajasekaran Nair said 60 cases of peddling in drugs had been detected this year, mostly in Madras, by the Narcotics Intelligence Bureau. About 3.5 kg of heroin was seized this year.

The Inspector-General said that drug trafficking to the south was mainly from Bombay or New Delhi, which got their stocks from Pakistan, particu-

larly through the border in Rajasthan.

After the large-scale seizures in Delhi and Bombay the conduits to the south had shrunk. The 'consumers' were mainly youth in the 16-22 age group. Though the enforcement agencies had their task to perform in curbing this social evil, voluntary organisations had a major role in educating the people and sensitising them on the evils of drug addiction.

Drive to protect water resources

The Tamil Nadu Government has launched a massive programme to protect and conserve soil and water resources in Tamil Nadu.

Thiru S.Savadamuthu, Chief Engineer of the Agricultural Engineering Department, told newsmen on September 21st that 5.36 million hectares was under cultivation of which 3.5 million hectares was under dry land agriculture. So far in Tamil Nadu 1.1 million lakh hectares had been covered by the soil and water conservation programme.

Thiru Savadamuthu said that in the Seventh Plan it was proposed to cover three lakh hectares. For this the Department had geared its machinery and the success of the programme depended upon the active participation of the farmers who formed the core sector.

As part of the soil conservation week the Agricultural Engineering Department, had taken up tree plantation in a big way. In August 10,000 saplings were planted in South Arcot alone and about one lakh trees were planted in schools and colleges all over the State.

A State level celebration conference would be held in Madras on September 22 and

23 to create an awareness among the people of the need for soil and water conservation.

Mettur water release to be stepped up

The release of water from Mettur reservoir was stepped up from 15,000 cusecs to 19,000 cusecs from September 20th.

A decision to this effect was taken by the State Government today following representations from the ryots in the tail-end areas of the delta in Thanjavur district.

The Hon'ble Irrigation Minister Thiru Y.S.M. Yusuf, told newsmen on September 19th there were complaints about inadequacy of water in the tail-end areas and the Government deputed the senior Deputy Chief Engineer, Thiru Nageswaran, to make an on the spot study of the situation.

Thiru Nageswaran, after a visit to the delta particularly to the tail-end areas, had stated that as the transplanation work was in full swing in all the areas there was need for more water, and suggested that the present discharge of 15,000 cusecs be raised by another 4,000 cusecs. The District Collector had also concurred with this view.

Accordingly, Thiru Yusuf said, the Government has decided to release 19,000 cusecs for a period of 15 days after which the position would be reviewed.

Following rain in the catchment areas, the Minister said, the inflows into the Mettur reservoir had gone up in the past three days. It was 19,339 cusecs on September 17th, about 35,000 cusecs on September 18th and 19,000 cusecs on September 19th.

He said the existing storage would be adequate to meet the needs of the delta only till the middle of October, and he was writing to his counterpart in

Karnataka to release at least 10 tmc ft of water from Karnataka reservoirs to enable Tamil Nadu to carry on till the onset of the next monsoon.

57 Lakh tonnes of rice output expected

In view of the adverse seasonal conditions in the earlier part of the cropping year, the total area under paddy in Tamil Nadu will be 22 lakh hectares against the projected 26.5 lakh hectares, Dr. K. Kalimuthu, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, told newsmen on October 17th. The Agriculture Department, however, had taken various measures to increase the output by 750 kg a hectare and the total rice production in the State was expected to be 57 lakh tonnes.

In Thanjavur district alone, so far 50,000 hectares had been brought under samba. It was expected to bring 3.50 lakh hectares more under samba in the district. Before the end of this month not less than four lakh hectares would come under this crop.

Farmers were requested to raise the short duration ADT 36 variety. Agricultural godowns had adequate quantities of seed materials.

With a view to overcoming the shortfall in paddy output following the failure of the southwest monsoon during the kuruvai season, the department was striving to increase the area under samba. The kuruvai area dwindled on the whole by two lakh hectares in the districts of Thanjavur, South Arcot and Pudukottai.

During the manavari season, normal paddy area had been exceeded both in North Arcot and Chinglepurt. Theseason was almost over and the crop on 75 percent of the total area had been harvested. Taking into consideration the crop cutting experiments carried out, the

was six tonnes per hectare. In Thanjavur district also, the kuruvai harvest was over in 50 percent of the area. The yield on an average was 5,800 kg a hectare.

In Madras, Thiru N. Athimoolam I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, told a press conference that the shortfall in the area under short term paddy would be made good and the department was confident of achieving last year's rice production of 56 lakhs tonnes.

Replying to a question, the Director said there were 3.20 lakh contact farmers throughout Tamil Nadu and they had achieved a 25 per cent increase in paddy yield per hectare. This was revealed by the studies conducted by the Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation. Tamil Nadu occupied the third place in per hectare paddy yield, next to Punjab and Haryana, because of the natural constraint of large rain-fed areas.

Fifty per cent of the area had been covered last year under the programme of five-tonne a hectare and it was targeted to cover 65 per cent during the current year.

About sugarcane the Director said it was programmed to increase the production from 2.13 crore tonnes last year to 2.4 crore tonnes this year. Pat for Tamil Nadu on T. & V: About the Training and Visit project funded by the World Bank, Thiru Athimoolam, said a three-member bank team headed by Thieur Leslie Abbie which visited Tamil Nadu recently, had complimented the Directorate of Agriculture on the "successful implementation" of T and V. It had specially mentioned about the adoption of different technologies by villagers and the regular visits by agricultural officers.



Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary

OUR FUTURE

We notice that the mind is a restless bird; the more it gets the more it wants, and still remains unsatisfied. The more we indulge our passions the more unbridled they become. Our ancestors, therefore, set a limit to our indulgences. They saw that happiness was largely a mental condition. A man is not necessarily happy because he is rich, or unhappy because he is poor. The rich are often seen to be unhappy the poor to be happy. Millions will always remain poor. Observing all this our ancestors dissuaded us from luxuries and pleasures. We have managed with the same

kind of plough as existed thousands of years ago. We have remains the same as before. We have had no system of life-corroding competition. Each followed his own occupation or trade, and charged a regulation wage. It is not that we did not know how to invent machinery, but our forefathers knew that, if we set our hearts after such things, we would become slaves and lose our moral fibre. They, therefore, after due deliberation decided that we should only do what we could with our hands and feet. They saw that our real happiness and health consisted in a proper use of our hands and feet. They further reasoned that large cities were a snare and a useless encumbrance and that people would not be happy in them, that there would be gangs of thieves and robbers in them, and that poor men would be robbed by rich men. They were, therefore, satisfied with small villages. They saw

that kings and their swords were inferior to the sword of ethics and they, therefore, held the sovereigns of the earth to be inferior to the rishis and the fakirs. A nation with a constitution like this is fitter to teach others than to learn from them. This nation had courts, lawyers and doctors but they were all within bounds. Everybody knew that these professions were not particularly superior; moreover, these vakils and vaidas did not rob people; they were considered people's dependent, not their masters. Justice was tolerably fair. The ordinary rule was to avoid courts. There were no touts to lure people into them. This, evil, too, was noticeable only in and around capitals. The common people lived independently and followed their agricultural occupation. They enjoyed true Home Rule.

—Mahatma Gandhi

THE SIN OF UNTOUCHABILITY

I regard untouchability as the greatest bolt on Hinduism. Untouchability is the sin of the Hindus. They must suffer for it, they must purify themselves, they must pay the debt they owe to their suppressed brothers and sisters.

Untouchability is not a sanction of religion, it is a device of Satan.

To remove untouchability is a penance that caste Hindus owe to Hinduism and to themselves. The purification required is not of "untouchables" but of the so called superior castes.

Untouchability in its extreme form has always caused me so much pain, because I consider myself to be a Hindu of Hindus saturated with a spirit of Hinduism. I have failed to find a single warrant for the existence of untouchability as we believe and practice it today in all those books which we call as Hindu shastras. If I found that Hinduism really countenanced untouchability I should have no hesitation in renouncing Hinduism itself.

The ulcer of untouchability has gone so deep down that it seem to pervade our life.

Hence the unreal differences. Why should there be all this poison smelling of untouchability? Why should we not all be children of one Indian family? Are we not like branches of the same tree?

When untouchability is rooted out, these distinctions will vanish and no one will consider himself superior to any other. Naturally, exploitation too will cease and co-operation will be the order of the day.

—Mahatma Gandhi



Vice President Dedicates Plastics Testing Centre to Nation

The further growth of the plastic industry depends on technical assistance it gets and the recycling and re-use of plastic formulations and quality control. The Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Tools (CIPET) in Guindy could do a lot in this regard, His Excellency the Vice-President, Thiru R. Venkataraman, said on 20th Sept. He was dedicating to the nation of Rs. 4.5-crore Plastics Testing Centre set up by CIPET.

Thiru Venkataraman said that as plastic processing units were concentrated in the small scale sector, they lacked effective quality control and testing facilities. "In this plastic age, it would be most appropriate to take stock of the situation as it exists today and formulate concrete plans for 15 years ahead."

Quality control equipment were now imported but efforts should be made to indigenise them through cooperation with CIPET and other research and development organisations.

The Vice-President said he was proud to attend the CIPET function since it was during his

tenure as Industries Minister of Tamil Nadu that the decision of locate CIPET in Madras was taken. Later, he became the first president of CIPET's governing council and saw it through teething troubles. He was glad it had grown into a renowned institute in Asia.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Industries, Thiru M. Arunachalam, presiding said the quality of plastic products, particularly consumer durables, "leaves a lot to be desired." CIPET performed valuable training and testing, but they were not all, and the institute must set its sights higher and embark on much holder programmes. "If anything, CIPET has been quite conservative in the past. This must change and the institute must aspire to a true leadership role so that India could attain international standards."

The Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Minister for Housing, Thiru N. Nalluswami, said the State Government was giving all facilities for CIPET growth.

Thiru K. Ramamurthi, MP and president of the CIPET Employees Union, said the employer-employee relations were good.

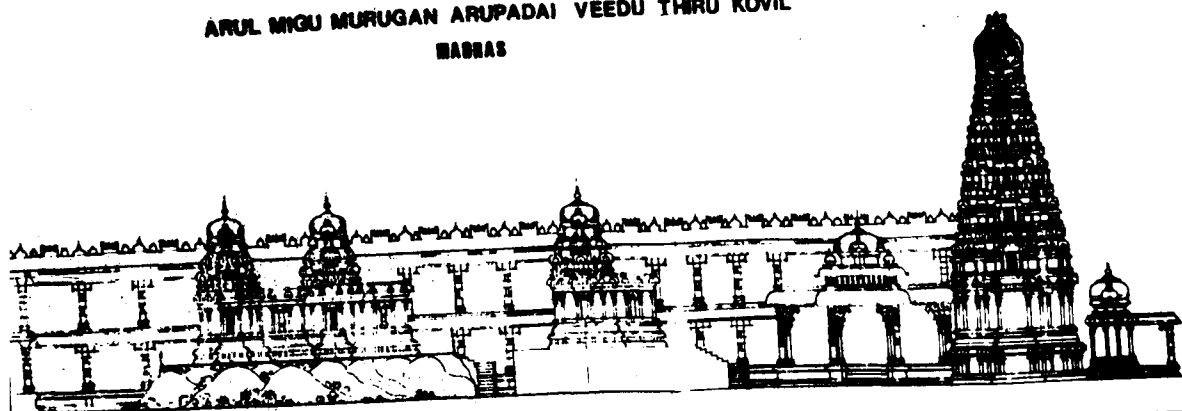
Dr. S. Bharadwaj, CIPET Director, said the testing centre had expansion and diversification plans as also enlargement of the scope of training and testing. CIPET had established a mini-testing laboratory at its Ahmedabad extension centre to serve the western region. Such laboratories would come up in its four extension centres so that testing facilities were available all over the country.

Thiru V. R. Deenadayalu, president of the governing council of CIPET, welcoming the gathering, said CIPET would have computer aided design, manufacturing and testing facilities. Its equipment were on par with those in the West.

Dr. K. Ramamurthi, head of the Plastics Testing centre, proposing a vote of thanks, hoped that UNIDO, UNDP and other international organisations would continue to assist CIPET's expansion.



ARUL MUGU MURUGAN ARUPADAI VEEDU THIRU KOVIL
MADRAS



SIDE ELEVATION

A side elevation view of the Arupadai veedu temple complex that is to come up at Besant Nagar in the City.

Murugan Temple complex to be set up in Besant nagar

A Rs. 2 crore temple complex, containing replicas of the five major temples in Tamil Nadu dedicated to Lord Muruga and symbolising the sixth, where there is no temple as such but contains the 'tridents' (Vel) from the important centres where Muruga is worshipped, is to come up on a one-acre site in Besantnagar near the Mahalakshmi temple.

The abodes of Muruga in the State, called the 'Aru Padai Veedu', are on hillocks. The idea of constructing a campus in which identical six divine abodes will be housed in one place, was conceived by H.H. Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi about four years ago when he was in Satara, where at his instance a Nataraja temple was built to which four States have given contribution.

At the instance of the Chief Minister, Dr. M.G.R. who was told about this scheme, a piece of land was reserved in Besantnagar, on

the sea shore, as the Acharya desired. Preliminary work has begun and operations will be in full-swing from January next. By coincidence the location of the 'Madras Aru Padai Veedu' is very near the tomb of Pamban Swamikal, a devotee of Muruga.

According to the Chairman, of the trust Dr. A. Alagappan (a former United Nations official who had been associated with the construction of various temples in the U.S.) the temple would devote attention to social welfare programmes, besides concentrating on religious needs, since "social service is the best form of religion." Right against alcoholism and abuse of drugs, care of the aged, the rights of women and nutrition were some of the welfare measures proposed.

Thiru S. Muthiah Sthapathi, designated as the architect for the world's largest Hindu tem-

ple being built for the Hare Krishna movement in honour of Radhakrishna at West Virginia, has designed the Madras Aru Padai Veedu. The present sandy site would be raised by seven feet to form the base for the six "mini hillock shrines."

The Kanchi Acharya's intention is to organise a Tirupugazh school here, train people and then arrange to take "umbrellas" from here, accompanied by the rendering of the songs, to the six original abodes, as is being done for Lord Venkateswara. A monk will be housed adjoining the temple to chant Vedic hymns.

Dr. Alagappan said funds would not be a problem for such noble ventures. Many non-resident Indians were prepared to give donations for the first phase of the project costing about Rs. 30 lakhs, commitments having been made by a few NRIs, he added.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

— A Joint Venture

Millions of people living in the villages have to be culturally and economically reborn; they have to develop a new outlook on life; but they should not be uprooted from their moorings. We want them to enjoy all the good things of life, but not losing their soul. In short, this is the nucleus of all rural community welfare programmes since 1952. The Community Development Programme launched in October 1952, ignited a new approach to rejuvenate rural life.

The Government of India have accorded the highest priority to the programme of Rural Development with a view to attaining the objectives of increasing agricultural production, creating employment, eradicating poverty and bringing about all round improvement in the quality of life of rural community as also the rural economy. It also needs a national effort involving public participation. Government would like to encourage individuals, corporates and non-

corporate bodies to participate in this venture. The Government of India have come forward to set up a fund to mobilise the private resources for rural development. Accordingly National Fund for Rural Development has been set up by the Government of India.

The contributions or donations made by all categories of tax-payers, to NFRD will be deductible in computing taxable income.

The Fund is managed by a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister with Minister of Finance, Minister of Planning and Minister in charge of Rural Development as Members, and the Secretary in the department of Rural Development will be the Secretary.

The donors, while making donations, may recommend their preference for the area or the locality and the rural development programme for which the donation may be utilised as also the implementing agency through which the programme may be undertaken and implemented. The recommendations, if any, of the Donors will be given due consideration to the extent deemed appropriate by the Committee of Management of the Fund. Important among the Projects that can be taken up for implementation under this Fund include construction and maintenance of Rural Link Roads, Drainage and Sanitary latrines; Water projects which may include digging of wells, tube-wells, etc., and laying of pipes of supply of drinking water to problem



villages; rural dispensaries, Family welfare centres including Nutrition for Children and mothers in pre-natal and post-natal stage.

The donations can also be used for establishment of workshops and Farm machinery repair centres, training of artisans, mechanics, etc; harnessing solar energy, wind and other renewable sources of energy; constructing houses for weaker sections on sites provided by the Government or the village Panchayats etc., Community afforestations, social and farm forestry, land reclamation, soil

conservation, land shaping and development of land cultivation.

The farming operation works such as poultry, piggery, fishery and sericulture are covered under this scheme.

Special schemes designed for income generation for rural women, child and human resources development, may be undertaken. Programmes for the handicapped and the disabled in the rural areas and programmes for education in the rural areas are also included in the approved list of works.

Donations to the Fund should be made in the name of "NATIONAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT". India lives in her villages. Village development in national development. Let us all join this journey and make Rural India a prosperous land.

All correspondence relating to the fund may be addressed to Joint Secretary (NFRD) Government of India, Department of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.

TAMIL UNIVERSITY'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA ON SCIENCE

The Tamil University has taken the responsibility of bringing up the Tamil Encyclopaedia on Science.

The Science section has planned for 20 volumes and the first volume is being released now.

The science volumes of the encyclopaedia strike out a new path in the sense of that profound and complicated scientific and technological concepts are explained in Tamil many

or most possibly for the first time, certainly never before so comprehensively or authoritatively. The scientific writer in Tamil, faces a difficult problem at the very outset, it is far from easy to translate or render into Tamil the very numerous expressions and acronyms that the English language has used, and is using, to denote the concepts, ideas and technologies that are springing up in profusion as the frontiers of science and technology advance. English itself has taken many of them from Greek. If Tamil, in keeping with its literary and philosophical glories, is to retain its place as a world language, as a language of the twentieth and the twenty-first centuries, it must come to terms with the scientific and technological advance. Accordingly, the policy

followed for the encyclopaedia is likely to prove instructive to others also.

The first science volume, which is being released contains over 375 entries in a thousand pages. It is fully illustrated. The information it provides is authoritative.

By publishing the encyclopaedia on Science, the Tamil University is fulfilling is one of the most important of the objectives for which it was set up, to take Tamil into the twenty-first century by providing it modern tools of knowledge. As the succeeding volume volumes of the Science Encyclopaedia are issued from time to time, the University would be rearing a monument to Tamil as glorious as the city where it functions.

—N.S.Ramaswami.

*When native subtilty combines
with sound scholastic lore
'Tis subtilty surpassing all,
which nothing stands before.*
Thirukkural.636.-
Dr.G.U.Pope's Translation.

The first duty of love is to listen.

Paul Tillich



WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT DONATES TELEVISION AND VIDEO TO FAMILY WELFARE CENTRE IN CSI RAINY HOSPITAL, MADRAS.

The Federal Republic of Germany has come forward to encourage the Family Welfare Programme in Tamil Nadu by donating a Colour Television

and Video Cassette player to the CSI Rainy Hospital that has recorded commendable achievement in the Family Welfare Programme. On behalf of the Government of West Germany the Consul General, Mr.N. Merten, presented the set to the CSI Rainy Hospital, Madras on 27.8.86. The Medical Superintendent of the Hospital Dr.D.Vizakumar, received the T.V.set. The Deputy Medical

Superintendent, Dr. Rajakumari Sundar, who is incharge of the Family Welfare wing of the Hospital, received the Video Cassette player.

While presenting the equipments the Consul General said that because of their interest in the welfare of the people their Government presented equipments for the benefit of the mothers who stay in the hospital.

NOTIFICATION FROM THE PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A & E)

TAMIL NADU, MADRAS-600 018.

The Principal Accountant General (A & E), Tamil Nadu, Madras-600 018, has commenced the despatch of Annual Account Statements of Provident Fund for the year 1985-86, in respect of all the subscribers of the Tamil Nadu Government. These Annual Account Statements are being forwarded to the Heads of Offices, in which the subscribers were working in March 1986.

Government servants are, therefore, requested to contact the concerned Heads of Offices and collect their Statements of Accounts. Utmost care has been taken to prepare the Statement of Accounts in a complete shape in all the cases. However, due to various factors like incomplete or inaccurate basic documents received, etc, if there be any discrepancy in the accounts or if the Account Statements are not received by 30.9.1986, the undermentioned Officer may be addressed, giving full particulars of recoveries (subscription/refund) such as the month, gross and net amount of the concerned pay bill, Head of Account etc., as well as the Account Number of the subscribers. The letters may be sent through the concerned Heads of Offices.

Shri T. M. Padmanabhan,
Accounts Officer/F.M.I. Section,
Office of the Principal Accountant General (A & E)
No. 261, Anna Salai,
Teynampet, Madras-600 018.

THE BAMBOO PLANT



On the banks of Yamuna, Lord Krishna played the flute and the Gopies danced. In the melody of the music, the whole living world came to a standstill. So go our epics which have made Krishna, and with him the flute, immortal. Even today, in most musical concerts the flute is an important instrument. But while listening to the heart-rending melody pouring out of the flute, does any one think of the humble bamboo from which it is made?

Bamboos are members of the grass family Gramineae and are tropical plants. The family is a large one, with more than 75 genera and 1,000 species. They vary in height from a few centimetres to several metres the giant species may grow upto 40 m with stems up to 20 m in diameter. Those growing at high latitudes are able to tolerate the cold of these places. These are often found in dense impenetrable forests.

They require moist conditions and cannot tolerate drought.

Two phased growth

Bamboos grow from an underground rhizome or root system. The shoots of most species grow in two phases. The first phase, lasting about three months, is when the shoot is made. At this stage, it consists of a single cane with a sheath and numerous nodes. In the next phase, which occurs the following year, the leaf-bearing shoots grow from the buds of each node.

The woody hollow stems, which are tough, stringy and braced by solid cross joints have great strength. The stem can be used for reinforcing concrete.

Two types of bamboos are usually seen in India. One with a thorny stem which grow vary tall, curving at the top

with numerous branches. The inter-nodes are hollow, about 30-45 cm. long with thick walls. The nodes are prominent and there are horizontal branches. Leaves are thin, linear, glabrous and hairy beneath. The other type, which is densely tufted grows about 6-26 m. high. The nodes are not swollen, the lower branches are stiff and horizontal, and the inter-nodes are 30-40 mm. Long leaves which are 45-25 cm. long usually have a soft, downy under surface.

Flower once

Many bamboos flower once over a period of few years and then die. The period after which a species flowers varies in some it may be 25 years while in others it exceeds a century. The curious feature of bamboos is that they have an almost perfect biological clock and all the members of the same species growing in whichever part of the world flower at the same time. This often leads to famine-like conditions in certain areas, as the sudden abundance of food results in a population explosion among rodents which when the bamboo seeds are all devoured attack crops. A congregation of millions of rats was observed at the time of bamboo flowering in Arunachal Pradesh in 1979.

Bamboos are used by man for many purposes. From building of houses and scaffolding, to making ladders, furnitures, baskets, mats, window blinds etc. Because of their unusual stem structure-woody and hollow with solid cross-joints -the canes are often used as pipes in irrigation. It is also used for making paper-pulp. Young shoots can be eaten in the form of pickles and other delicacies. It is the staple food of the Great Panda, which is the symbol of the World Wildlife Fund. Certain secretions from the joints of the stem are of great medicinal value (CEE-NFS)

HUMAN BEHAVIOUR AND HUMAN RELATIONS

Government Servants are being considered noble and high and therefore, they should have a feel for the people, particularly for the downtrodden and well-versed in speech, expression, writing, reading, creative and innovative, daring and dynamic and enterprising leadership drive in proper perspective.

Human Behaviour and Human Relations - a subject which is more important since the major stress is on the general public and in our case, government officers and public. A dynamic officer must know why people behave the way they do. Therefore, the view that all the officers, especially who are dealing with public, should have undergone a course on Human Relations and Human Behaviour where they have ample opportunity to study the liberal arts like the principles and theories of psychology and sociology or behavioural science.

Public means human beings; therefore public behaviour is also known as human behaviour.

Researches have already been made how a person behaves and why he behaves as he does.

First let us see the root of human being, what are his needs? To satisfy the needs, he behaves in a manner and justifies his behaviour to achieve objectives. His primary needs are to satisfy Hunger, Shelter/Protection, Safety, Pride and Pleasure.

With the passage of time man slowly learned to live in social groups-built villages and cities now turned into a modern-society with all amenities.

Human behaviour and civilization have its roots deep in ancient bygone days, its origin in jungles and on the river banks, but we are mainly concerned with the civilized modern society, whom the noble activities of public works department staff, from mason to Chief Engineer can influence the local people's behaviour in their favour.

Government Officers who are much indebted to their institutions, are concerned with this pivotal objective to change the attitude of the workers and also the general public in favour of their organization, they working for.

We need not be perplexed

N. Renganathan,
Field Publicity officer,
MADURAI



with the words human behaviour and human relations.

Behaviour is concerned with individuals or group of persons or human beings in general whereas human relations highlights interaction between two persons, two groups of persons, two classes of human beings and so on.

Human mind is susceptible and receptive and degree of understanding depends upon the environment and surroundings (like culture, education, friendship etc.) Reading and hearing do have the effect on one's attitudes and behaviour. That is why we, the communicator after seeing the working system of organising cultural tours, when it is properly implemented, since people have ample opportunity to go to various places of interest and cultivating the feeling of oneness and thus promoting unity and integration. They also have the opportunity to visit important industrial sectors and to study on the spot. I very well remember my college days; my lecturer used to take classes without referring to any books or notes. during the lectures. As he begins he ends his lecture at the end of the class hour only. There is no doubt he is highly learned; but at the same time he forgets the attitude and behaviour of students. Students used this class to take their tiffin, writing letters, etc., whereas another lecturer delved deep into the students mind and began this lecture narrating some interesting anecdotes and tactfully attracted students mind towards his lecture. Thus making the students more attentive in the class. It is imperative to



mention here that the lecturers should tackle students behaviour intelligently; after all they are young with an unploughed mind and they have to learn a lot in their life. We should not deal the matter with pride and therefore should not develop prejudice on their adverse actions. This is not only applicable to teachers, but to others also. We should not use harsh words; since polite and gentle words help us to gain a respectable position among the community.

Films, TV, demonstrations help the people in changing their behaviour and attitudes; that is why it is often stressed that all the panchyats should have audio-visual equipments especially community TV and and radio sets.

In a Government institution, human relations are centered around the officials, employees & other public interests, job satisfaction, facilities for health care, modern basic amenities like toilet, drinking water, hobby centre, reading room etc.

Employees union, Welfare association, more congenial relations between the management and the workers and the head of the office and the employees etc. After all they are also human beings and are equally affected by the change in behaviour and attitude in one or more functional areas of the organisation. Agitation by one section of staff or by public may motivate the other sections of the staff and public to join them, or change their attitudes and behaviour towards or against the management. On the other hand, it is also imperative that the management should also try to understand the behaviour and attitude of staff and public.

Now let us see something about 'attitude'. Attitudes may come from a desire for reward, as in the case of a worker who had a favourable attitude towards his union because it seeks to secure for him increased compensation and benefits.

Unfavourable attitudes are aroused in staff and public who

are thwarted in their desire for union election, bus facilities, health care in case of students & workers, for higher scale of pay, recognition and good working condition in the case of workers.

Attitudes may be divided into three categories.
POSITIVE

Induces person to react favourably e.g. workers participation in union activities. Workers wing of various political parties etc.

PASSIVE

Individuals' attitude towards an issue; no opinion or controversial questions.

NEGATIVE

unfavourable opinion - accompanied by feeling of unpleasantness or dissatisfaction.

It is highly unimaginable if you know the result of the opinion research about the attitudes.

If you take a group, 15 will have positive attitudes, 15 negative attitudes and 70 will have the passive attitudes. Our target should be against this 70 workers or people; through our influence we can easily change them towards positive side.

Arousing and changing of attitude is no easy, as individuals have many and varied mental and physical conditions; moreover, the circumstances which provoke a given attitude or cause a change in attitude are difficult to determine.

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

Anglo-Saxons thought Friday so unlucky that many a child born on that day was killed, rather than allowed to grow up to a life of misfortune.

In the middle ages, one pound of ginger was worth a sheep.

The first clock, which woke the sleeper by gently rubbing his feet, was invented by LEONARDO da VINCI.

The Mind of Anna

The Tamils will always like to live a life of fame. Thiruvalluvar has said: "Give and live a life of fame. No other profit is so great to the soul as that." Therefore, the food required for life is fame. We take material food through mouth in order to satisfy our belly. The food of fame goes through the ear.

Tamil poems or works can be learned in three ways :

First : To find delight in the literary excellence and to have a taste for grammar.

Second : To compare Tamil literature with the literature of other countries to bring to light their excellence.

Third : To make literature socially profitable.

Once a Nathaswara Vidwan was playing a keerthana on his pipe at a marriage function. It was not proper for the occasion. It was a keerthana of Thiagaraja praying for the bliss of God whereas the occasion demanded the blessings of the elders. I drove this point home to the Vidwan. He immediately realised his mistake and played another keerthana.

Permit me to present before you a portrait of the Average Man. "He seems incredible but represents two-thirds of mankind. He lives in a hut. He cannot read or write. His energy is sapped by disease. He labours up to 15 hours a day. He works on land he does not own. He and his family are usually hungry. He will die young. But he still has hopes for his children that they will be strong and healthy; will be able to read and write; will know individual freedom in a peaceful world—This is the world's Average man."

And the world over, this Average Man has become conscious of the injustice done to him and as a consequence, we find agitations and marches, struggles and clashes—In many a country, measures to raise his level have been undertaken. Take a pledge, hear and now, that we will not lag behind and leave our Average Man in the lurch. For if the base is weak, the dome is doomed.



The 'Kannaki' Temple

The controversy regarding the Mangaladevi temple in Gudalur village of Madurai district is two fold: whether it is just another Durga temple or is it a temple dedicated to Kannaki, the heroine of the *Silappadikaram*. Now it has been fairly established that Mangaladevi is Kannaki. The second aspect is about the location of the temple. Is it on the territory of Tamil Nadu or not? The evidence in support of the claim of Tamil Nadu for this temple is irrefutable. In this essay the evidence from various sources in support of this claim is presented, for due appreciation.

1. **Literary sources:** The *Silappadikaram* refers to the Mangalamadandaikkottam situated on the high hill near the river Periyar as a shrine dedicated to Kannaki. (2) Local tradition connects this Mangalamadandaikkottam with the Mangaladevi temple, the find-spot of several archaeological records throwing light on this matter. It was here, avers the *Silappadikaram* (3), that Cheran Chenguttavan erected a temple for the heroine Kannaki who, after her bereavement at Madurai, left for this place along the banks of the river Vaigai and was taken away by her deceased husband who appeared before her in an ethereal form. It is significant that the hill on which the temple is situated is called Purnagiri where the river Periyar has its source.

2. **Archaeological sources:** The Archaeological department has assessed that the Kannaki temple situated at Vannathiparai, Kizhakudalur, Periyakulam area in Madurai district is more than 1,000 years old. In one of the inscriptions at the Kudal village, this temple is described as Mangaladevi temple. (4) The earliest vatteluthu

inscription in the temple viz., that of Chola Rajaraja I (No. 277) engraved on the jamb of the *ardha-mandapa* of the shrine near the southern entrance enshrining a linga, now broken, is highly damaged and therefore does not yield much useful information. (5) The other records of the medieval Pandya period refer only to Aludaiya Nachiyar of Sri Purnagiri. (6)

3. **Survey records:** The survey records establish that the Mangaladevikkottam is situated within the territory of Tamil Nadu. The survey records of 1883-1886 and the maps prepared by the Government of India in 1893 (7) confirm that the temple is situated within the boundary of Tamil Nadu. The survey maps of 1927 (8), 1952 (9), 1957 (10) also confirm this.

4. **Archival sources:** According to the Fort St. George Gazette notification of 15 November 1883 published in pages 719-12 (section 25), Vannathiparai is situated in the reserved forest of Tamil Nadu where the temple is situated. It also shows the pathway provided to the people of 'Chinnamullai Arumalai'. The Madurai District Gazette of 1934 shows (11) clearly that the temple is situated within the boundary of Tamil Nadu. It confirms that this temple is situated at Vannathiparai, Periyakulam area in Madurai District. Moreover it also brings out clearly that a pathway of 12 ft. was provided to the village people of Gudalur to go to the Mangaladevi temple.

BY

Thiru S. SINGARAJAN, M.A.,
M.Litt.,
Deputy Commissioner of Archives,
Tamil Nadu Archives,
Egmore, Madras-8.

According to G.O. No. 183 Public department dated 1 May 1918, the temple is situated inside Madras territory as far as the application of the principle of the line of demarcation of the boundary namely 'water Shed Line.'

It should be remembered that Kannaki temple is situated in the reserved forest of Tamil Nadu. The Madurai District Gazetteers published in 1906 states clearly that Vannathiparai is in the reserved forest in Tamil Nadu (12). It is of lasting significance to note that the Kambam valley and Gudalur areas against which Haidar Ali marched forward formed part of the 26 Palayams of the Dindigul province. (13) When Haidar Ali of Mysore marched in 1755 to reduce the refractory Dindigul Poligard to order, the owners of Kambam and Gudalur came to the camp of Haidar Ali and agreed to pay their arrears. But later on both of them broke with their promises and fled. In view of their defection to the camp of Hydar and their promises, the English confiscated their palayams and annexed them to the British territory. In 1790 when the East India Company acquired the Dindigul country the Raja of Travancore declared that both these estates belonged to him and a great deal of correspondence and trouble followed. Finally, he handed the estates over to the company. In December 1874 Kambam and Gudalur were taken possession by the English (16). It appears that the ancestors of the chief of Puniyar in Travancore held the Gudalur Palayam and the Alagar temple in the Gudalur town is said to have been built by them. When the temple was reopened after the completion of the extensive repairs the chief of Puniyar visited the Kumbabhishekam ceremony.

Summing up: The English held the Dindigul country which consisted 26 palayams including Kambam and Gudalur. Vannathiparai situated in the reserved forest of Kambam

valley thus was within the territory of Dindigul country and formed an integral part of the erstwhile Madras State; and, at present forms part of the territory of Tamil Nadu. Hence

Kannaki temple which is also known as Mangaladevi temple situated at Vannathiparai is within the territory of Tamil Nadu.

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DOLLS ON DISPLAY AT KURALAGAM

An exhibition of dolls was inaugurated by the Minister for Khadi and Village Industries, Tmt. P. Vijayalakshmi Palanichamy, at Kuralagam on September, 8th. Organised by the Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board in connection with the Navarathri festival, it will be open till October 16.

The Minister said that there were only six-doll making cooperative societies in Tamil Nadu and asked the Board to take steps to set up more cooperatives in the State. She said that the sale of dolls last year was Rs. 3.60 lakhs and was expected to be Rs. 5 lakhs this year.

Thiru C.N.Krishna Bharati, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, who presided, said the board was helping the artisans in various crafts by giving them finance and training. Thiru N.Kamarasan, vice president of the board, appealed to the Minister to help in rehabilitating the mat weavers of Pathamadai. Thiru M.S.Dasarathan, a member of the Board, said that the board was a great benefactor of the poor artisans. Thiru S.V.R. Pattabhiraman, Joint Director of the board, welcomed the gathering. Thiru T.Venkata Perumal, General Manager, proposed a vote of thanks.

Be a man

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
On being lied about, don't deal in lies
Or being hated, don't give way to hating
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise.

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stood and build with worn-out tools.

If you can make a heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch—and—toss
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone;
And hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them ' Hold on! '

If you can talk with crowds—and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men court with you, but none too much
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run
Yours is the Earth and every thing that's in it,
And which is more—You'll be a Man, My son.

—Rudyard Kipling



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In scope this month

TWENTY-POINT PROGRAMME SPECIAL

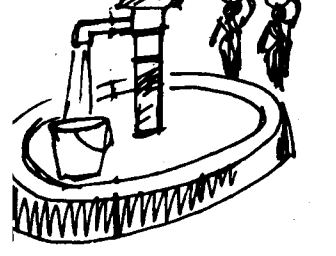
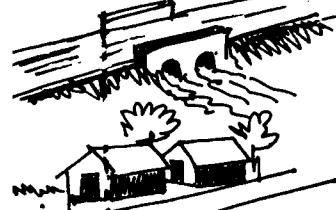
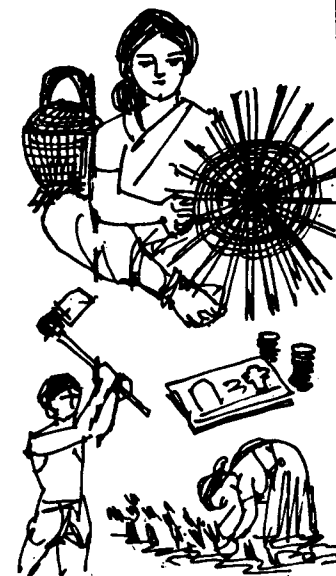
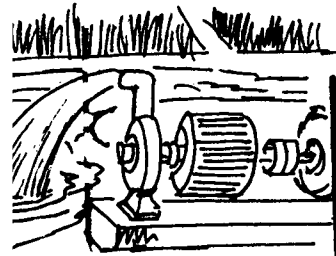
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Thiruvalluvar Year 2017
NOVEMBER 1986 IYPASI - KARTHIGAI

THE 20 POINT PROGRAMME

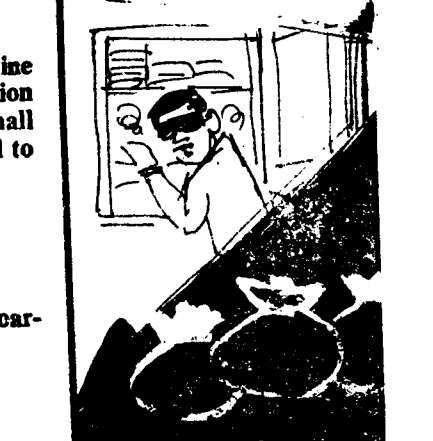
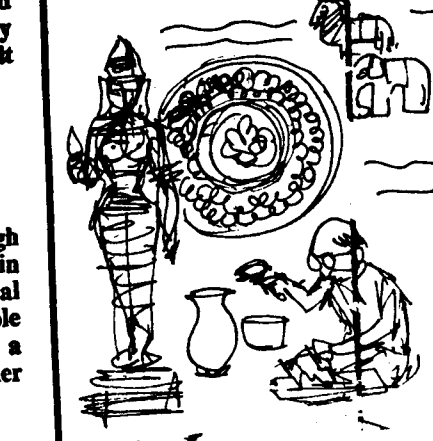
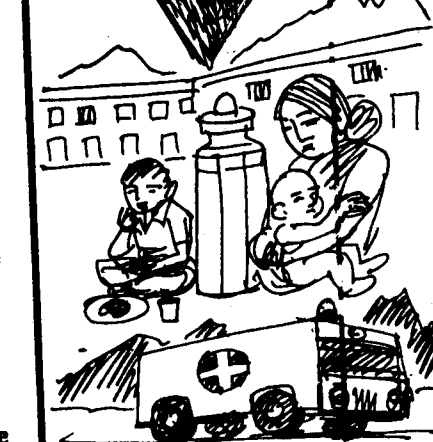
THIS PROGRAMME PROPOSES TO:



1. Increase irrigation potential, develop and disseminate technologies and inputs for dry land agriculture.
2. Make special efforts to increase production of pulses and vegetable oil seeds.
3. Strengthen and expand coverage of Integrated Rural Development and National Rural Employment Programmes.
4. Implement agricultural land ceilings, distribute surplus land and complete compilation of land records by removing all administrative and legal obstacles.
5. Review and effectively enforce minimum wages for agricultural labour.
6. Rehabilitate bonded labour.
7. Accelerate programmes for the development of Scheduled Castes and Tribes.
8. Supply drinking water to all problem villages.
9. Allot house sites to rural families who are without them and expand programmes for construction assistance to them.
10. Improve the environment of slums, implement programmes of house building for economically weaker sections, and take measures to arrest unwarranted increase in land prices.
11. Maximise power generation, improve the functioning of electricity authorities and electrify all villages.



12. Pursue vigorously programmes of social and farm forestry and the development of bio-gas and other alternative energy sources.
13. Promote family planning on a voluntary basis as a people's movement.
14. Substantially augment universal primary health care facilities, and control of leprosy, T.B. and blindness.
15. Accelerate programmes of welfare for women and children and nutrition programmes for pregnant women, nursing mothers and children, specially in tribal, hill and backward areas.
16. Spread universal elementary education for the age-group 6-14 with special emphasis on girls, and simultaneously involve students and voluntary agencies in programmes for the removal of adult illiteracy.
17. Expand the public distribution system through more fair price shops, including mobile shops in far-flung areas and shops to cater to industrial workers, Students' hostels, and make available to students, text books and exercise books on a priority basis and to promote a strong consumer protection movement.
18. Liberalise investment procedures and streamline industrial policies to ensure timely completion of projects. Give handicrafts, handlooms, small and village industries all facilities to grow and to update their technology.
19. Continue strict action against smugglers, hoarders and tax evaders and check black money.
20. Improve the working of the public enterprises by increasing efficiency, capacity utilisation and the generation of internal sources.



POINT NO. 1



Out of the net area cultivated area of 69.09 Lakh hectares in Tamil Nadu, 50% of the area are under rainfed cultivation. The per

6. Area covered with chemical fertilizer within Micro watershed —27,000ha.
7. Plant protection measures—34,300 ha.

Increase irrigation potential, develop and disseminate technologies and inputs for dry land agriculture.

hectare yield of dryland crops are much higher in Research Stations and Government farms because all the Dryland technologies are adopted and better management practices are followed. Whereas in field condition it is much less in order to transfer the Dryland technology to farmers.

1000 acres demonstrations are arranged in all districts except Nilgiris, Kanyakumari and Thanjavur districts for demonstrating the ways and means for maximum productivity by adopting New Proven technology.

During 1985-86, 316 micro watersheds were taken up for intensification wherein the Engineering work has been completed during 1984-85.

The following activities have been carried out in 1984-85.

1. Area covered within Micro Watershed—1,62,000 ha.
2. Area covered outside Micro Watershed—1,00,000 ha.
3. Area coverage with improved drought resistant seed within Micro watershed—30,520 ha.
4. Distribution of Agricultural implements—21,985 Nos.
5. Distribution of seed-cum-fertilizer drill—886 nos.

Technology:

The New Twenty Point Programme aims at improving the dryland farms by adopting latest Agricultural technologies and judicious use of inputs.

The Department of Agriculture demonstrates dryland technologies and educate the powers to adopt them in full, through 1000 AC. demonstrations arranged in almost all districts. Water harvest technologies, conserving soil and rain water, mixed cropping, summer ploughing for preserving soil moisture and other low cost technologies are taught to the farmers through Farmers Training Programmes. Usage of adequate agricultural inputs more so in using chemical fertilizers and improvised Agricultural implements, timely plant protection, preparing Farm Yard Measure to conserve the farm-waste are some of the technologies taught and largely adopted by the farmers.

POINT NO. 2

In 1985-86 about 2730 M.Ts. of certified Pulses seeds were distributed along with 5½ Lakh Nos. of Bacterial culture pockets.

Foliar application of DAP to pulses crop give 10% increase yield. Under this programme 9766 hectares were taken up at the cost of Rs. Rs.97,660.

Strengthening of Extension Machinery in the whole State under Training and Visit System. By this change set up wherein farmers contact is well built, the propaganda on Pulses cropping and production techniques are much more effective.

RECORD PRODUCTION IN 1985-86

With the above additional measures Pulses were grown in 9.66 Lakh hectares with the recorded production of 3.67 Lakh M.Ts in 1985-86.

Pulses are nutritionally very important as they contain about 20-25% protein and they play a very important role in satisfying the protein needs in developing countries and especially in the vegetarian dietary. With the objective of increasing the pulses production this has been included as Point. 2 under New 20 Point Programme.

2.(a) PLAN FOR STEPPING UP PULSES PRODUCTION

It was programmed to step up the pulses production through (1) Extension approach and (2) Intensive approach to 3.50 lakh tonnes during 1985-86.

The farmers are advised to raise pulses as pure crop mixed crop, inter crop, border crop, in rice fallows, in back yards and waste lands.

Make special efforts to increase production of pulses and vegetable oil seeds.

Free Pulses seeds worth Rs. 82 lakhs were distributed as minikits to Small Farmers and Marginal Farmers.

The main thrust of the New 20 Point programme is on increasing productivity of Dryland farming and Pulses coupled with fast



transfer of Technology to cater to situation specific needs in future.

Point 2 (b):

Edible oils form an important part of Indian diet. The consumption of edible oils has been on the increase with the growth in our population and percapita income. The production of oilseeds has however not kept pace with the demand as there has not been any significant breakthrough in oilseeds production as in the case of cereals. Most oilseeds are still produced in a non-intervise manner mainly as rainfed crops. Oilseed crops, which are energy rich crops, are mostly grown under energy-starved condition. The ever increasing gap between the demand and supply of oilseeds has virtually converted our country from the status of an exporter of edible oils to the level of a large scale importer.

In Tamilnadu, Oilseeds are next in importance to cereals with regard to area and production. The important oilseed crops are groundnut, gingelly, sunflower, and castor which occupy a total area of about 12 to 14 lakh

hectares representing about 15% of the gross cultivated area in this State. The details of area and production of different oilseeds at the end of 1985-86 are as follows:

Name of crop	Area in L.ha	Production in L. tonnes
Groundnut	11.87	14.51
Gingelly	1.42	0.58
Sunflower	0.68	0.30
Castor	0.25	0.12
Total	14.22	15.51

Oilseeds production fluctuates widely from year to year, due to the dependance on the seasonal rains. Groundnut is the most important oilseeds crop in the State. While most of the groundnut crop is rainfed, some area is also raised under irrigation. Oilseeds crops are raised in almost all the districts of this State. The districts of Chenglepattu, North Arcot South Arcot and to a lesser extent Coimbatore Thanjavur, Periyar, Trichy, Salem and Madurai are important oilseed growing areas in this State.



THE TWENTY-POINT PROGRAMME-1986



1. Attack on rural poverty.
2. Strategy for rainfed agriculture.
3. Better use of irrigation water.
4. Bigger harvests.
5. Enforcement of land reforms.
6. Special programme for rural labour.
7. Clean drinking water.
8. Health for all.
9. Two-Child norm.
10. Expansion of education.
11. Justice to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
12. Equality for women.
13. New opportunities for youth.
14. Housing for the people.
15. Improvement of slums.
16. New Strategy for forestry.
17. Protection of the environment.
18. Concern for the consumer.
19. Energy for the villages.
20. A responsive administration.

POINT NO. 3

The National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment is being implemented in Tamilnadu from September 1979. This scheme was converted as a component of Integrated Rural Development Programme from October 1980. IRDP is included as item-3 of the Prime Minister's New 20 Point Programme announced on 14.1.82.

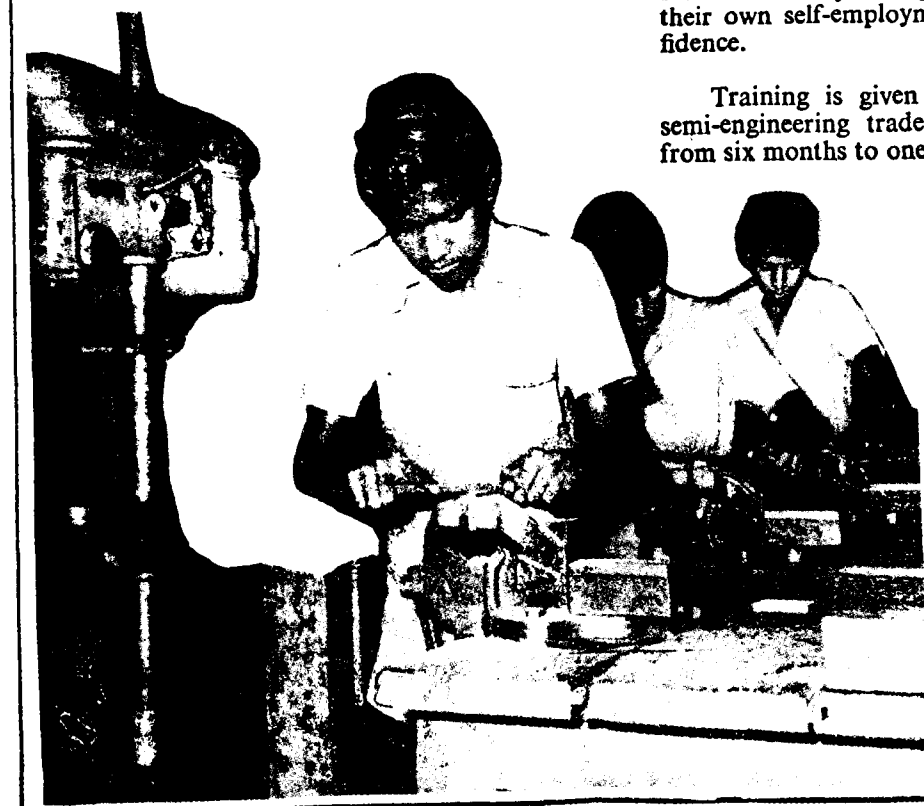


The TRYSEM Scheme aims at upgrading and updating the skill of young rural Craftsmen in order to enable them to do their jobs in a more efficient and accurate manner. It also aims at retaining skilled man power in rural areas thus avoiding the exodus to urban areas. Candidates for this training are selected from the 'Target Group' consisting of small and marginal farmers, rural artisans, agricultural labourers and people below poverty line. The main object of the training is to train the rural youths so that they can be usefully self-emp-

Strengthen and expand coverage of Integrated Rural Development and National Rural Employment Programmes.

loyed on their own. Elementary Entrepreneurial Development skills has also been included in the course content so that the trainees develop some elementary managerial skills so as to start their own self-employment ventures with confidence.

Training is given in 21 self-employable semi-engineering trades, the courses ranging from six months to one year.



The trainees are identified and selected from the target group by the Block Development Officers/Project Officers and sponsored to Industrial Training Institutes for training. Candidates who know to read and write in mother tongue not exceeding the age of 35 are eligible for this training. Training is given on full-time basis in 9 Industrial Training Institutes and on Part-time basis in 20 Industrial Training Institutes as follows:

a) Industrial Training Institutes where Full-time Training is conducted:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Erode | 6. Thiruvannamalai |
| 2. Nagercoil | 7. Tuticorin |
| 3. Nagapattinam | 8. Ulundurpet |
| 4. Pudukkottai | 9. Vellore |
| 5. Theni | |

b) Industrial Training Institutes where Part-time Training is conducted:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ambattur | 11. Dharapuram |
| 2. Ariyalur | 12. Hosur |
| 3. Coonoor | 13. Madurai |
| 4. Paramakudi | 14. Dindigul |
| 5. Thanjavur | 15. Karaikudi |
| 6. Tiruchy | 16. Metturdam |
| 7. Virudhunagar | 17. Salem |
| 8. Chengalpattu | 18. Tiruchendur |
| 9. Coimbatore | 19. Pettai |
| 10. Cuddalore | 20. Guindy |

Part-time training is conducted between 6 P.M. and 9 P.M.

During the period of training each candidate is paid a stipend ranging between Rs.75/- and Rs. 200/-. On completion of training a tool-kit costing upto Rs. 500/- is given at free of cost to each candidate. Candidates who have successfully completed training are issued with an Identity Card.

As on 31.3.1986, 15,885 candidates have been trained in Industrial Training Institutes. Now 948 candidates are undergoing training.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of the District Collector has been set up in each District. The Task Force Calls all the trainees trained under TRYSEM Programme and selects the promising candidates after interview and extends financial assistance through financial institutions for setting up their own venture for seeking self-employment. Part of the amount is given as subsidy drawn from IRDP funds.

As on 30.6.86, the Task Force have addressed 22,745 candidates and interviewed 12,442 candidates who turned up. Out of them 8502 candidates have been selected. A sum of Rs. 1,42,42,464/- has been distributed to 3479 candidates to set-up their own miniature industries.

When the 20-Point Programme was first announced in 1975, I had cautioned you not to expect miracles. Then, as now, there is only one magic which can remove poverty — and that is hard work helped by a clear sense of purpose and discipline. Our national motto is "Satyameva Jayate" — Truth Alone Wins. In our daily lives we should adopt an additional motto: "Shramaeva Jayate". Dedication to truth and toil is the bedrock of respect, progress and prosperity.

Our economy is on the move. It is in our hands to maintain the improvement to lighten burdens of our millions. This programme is for each one of you, and for this nation which is ours to serve, to cherish and to build. I seek your whole-hearted co-operation in making the programme a success.

—Late Smt. INDIRA GANDHI



POINT NO. 4

(v) Extent pending distribution 1,291 acres.

Implementation of Land Ceiling and distribution of surplus lands is one of the schemes under the Twenty Point Programme (Point No. 4). According to the orders in force, an extent of 3 acres of dry or 1½ acres of wet lands is being assigned to the eligible persons. Under Twenty Point Programme (Point No. 4) an extent of 31,594 acres have been distributed upto 31.3.1986. An extent of 3,077 acres has been distributed to the landless poor from 1.4.1985 to 31.3.1986 as detailed below:

District	Target (in acres)	Achievement. (in acres)
1. Chengalpattu	110	110
2. North Arcot	—	—
3. South Arcot	5	5
4. Tiruchirapalli	45	48
5. Madurai	295	340
6. Anna	325	325

Implement agricultural land ceilings, distribute surplus land and complete compilation of land records by removing all administrative and legal obstacles.

for a family is 15 standard acres and the overall ceiling area is limited to 30 standard acres. The progress made under the Land Ceiling Act upto 31.5.86 is furnished below:

	Acres	
Extent notified as surplus lands less extent cancelled before and after taking possession	1,64,737	
Extent covered by stay before and after taking possession	27,058	
3. (i) Extent assigned under disposal of surplus lands to eligible persons.	1,22,371	
(ii) Handed over to Tamil Nadu Sugarcane Farm Corporation	4,041	
(iii) Extent reserved under Rule 13	9,976	
(iv) No. of persons benefitted:		
	Persons	Acres
(a) Scheduled Castes	42,433	47,011
(b) Scheduled Tribes	77	114
(c) Others	53,458	75,246
	95,968	1,22,371

7. Thanjavur	560	563
8. Pudukottai	100	100
9. Periyar	320	320
10. Salem	60	63
11. Dharmapuri	70	72
12. Ramanathapuram	50	53
13. Kamarajar	15	17
14. Pasumpon Muthuramalingam	45	46
15. Tirunelveli	555	457
16. Kanyakumari	90	92
17. Coimbatore	355	366
18. The Nilgiris	—	—
	3000	3077

A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided for the year 1985-86 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for disbursement of financial assistance to the allottees of surplus lands. The quantum of financial assistance is Rs. 2,500/- per hectare and it is in the form of an outright grant to the allottees. Eighty per cent of the amount is given by way of manure through the Co-operative Societies and the balance twenty per cent of the assistance is given in cash. The entire amount of Rs. 20 lakhs provided for the year 1985-86 has been disbursed to the allottees of ceiling surplus lands for the development of the lands assigned to them.

POINT NO. 5

In Tamil Nadu, minimum rates of wages for employment in agriculture and ancillary works to agriculture were initially fixed in 1959 under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. These rates are being revised after a period of 3 years, on the basis of the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee headed by the Commissioner of Land Reforms. The Government of Tamil Nadu have lastly revised the minimum rates of wages, effective from 5.4.1983. The details of comparison the revised minimum rates of wages are as follows.

2. In fixing the minimum rates of wages now in vogue, no distinction in the payment of wages is made as between men and women workers where the same work or work of a similar nature is performed by them. Further, the Government have also fixed the number of hours of work as follows:

of the minimum rates of wages fixed for agricultural labourers by adopting the following methods:

- by beat of tom-tom in villages;
- by exhibiting a statement indicating the revised minimum rates of wages in conspicuous places in the villages, viz, village chavadies, village panchayat offices, Firka offices, Collector's offices and offices of the Agriculture Department;

and

- by giving a copy of the list of minimum rates of wages to village Development officers and Grama Sevikas for the effective communication to the villagers.

6. Wherever specific cases of non-payment or under-payment of minimum rates of wages

Review and effectively enforce minimum wages for agricultural labour.

- All employees engaged in employment Agriculture except those engaged in ploughing—7 hours per day
- Employees engaged in ploughing—5 hours per day

With a view to discouraging child labour, no separate wages have been fixed for non-adults.

Proposal for constitution of an "Advisory Committees" is under consideration of the Government, to further revise the minimum rates of wages.

4. Instructions have been issued to the Collectors for strict enforcement of the minimum rates of wages for the employment in agriculture. In addition, instructions have also been issued to the Collectors through the Commissioner of Land Reforms in regard to

- Publicity to be given among agricultural workers regarding details and implementation of the minimum rates of wages and
- suo-motu action in areas where there is a large scale of non-implementation of minimum rates of wages.

5. The Commissioner of Land Reforms has instructed the Collectors to give wide publicity

are brought to the notice of the Government either by the public or by the legislators, prompt action is taken and suitable instructions are issued to the Collectors to bring the wage level on a par with the rates of wages fixed by the Government.

7. The statistical particulars of inspections made and claims settled during the year 1985-86 are as follows:

Period	Inspections carried out	Claims		
		Field Settled	Pending field	
1985-86				
1.4.85 to 31.3.86)	13,089	523	521	2



POINT NO. 6

The prevalence of this pernicious system of Bondage is in northern parts of India and in adjoining States of Tamil Nadu, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Maharashtra. The downtrodden sect of people from certain Backward Districts of Tamil Nadu move to this neighbouring States, where the stone quarries are in abundance. Prior to 1980, the similar class of large number of Bonded Labourers were identified in the Nilgiris District (Panniyar Labourers), in Kalrayan Hills (Goundan), and in Ramanathapuram District (Palliyar Tribes) and by our efforts they were all liberalised from the clutches of the Land



ments, grant of subsidy for cultivation, purchase of plough bulls, poultry etc., at a cost not exceeding Rs. 4,000 per benefi-

the Collectors to rehabilitate the Bonded Labourers. Nearly 1,554 bonded labourers were rehabilitated during 1984-85.

Rehabilitate bonded labour.

lords. We can proudly say that there are no bonded labourers in our State.

Among the Prime Minister's new 20 Point Programme, the subject "Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour" is Point No.6. The Government of India, strives hard to eradicate the Bonded Labourer System in our Country. They also stress the need to formulate helpful schemes to prevent relapse or sliding back to bondedness. The Government of India also help, the State, by providing 50% central assistance. This State Government also has fallen in line with the Union Government in identifying the bonded labourers of Tamil Nadu origin in neighbouring States, to liberate them and to rehabilitate them by providing attractive welfare measures. Various schemes such as provision of dwelling houses at a cost of Rs. 6,000 (in par with the schemes for S.Cs, S.Ts.) distribution of milch animals, distribution of agricultural implements, stone cutting imple-

ciary is sanctioned depending on the aptitude of the labour. To provide permanent employment opportunity to the freed Bonded Labourer, a Jalli Co-operative Society with a stone crusher, was started at Omalur Taluk in Salem District. It is proposed to start a Gem cutting society in Tirupunguzhi in Tiruchirappalli District. This Government have also relaxed the age restriction upto 40 years in respect of Bonded Labourers who have been released under Bonded Labour System for recruitment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts in State Government Departments and comparable posts in State Public Sector Undertakings.

To speed up the rehabilitation work in our State, the State Level Screening Committee, with the Chief Secretary as the Chairman has been formed in 1984. The Committee meets frequently and approves the schemes sent by

Various schemes with an expenditure of Rs. 8.95 lakhs were approved by the above Screening Committee. Against the target of 1300 Bonded Labourers for the year 1983-84, this State's achievement was 2,060.

For the current financial year the Government of India has fixed a target of 1,000 Bonded Labourers for rehabilitation. So, the Collectors have been geared up to send new proposals by formulating healthy schemes for permanent rehabilitation in consultation with the District Vigilance Committee. After the receipt of such schemes, the State Level Screening Committee will be convened to approve them. Thus, this Government will endeavour its best to eradicate the Bonded Labour System in Tamil Nadu. It is, necessary to mention that the work done in the rehabilitation of Bonded Labour in Tamil Nadu has been applauded by the Government of India.

POINT NO. 7

This point relates the welfare of scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes in this State. Under Special component plan for Scheduled castes i.e. under Point No 7 (a) of 20 Point Programme 60 SC families have been covered under beneficiary oriented Programme during 85-86. Totally, a sum of Rs. 24,000 has been spent towards providing.

(i) Subsidy component for 10 S.C. families to whom Sericulture loan were sanctioned by Bank besides.

(ii) giving sericulture training to 16 S.C. families (Rs. 100/- as stipend per month per trainee with special rearing tools worth Rs. 400/- free of cost after completion of training)

(iii) disbursing cutting subsidy to 40 S.C. families at the rate of Rs. 100 per acre of mulberry planted by each farmer. The physical and financial targets fixed under S.C.P. by Director of Sericulture, Salem for 1985-86 under Point 7(a) of 20 Point Programme was 60 S.C. beneficiaries (Covering Plantation subsidy, sericul-

beneficiaries have been benefitted. The yearwise details of the funds provided by the Government and the No. of beneficiaries benefitted are given below:

Year	Amount sanctioned Rs.in lakhs	No. of Individual beneficiaries
1976-77	0.78	60
77-78	1.75	105
78-79	2.51	230
79-80	1.85	271
80-81	2.33	145
81-82	4.15	290
82-83	9.96	525
83-84	9.25	365
84-85	10.00	507
85-86	10.00	331

A sum of Rs. 11.590 lakhs are provided as establishment cost for the above three offices. There are 22 Senior Beefidlemen working in the hill station for implementing the beekeeping scheme in successfully and provide technical knowledge to the tribals.

Accelerate programmes for the development of Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

ture, training and Sericulture loans and Rs. 24,000/- respectively) and both the targets were achieved fully without shortfall.

The Government have provided funds under Integrated Tribal Development Programme from the year 1976-77 to 1985-86 to the tune of Rs. 52.58 lakhs towards implementation of schemes on Beekeeping, Cane and Bamboo, Mat Weaving, Galnut processing, Tamarind processing, distribution of Carpentry and Blacksmithy Tools, Emery chakkies and trading on special schemes. So far 2929 individual

The Board has also provided assistance to the individual beneficiaries for organising beekeeping Coop., societies, Carpentry and Blacksmithy, Cane and Bamboo, Mat Weaving, Bakery, Pottery Industry by them. So far 3473 individuals, have been benefitted through the sum of Rs. 10.28 lakhs received from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay.

During the year 1985-86, the Board has submitted proposal to the tune of Rs. 40.00 lakhs for the benefit of 1116 individuals.

Name of the Hill	Total villages	No. of Villages the V.I.schemes implemented.	Percentage
Kalrayan, South Arcot	133	37	27%
Kalrayan, Salem	81	81	100%
Yercaud and Aranauthu malai, Salem	66	46	69.6%
Kolli, Salem district	252	46	18.3%
Javadhu Hills, North Arcot	250	145	58%
Sitheri, Dharmapuri District	45	25	56%

a) Point No: 7 (a) Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes

Government have fixed a target of 1160 Acres and 1100 Scheduled castes families to be brought under Mulberry cultivation and the achievement made during the year 1985-86 was 989 acres and 1140 Scheduled Castes families. During the 1985-86, 300 Scheduled castes farmers have been imparted sericulture training spending Rs. 1.50 lakhs towards stipend and scientific tools. And 169 Scheduled castes farmers have been assisted for the purchase of Rearing appliances and the amount spent was Rs. 0.845 lakhs. 168 Scheduled Castes farmers have been assisted for the construction of Rearing Shed and the amount spent was Rs. 1.26 lakhs.

b) Point No :7(b) Special Component Plan for Scheduled Tribes

Government have fixed a target of 300 acres to be brought under Mulberry cultivation during the year 1985-86 out of which the achievement made during the year was 332 Acres. Out of the target of 300 Scheduled Tribes families to be brought under Sericulture fold 335 Scheduled Tribes families have been brought under Sericulture fold. And 300 Scheduled Tribes farmers have been provided with sericulture training, subsidy for the purchase of Rearing appliances and subsidy for the construction of Rearing Sheds.

Training of Adi-dravidar Urban Youths in Industrial Training Institutes.

Government have launched a scheme of training of Adi-dravidar youths in urban areas in pursuance of the Planning Commission's stress in training and skill improvement of Adi-dravidar Youths in urban areas.



Candidates with an educational standard of 9th to 12th are given training in various trades in Industrial Training Institutes in the State by utilizing the existing infrastructural facilities. The scheme for the year 1985-86 envisages the training of 1500 Adi-dravidar Youths at the rate of 960 candidates in a year. On Part-time basis for six months similar to TRYSEM Programme in semi-engineering self-employable trades.

The candidates are selected and sponsored by the Tamilnadu Adi-dravidar Housing Development Corporation (TAHDCO) of the Districts. The trained candidates are given financial assistance through banks. A 50 % subsidy to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 is given irrespective of the cost of the project set-up by the individual.

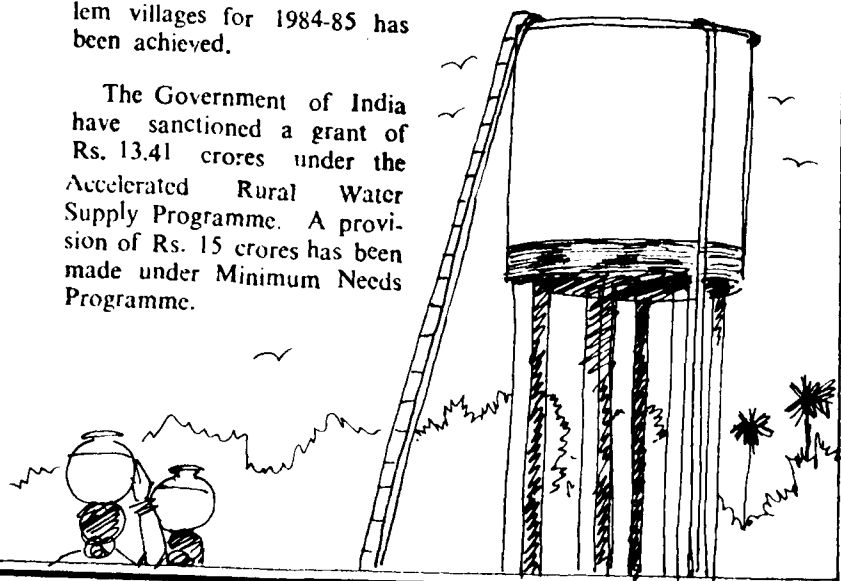
Also, the Principals of Industrial Training Institutes have been permitted to give training to the urban Adi-dravidar Youths in Industrial Training Institutes similar to TRYSEM Programme on part-time basis when the District Development Officers (TAHDCO) approach them for such training. This facility is being availed in many Industrial Training Institutes.

POINT NO. 8

There are 7226 villages identified as problem villages. At the commencement of the VI Plan i.e. on 1.4.80, the total number of problem villages to be covered was 6649. Schemes to provide drinking water to the problem villages are executed from the funds, provided under Minimum Needs Programme and the Central assistance given under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Upto the end of 31.12.84, 6478 problem villages have been provided with at least one good source of drinking water.

lem villages for 1984-85 has been achieved.

The Government of India have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 13.41 crores under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. A provision of Rs. 15 crores has been made under Minimum Needs Programme.

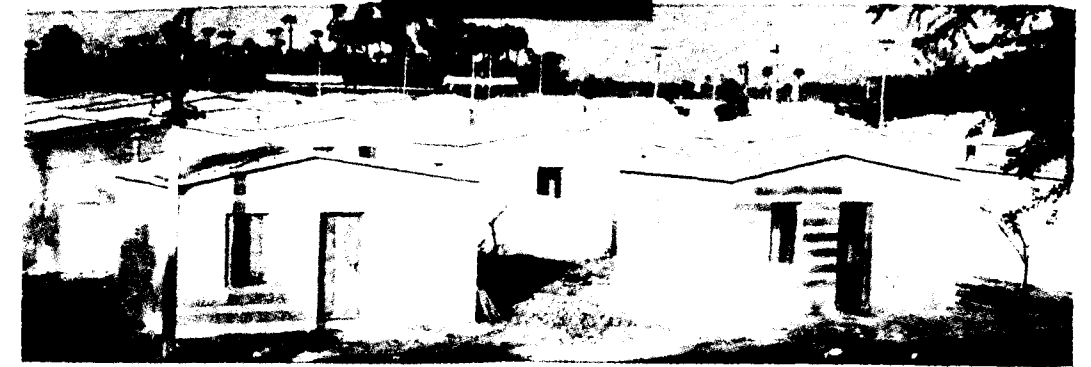


Supply drinking water to all problem villages.

It is very happy to note that the target of 552 prob-



POINT NO. 9



In keeping with the Prime Minister's emphasis on designing and implementing programme specially directed at upliftment of weaker sections of society, the Government of Tamil Nadu is vigo-

2,27,047 families have been provided house-sites in the years 1980-82. The target fixed by the Government of India for 1983-84 towards the allotment of house-sites to rural families is 1,75,000.

The ceiling cost of each house with a plinth area of 200 sq. ft. is Rs. 6000 with effect from April, 1983 out of which 25% has to be borne by the individual member on cash or building

Allot house sites to rural families who are without them and expand programmes for construction assistance to them.

rously implementing Point No. 9, viz., the assignment of house sites to the landless poor and to provide assistance for construction of houses.

Against this target, the achievement upto 31.3.1984 is 2,11,434 an achievement of 120.8%.

Against the target of 1,75,000 the achievement for March 1985 is 2,05,108 (117%).

Point No: 9-A There are two schemes under this point under implementation in this State. Wherever available, Government poramboke lands are assigned as house-sites to rural landless poor by the Revenue Department. Where such Government lands are not available, private lands are acquired and are distributed as house sites to Adi-Dravidars and Tribals by the Social Welfare Department. The projected figure for families without house sites in the State by March 1983 is 7,43,474. As against the 6th Plan target, the achievement from 1980-81 to 1983-84 is 5,83,383. The balance to be achieved during 1984-85 is 1,60,091. This has been taken as the VIth Plan target. It has been estimated that

Point No: 9-B Construction Assistance provided:

The Government of India's target is to provide houses to 25% of the population provided with house sites. This State Government implements the programme through the House construction co-operative Societies and have fixed a target of 2,00,000 houses for five years from 1980-81 to 1984-85. Under the Rural Housing Scheme loans are given to the individual members of these societies, repayable in a period of 20 years for the construction of houses by them.

materials or physical labour. The Adi-Dravidar beneficiaries are eligible for a capital subsidy of Rs. 1000 for each house and the loans given to them are interest-free.

Under the Rural Housing Scheme, during the VI Plan period, 1,18,500 houses have been constructed during 1980-83. The target for the year 1983-84 is 40,000 houses. As against this target, the achievement upto 31.3.84 is 40,016 an achievement of 100%. As against the 6th Plan target of 2,00,000 houses the achievement from 1980-81 to 1983-84 is 1,58,516. The target fixed for 1984-85 is 41,484 (Revised) and this enable this department to complete the target fixed for the 6th Plan period. Against the target of 41,484 the achievement for March 1985 is 42476 houses (101%).



Improve the environment of slums, implement programmes of house building for economically weaker sections, and take measures to arrest unwarranted increase in land prices.

In most of the modern cities and Municipal towns its beautiful space has been pock-marked with slum. The slums being the innovation of necessity have sprang in an unplanned and congested areas with disregard to elementary principles of "layout". They crop up in Government porambores, Municipal lands, unoccupied lands belonging to public institutions and private parties. These squatter settlement naturally lack all basic services and as a consequence, lead to great public health hazards on account of its insanitary orders. It poses a challenge to civic administrators to sort out the holdings of land occupied by squatter settlements, settle legal hurdles and render minimum basic amenities to them.

There are about 1099 slums in 102 Municipal towns in Tamil Nadu. Out of the total population of 72,20,954 in Municipal towns, about 12

lakhs population reside in slums. This accounts for 16% of the total population in Municipal towns. It is being a primary duty of the Municipality to provide for such basic amenities such as Water Supply, Sanitation, Communication and lighting to all members of public including slum dwellers to ensure public health and safety but financial constraints stand in the way of providing these basic amenities in the slums.

In order to uplift the living conditions of economically weaker sections of the society living in slums the new scheme called "Accelerated Slum Improvement Scheme" was introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu from the year 1977-78, by sanctioning a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs every year to Municipalities for provision of basic amenities in the slums. During 1984-85 Government have sanctioned Rs. 100 lakhs

to 35 Municipalities for improvement of 107 slums. Government also laid the following guidelines for implementing the scheme well. The following basic amenities are to be provided.

1. Water Supply
2. Public conveniences
3. Formation of roads
4. Street lighting

In spite of the huge problems of environment in slums and the financial constraints of Municipal bodies to solve them at once, a sincere attempt has been made for the last six years beginning from 1977-78 onwards to embark on face lift programme in slums applying the minimum funds provided by the Government and with limited resources of Municipalities to provide the following basic amenities partially or in full in slums.

In this manner basic amenities have been provided in

about 319 slums in 81 Municipal towns during the last 8 years. The improvement in the quality of the life of the dwellers in those slums as detailed, below:

1. Provision of Water Supply:—

Previously people living in slums go a longway in search of water for their basic needs. Potable drinking water is not made available in slum areas. Now under this scheme distribution mains of protected water supply have been extended to these slums and public fountains have been erected at the rate of one for 40 to 50 families. Wherever it is not possible to do so required number of bore wells or open wells are provided which resulted in personal cleanliness and arrested the spread of infectious diseases such as Cholera, Diarrhoea, Pneumonia, measles, round worms and hook worms. Thus the higher rate of diseases, illness and mortality among slum dwellers has been considerably brought down. So far Water Supply have been provided in 50 slums and storm water drains constructed in 153 slums.

2. Public Convenience :—

Prior to introduction and execution of the scheme public conveniences are lacking in these slums. Open air defecation is a common evil. Now public conveniences have been provided at the rate of a seat for 10 families which prevented unhealthy hazards, improved environmental sanitary condition and health conditions of slum dwellers. Under this scheme so far public convenience have been provided in 131 slums.

3. Formation of Roads/ Construction of Drains:—

The slum dwellers previously put their huts and live in the place wherever they like. Be-

cause of this peculiar circumstances, there is no street or road actually existed in a slum. Most of the slums are not provided with pucca road and connected with main roads. At times the slum dwellers find it very difficult to bring even light vehicles such as cycle rickshaws or autorickshaws etc. to take out sick people to hospital. Under this scheme streets and roads were not only formed inside slums but also pucca metal and B.T. Surface roads have been formed to connect it with other parts of the Municipal town with drains on both sides for disposal of sullage and rain water. The provision of electric tube lights at slum provided easy movement with fear out even during nights.

Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums:—

Pleased with the performance of the Municipalities in the improvement of Urban slums, the Government of India have come forward to sanction a Special Grant of Rs. 2.67 crores as an incentive for improvement if slums in various Municipalities in the State. Government have accordingly in their Order No. 1486, Housing & Urban Development Department, Dated 13-10-83, have approved a sum of Rs. 2.67 crores in the budget for implementation of Environmental Improvement of 370 slums identified by the Director of Municipal Administration in the various Municipalities all over the State.

Based on the incentive scheme announced by the Government of India, they have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 59.00 lakhs to the State Government as the Instalment on an adhoc basis, for achieving the target over and above the approved annual plans target of Rs. 50.00 lakhs. Based on a survey of slums, the Director of Municipal Administration



has sent proposals for additional coverage of 370 slums in various Municipalities all over the State and Government have allocated Rs. 59.00 lakhs as 1 instalment for additional coverage of slums in the selected Municipalities under this scheme. In G.O.Ms.No. 9, Housing and Urban Development Department, dated 4-1-84, Government have sanctioned Rs. 50.00 lakhs to 16 Municipalities for improvement of slums.

The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board has been entrusted with the execution of work in the case of Ambattur-Madhavaram Township Committee and Pallavapuram and Tiruvottiyur Municipalities, and a sum of Rs. 18.94 lakhs

have been allotted to Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board. The balance of Rs. 40.06 lakhs was allotted to Director of Municipal Administration for implementation of the scheme in 12 Municipalities.

Similarly during 1984-85, Government in G.O.Ms.No.567, Housing and Urban Development Department, Dt. 23-7-84 have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 57.00 lakhs for improvement of 60 Urban slums in 12 Municipalities with a target of 42,634 beneficiaries.

POINT NO. 11

The new 20 Point Programme underscores hundred percent electrification, expansion of irrigation facilities, increased agricultural production and the development of weaker sections and backward areas.

Tamil Nadu, with an area of 1,30,057 sq kilometres stands first in the matter of energisation of agricultural pumpsets and it has achieved 99.87% electrification of villages. The table given below indicates the following:

I. Increase in Agricultural Production through Lift Irrigation:

Human and animal energy was being used by farmers in the rural areas to bale out water from the well for irrigation. This is a costly and time consuming proposition. Today about

As on 31.3.86, 22 villages have been electrified through diesel generator sets and 33 villages through the Solar Photo voltaic system.

All the 26211 Adi Dravidar colonies in the state have been electrified. The present policy is to electrify all new colonies as and when they spring up. During 1985-86, 74 Adi Dravidar colonies have been electrified.

IV. Domestic Supply:

About 12 lakh consumers in villages are availing power for domestic purposes as on 31.3.86. This has enabled to improve the standard of life in rural areas.

V. Electrification of huts:

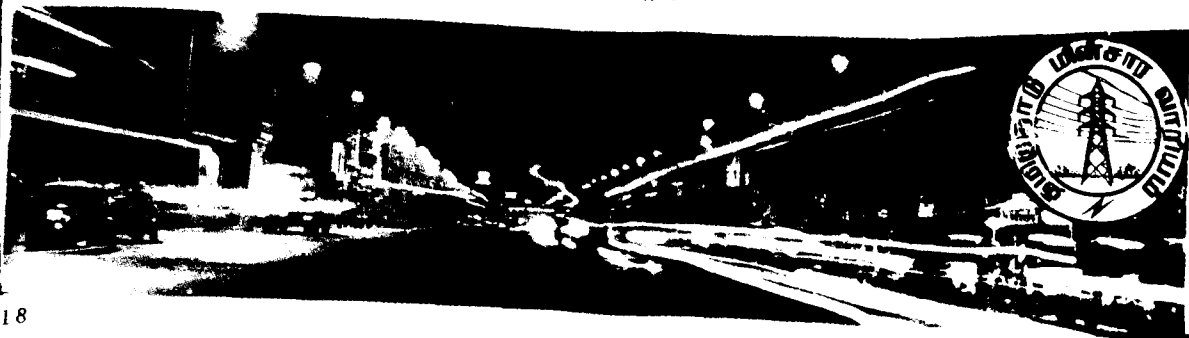
Tamil Nadu Govt. in the year 1979 launched a new programme of "one light to one hut"

Maximise power generation, improve the functioning of electricity authorities and electrify all villages.

11 lakhs electrical driven pumpsets in the State are in operation to do this job. 20 % of the total pumpsets in the country are in Tamil Nadu. Electricity energy is supplied free of cost to small farmers and at a flat rate of Rs. 75 per H.P. per year to other agriculturists in the State. Nearly 3 lakh applicants who have registered for power supply for pumpsets are waiting for connection. During the year 1985-86 against a target of 40,000 pumpsets 40,628 pumpsets were energised, thus exceeding the target.

II. Street Lights:

Street lights in the rural areas play an important role. Till 31.3.86, 47,515 hamlets and 15,715 villages in the State have been provided with street lights. In some of the villages in the hill areas, which are not easily accessible by conventional power route, electrical energy is supplied to the street lights through Solar voltaic system and diesel generator sets.



to all those huts in the village Panchayat areas with an area of 200 sq.ft. and less covered by mud wall and thatched roof. Under this scheme the hut dweller has to remit only Rs. 10/- towards cost of erecting a switch board and a switch. Initially these consumers were to pay a monthly charge of Rs. 2.50 from 15.9.84. Now this scheme has been extended to the houses constructed for SC/ST in the rural areas under NREP and RLEGP schemes. As on 21.3.1986, about 7.1 lakh of hut dwellers enjoy this scheme.

VI. Rural Industries:

With the intention of improving rural economy and providing employment to villagers in the State, as on 31.3.1986, 86,490 service connections have been given to Rural Industries.

POINT NO. 12

The optimum forest coverage to be maintained in tropical countries as ours is estimated as 33-1/3% by Scientists. But Tamil Nadu State is having a forests of 21878 sq.km. which means 16.8% only. Therefore there is a basic urgency to increase forest areas through developmental programmes. Forest development is aimed to achieve in addition to increased production of energy wood, timber, Industrial wood, Tanning materials, edible products like Tamarind etc., required by people. In spite of our vigorous efforts for the improvement of forest wealth, it is realised that the demand for the above mentioned forest produce far exceeds the level

to the entire rural people, and the urban poor. According to the estimation by National Productivity Council the demand for fuelwood in 1981-82 is 7.268 million tonnes and this is likely to increase to 8.399 million tonnes in 1989-90. Therefore fuelwood production is treated as priority activity in all Rural development programmes. It is in this context the new 20 Point Programme has included "Social Forestry" as the 12th Point of the Programme.

Keeping these aspects in view the Forest Department is implementing

in addition to afforestation programme in Government forest lands, a massive Social Forestry Project with the assistance of Swedish International Development Authority and another Rural Fuelwood plantation scheme with the aid of Government of India, from 1980. The project utilises the village lands otherwise lying as wastes in the form of Porambores, Tank foreshores, River, Canal and Road fringes for raising woodlots. This project also supplies seedlings and technical know-how to farmers encouraging them to undertake farm forestry in their lands. Agro forestry is encouraged. The supply of seedlings to

Pursue vigorously programmes of afforestation, social and farm forestry and the development of bio-gas and other alternative energy sources.

of supply. This gap is seriously felt in the case of fuelwood production. We know, fuel wood is an essential household commodity without which food will not be available for consumption. The urban rich and middle class people have ways and means to purchase commercial fuel like gas, kerosene, Electricity etc. But those commercial fuels are not available



Farmers is made under two components viz. Tree cultivation Incentive Programme and Tree cultivation Extension Programme. Under the former component upto 500 seedlings are supplied free of cost to small and marginal farmers and landless poor. The 20 Point Programme has become a powerful tool for activating the Social Forestry Programme.

SIDA—Aided Social Forestry, Scheme works of Social Forestry Division, Tiruppur, in Periyar District.

During 1985-86 with the aid of Swedish International Development Authority, Tiruppur Social Forestry Division was afforested with fuel wood and other useful trees over an area of 620 Acres which is unfit for Agricultural purposes. More over 16 Km length of Road Avenue Plantations and 55 Km length of Canal Plantations were afforested in the same year.

In order to help economically weaker sections to raise Plantations in their land holdings which are unsuitable for Agricultural and

to increase supply of fuelwood, in rural areas to provide poles, bamboos, small timber, fodder fruits and minor forest produce, 11,60,000 seedlings were supplied to them under free of cost and at subsidy rates. During 1985-86 an amount of Rs. 10,51, 8.80 was spent in Periyar District by the Tiruppur Social Forestry Division.

Similarly during 1986-87, with a budget proposals of Rs. 20 lakhs in Periyar District, 15,60,000 seedlings were raised and kept ready for planting and as well as supply to the public. Apart from the above, 20,000 potted ornamental seedlings are also raised to supply to public.

POINT NO. 13

Tamil Nadu is successfully implementing the Family Welfare Programme from 1956 on a purely voluntary basis. Tamil Nadu stands in front in achieving the allotted targets when compared to all other States in India.

According to the 1981 census, the population of Tamil Nadu was 8.84 crores. The decennial growth rate of Tamil Nadu during 1971-81 is the lowest in the country i.e., 17.5%. The National growth rate is 25.0%. The National Health Policy aims at achieving Net Reproduction Rate of Unity by the end of 2000 A.D. For Tamil Nadu, the objective is to reach Net Reproduction Rate of unity by 1991-92.

iii) The present strategy to implement Family Welfare Programme in Tamil Nadu is five programmes.

i) Communication (ii) Extension (iii) Services (iv) After care (v) Maternal and Child Health care.

iv) During the year 1985-86, Government of India had fixed a Sterilisation Target of 4,75,000 and the achievement was 5,13,990 which comes to 108.2% of the target.

Promote family planning on a voluntary basis as a people's movement.

Due to excellent performance in Family Welfare programme during 1984-85, Tamil Nadu had secured an award of Rs. 5 crores at All India level.

v) Achievements under temporary methods were much better compared to the previous years. The performance under IUD in 1985-86 was the highest since the inception of the programme. The targets and achievements under Temporary methods for 1985-86 are furnished below.

Programme	Target	Achievement	Percentage
IUD	168,000	192,120	114.4
CC USERS	200,000	177,214	88.6
ORAL PILL USERS	76,000	47,885	63.0

vi) Camps were conducted in all the districts by the district collectors utilising the services of Private Medical practitioners and Government doctors. There are 2618 (donated) Laparoscopes and 40 Laparoscope trained teams available to do laparoscopic operations to mothers.



POINT NO. 14

About 1.8% population suffer from Tuberculosis. 4th of these cases are 'infectious'. It is estimated that in Tamilnadu nearly 10 lakh persons are suffering from 'X-ray active' Tuberculosis of the lungs of which about 2.50 lakhs are sputum positive (infectious)

TB BEDS

There are 3523 TB beds in Tamilnadu. TB beds are available in all the districts. There are 10 full-fledged TB Sanatoria in the State (8 Govt. and 2 Private). Most of the general medical institutions (District Headquarters and Taluk Hospitals) have TB wards. Action is being taken to establish TB wards in the other hospitals also, wherever necessary.

NATIONAL TB INSTITUTE TRAINING

In order to maintain a full team of Medical and Para-medical personnel the new incum-

'infrastructure'. Supply is awaited in respect of District TB Centre, Tiruppur for the supply of X-ray unit and Odelca Camera.

2. As soon as sanction is accorded by the Govt. of Tamilnadu for the establishment of District TB Centre at Sivaganga and Virudhunagar, proposals will be sent to the Director General of Health Services, New Delhi for the release of X-ray unit and Odelca Camera for these new centres also.

Anti-TB drugs, BCG vaccine and equipment like X-ray Unit, Odelca Camera, Microscopes and BCG kit articles are supplied to the District TB Centres by the Govt. of India 'in kind' Central assistance towards the supply of anti-TB drugs and equipment is provided for 50% of the overall requirements and 50% is met by the State Govt. The break up of the central assistance provided and the amount

Substantially augment universal primary health care facilities, and control of leprosy, T.B. and blindness.

bents (District TB Officer, Treatment Organiser, Laboratory Technician, X-ray Technician and Statistical Assistant) are deputed for National TB Institute training.

SUPPLY OF X-RAY UNIT AND ODELCA CAMERA TO THE DISTRICT TB CENTRES

1. All the District TB Centres except the District TB Centre, Tiruppur has the required

allotted by the Govt. of Tamil nadu during the last six years for the purchase of anti-TB drugs are given below:

Year	Centre	State
	Rs. in lakhs	Rs. in lakhs
1981-82	9.61	18.58
1982-83	18.70	17.82



1983-84	18.50	35.00
1984-85	79.50	36.00
1985-86	79.00	39.50
1986-87	90.00	47.35

STATE

The following are the budget provisions made by the Govt. of Tamilnadu during the last six years for the TB Institutions in Tamilnadu under the control of Director of Medical Services and Family Welfare, Madras. These include provisions made for anti-TB drugs also.

Rs. in lakhs

1981-82	156.02
1982-83	210.99
1983-84	175.60
1984-85	200.14
1985-86	219.50
1986-87	259.34

The Short Course Chemotherapy has been introduced under the District TB Programme, as a pilot scheme, in North Arcot District since March 1983. Over 4000 TB patients (sputum positives) have so far been put on short course chemotherapy. About 1000 patients have completed one full course of treatment. The Government of India have decided to introduce short course chemotherapy in 8 districts in Tamilnadu (including North Arcot). The other six districts selected for introducing short course chemotherapy are Dharmapuri, Salem, Periyar, South Arcot, Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE SCHEME FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND BEEDI WORKERS

Handloom Weavers and Beedi Workers are enumerated under this special scheme evolved by the Govt. of Tamilnadu at a cost of about Rs. 38 lakhs. 'The chest symptomatics' are picked up and thoroughly examined. The detected cases of TB are given domiciliary treatment in the nearest Govt. Hospital, Primary Health Centre etc. Cases with general ailments are also attended to and given initial treatment and they are referred to the nearest hospital or Primary Health Centre for continuing treatment. Five Mobile Medical Units are engaged in this scheme. They are assisted by four mobile MMR Units.

Thirty seven transport corporations were appraised and reviewed of their performance, on an all India basis. Thiruvalluvar Transport Corporation has increased its daily performance by 21,952 passengers.



NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS

Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness three Central Mobile Ophthalmic Units were established in Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai, Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli and Raja Mirasudar Hospital, Thanjavur for which 100% Central Assistance was received from the Government of India. The Central Mobile Ophthalmic Unit at Rajaji Hospital, Madurai was established in 1980. Government of India have supplied equipments and vehicle for this Mobile Ophthalmic Unit. The Central Mobile Ophthalmic Units at Tirunelveli and Thanjavur are in existence.

The Ophthalmic Dept. of Madurai Medical College, Madurai, the Ophthalmic Dept. of Tirunelveli Medical College and Ophthalmic Dept. of Thanjavur Medical College were Upgraded.

ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL INSTITUTE

The Government of India have made available a total assistance of Rs. 35 lakhs for the existing Government ophthalmic Hospital Madras.

Apart from this, central assistance at the rate of 1.5 lakhs per annum will be made available for salaries of 7 faculty members.

CONTINUED EDUCATION

The Medical Officers posted in the identified Primary Health Centres are given training in Ophthalmology. So far 89 Medical Officers of identified Primary Health Centres have been

given training in Ophthalmology at Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai. The training programme is being continued.

WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS

A Workshop on National Programme for Control of Blindness sponsored by the World Health Organisation was held at Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras from 10.10.85 to 12.10.85 for District Ophthalmic Surgeons under PBL. 001/84-85 which yielded fruitful results in bringing all these involved in this National Programme closer for exchanging their experiences, augmenting their efficiency and sorting out various kinds of problems and their remedial measures.

GRANT IN AID TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION FOR CATARACT OPERATION:

Government of India have allocated Rs. 3-lakhs during 1985-86 for granting assistances to the Voluntary Organisation for conducting eye camps independantly at the rate of Rs.40/- per cataract operation subject to a ceiling of Rs. 12,000 per camp and Rs. 40/- per Cataract Operation if the camp was conducted with the help of Central Mobile Ophthalmic Units.



Government of Tamil Nadu have also issued orders permitting the District Collectors and State Mobile Ophthalmic Units to grant financial assistance to voluntary organisations who come forward to organise eye camps.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES

75 Primary Health Centres have been identified under National Programme for Control of Blindness and 100% Central Assistance has been received from the Government of India towards the provision of equipments.

DISTRICT HOSPITALS

In the 1st phase, Government have identified five District Hospitals at Kanadukathan, Srivilliputhur, Sivaganga, Aranthangi and Palani under National Programme for Control of Blindness. In the 11nd Phase, another four District Hospitals in Mettur Dam, Pollachi, Coonoor, and Krishnagiri have been identified under this programme. In the third phase three more District Hospitals at Tiruchendur, Kovilpatti and Kuzhithuram have been identified. Government of India have supplied equipments to all these Hospitals. In addition the District Hospitals at Kumbakonam and Gobichettipalayam have been identified in lieu of 32 Primary Health Centres.

ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT

Government of India have allocated Rs. 40,000 towards the supply of Antibiotic eye ointment. This has been distributed through the Central Mobile Ophthalmic Unit at Rajaji Hospital, Madurai.

ACHIEVEMENT OF CATARACT OPERATION IN TAMIL NADU DURING 1986-87 upto 30.6.1986.

	April 1986	May 1986	June 1986
Central Mobile Ophthalmic Unit	..	91	9
Teaching Medical Institutions	1104	1221	1152
District and Taluk Hospitals	405	468	383
Government Free Eye Camp	389	1726	2359
Voluntary Organisations	5382	4011	3623
Total	7280	7517	7526

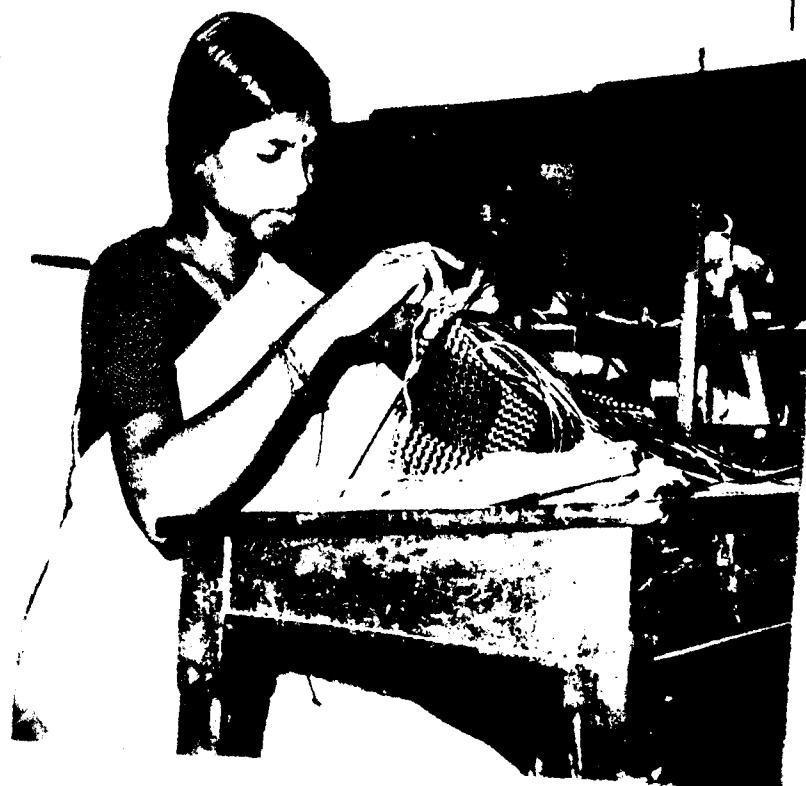
POINT NO. 15



Accelerate programmes of welfare for women and children and nutrition programmes for pregnant women, nursing mothers and children, specially in tribal, hill and backward areas.

All the 36 ICDS Blocks started during the VI Five Year Plan were maintained during 1984-85. In each ICDS there are about 100 anganwadis and each anganwadi provide health supplements,

health education etc. to 70 children and 30 pregnant and lactating mothers. Preventive measures like immunisation of children were also taken. Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme provides nutritious noon meal to more than 68 lakhs of children. This programme not only provides nutritious supplement, but also provides new avenues of employment to the weakest section of women, widows and destitutes.



POINT NO. 16

Education Department, Tamilnadu opened 274 primary schools and 75 middle schools in 1985-86. The target of the centre is to get 100 percent of the children of age group 6-11 and 75 percent of those in 11-14 enrolled in schools by 1989-90 of the Seventh Five Year Plan. But in Tamilnadu, happily enough even in the academic year 1985-86, enrolment at 6-11 reached 100 percent and at 11-14 it was 76.2 percent. Again of the 2.97 lakhs of children enrolled under the age group 6-11, 1.44 lakhs are girls which ensures growth of girls' education. To encourage the enrolment of these children (6-11) the centre sponsored an award scheme to aid the panchayats and blocks, according to which the Department of Education in Tamilnadu received Rs. 11.25 lakhs in 1983-84 and Rs.12.25 lakhs in 1984-85. The amount is being spent on facilities like drinking water, toilets, craft equipment, workshops and buildings.

To aid education again, free books and free school uniforms were distributed in 1985-86.

Rs. 11.54 crores was spent for the supply of free text-books for 58.97 lakhs of children of standards 1 to 8 who are beneficiaries of the Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme. For this, the contribution of Tamil nadu Text book Society was Rs.1.24 crores. Slates for 5 lakhs of Std.1 children cost Rs. 11.52 lakhs and school uniforms for 58.68 lakhs of pupils of Stds. 1-8 cost Rs. 15.81 crores.

The result of these schemes is that the drop out rate of 40 percent in 1977-78 sharply fell and it was only 25 percent in 1984-85.

In three years from 1980 to 1983, Rs. 30 crores was spent on buildings for 4500 panchayat union primary schools under self-financing scheme. Similarly, for government, municipal and aided primary schools a grant of Rs. 21 lakhs has been allotted for 1986-87.

Since 1.6.81, teachers and basic servants of the panchayat union schools have become Government servants and they are administered

Spread universal elementary education for the age-group 6-14 with special emphasis on girls, and simultaneously involve students and voluntary agencies in programmes for the removal of adult illiteracy.





General Course:

No. of boys	162016
No. of girls	119009

Vocational Courses:

No. of boys	44893
No. of girls	22872
	348790

Hence, 3,48,790 pupils had higher secondary education in 1985-86. It is well-known that Tamilnadu has been a forerunner for the other states in the conduct of vocational courses in higher secondary education.

No. of pupils on the vocational courses in higher secondary schools in 1985-86.

Vocation	Boys	Girls	Total
1.	2.	3.	4.
1. Agriculture	5246	284	5530
2. Home Science	50	2735	2785
3. Commerce	21714	15732	37446
4. Engineering & Technology	17497	508	18005
5. Health Education	365	3572	3937
6. Miscellaneous	21	41	62
	44893	22872	67765

Apart from these courses, the centrally sponsored computer course has been in operation in some higher secondary schools since 1984-85. As on 1985-86, 16 schools in Madras and 14 in Coimbatore have this course. Again Rs. 6.36 crores, has been spent on equipments for science laboratories in higher secondary schools and 668 government higher secondary schools are to be provided with a science laboratory with a class room and a 'practical hall' each at the total cost of Rs. 13 crores; and 619 schools have already got the laboratories built.

ADULT EDUCATION

The Census of India 1981 places the population of Tamil Nadu at 483 lakhs (Males 244 lakhs - Females 239 lakhs) and the literacy percentage of the state as follows

Census year	Men	Women	Total
1971	51.78	26.36	39.46
1981	58.26	34.99	46.76

When the massive National Adult Education Programme was launched in the year

Rural Functional Literacy Project

The Rural Functional Literacy Project is a centrally sponsored scheme with cent percent financial assistance and implemented by the state government. Under this programme 27 projects with 8160 centres functioned during 1985-86.

The Government of India have revised the pattern of Rural Functional Literacy Project from April 1985 with a view to cover all the aspects within a period of two years (as against three years as per the old pattern).

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---|
| a) | I Phase
8 months (350 hours) | Basic literacy and numeracy skills with emphasis on awareness and functionality |
| b) | II Phase
4 months (150 hours) | Reinforcement of literacy and numeracy skills. |
| c) | III phase
12 months (100 hours) | Post literacy and follow up programme. |

The expenditure as per the revised pattern for each project (consisting of 300 Centres) is Rs. 10.48 lakhs for the first year and Rs. 9.78 lakhs for the subsequent years.

State Adult Education Programme

The State Adult Education Programme is a major state programme. This scheme is fully financed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. There are 121 State Projects with a total of 12100 centres. The project cost of each project is 1.82 lakhs for the first year and 1.76 lakhs for subsequent years.

These centres work more or less on the same lines as those under Rural Functional Literacy. The Supervisors appointed for 33 to 34 centres are paid every month a consolidated salary of Rs. 600 plus Rs. 75 towards travel expenses.

The animators are paid Rs. 50/- as per month. The programme is for ten months.

To attract the adult literates and to make the adult education schemes more meaningful the learners in Adult Education centres (under all programmes) are taught income generating simple crafts according to the local needs, in the centres and thereby they are able to augment their income.

Other agencies

Adult Literacy Centres are also run by

voluntary agencies, Nehru Yuvak Kendras and Universities and Colleges.

Post-Literacy Centres.

Post-Literacy Centres are aimed at preventing neo-literates from relapsing back to illiteracy by providing them suitable books and periodicals. They function for two years. The details of these programmes are as follows:

Rural Functional Literacy Project—
—1300 (opened in 1984-85)
State Adult Education Programme—
—1000 (opened in 1984-85)

Worker's Polyvalent Adult Education Institute

The basic idea to start Workers' Education Institutes (Shramik Vidyapeeth) is to meet the various inter-related needs of workers. It is functioning in Madras from July 1982. So far 483 courses have been conducted benefitting 15,461 persons. The learners have started co-operative units at Viyasarpadi, Pushpanagar, Nanganallur and Kapilivanabojanathottam. A similar institute has been opened at Madurai on 8th September 1985. During 85-86, 92 courses have been conducted benefitting 2635 persons. The Institutes are each administered by a separate Board of Management.

Non-Formal Education

Non-Formal Education centres are meant for dropouts and non-starters belonging to the age group 6-14. 100 centres functioned during 85-86. The Centres once started would function for three years with different sets of clinteles.

INFES(Industrial Non-formal Education Scheme)

Thirty Non-Formal Education Centres (for 30 Children in each) were started during 1980-81 for the benefit of the children working in Match and Fire works factories in Sivakasi area in Kamarajar District. These centres completed the first phase of the programme in 1983 and they are now continued in different places with different sets of dropouts. Ten such centres have been opened in Gudiyatham area in North Arcot district for the benefit of the children working in Match Industries in that area. With the aid of UNICEF 70 more centres were opened in Sattur and Vembakottai areas.

The pupils enrolled in these centres are given coaching to appear for the VIII standard examination within a period of three years. The centres are handled by full-time secondary grade or graduate Trained Teachers (in Secondary Grade Scale of pay) appointed for this purpose. These centres are administered by Field Officers in the cadre of Deputy Inspector of Schools appointed exclusively for this purpose.

POINT NO. 17

In Tamil Nadu, the expansion of Public Distribution System started during the year 1978 with the advent of the one village one shop scheme. During this year the Government took a policy decision to cover the entire state under Public Distribution System by opening fair price shops in each revenue village. Prior to the introduction of this scheme 4441 fair price shops were run by Co-operatives. The Cooperatives opened 6718 new shops in the 12 districts allotted to them. Full time shops were opened in villages with population above 500 and part time shops in vill-

modities to 650 students hostels. About Rs. 20 lakhs worth of goods are being supplied to these hostels every month and approximately 50,000 students are benefited. There are 4986 students cooperative stores functioning to cater to the needs of the students community both in colleges and high schools.

Distribution of text books:

The Cooperatives in this State except Madras City are distributing text books through their 3032 retail outlets to students studying in 36,775 schools. In Madras city the Tamil Nadu

Text Book Society itself undertakes, the distribution of text books.

Distribution of concessional note books:

The State Government has entrusted the work of distribution of concessional note books to the cooperatives from 1.10.79.

CONSUMER PROTECTION:

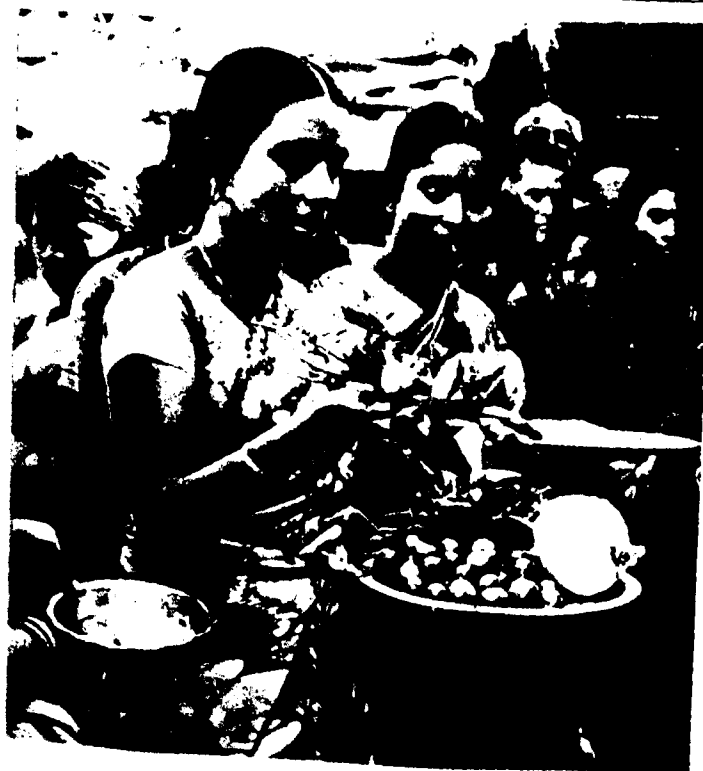
Based on policy announcement made by the Minister for Cooperation in the budget session of the Assembly in the year

Expand the public distribution system through more fair price shops, including mobile shops in far-flung areas and shops to cater to industrial workers, Students' hostels, and make available to students, text books and exercise books on a priority basis and to promote a strong consumer protection movement.

ages with population between 100 to 500. In all 11,159 fair price shops in rural areas and 1492 fair price shops in urban areas were run by cooperatives till September '84. Consequent on the announcement made by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 15.8.84 that each fair price shop will have 1000 family cards, the cooperatives opened 1437 new fair price shops in urban areas and 1413 new fair price shops in rural areas by bifurcating the fair price shops which were having card strength exceeding 1000, run both by the cooperatives and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. 15501 fair price shops are now run by cooperatives.

Out of about 120 lakhs family cards in the State the cooperatives cater to the requirements of about 91 lakhs family cards.

The cooperatives effect supply of non-controlled com-



1982-83 proposals have been sent to the Government in Registrar's letter Rc. 253247/81 Rc 5 dated 11.11.82 with a panel of names to non-official advisory committees to advise and assist the consumer cooperatives for the effective implementation of Public Distribution System. These advisory committees will comprise housewives as majority members.

The following functions have been suggested for the committees.

(i) The members of committee can inspect the retail outlets, check the quality and quantity of the commodities issued in the shops and offer their suggestion to the chief executives of the cooperatives.

2. The committee will look into the grievances of the consumers. Essentially, the committee will function as a force to protect the consumer interest and take all possible efforts to shape proper policies and action on the part of consumer co-operatives in the State to serve the interests of consumers effectively.

Government have also appointed vigilance committee for every fair price shop in the State.

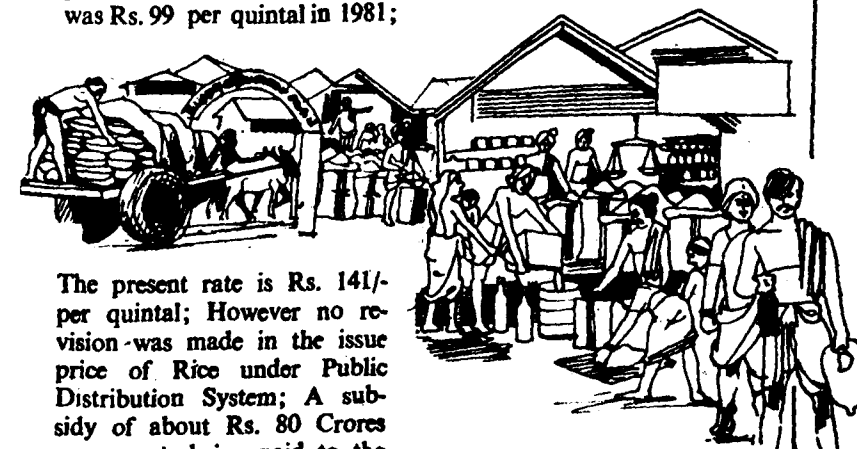
Expansion of Public Distribution System:

It is well-known that essential commodities like Rice, Wheat, Wheat products, Sugar, Palmolein and Kerosene are being distributed through family cards under Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu in the interest of the public. The defects in the System, whenever noticed are being rectified so as to ensure more usefulness to the public.

The Quantum of Rice distributed was reduced in 1983 on account of failure of monsoon rains. After the improvement in Food position in Tamil Nadu

the level of quantity, reduced was restored again with effect from 15.9.84. i.e. 4 Kg. of Rice per adult per month and 3 Kg. of Rice per Child per month or 20Kg. of Rice per card per month, whichever is less. Further one Kg. of free Rice is being distributed to those big families, drawing 20 Kg. of Rice per month; The Government is incurring an expenditure of Rs. 9.8 crores. per annum due to the 1 Kg. free Rice Scheme.

The issue price of Rice was fixed in 1981. The Government of India had subsequently enhanced the procurement prices of Paddy. The procurement price of Paddy-Fine variety was Rs. 99 per quintal in 1981;



The present rate is Rs. 141/- per quintal; However no revision was made in the issue price of Rice under Public Distribution System; A subsidy of about Rs. 80 Crores per year is being paid to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation to compensate the above monetary loss incurred.

The object of the Government is to protect the interest of the Public only. Therefore Government have ordered for the bifurcation of retail outlets having more than 1000 family cards, by opening new shops. 18,009 shops were functioning in Tamil Nadu on 1.1.84. Due to opening of additional shops 20,723 shops are now functioning. As per the Government's policy of one shop per every revenue village, all families in Tamil Nadu have been covered under public Distribution System. The style of functioning of Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu becomes an example to the entire country.

The Co-operatives, organised for Industrial Workers have also brought under public Distribution system. Through such retail outlets, Industrial Workers are getting their rationed articles at controlled price with least difficulty. Essential Commodities at economic rate are also being distributed to the student's hostels attached to the educational institutions. These are being distributed through the retail outlets nearby the institutions.

The essential requirement of students like text books, exercise books are also being distributed at controlled prices through Co-operative Stores.

While essential Commodities are distributed under Public Distribution System, steps have also been taken to encourage the Consumer Protection move-

ments in the interest of the public. Accordingly, Vigilance Committees have been formed for every retail outlet. These Committees are to supervise the smooth functioning of the shops. Further it is under consideration to form such Committees to create an awareness among the Public. Complaints regarding fair price shops under Public Distribution System are rectified then and there by taking immediate action against the persons involved, if such cases are brought to the notice of any officer in Civil Supplies or this office over phone.

POINT NO. 18

An extent of 360 acres (144 Hectares) was brought under mulberry cultivation during 1985-86 by 420 Farmers in Erode region. By planting of mulberry in an acre, 5 persons are getting regular employment throughout the year and hence by bringing 360 acres under mulberry cultivation during 1985-86, additional employment to 1800 persons has been generated. Totally 1500 acres are under mulberry cultivation upto the end of 1985-86 in this region and thus employment to 7500 persons has been generated. During 85-86 quantity of 4.40 lakhs of Disease free silk work layings was distributed to the farmers of Erode region. 2.25 lakhs Kgs. of Reeling cocoons were produced by the farmers. A quantity of 14500 Kgs. of Raw silk has been produced by the private Reelers in this region. I am enclosing two photographs pertaining the activities done in the Turshing unit of this Department.

acres has been fixed for the 1985-86 under Mulberry expansion. An extent of 5600 acres has been brought under Mulberry cultivation and the percentage of achievement is 112%. And the cumulative area as on 1.4.86 is 72,662 acres.

b) Increasing the Production of Disease-free Layings:

Government have fixed a target of 150.00 lakh Layings production during the year 1985-86. During the year 1985-86 a quantity of 130.00 lakhs Dfls have been produced.

c) Increasing the production of Reeling Cocoons:

Target fixed for the production of reeling cocoons during the year 1985-86 was 100.00 lakh kgs and the achievement during the year was

Liberalise investment procedures and streamline industrial policies to ensure timely completion of projects. Give handicrafts, handlooms, small and village industries all facilities to grow and to update their technology.

It is programmed to bring 250 acres additionally for the year 1986-87 in Erode region to provide additional employment to a tune of 1250 persons. It is expected that about 6 lakhs Disease free layings will be supplied to the farmers and a quantity of 2.40 lakhs Kgs of Reeling cocoons is expected to be harvested during 1986-87. In the private sector, a quantity of 20,000 Kgs. of Raw silk is expected to be produced during 1986-87.

a) Increasing the Area under Mulberry:

Area brought under Mulberry cultivation upto 1.4.85 is 67,062 Acres. A target of 5,000

an estimated production of 100.00 lakh kgs. of cocoon, out of which a quantity of 36.10 lakh kgs of cocoons have been utilised for the production of Raw silk.

d) Increasing the Production of Raw Silk:

Under this item of activity the target fixed by the Government for the year 1985-86 was production of 2.75% lakh kgs of Raw silk production. Achievement made during the year 1985-86 was 3.00 lakh kgs of Raw silk production and the percentage of achievement was 109%.



POINT NO. 19

With a view to maintain a stable economy of the public and making available the commodities at reasonable prices the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was promulgated. Sale at higher prices, hoarding of essential commodities etc are considered as social evils. Therefore various control orders were issued to ensure the availability of essential commodities; Different commodities are brought under this order with effect from 1.4.1984 and is enforced.

During the year 1984, 526 cases of hoardings, 511 cases of smuggling, 85 cases of black marketing, 375 cases of non-display of stocks and



prices, and 128 cases of other offences were detected. Commodities valued at Rs. 1.26 crores were seized in this connection apart from seizure of vehicles valued at Rs. 1.76 crores. A total number of 442 persons were arrested and prosecution launched against them for violation of the provisions of Control Orders mentioned above. As a result of taking adequate control measure offences like smuggling, black marketing, hoarding of food articles etc have been arrested to a great extent apart from paving way for availability of essential commodities at fair prices and without any difficulty.

Continue strict action against smugglers, hoarders and tax evaders and check black money.

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.

"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."



POINT NO. 20

The Ariyalur Cement Plant commenced commercial production in August 1979. During the initial period, the teething troubles in the plant and machinery were set right. But there were problems in the main raw material due to high moisture and sticky nature, due to which it was not possible to operate the plant to optimum capacity. In order to overcome the problem and to expand the plant capacity from 5 lakhs Tonnes/annum to 10 lakhs tonnes/annum TANCEM commissioned M/s Holderbank Management Consultants (HMC) of Switzerland to provide us a Technical Appraisal Report of Ariyalur Works. M/s HMC sent their engineers to inspect the plant during January '86 and the report has been received.



TANCEM is actively considering to modernise and expand the plant to 10 lakhs tonnes/annum at a total outlay of Rs. 53 Crores.

We further mechanised the quarry by the addition of 3 more dumpers of 35 Tonnes capacity, 1 No. Dozer, 1 No. 150 mm dia Drill and other matching equipment. It is also pro-

Improve the working of the public enterprises by increasing efficiency, capacity utilisation and the generation of internal sources.

ALANGULAM CEMENT WORKS:

The Wet Process 1200 TPD Alangulam Cement Works commenced commercial production from 1970. Initially the plant has not reached the rated capacity due to teething troubles, shortage of water, power, coal etc. At that time it was considered to convert the Wet process plant into dry process and a letter of Intent for substantial expansion from 4 lakh to 7 lakh tonnes per annum. However, the detailed project report revealed that expansion and conversion was un-economical and therefore the proposal of conversion and expansion was finally dropped. However, in order to improve the performance of the plant, a Modernisation-cum-Improvement scheme was taken up in 1978-79 at a total cost of Rs. 5 Crores and completed in all respect by 1983 which mainly covers the installation of ESPs for kiln and Cement Mill, renewal of cooler and installation of clinker conveyor and a Rotary Packer with necessary lorry loading arrangement in order to get consistent performance of the existing plant.

During 1985, we have strengthened the quarry earth moving equipment by the addition of 3.8 C.M3 excavator, 3 nos. 35 tonnes dumpers and a dower at a total cost of Rs. 160 lakhs.

posed to convert the existing Wet plant to semi-dry adopting filter process technology at a total cost of Rs. 13. Crores (Thirteen Crores).

In addition to that, it is proposed to install a Primary Crusher with picking plant in order to convert the quarrying and crushing operation fully mechanised and to sort out granite intrusion in the existing Limestone reserves and thereby to improve the Limestone quality.

TAMILNADU ASBESTOS PIPE PLANT, MAYANUR:

Asbestos Pressure Pipe Plant at Mayanur with an installed capacity of 36,000 tonnes per annum was commissioned during October '84. The plant can produce Asbestos Pressure Pipes from 80 mm to 600 mm dia to withstand pressure of 5, 10 and 15 Kgs. per sq. c.m. The production capacity of the plant is very satisfactory. However, for selling these pressure pipes we have to mainly depend on TWAD and Metro whose off take is highly erratic and thus we experienced sales problems of Asbestos Pressure Pipes which results the poor utilisation of Pipe Plant.

Tamil Arasu

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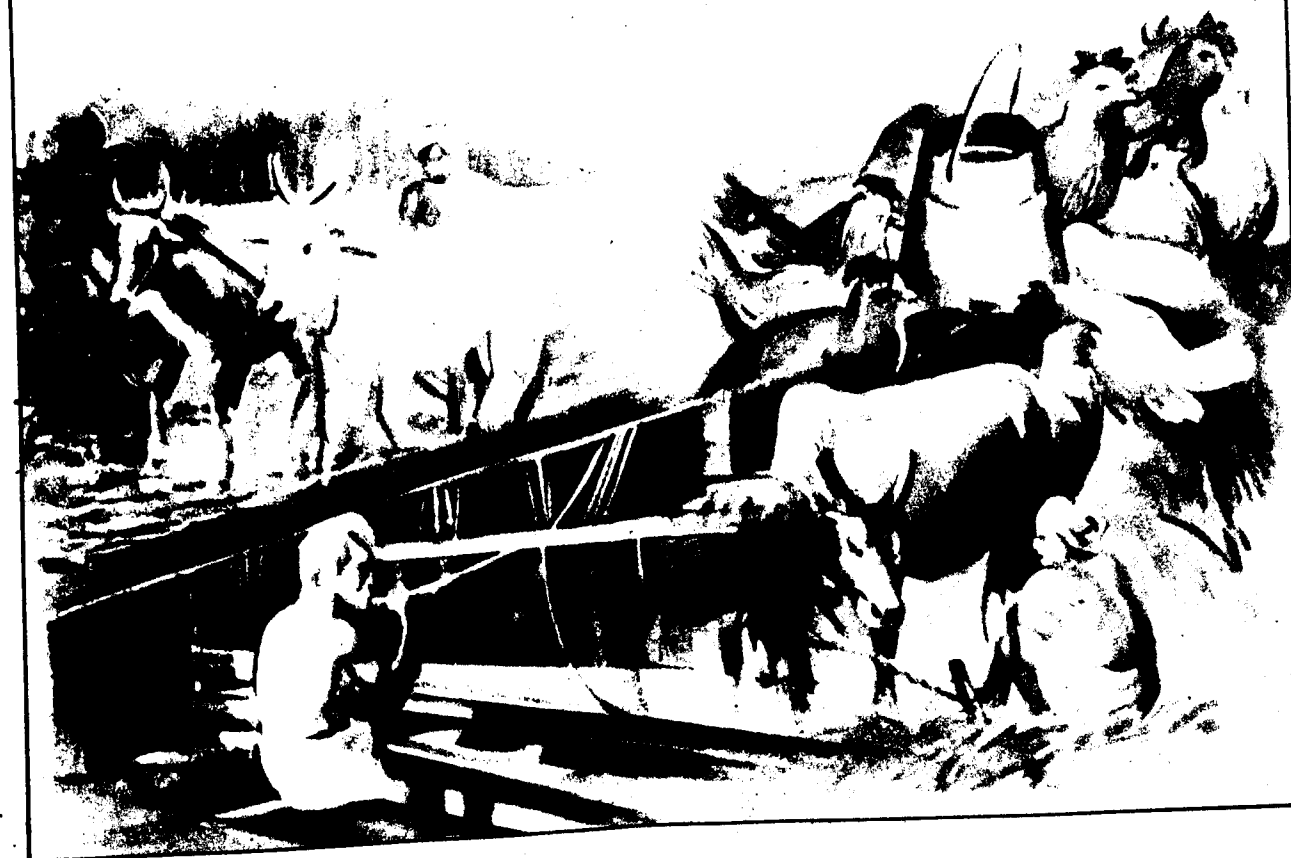
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Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. cuts the ribbon to inaugurate the opening of the newly constructed 10-storied annexe to the Government Children's Hospital at Madras Egmore on 8-12-'86. Hon'ble Health Minister, Thiru P.U. Shanmugam was present.



Tamil Arasu

In scope this month

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MONTH

Nov. 19th to Dec. 18th

The month following the 19th November, the birthday of Late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi has been declared by the Union Government as the "National Environment Month". Tamil Arasu presents you a variety of articles on "Environment", the dangers that loom large on mankind if adequate steps are not followed and the ways to preserve the environment.

Safe guards against Pollution - Thiru Rajiv Gandhi

The message from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Co-existing with nature.

—Late Indira Gandhi

The Garden and the Gardener.

— a poem by

Thiru A. Padmanabhan, I.A.S.,
Chief Secretary.

Glimpses of Environment & Pollution Control.

—Thiru Gangadar. Das, IAS
Chairman, State Pollution Control Board

Making Madras more green

Defending the Earth's atmosphere

—Jim Fuller

India Losing Forest Cover

Environment Protection in India

—Thiru O. P. Dwivedi &
Thiru B. Kishore

Ecology : What is it all about?

Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

December 1986

Karthigai - Markazhi

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST POLLUTION

Thiru. Rajiv Gandhi



give clean water to thousands of villages and millions of people living in the Gangetic base. Sometimes the problems is fairly simple. It is just a question of better administrative control to get things going.

Industries and Environment

Industry while chasing profit, does not pay adequate attention to the dangers of particular chemicals. We know that highly toxic chemicals are still carried in drums, in tankers across the country. We have stopped it in our country. But we know that this happen even in developed countries. Industry is not taking the responsibility of protecting the environment from its side effects. This responsibility must be squarely fixed on industry. It is by bringing about an awareness of the dangers of failure or slip that the people will accept the extra cost of protection.

Integrated projects

We have found in India that by protecting specific areas we are able to protect the environment. By protecting a particular animal like the tiger, we have protected not just the tiger but we have protected the whole environment in that area. Through such integrated projects, integrated in regard to protection and integrated in the matter of location and grading of industries having proper laws to control the damaging effect of industries, we have started out on actually improving the environment in spite of the pressure of development and the pressure of the population.

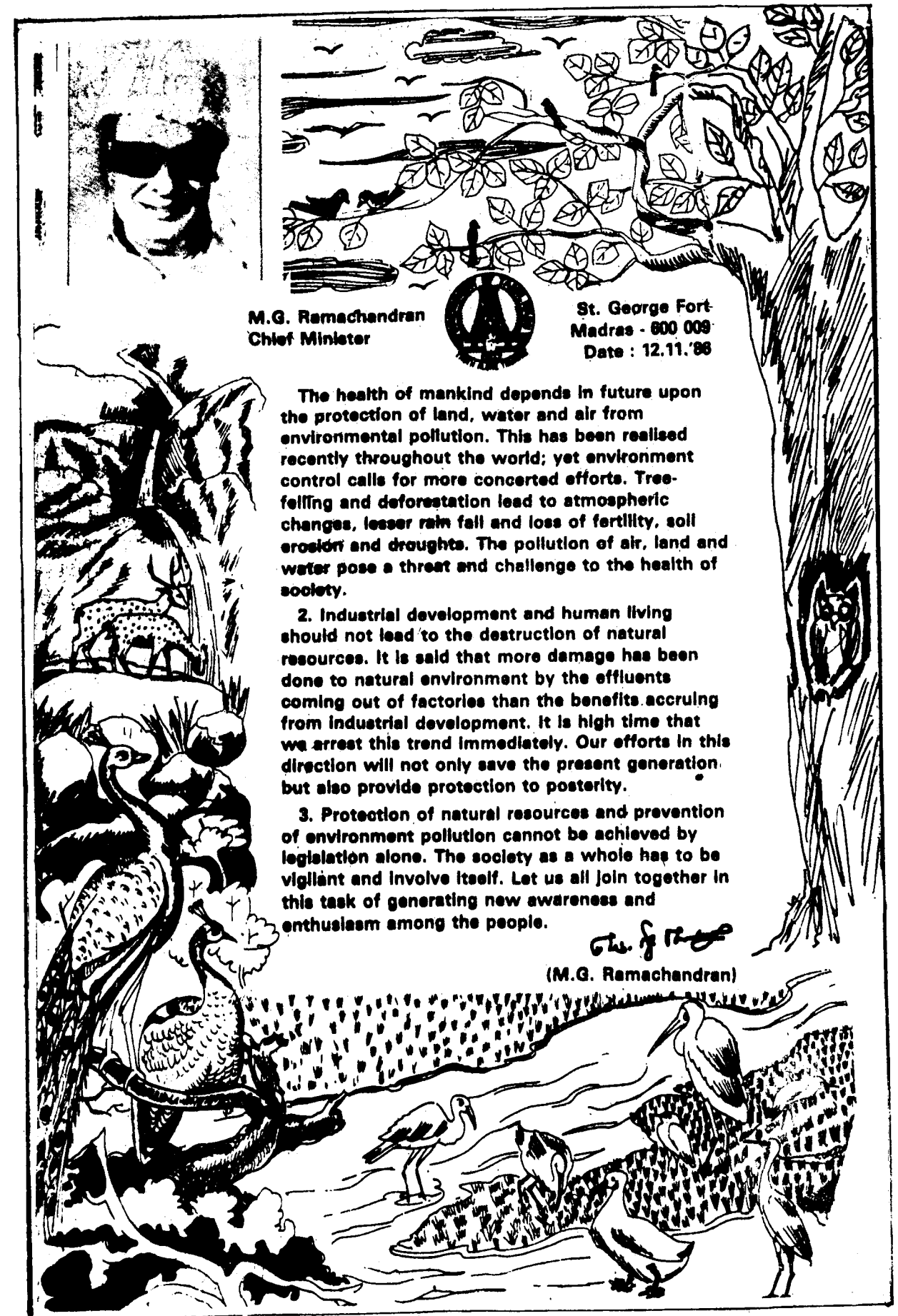
This is only a first step. This awareness must be brought about to a much greater degree in our country. We are doing this. It is equally important to bring about this awareness in other countries, more specially in the developing countries where there is a feeling that environment protection costs tremendous amount. But the costs that we have to pay by changes of climate, by natural calamities caused by environmental damage, the costs what we have to pay if we do not protect our environment today will be much greater tomorrow. This awareness right across the globe is what we must work for today.

Policy Direction

In a developing country one has to balance the costs and benefits of exploiting resources and protecting the environment, whether it is in terms of destruction of certain areas to put up industry or to put up mines or other development projects; whether it is in terms of pollution of rivers, of air, of various areas. We must bear in mind that ultimately there is no short cut. If we do not pay a price today we will invariably pay a much heavier price tomorrow. We must build this into our awareness.

Water Pollution

Water pollution is one of our major problems. We have tackled our first major project that of cleaning up the Ganga. This is a project which is close to the heart of every Indian and it will not only bring about a new spiritual feeling but, much more than that, it will also



M.G. Ramachandran
Chief Minister

St. George Fort
Madras - 600 009
Date : 12.11.'86

The health of mankind depends in future upon the protection of land, water and air from environmental pollution. This has been realised recently throughout the world; yet environment control calls for more concerted efforts. Tree-felling and deforestation lead to atmospheric changes, lesser rain fall and loss of fertility, soil erosion and droughts. The pollution of air, land and water pose a threat and challenge to the health of society.

2. Industrial development and human living should not lead to the destruction of natural resources. It is said that more damage has been done to natural environment by the effluents coming out of factories than the benefits accruing from industrial development. It is high time that we arrest this trend immediately. Our efforts in this direction will not only save the present generation but also provide protection to posterity.

3. Protection of natural resources and prevention of environment pollution cannot be achieved by legislation alone. The society as a whole has to be vigilant and involve itself. Let us all join together in this task of generating new awareness and enthusiasm among the people.

The. S. P. Ram
(M.G. Ramachandran)



Co-existing with Nature

Text: Indira Gandhi

We humans share the earth with many species. For a long period after the human race came into being, we were close to nature, yet at war with it and other larger species for our very survival. Over the millennia the development of the human brain has enabled humankind to gain unimagined control over our planet. What awesome responsibility it is to have such authority, to have the power to mould the future not only for ourselves but for all species, and it may be of this planet too.

Any one who loves the wild and the cultivated, cannot but be wonder-struck by the infinite variety of nature and its creatures, and be deeply conscious of our relationship with it and with all the living and even seemingly inanimate things with which we share our environment and which are all composed of more or less the same elements. We draw life from the air and water from what we now know is only a thin layer encasing our planet.

Concern for birds and animals has characterised Indian civilization from very early times. We started this function with a 'shlock' from the Ramayana-compassion for all loving creatures which was preached by the Buddha and Mahavira. Through out his vast dominion and in his vassal states, Emperor Ashoka established medical centres for animals; the earliest attempt, I believe, at veterinary services on so large a scale. If the needed medicinal herbs were not available he imported and planted them. This tradition resurfaced in the era of the Great Moghals, all of whom were distinguished

by their love of animals. Jahangir described his father, Akbar's policy in these words: "During three months of the year he ate meat, and for the remaining nine, contented himself with sufi food and was in no way pleased with the slaughter of animals. On many days and in many months this was forbidden to the people". Babar and Jahangir were both keenly interested in nature. In his famous autobiography Babar has described five types of parrots and recounted his studies of the banana plant. With considerable scientific study, he observed that the rhinoceros resembles the horse more than any other animals. I believe, this is confirmed by modern Zoologists. By any standards Jahangir was an out-standing student of natural history. His passion was so widely known that foreign emissaries visiting the Moghal court brought him some exotic bird or beast as a gift.

One of my earliest associations with animals was with snakes because my mother's brother who was not only a keen botanist but had a passion for snakes. When I was, I suppose, not more than six or so, we used to come to Delhi and stay with my grandmother. Anything you opened, out popped a snake. It might be a cigarette box, it might be a drawer or it might be out of the pipe in the bathroom much, of course, to the distress of my grandmother. And later when he has grown up, he kept two pythons, in his garden as pets. Unfortunately on his marriage he had to give them away.

I must deny myself one of my greatest pleasures which is to go to the sanctuaries and our national parks because, I think, this is in the interest of the wildlife there. I do not want the masses of security people swarming all over them.

For those who care, conservation needs no justification or explanation. But there is a big gap between the intention and the deed. The exploding population, expanding cultivation and industry and other development programmes, the desire to hasten material progress and perhaps above all, human greed have already done incalculable damage to many species of plant and animal life and to the earth's capacity for self renewal. Basically, there is no conflict between conservation and economic development or between what is immediate and what is enduring. In deed, as you have shown in your film, in the long run neither can survive without the other. But we cannot wish

away the problem. We cannot allow people to think that we worry more about animals and plants than about the underprivileged. If a development project is to be abandoned, it has to be substituted by something equally meaningful to the local population. In order to succeed any such programme needs public awareness and involvement on a mass scale. Education through books, word to mouth or any other means is our best instrument.

We must also do something about mental attitudes which are inculcated from early childhood by language. The vices of humans are attributed to one or other bird or animal. The instances are far too many to list-sly as a fox, vain as a peacock, even the dog such a friendly and loyal creature has been given a bad name. This is a challenge to members of this society and all those who are interested in conservation.

CIVILISATION

"Civilised man was nearly always able to become master of his environment temporarily. His chief troubles came from his delusions that his temporary mastership was permanent. He thought of himself as 'master of the world', while failing to understand fully the laws of nature.

"Man, whether civilised or savage, is a child of nature—he is not the master of nature. He must conform his actions to certain natural laws if he is to maintain his dominance over his environment. When he tries to circumvent the laws of nature, he usually destroys the natural environment that sustains him. And when his environment deteriorates rapidly, his civilisation declines".

"One man has given a brief outline of history by saying that 'civilised man has marched across the face of the earth and left a desert in his foot prints.' This statement may be somewhat of an exaggeration, but it is not without foundation. Civilised man has despoiled most of the lands on which he was lived for long. This is the main reason why his progressive civilisations have moved from place to place. It has been the chief cause for the decline of his civilisations in older settled regions. It has been the dominant factor in determining as trends of history".

"The writers of history have seldom noted the importance of land use. They seem not to have recognised that the destinies of most of man's empires and civilisations were determined largely by the way the land was used. While recognising the influence of environment on history, they fail to note that man usually changed or despoiled his environment."

"How did civilised man depoil this favourable environment? He did it mainly by depleting or destroying the natural resources. He cut down or burned most of the usable timber from forested hillsides and valleys. He overgrazed and denuded the grasslands that fed his livestock. He killed most of the the wildlife and much of the fish and other water life. He permitted erosion to rob his farm land of its productive topsoil. He allowed eroded soil to clog the streams and fill his reservoirs, irrigation canals, and harbours with silt. In many cases, he used and wasted most of the easily mined metals or other needed minerals. Then his civilisation declined amidst the depoliation of his own creation or he moved to new land. There have been from ten to thirty different civilisations that have followed this road to ruin (the number depending on who classifies the civilisations)."

—Tom Dale and
Vernon Gill Carter.



THE GARDENER AND THE GARDEN

*He Cleared the bushes
Enriched the soil
Made seed-beds
And laid a garden.
Roses and jasmine,
Creepers and crotons,
Flowers and fruits
With freshness and fragrance —
A pleasing green,
With colour, variety and beauty.
The gardener was happy
With his hard work rewarded.*

II
*One day when he lost vigil and slept,
Stray cattle entered the garden
Surveyed the 'Pleasing Green' with delight,
And with temptation high
Browsed and blunted the "Green" and all, and
Laid waste the beautiful garden.*

III
*The lovely Woods and forests
The flora and the fauna
The Peaks and the Mountains
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.*

A. PADMANABAN, I.A.S.
Chief Secretary to
Government of Tamil Nadu.



**Making
Madras
more
green**

The need for establishing and preserving a proper environ which would enable healthy living has never been felt as much as in the present days. The period from November-December, 1986 is being observed as National Environment month throughout the Country and the Corporation of Madras has also in a befitting manner launched a massive Tree planting programme during this period. The planting programme is being organised in various locations in the city and the fullest involvement of all sections of people especially the student community, the residents of the concerned locality, etc. is also enlisted to make this attempt a successful one.

With a view to make use of the services of Industrial establishments, Banks, Voluntary Organisations etc. in this endeavour, a meeting was held with the representatives of these organisations in October 1986. The response

from these organisations was encouraging and many organisations have agreed to meet the cost of Tree Guards to be provided for individual sapling for good protection and in this direction M/s. Bharat petroleum is presenting a cheque for Rs. 60,000/- to the Corporation of Madras on the eve of organising Tree planting in Anna University premises on 28.11.1986 for 200 Tree Guards and many more organisations like Spic, I.O.C., O.N.G.C. I.O.B., Andhra Bank, Mylapore Academy would also give sizable amount for Tree Guards.

The Tree Planting is being organised for the past few weeks and so far about 3000 plants have been planted in various locations against a total target of 10,000. Since the participation of the student community is considered very important in a programme of this nature, a massive Tree Planting in Anna University

with the direct participation of the students on an barren area of the premises close to the students hostel has been arranged and 300 trees would be planted in this premises. The students would be taking care of the plants planted today and a green groove would be in existence after few years adjacent to the hostel for the use of the students.

It has been the experience that the attempt of greening this city and making it beautiful could be taken to fruition only with the fullest and whole hearted co-operation and involvement of all sections of the community. It is in this direction that the Corporation is organising the tree planting programme during the observance of National Environment Month.

Madras Corporation has programmed to launch a massive tree planting programme during the Environment month, November-December 1986, and it has been proposed to plant 10,000 Tree Seedlings during this period. With a view to ensure good success in this attempt, the involvement of all the sections of the society and the Assistance of Welfare Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings, Voluntary Organisations, etc., have been enlisted in this endeavour. In the residential colonies, individuals who are coming forward to accept the maintenance of the Trees Planted now have been identified and planting is being organised in front of the residence of such individuals.

After having realised the need for ensuring proper protection to the Trees, it has been decided to provide suitable tree Guards for the trees and various Public Sector Organisations, Voluntary Agencies, etc., have been requested to adopt certain areas and the cost of the Tree Guards in these area would be met by these organisations. The planting programme has been drawn in such a way that there will be coverage of Educational Institutions, the various premises of the Madras Corporation, Corporation Schools, etc., so as to create the required awareness among the Younger Generation especially the Student Community.

In this attempt, the planting work has been taken up in Sastri Nagar and Besant Nagar areas and 100 individuals have been identified for accepting the maintenance of the trees proposed to be planted. The planting has been inaugurated by the Chief Secretary on 18-11-'86 on the eve of NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY 19-11-'86. The Corporation proposes to arrange such Tree Planting programmes in other areas also throughout the Month synchronising with the celebration of Environment Month. On 28-11-'86 Massive Tree Planting Programme involving nearly 300 Students of Anna University was held. The Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration participated along with the Vice Chancellor of Anna University.

THE LARGEST DAM

China has postponed construction work at its Three Gorges dam site on the Yangtze river. But the postponement may be for only two to five years.

Hailed as the world's largest hydroelectric producer, the project with a price tag of 8-12 billion dollars is also China's costliest construction project since the cultural revolution, and possibly since the building of the Great Wall.

According to New York Times, the proposal calls for a concrete dam 180 m high and 2 km across, producing 13,000

megawatts of electricity equivalent to 20 per cent of China's generating capacity in 1980.

The controversy over the proposed structure, epitomizes the clashing visions that increasingly surround dam projects around the world.

Chinese engineers assert that the proposed dam would provide a permanent solution to the floods that have ravaged the densely populated Yangtze basin for thousands of years, and spur economic growth by permitting large boats to penetrate China's interior. Floods scourge the Yangtze valley once about decade. In a major flood, in 1954, surging waters killed 30,000 people. According to some Chinese engineers,

preventing one large flood will repay the entire cost of construction.

But the dam could cause environmental damage and human suffering on an equally gargantuan scale, say critics in China and abroad. It would flood a scenic 160 km stretch of the Yangtze known as the Three Gorges, whose fantastic stone spires and swirling eddies are immortalised in paintings and poems. Backed-up water would uproot 300,000 to a million people, and inundate prime farmland and hundreds of archaeological treasures. Changes in river ecology both above and below the dam could spread parasitic diseases, destroy valuable fisheries and radically alter a rich estuary.



Glimpses of Environment & Pollution Control

GANGADHAR DAS, I.A.S.

Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Madras.

The protection of environment entails tasks on many fronts. It covers myriads of activities from nature education for children in schools to steps for averting a nuclear holocaust. One important aspect of environmental management is the promotion of environmental awareness at different levels in the entire society. Seminars, workshops and group discussions are an important instrument for arousing environmental consciousness by highlighting environmental issues.

Air and water pollution and other environmental problems have been there with man from the beginning of civilization. Despite the frequent recurrence of environmental problems throughout human history widespread concern about environmental quality is a surprisingly recent phenomenon. One explanation for this apparent paradox may be that the growth of national income in many countries in the last half century has transformed environmental quality from a generally free good into a scarce good, that is, the demand for clean air, potable water and other amenities of life exceeds their supply at a zero price.

What is that the expression, environment, exactly means? A standard dictionary meaning will be the aggregate on surrounding

objects, region or conditions. There is an old English song: 'The head bone connected to the neck bone, the neck bone connected to the collar bone.' This song implies that the parts of an organism are closely related to each other. Similarly, organisms of diverse origin are related in time and space in a complex system of action and reaction. Ecology deals with organisms relations to one another and to their surroundings. Ecosystem connotes a particular, identifiable set of ecological inter-relationships. A lake is an example of an ecosystem. The biosphere denotes regions of earth's crust and atmosphere in which living matter is found. The environment of man includes the biosphere and man's relationship to nature as well as his own created surroundings. In a broad sense, it may be said that man's environment encompasses almost every aspect of life.

Nature tries to keep the ecosystems in a balanced condition. Man's interference with nature disturbs the balance. For achieving economic development, man uses science and technology. This leads to the economic well-being of man. But, one adverse consequence is that it also causes degradation of the environment. For the treatment of some diseases, doctors prescribe modern medicines. Some-

times, these medicines cause some adverse side-effects. Similarly, use of science and technology for economic development is necessary for man's economic well-being. But it may lead to degradation of the environment unless proper safeguards are adopted. Let us take the case of tanneries. It provides employment for workers and helps in earning valuable foreign exchange. But the trade effluent coming out of tanneries is harmful for streams or rivers in which or land on which it is disposed of unless it is scientifically treated before its disposal.

The manufacturing processes in the industrial sector generate solid, liquid and gaseous wastes. With a view to protecting the environment, the Government of India enacted the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. These Acts are in force in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu Prevention and Control of Water Pollution Board, later renamed as Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, is in charge of enforcement of these Acts. The main objective of the Board is mitigating pollution of water resources, land and atmospheric air in the State and maintaining or restoring the wholesomeness of air and water in the State.

Under the law, new and existing industries and local bodies have to obtain the consent of the Board for the discharge of sewage or trade effluents into streams or wells or on land by making an application to the Board for consent. All the existing industries were to apply to the Board for consent on or before 31-5-84. Contravention of this provision is punishable with imprisonment for a term not less than six months, which may extend to six years and with fine.

BIGGEST THREAT TO NATION

The biggest threat to a nation's security may not be armed aggression but environmental decline and debt, both legacies of the arms race. This is true for both developed and developing nations.

According to the Worldwatch Institute's State of the World Report, global military outlays in 1985 exceeded the income of the poorest half of humanity. Military spending in the United States and Soviet Union, the two countries most fervently pursuing the arms

The State Government declared the entire State as air pollution control area with effect from October 1, 1983. As regards persons who were operating industrial plants for the purpose of any industry specified in the Schedule to the Act before the declaration of the entire State as air pollution control area, time was given to them till 31-3-84 to apply to the Board for its consent. Failure to adhere to this time limit is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both.

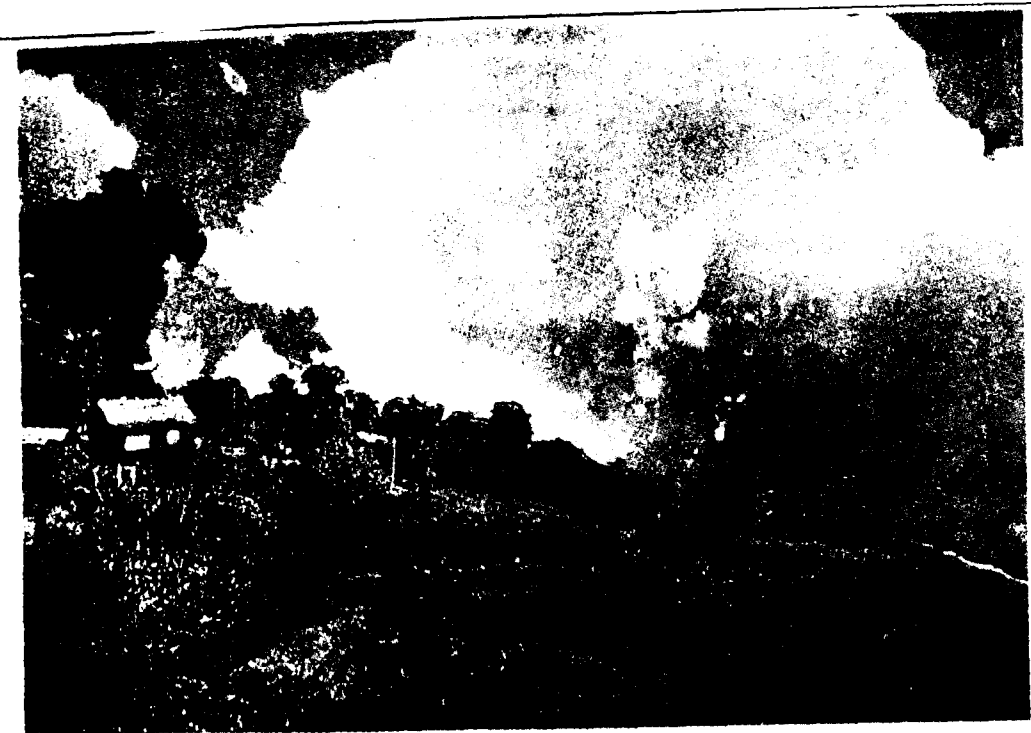
One factor responsible for air pollution is the emission of pollutants from the exhausts of automobiles like cars, buses, trucks, etc. Cars emit the noxious gas, carbon monoxide. Heavy vehicles like buses and trucks emit substances like hydrocarbons, which in extreme concentrations or in combination with other gases, cause serious health problems. It is a pity to see automobiles running on city roads, leaving a trail of dense black smoke, reducing the visibility on a sizeable stretch of the road apart from being a health hazard to other citizens. If all vehicle-owners, whether individuals, institutions or corporate bodies, make it a point to keep their vehicles in good repair, the transport authorities and pollution control authorities will be spared the task of taking penal action against the offenders.

Concern for the environment is not just a fashionable stance. It is based on some sound principles. One important principle is recognition of the sanctity of life. Another important principle is that the present generation of men should not damage the environment to the detriment of the well-being of posterity.

race, has resulted in growing debts, less investment in the industrial sector and weakened positions in international trade.

Some developing nations spend so much on armaments that they are sacrificing money needed to deal with shrinking forests, eroding soil, falling water tables, deteriorating grasslands and depleted oil reserves.

Economic deficits may dominate our headlines, but ecological deficits will dominate our future, cautions the report.



DEFENDING THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE

Study call for reduction of ozone-Depleting Agents

By
Jim Fuller

The emission of manufactured chemicals that damage the Earth's protective ozone layer could be reduced by one-third in the United States and worldwide over the next five years, according to a new report by the World Resources Institute.

The report, released on November 30, recommends the banning of aerosol sprays and the development of safe and inexpensive substitutes for chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). The report also recommends a stiff tax on chemical companies that are unwilling to invest in the production of known chemical substitutes.

The report by the World Resources Institute, a non-profit policy research center,

was released on the eve of a week-long United Nations conference starting in Geneva on December 1 to discuss ways to reduce chemical emissions into the atmosphere.

Chlorofluorocarbons, manufactured for use in such things as refrigerants, foams, aerosol sprays and cleaning solvents, break down the atmosphere's ozone, which acts as a shield against the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation. Although the United States, Canada and Sweden banned most aerosol uses of CFCs in the late 1970s, global CFC use has increased steadily since then.

A draft report by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency asserts that ozone depletion could lead to an additional 40 million cases of skin cancer and 8,000 cancer deaths in the United States by the year 2075. The report also predicts adverse effects on the human immune system, crop production, and aquatic organisms.

According to the institute's report, CFC emissions can be reduced in four ways: increasing efficiency and reducing losses in CFC-using processes; recovering and recycling CFCs; substituting CFC formulations less threatening to the ozone; or switching to processes and products that require no CFCs.

For example, the report says, most automobile air conditioners could use fewer CFCs with current design advances in equipment, and leakage, which represents a significant share of total CFC production, could be greatly reduced. The report also points out that the use of carbon filtration to recapture CFCs in flexible foams, such as foam rubber, can reduce operating losses by 50 percent and that similar techniques can halve emissions of CFCs used in manufacturing rigid foams, such as foam insulating board.

The report also suggests that some CFC formulations present much less of a threat to the ozone layer. For example,

one commercially available option is CFC 22, which "degrades so rapidly in the atmosphere that it is only one-fifth as powerful as CFC 12 in depleting ozone." CFC 22 could replace CFC 12 in air conditioners and refrigerators,

the report says.

Total demand for CFC 12 and similar compounds is near the peak levels of the mid-1970s, when annual demand hit almost 800,000 metric tons,

according to recent surveys. At the same time, aerosol use has leveled off and is expected to decline further as other countries follow the lead of those that, like the United States, have already banned the product. (USIS).

INDIA LOSING FOREST COVER

Satellite photographs of the Indian landmass have revealed that the country is losing its forest cover at an alarming rate of 1.5 million hectares per year and the total area under forests today may be as low as about 40 million hectares.

A study by the Department of Environment and Forestry has revealed that during the period 1972-75 the area under forests stood at 54 million hectares and when a similar study was carried out in 1981-82, it stood at 46 million hectares.

While none can dispute the accuracy of the satellite photographs, the statistics of the forest department shows that the area under forests is 74.74 million hectares. But official sources concede that the actual figure would be far less than that.

The existing forest policy prescribed that 33 percent of the country should be forests. On paper today, it is put at 23 percent but in reality good forest cover is perhaps only 11 percent. And this 11 percent is under continuous pressure to supply the population with forest produce way in excess of its capacity.

There is yawning gap between demand and availability of firewood with over 400 million head of cattle, the demand for fodder is far in excess of what the forests can sustain. So is the demand for forest materials for industrial and agro-based needs in excess of the supply. This has led to over-exploitation of forests leading to further destruction of the country's forest wealth.

In addition to this in ecologically sensitive areas such as the Himalayan region, the results of deforestation have been disastrous. It leads to a cycle where the soil cannot hold water and the run-off leads to the loss of valu-

able top soil and the situation of rivers, dams and to floods in many parts of the country.

To bring home to the people the dangers of the present trend in deforestation, a meeting was recently held under the chairmanship of the Minister of Environment and Forests, Thiru Vir-Sen. It discussed the mechanics of peoples participation, identification of wastelands, species selections for planning, who would actually do the planting and other matters concerning the development of the infrastructure needed.

For 1985-86, a total of Rs. 250 crore has been earmarked to be spent as part of the approved annual plan at the Central and the State Government on social forestry schemes outside forest areas covering communally owned lands and farm forests. In addition 20 percent of the various schemes under the Department of Rural Development amounting to nearly Rs. 200 crore would be available for social forestry.

For 1986-87, the programme has been enhanced to conform to the national objective of planting five million hectares per year. This is aimed at not only halting the march of deforestation but to enhance the existing dwindling area under forests.

The meeting discussed the performance of the eco development projects undertaken by the department during the sixty plan period. It covers the development of technology and management package suitable for regeneration of degraded eco systems actual demonstration of the viability of developed packages in the field and demonstration of 'know-how' through a scheme of 'show how' so that practical application is made easier.

(ENS: Sept. 6, 1985)



The Silent Valley : A Stir Once More

It is three o'clock in the afternoon: yet nothing stirs in the green undergrowth. The dense canopy of trees allows no sunlight to filter through - and it seems—no sound either. But 70 meters up, there are, here and there a few gaps where the branches thin out, where a little light sneaks in.

Keep watching these spots if one is lucky, one catches a sudden glimpse of a shadow moving sluggishly from treetop to top. If you have a pair of binoculars, the shadow resolves itself into the white mane and dark outline of *Macaca silenus*: the lion-tailed macaque. Once one's eyes get accustomed to the low light, the monkeys seem to multiply all of a sudden. Soon one is counting them in fours and sixes, swinging heavily in upper branches, never descending to ground level.

This is a grove of *Cullenia excelsa* trees at the south western edge of the Silent Valley. And at this time of the year—early November—one is reasonably sure of finding a few families

of these famed simians cavoring the tree tops. It not always so.

Eight years ago, when the first bulldozers came here, clearing the ground for the Silent Valley Hydroelectric Project, these denizens of the tree tops were almost decimated. Anxious surveys by zoologist put their number as low as 400.

Then came the first stirrings of environmentalists as well as concerned citizens which snowballed into the Save Silent Valley Movement. In 1983 the macaques returned to their familiar haunts in the Valley.

So did other forms of life in the rectangular plateau in the southwest corner of the Nilgiri mountains, which scientists agree is perhaps our most valuable gene reserve—now and for centuries to come.

In March 1984, the Kerala government issued a gazette extraordinary declaring the Valley a National Park. Eighteen months later on September 7, 1985, Prime Minister,

Thiru Rajiv Gandhi took the rough boulderstrewn jeep track to the southern corner of the valley and formally inaugurated the National Park. The irony implicit in the site chosen to put the inaugural slab of marble did not pass unnoticed: It was the highest prominent overlooking what would have been the 400 meterlong arch dam across the Kunthipuzha river which cuts through the Valley north to south before tumbling a 1000 meters down to the plains of Mannarghat town. Today with no dam across its gorge, the Kunthi river continues to nourish the tropical evergreen rainforest that surrounds it. Orchids can be seen in a blaze of colour clustered along the steep slopes. Step into the shallows, and here and there on the rocks you can see fossil-like the traces of quaternary plant species like *dicraea*, Lichens, mosses ferns, each numbering over 50 species have been identified by periodic botanical surveys. But as the visiting scientists are the first to admit, they have hardly scrapped the top of what is a botanists bonanza.

Casual visits to the Valley are not encouraged. But if you are the persistent type, you need to seek the prior permission of the Divisional Forest Office at Palghat, the district headquarters of the, Wild Life Warden at the Forest Checkpost of Mukkali, on the ghat road from the hill town of Mannatghat to Coimbatore. From here the Valley is 22km away by rough jeep track—local guides will take you by cuts which will loop off 5 km.

This still takes you only to the edge of the National Park which extends totally across 8952 hectares—just 90 square kilometres. Except for about 5 km at the south western entrance to the old dam site, the Valley has no roads and is vir-

tually impassable except by locals and forest department personnel. And of course it is almost a home for the rare experts—like zoologist Dr. Satis Chandran Nair—who have been drawn again and again to the Valley in an endless quest to study its riches. Earlier in the year Dr. Nair explored an old bridle path rarely traversed in this century—along which the British used to ride out of the valley to Ooty in Tamil Nadu.

Saved by such hostile geography from too many pattering feet, the valley shelters a fascinating cross section of animal species. A casual visitor is likely to see the giant malabar flying squirrel, the monitor lizard, the ibex or Nilgiri taher

on the upper slopes—and little else. But the game wardens the small staff of forest guards and "watchers" tell of regular sightings of elephant and sloth bear and the spoor of panther.

Considering the value to science—and the nation—of the chunk of land they are policing, it is surprising how inadequately equipped the Valley's Warden and his staff are. When they receive information through the tribal 'grapevine' that poachers have been sighted somewhere in the Park, a team of three or four goes chasing in pursuit—empty handed. They have been issued no weapons. And often for days on end they are not in contact with the base office at Mukkali. They have no radio communication, not even walkie talkies. On trek they carry a small ration of rice and seem to live for days on end on rice **kanji** and bananas.

Now at last it looks as if changes for the better are around the corner. With the spotlight on the Silent Valley as it completed a year of its existence, the Prime Minister (addressing a national environmental seminar in Bombay on October 4) pledged his personal care and full attention to the protection of the Valley.

A day later at Palghat, Forest Minister, Thiru K. P. Nooruddin announced a special Rs. 2 crore fund during the Seventh Plan for the development of the Silent Valley National Park.

Money alone will not preserve the Park for posterity. But adequate funds for well equipped policing forces, for more forest rangers, for better communication links and especially for up-to-date fire fighting hardware, will help assure to the inhabitants of this priceless valley the privacy they need to thrive in peace, to be nourished and to grow—so that our children and their children can still marvel at the wonders of the Silent Valley (CEE-NFS).

ACID RAIN

Little known except among experts just a decade ago, acid rain has emerged as an important and exceptionally challenging environmental problem. Certain substances, primarily sulfur and nitrogen compounds emitted by power plants and smelters, can combine with moisture in the atmosphere or on the surface of the earth to form droplets with a high acid content sometimes as acidic as vinegar. Though the term "acid rain" has captured the public's imagination, it actually understates the problem. Acid precipitation includes not only rain but also acidified snow, hail and frost, as well as sulphur and nitrogen dust. When sufficiently concentrated, these acids can kill fish and damage material structures. Under certain circumstances they may reduce crop and forest yields and cause or aggregate respiratory diseases in humans.

Since the airborne compounds can travel hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles, ignoring city, state and national boundaries, a solution to the problem will require cooperation among numerous jurisdictions. The temptation to pass the buck will be great, and as concern about acid rain grows, questions will be raised as to whether our political institutions both national and international can keep up with an usually rapid advances in knowledge.

Press Conference

MINISTER ASKS TEACHERS TO DISCHARGE DUTY WITH RESPONSIBILITY.

The Hon'ble Education Minister, Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, on November 27th asked the teaching community to discharge their duties with a profound sense of responsibility to society at large.

Presenting the State awards for the best principals and best teachers in colleges and universities in Tamil Nadu, he said the Government should try to redress the legitimate grievances of teachers but at the same time the teachers ought to do their duty towards students. The Government realised that incentives like the presentation of awards helped enthuse the

teachers to strive hard in educating students well.

The educational system had been undergoing vast and progressive changes to the policies of the Government. Life oriented and vocational education being introduced now in the State was an indication of the importance attached to the practical side. But education at the college and university level must also undergo a radical change through linkages between concepts and application in the field, Thiru Ponnaiyan said.

Presiding Thiru T.D. Sundarraj, Education Secretary, said the awards were a recognition by the Government of the meritorious services rendered by the recipients in the field of higher education.

Earlier, Prof. N. Ananthapadmanabhan, Director of Collegiate Education, welcomed the gathering. Mrs. Vasanthi Devi, Vice-Chancellor, Mother Teresa University, Kodaikanal, and Fr. Kuriakose, former Principal, Loyola College, replied on behalf of the recipients. Dr. V. Subramaniam, Deputy Director of Collegiate Education, proposed a vote of thanks.

Measuring Noise

If beauty is in the eye of the beholder, then noise is in the ear of the listener. By definition noise is any sound that is undesired or interferes with hearing. But one's response to loud sounds is conditioned by an individual's psychological makeup and social values—and often by his hearing ability. What may seem loud to one person does not trouble another. A dancer lost in the music of a disco might argue that the sound level in the room was music to his

ears—if the dancer's argument could be heard above the din.

In spite of these non-scientific variables, the strength of sound can be measured accurately. The unit of measurement is the decibel. A barely perceptible sound may register only a single decibel. At the other extreme, few people can stand a sound above 440 decibels. The decibel scale is logarithmic. Thus a small increase or decrease in decibels may mean a great change in intensity.

TEN PRINCIPALS, 50 COLLEGE TEACHERS GET STATE AWARDS

Ten principals and 50 college/university teachers in Tamil Nadu were the recipients of State Awards presented on November 27th. These awards relate to the years 1979-80 to 1983-84, and for each year, two principals and 10 teachers have been selected.

The following is the list of awardees, which include three teachers who have now risen to the position of Vice-Chancellors

Best principal award 1979-80, Dr. K. Meenakshisundaram and Dr. Miss. C. Parvathi; 1980-81; Fr. C.K. Swamy and Dr. A. Pownraja; 1981-82 Dr. Mrs. S. Sekhar and Dr. Sp. Annamalai; 1982-83; Fr. Kuria kose and Dr. Pankajam; 1983-84 Dr. M. Aruchami and Dr. P.B. Rajarajeswari.

State award for college, university teachers; 1979-80 Dr. Mrs. Rajammal P. Devadoss Dr. P.M. Annamalai, Miss. S. Bhagirathy, Prof. S. Jagadeesan, Dr. S. Krishnaswamy Dr. M. Shanmugam Pillai, Dr. Seetha, Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, Dr. P.B. Janardhanan, Dr. M.O. Mathew; 1980-81, Prof. V. Sarojini Devi, Prof. H. Newman, Miss. V. Kamakshi Dr. K.N. George, Thiru K.V. Viswanathan, Dr. A. Ghanam, Prof. T.E. Shanmugham, Dr. K.M. Marimuthu Prof. S. Agasthalingam, Mr. S. Subramaniam; 1981-82, Mr. K.G. Seshadri, Dr. Rm. Periakaruppan, Dr. Sr. Helen Vincent, Thiru N. Balusamy, Dr C.M. Abraham, Dr. K. Kulandaivelu, Mrs. Vasanthi Devi.

Prof. Rm. Sethunarayanan, Dr. K.P. Varadarajan, Dr. T.R. Ramachandran,

1982-83, Prof. Lalitha Peter G. Prof. S. Sundaram. Dr. Gift Siromony, Thiru K.S. Ramachandran, Dr. K. T. Mallika, Dr. M.P. Guruswamy Dr. T.B. Siddalingaiah Dr. P.K. Ponnuswamy, Dr. P. Shanmugham, Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram.

1983-84, Dr. M. Ramalingam, Dr. Rani Siromoney, Thiru Siromoney, Thiru R. Kanagasabapathy, Thiru L.C. Thanu, Mrs. Laxmi Dorai-pandian, Dr. V. Sachidanandam, Prof. V.R. Muthuveerappan, Dr. P. Natarajan, Dr. David Livingstone and Dr. K. Chellappan.



Rs. 15 crore Water Supply scheme inaugurated at Anna Nagar

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. said on November 27th that he had written letters to the Prime Minister and the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister seeking their co-operation in the early completion of the Krishna water project to augment the drinking water needs of Madras.

"I am going to discuss this issue with the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister shortly", Chief Minister said while inaugurating at Anna Nagar West, a Rs. 15 crore project consisting of four water supply schemes, two drainage schemes and an under ground water augmentation scheme designed to benefit 10 lakh people.

The water supply schemes are : West Anna Nagar (Rs. 1.41 crores), Villivakkam-Korat-tur (Rs. 2.77 crores), Erukan-chery Kodungaiyur (Rs. 1.46 crores) and Tiruvanniyur (Rs. 2.50 crore) The drainage schemes are : West Arumbak-

kam (Rs. 2.73 crores), Periyar Nagar in Purasawalkam (Rs. 2.32. crores) and the ground water augmentation scheme, with UNDP aid, of Rs. 1.36 crores.

Dr. M.G.R. said the Metro-water had drawn up plans to provide drinking water supply in various areas and pumping stations would be set up to take up drainage works. A sum of Rs. 15 crores has been allocated for this purpose.

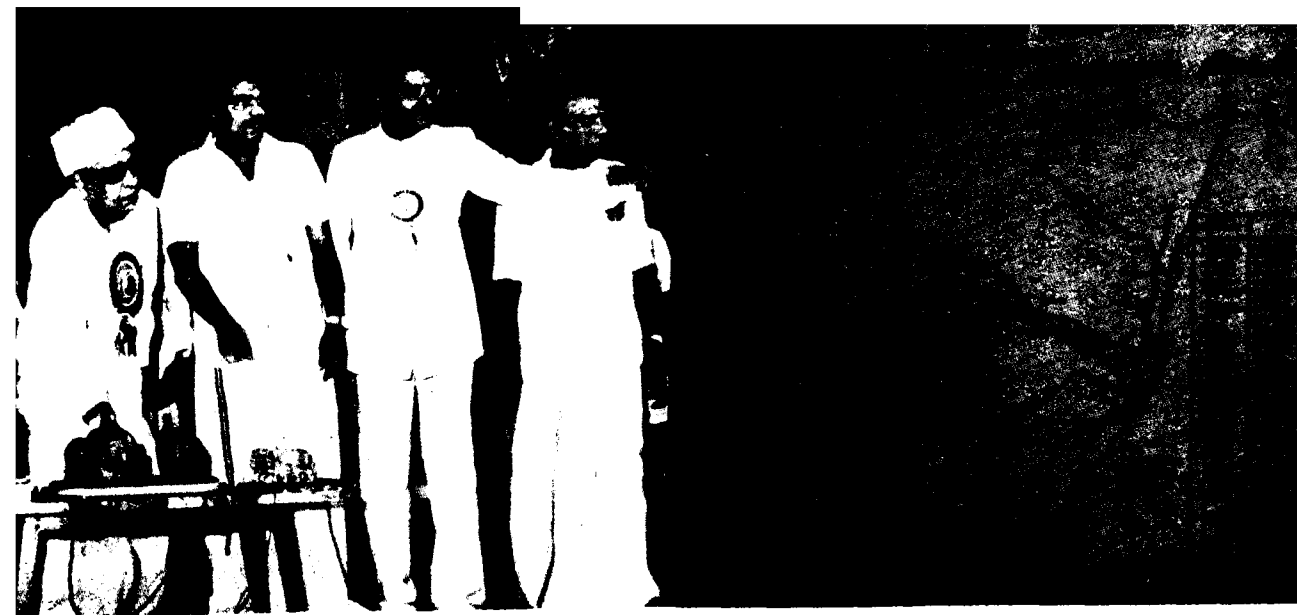
The Chief Minister said the Present Government since it assumed office in 1977 had spent Rs. 428 crores for water supply in the State, of which Metrowater's share was Rs. 60 crores. The scheme to supply drinking water to Anna Nagar West and Villivakkam at a cost of Rs. 3.75 crores was the first phase on the project in augurated he was happy that he was dedicating a project at Anna Nagar to fulfil a basic necessity.

Thiru K. Rajaram, Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Agriculture, who presided, said the Chief Minister had accorded first priority to drinking water supply schemes, unmindful of the costs involved. The water supply project was designed in the shortest possible time with the approval of the Chief Minister.

The Minister said Tamil Nadu under Dr. M. G. R. today stood in the forefront in the implementation of social welfare scheme for the poor.

Thiru Jeppiar, Metro-water chairman who welcomed the gathering said steps had been taken to expedite the water supply schemes within a year by distributing the works to several contractors.

Thiru Durai Sundaresan, Managing Director, Metro-water, detailed the salient features of the project.



Welfare Schemes inaugurated at Madurantakam

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. M. G. R. launched a package of development and welfare schemes, costing about Rs. 10 crores, for the people of Madurantakam and its neighbourhood on November 28th.

The projects include a high level canal at the Madurantakam lake, costing Rs. 4.5 crores, which would provide irrigation water for 31 villages, drinking water supply schemes for six urban and 54 rural areas at a cost of about Rs. 3.86 crores and a workshop of the Thanthai Periyar Transport Corporation at a cost of Rs. 8 lakhs.

Speaking at a function to launch the schemes, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said that the State Government was very much interested in the welfare of weaker sections of society and had been implementing several schemes for improving their standards of living.

The Chief Minister launched the schemes, numbering over 70 by pressing the buttons, to the accompaniment of the blaring of horns by the 10

new buses that were introduced by the Thanthai Periyar Transport Corporation.

Bow and arrow presented: A highlight of the function was the presentation of a pair of silver bow and arrow to Dr. M.G.R. which to quote the speakers, signified that the Hon'ble Chief Minister was protecting the State just as Sri Rama of Madurantakam took care of the big lake there.

Rs. 20 crore scheme under study : Thiru K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran, Hon'ble PWD Minister, presiding, said that the Government was considering a set of development schemes for Chingleput district costing about Rs. 20 crores.

Thiru Anoor Jagadeesan, Hon'ble Rural Industries Minister, said it was to the credit of the Chief Minister that the breach that developed in the Madurantakam lake during the floods last year had been plugged with in a year.

Waiving arrears :

Thiru S.D. Ugamchand Chairman, Tamil Nadu Water

Supply and Drainage Board, Thiru Muni Adhi, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Agriculture High power Commission, Mrs. Jagatrachakan, M.P., Thiru G.K.J. Bharati, M.L.A., Mrs. D. Yasodha, M.L.A., and others spoke.

Thiru S. Mohammed Mustapa, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (irrigation) presenting a report on the proposed high-level canal said it would help utilise about half of the 1,000 million cu. ft. of water for irrigation. The canal would have the capacity to carry 275 cu. ft. of water per second. It would be 35 km long, 30 foot wide and 4 feet deep.

Thiru P. Pandian, Chingleput Collector, said that the schemes included development programmes in Madurantakam Municipality and Chingleput division at a cost of Rs. 14.64 lakhs and Rs. 17.6 lakhs respectively. The function also marked the handing over Rs. 1.16 crores as aid to the Tamil Nadu & Tubewell Corporation for buying rigs and distribution of land pattas to the destitute women and the aged.



Environmental Protection in India

(Courtesy :—Asian Survey Vol. XXII)

By O. P. Dwivedi and B. Kishore

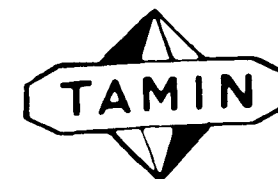
Various forms of environmental degradation have been on the increase in India on account of the growing pressure of human and animal populations on resources. The watershed and forest areas that used to teem with lush green vegetation only two or three decades ago are in a state of environmental decay. The wildlife populations are also on the decline as a result of indiscriminate exploitation and habitat destruction. While laws on these subjects have existed for more than two decades, the situation has worsened. From the legislative angle, the reasons may either be inadequate legislation on the subjects or faulty implementation of the legislation. The sorry state of the quality of environment in India may be attributable to both causes.

It may seem that many of the existing laws are either quite antiquated or are updated modifications of earlier laws. Their object is primarily to utilize resources for specific economic benefit without a careful analysis of potential short-term or long-term adverse effects on the environment. As a result, activities permitted or pursued under the provisions of the laws have tended to reduce environmental quality. It is necessary to include environmental assessment as an integral part of any major decision—projects, programs, policies, legislation, etc—since this should bring out both positive and

negative influences such a decision may have on the environment. Adequate safeguards for the environment need to be built in at all stages of conception, planning, and implementation of decisions followed by vigorous monitoring and ameliorative action.

At present, there is no legislation in India for (1) protection of grazing lands; (2) protection of catchment areas of river basins; (3) protection of wetlands, estuaries, and mangroves; (4) prevention of over-fishing in the economic zone; (5) sale, manufacture, import, use, and disposal of chemicals other than pesticides; (6) scientific land use; (7) prevention of noise pollution; or (8) recycling of resources. Legislation in these fields may be required for resources conservation and its optimum use.

The Water Pollution Prevention Act of 1974 and the Air Pollution Prevention Act of 1980 appear to be half-hearted attempts at the prevention, abatement, and control of pollution. The Boards should be given executive authority for implementation of the programme and also empowered to issue "stop orders". The Government of India should allocate sufficient financial resources for pollution abatement programs to municipalities, including financial incentives to industries for installation of abatement devices.



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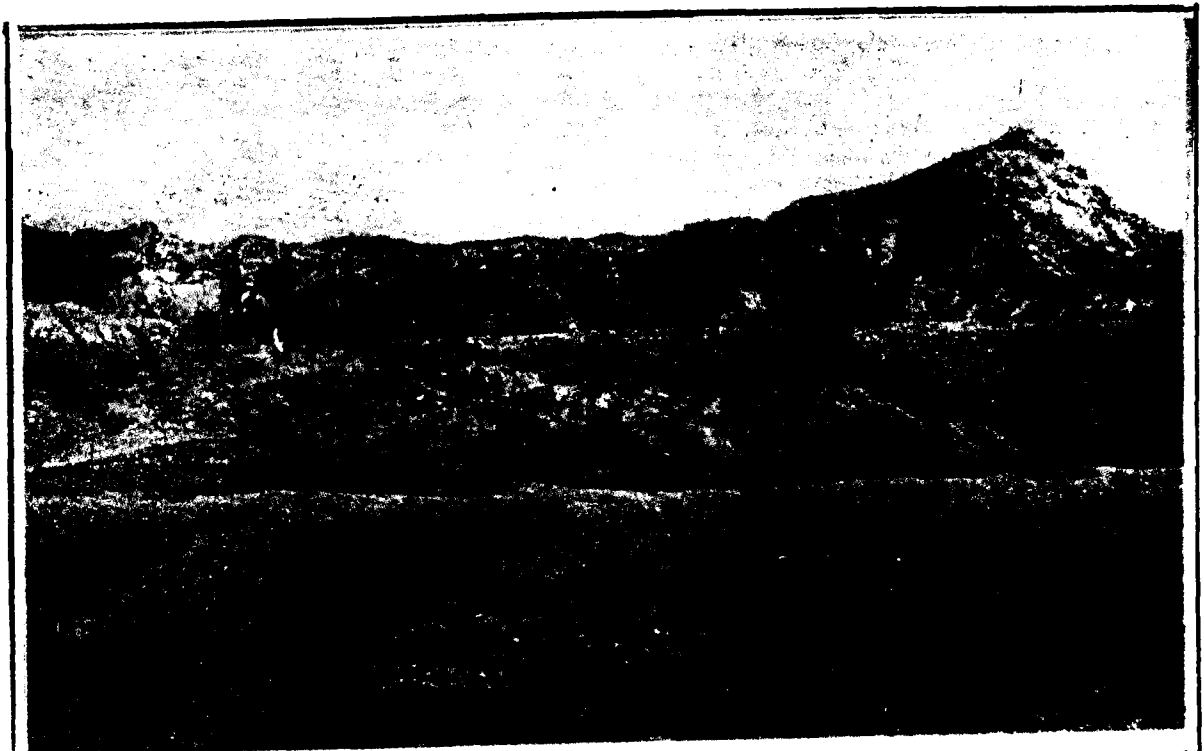
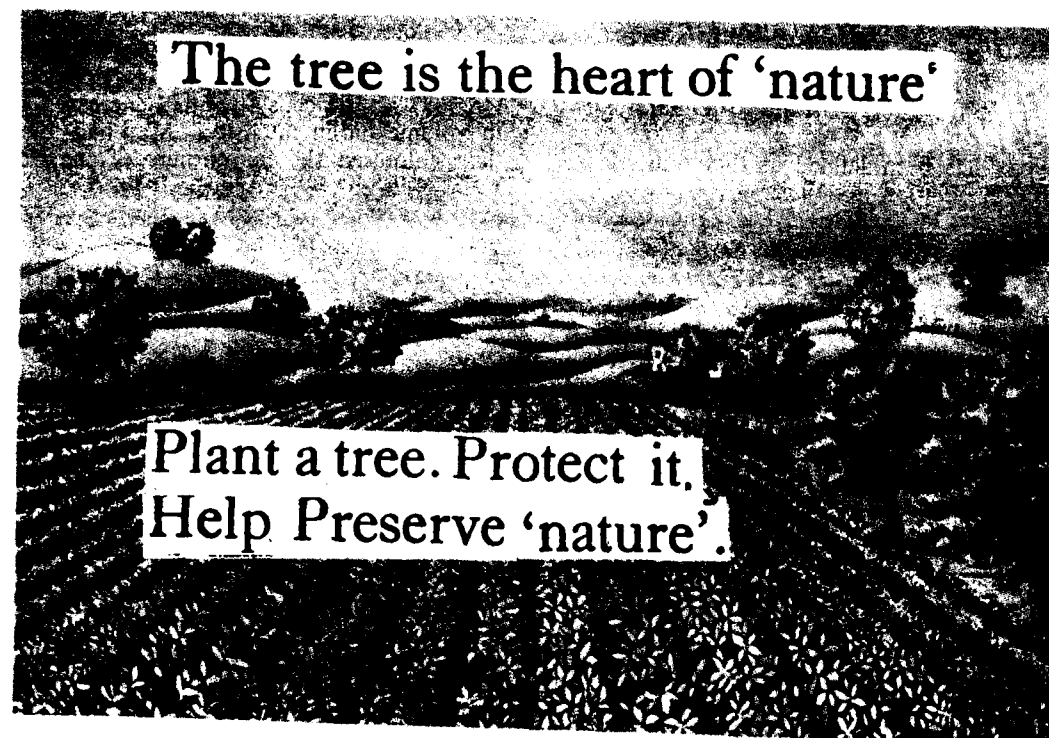
GRAMS: MINESALITE

D.P.R./26251/363/86 - 27/SAS

Since 1972, the National Committee for Environmental Planning and Coordination (and its successor National Committee on Environmental Planning) has been able to provide a focal point for discussion on environmental issues. But if NCEP is viewed as similar in function to the U.S. Council of Environmental Quality, then the Department of Environment should be given necessary regulatory and administrative authority akin to the USEPA. Thus, the newly established Department of Environment requires not only the necessary political clout but also needs a complement of professionals, dedicated and committed to seeing that environmental considerations are taken seriously in the national planning and policy management process. At the same time, the Department should provide the necessary leadership by coordinating all environmental issues at the central government level and by providing effective liaison with state government environmental departments. For this, the Department would require an adequate budget to carry out its responsibilities and to properly support its liaison activities. The central government's example in establishing appropriate administrative unit should be considered by all state governments; such state departments of environment would need authority not only to monitor and to provide surveillance but also to enforce environmental protection measures.

Thus, the central and state environmental agencies will have to assume the role of "population watchdogs". They would also have to assume the role of the environmental conscience of the country. Finally, unless the public is convinced that by protecting the environment and controlling pollution its health will be safeguarded, all the best legal pronouncements and administrative mechanisms would remain only in books. Public awareness and public participation are the two key elements of environmental policy planning and management. In this respect, the leadership will have to come from educational institutions, the mass media, and the judiciary. It is up to the educational authorities to launch a national environmental awareness program and to begin an environmental education programs from the junior high school level. Mass media will have to be more vigilant by constantly publishing exposes of pollution cases. Finally, is it up to the judiciary to safeguard the concept of social justice (enshrined in the Constitution), because in the final analysis, is it the poorer section of the population which suffers most from the lack of environmental quality.

O.P. Dwivedi is Professor and Chairman, Department of Political Science, University of Guelph, Canada; B. Kishore is Deputy Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of India, New Delhi;



Ecology: What is it all about?

Man's meddling with nature, chemical effluents, nuclear waste, acid rain and ever increasing presence of carbon-dioxide in the atmosphere have resulted in the greatest ecological crisis known to mankind. The death of 2500 persons at Bhopal in 1984 due to inhalation of poisonous gas leaked out of an insecticide plant is the latest warning to humanity.

Ecology has been defined as the study of organisms in relation to their environment. This covers the whole world of organic life-plants including fungi, animals including microbes and man. Then, there is the environment itself, which includes not only the animate organisms that populate the biosphere but also the inanimate forces operating in nature.

Man-made Crisis: Though ecology covers all species of life, the species which occupies the centre of the stage is man, because he, alone of all species, had set out on a confrontation with nature. His fight with the established natural systems has had a long history. But it is only in the latter half of the 20th Century that it had assumed the proportions of a crisis. This is what is described as the Ecological Crisis.

When man gave up living on what food he found in nature and settled down to grow his own food, he began interfering with natural systems. This happened during the very dawn

of history when men built the first great river valley civilizations of Sumeria, Egypt and the Indus Valley. Ever since, man has been incessantly engaged in struggles of one kind or another with natural systems.

Since the Industrial Revolution, his interference with the ecosystem had increased both in volume and in intensity. Man had by the time colonised the far corners of the Earth. Every where he went he had fought nature and won. In the first flush of success he described his progress as the Conquest of Nature. Now he wonders who is conquering whom.

Exploitation: It is evident that man has to exploit natural systems, if he is to assure himself of better living conditions. When we clear virgin land and plant crops we are unbalancing a functioning natural system. Once we unbalance a natural system we have to maintain that imbalance in order to grow more crops in future. There is thus an ever present conflict between man's need to maintain its stability. This is inevitable. As Gordon Harrison puts it. "If man is to continue to exploit the natural systems to his own advantage, then his first prescription is to see that these systems stay around to be exploited".

"The question", says Dr. Holling, "really concerns itself with the stability of the natural systems, in the degree to which they can absorb

disturbances and this is really the central question that ecologists have been facing. We do know that despite arguments for the delicate balance of nature, natural systems are profoundly resistant to change. But this resistance is not infinite". It can and does break down under a persistent attack.

In the circumstances, the sensible course for man is to stop and consider how the natural systems react to his exploitation and assess their powers of endurance and resilience before he proceeded to exploit further. But this is precisely what mankind has so far refused to do.

Interdependence: In the ecosystem all species of life, plant and animal, are inter-linked with one another. Interference with any species will have long standing repercussions on others. We have been massively intervening in the environment without quiet understanding its complications. Often enough, we realise the magnitude of the damage we have wrought long after the mischief had been done and the situation has passed beyond repair.

It is clear that biosphere is an intergated whole and that its numerous parts are interconnected. Prof. Barry Commoner points out that these interconnections, especially along the food chain accelerate the impact of our inroads into the environment and amplify them greatly. Commoner gives the following example. If we put one unit of insecticide per gram in the soil, the earthworms living in the soil will contain 10 to 40 units per gram and in woodcocks feeding on the earthworms, the insecticied level will rise to 200 units per gram.

Says Prof. Commoner, "In the biosphere the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Beause of such amplification, a small intrusion in one place will trigger a huge response elsewhere in the system. Often the amplification feeds on itself until the entire living system is engulfed. It is not surprising then that the introduction on any killing chemical into the environment is bound to cause a change somewhere in the tangled web of relationship".

Natural Resources: "Our Physical milieu" as Prof. Harold Cassidy reminds us, "is finite, not only the surface of the Earth, but the waters of the sea and the gases in the atmosphere". Land is limited and good land scarce. There is plenty of water in the sea but it is not infinite. Anyhow, the supply of usable water is woefully short. Even air which is freely available every where may run short of the most vital gas that we need and need every moment - oxygen.

Add to this, the fact that we are recklessly exploiting all natural resources, coal, oil and minerals and we have a perfect set-up for a crisis of resources. We do not seem to be



aware of any such impending crisis, judged by the way we are squandering our resources. But any moment, a shortage of one or other may stare is in the face.

LAND & WATER

Agriculture was man's first great challenge to natural systems. He cleared forests to grow food for himself and built huge irrigation systems to assure a perpetual supply of water for his crops and prospered. The ancients knew, as Plato tells us, that over cropping and over-grazing will lead to soil erosion which may make deserts of fertile land. But that did not stop them. Look at the debris which our great civilizations have left behind them.

Ancient Sumeria- modern Iraq- was the granary of the great Babylonian Empire. The Sumerians harvested two crops and grazed sheep between the crops. Today less than 20 percent of the land in Iraq is cultivated. "The lands-

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other thing (for success)

—Abraham Lincoln.

In the mountains of truth you never climb in vain.

—Friedrich Nietzsche.

cape is dotted with mounds representing for gotten towns, the ancient irrigation works are filled with silt - the end produce of oil erosion- and the ancient saport of Urs is now 150miles- from the sea with its buildings buried under as much as 35 feet of silt".

Take a much later civilization in another continent - the Mayan civilization in America. "Archaeologists have long wondered how the Mayans managed to support what was obviously a high civilization on the now unproductive soils of Guatemala and Yucatan. Evidently, they exploited the land as intensively as possible until both its fertility and their civilization collapsed" Sorry stories like this could be told of country after country.

Salinity:

Apart from erosion there is another factor that may convert good land into barren tracts. This is salinity. Salinity appears where the groundwater table is lowered owing to the excessive consumption of groundwater resources. All over the world there are large tracts of land blighted by salinity - in Mexico and several other part of America, in Tanzania and many other parts of Africa, in India, China, and South East Asia. In spite of this bitter experience, the reckless lapping of underground water goes on merrily all over the world. Peter White writing on Greece in the National Geographic (March 1980) says, "Driving eastward in Macedonia, I get more intimations of new-found prosperity. Around peela, so many wells have been dug that the fountain of Alexander the Great has dried up".

We have through the centuries created vast deserts of fertile lands. But we do not yet know how to make the deserts bloom. Despite the claims of Israel, it is still a far-off dream. All out natural resources are going the same way. We are consuming our minerals with an abandon that is hardly credible. According to one 'guestimate' iron may last till 2,500 A.D. Aluminium and magnesium and some other minerals may be available till 2100. But lead and several other materials may disappear even earlier, say by about 2050 A.D. There are several other estimates.

They all tell the same tale. We are running dangerously short of essential raw materials.

Alternate Power:

Since the Industrial Revolution our exploitation of natural power resources, coal and oil, has assumed alarming proportions. The Industrial Revolution itself was powered by coal. Then came oil. Both threaten to give out, oil sooner than coal. Now that the OPEC countries are holding the rest of the world to ransom for oil, we have begun to think of alternate sources of power that will not run out on us like coal and oil. This is the only silver lining on the overcast power front.

What we destory, we can't replace. Nor can nature, not at this speed. It has taken millions of years for nature of stockup our present supply of minerals and fossil fuels but it will take us only a few centuries to run through them. As pillagers and predators, we surpass all other species just as we do as thinkers and creators. Only our thinking and creative abilities are poor compared to our capacity for unthinking destruction.

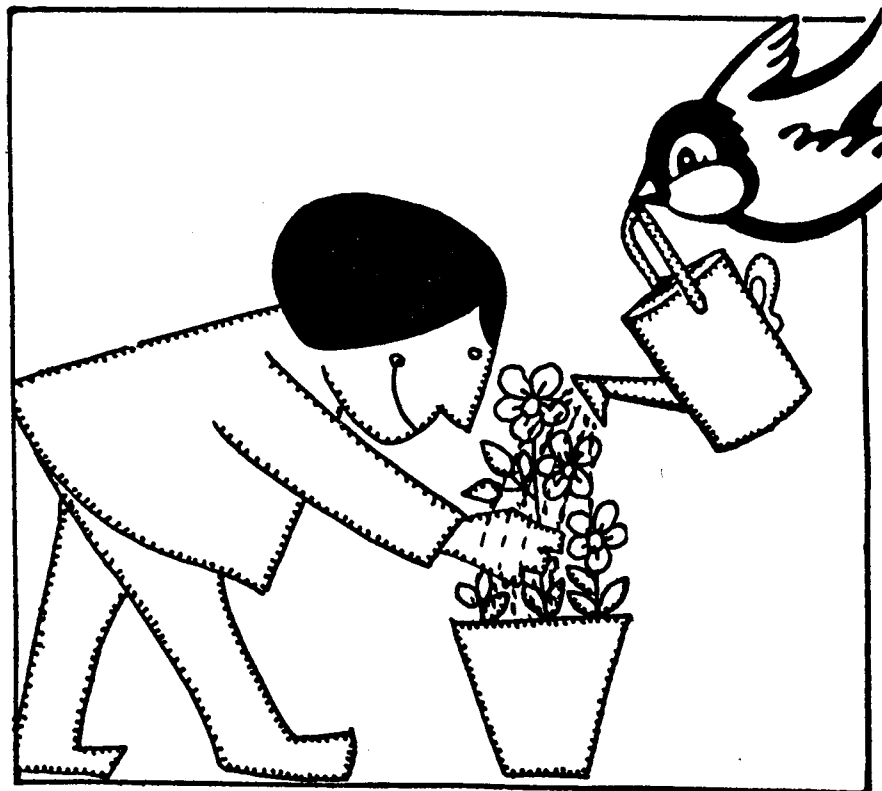
Dumping Waste: No bird fouls its own nest. But the doubly wise man (homo sapiens) excels in this obnoxious practice. It has been estimated that in Britain the average person throws out about 1.5 lb of garbage every day. In the US the wastes dumped into the biosphere are much greater-more than 4.5 lb per person per day. To these familiar wastes are added whole heaps of industrial by-products, which neither the producer nor the consumer wants.

The advance of technology in recent years has been dubbed the Technological Revolution. This revolution, like all revolutions, has back-fired. While at one end it has hastened the consumption of scarce materials, it has at the other end thrown up a lot of unwanted wastes. These wastes are piling up and have already become unmanageable. Some of these wastes like synthetic plastics are not 'bio-degradable'. Therefore they may persist for years as abiding threats to the eco-system.

Pollutants: But worst of all, are the pollutants which a sophisticated technology has been spewing all around us. Careful studies have shown that air pollution can damage vegetable crops and in general affect plant growth. This is reflected in the low nutrient quality of the plant products and consequent ill effects on the health of the animals and people who depend upon these crops. Here again, we have a remarkable amplification. But far more important are effects that arise secondarily.

Courtesy:- Malayala Manorama

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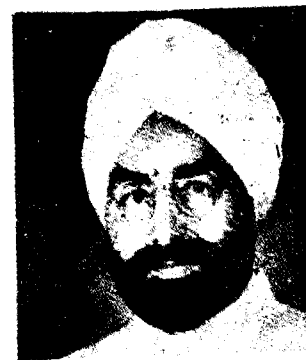
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NOVEMBER '86 OBSERVED AS QUALITY MONTH



ZAIL SINGH
*President,
Republic of India*

MESSAGE

I am happy to note that the Ministry of Industry has announced a programme to observe the month of November 1986 as "Quality Maintenance and improvement Month". Quality consciousness has to permeate every sphere of our activities in order to achieve efficiently our goals of economic development. I hope that this Campaign will help spread quality culture all round so as to make it an integral part of our national endeavours.

I wish the Campaign all success.



RAJIV GANDHI
Prime Minister of India

MESSAGE

The need of the hour is a national commitment to quality in all walks of our life. We should not be satisfied with anything but the best in the goods and services that we produce. I hope that this campaign will stress the responsibility devolving on all of us to achieve excellence in whatever we do. Let me wish the campaign all success.



Dr. M.G. RAMACHANDRAN
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Message

Our responsibility does not end with increasing production in terms of quantity alone. To produce quality products is our national duty. Not only the management but everyone in the industry should deeply involve themselves in this task. Only then prestige for our products will grow within the Country as well as outside. The importance given to quality alone will ensure stability for our growth. November, 1986 has been announced as the Quality Improvement Month by our Honourable Prime Minister and this is being observed all over the Country. Let us cooperate in efforts to instil in the minds of all those who are engaged in the production of goods about the importance of Quality Production.

UNDERSTANDING QUALITY

The colour of the dress fades... the electric bulb blows out within a few hours of usage... the shoe that pinched your purse earlier now bites... you look at them in discomfort and say, "No Quality"... Then, What's Quality?

The term Quality is understood by each one in one's own way. Excellence, goodness, satisfaction are just a few attributes used to describe Quality. Quality means conformance to specification. There is also an erroneous assumption that quality is intangible and therefore not measurable. In fact, Quality is precisely measurable by the oldest and the most respected of measurements - 'hard cash'. As the Japanese put it, Quality is measured as the loss imparted after Shipping—that is the repeat expenses on the 'Sold Product' as After Sale Service. In the final reckoning, one could

describe Quality as the fitness for use by the customer.

For the manufacturer, one defective product which gets rejected or reworked costs money and eats into his profit and delays the project. Rework amounts to spending more time on repairing a job than a productive work.

It is thus clear that Quality and Productivity go hand in hand. Quality is achieved by the improvement of the process. This increases uniformity of output of product, reduces rework and mistakes, reduces wastes of man-power machine time and materials and thus increases output with less effort. Other benefits of improved Quality are lower costs, better competitive position, and happier people on the job, and more jobs, through better competitive position of the company.



Minorities of Tamilnadu

Minorities Welfare under 15-Point directive of the Prime Minister in Tamil Nadu.

The main reason for the TamilNadu State being free from communal and religious riots unlike other states is due to the feeling of integration and brotherhood existing between minorities and majorities. Such feelings of unity lead to the development of National integration.

As far as TamilNadu is concerned Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and Neobuddhist s Parsis and Jains are considered as minorities. The people belong to the above religions acquire minority status based on these religions. As per 1981 census, the total population of TamilNadu is 4,84,08,077. Among those Christians are 29,98,048 (i.e. 5.78%) and Muslims are 25,19,947 (i.e. 5.21%). Others namely Jains, Sikhs and Neobuddhists are below 0.01%. The Muslim and Christian minorities exist largely in the following Districts in Tamil Nadu :—(1) Madras (2) The Nilgiris (3) Tirunelveli (4) Ramanathapuram (undivided) (5) Thanjavur (6) North Arcot and (7) Kanyakumari. The Muslims and Christians minorities population in the above seven Districts is more than 5% and 10% respectively. As the standard of livings among minorities is comparatively lower than that of the majority, the former Prime Minister of India has given a 15 Point directive for implementation in all States with a view to improving their Socio-economic condition and to ensuring that the minorities get adequate share of the benefits of all development programmes. The details of implementation the 15-Point directive in Tamil Nadu is given below point-wise :—

1. One of the 15 directives of Prime Minister is about posting of police officials of the highest known efficiency,—impartiality and with a secular record in communally sensitive areas in Tamil Nadu. The clashes are mainly between Scheduled Castes and other communities in Tamil Nadu. Except the communal clash between Hindus and Christians in the year 1982 in Kannyakumari District and the conversion of



religion from Hindu to Muslim in Ramanathapuram District during the year 1985, no major communal clash ever occurred in Tamil Nadu. Moreover though there is no major communal clash, the D.G.P. has been given suitable instructions to post Police Officials of highest known efficiency, impartiality and secular record in the communal sensitive areas and to post members of minority communities at the Police Station level.

2. Rewarding of Police Officials for their good work in the prevention of communal tension.

In order to boost the morale of the Police department and to instil courage and confidence in the minds of the Police Personnel, this Government have already formulated a scheme for sanction of a special exgratia payment to the Police Personnel killed or injured in action under heroic circumstances. This scheme permits the payment of a special exgratia grant of Rs. 10,000 to the Police Personnel killed and between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 3,000 to those who sustained injuries according to the nature of injuries and Rs. 5,000 to those who are permanently incapacitated for further service as a result of the injuries sustained under similar circumstances. This Government are also implementing a scheme known as family benefit fund scheme under which an amount of Rs. 20,000 is paid to the family of the deceased Government servant who die while in service. In addition to the above schemes, the Police Personnel upto the level

of S.I. are eligible for money rewards under Police Standing order No. 40 (1) (41) for their service of special merit. Money rewards are being given in extraordinary cases. This Government are also rewarding medals for gallantry in one or two cases from C.M's gallantry reward.

3. Severe action should be taken against those who incite communal tensions or take part in violence.

The existing instructions in this State will ensure severe action against those who incite communal tension or take part in violence. In TamilNadu apart from the regular IPC and Cr. P. C. the State Government have special enactments. One such act is prevention of Instruction of Public Prosperities Act and the other Act is Act 14 of 1982 (i.e goondas Act) by which the Government can detain people who incite communal tension for one.

4. Setting up of special courts for trial of cases relating to communal offences.

A proposal to constitute special courts of Coimbatore, Kanyakumari and Ramanathapuram Districts for trial of cases under communal offences is under examination of this Government.

5. Providing immediate relief and adequate Financial assistance for the reliable victims of communal riots.

Government have issued orders permitting the sanction of monetary relief to the members

of the family of S.Cs, and S.Ts. who become victims of atrocities committed by members of other communities due to caste consideration. The victims of communal riots belonging to Minority Communities are also given financial relief in the above scales. As per this scheme if the victims happens to be an earning member or permanently incapacitated Rs. 2,000 is given to the family of the victim and Rs. 500 given in the case of temporary incapacitation. Further the proposal of the Government of India to enhance the compensation to communal victims is under examination of the Government.

6. Restoring confidence and communal Harmony in affected areas through Radio / T.V.

Instructions have already been issued to the Radio and T.V. authorities in this regard through Information and Public Relations Directorate Madras. Programmes on communal harmony is included in the dramas and folk songs programmes are implemented.

7. Enacting suitable Law to prevent irresponsible and perverted reporting relating to communal violence in the parts :

The Government of India are examining the proposal regarding to enact suitable laws to prevent irresponsible and perverted reporting relating to communal violence.

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The Government of India are examining the proposal regarding to enact suitable laws to prevent irresponsible and perverted reporting relating to communal violence.

8. Giving special consideration to minorities in the recruitment of police personnel and the representation of minorities in the Selection Committees :

In the matter of recruitment to Police personnel the candidates belonging to Minorities Communities are given due consideration. In TamilNadu Police Force there are 6.4 % Muslims and 11.3% of Christians employed in all ranks. A D.I.G., who belongs to Muslims and two Deputy Inspectors who belong to Christians are working in the Police Department. In the TNPSA, there is a member who belongs to Muslim Community.

9. Central Government taking similar action in the recruitment of Police Personnel in the Central Police Force.

This relates to Government of India hence action will be taken by the Government of

India at the all India level.

10. Giving Special consideration to Minorities in recruitment to the Public Sector Undertaking :

As per the rule of reservation existing in this State 18% and 50% of vacancies in Government Services are reserved for SCs/STs and BCs respectively. The balance 32% of vacancies in Government Services are filled up on merit basis by open competition. Most of the Muslims & Christians are included in the Backward Classes list and they are also eligible to get the reservation for B.C. Communities. The Government has also issued orders to all Public Sector Undertakings to follow the rule of reservation.

11. Starting of coaching classes in Minority educational institutions :

At Madras there is an institution which conducts Special coaching classes for I.A.S. and other examinations into which students of minority communities who belong to BCs are eligible for admission. The S.G. converts to Christianity are also eligible for admission to the institutions intended to SCs & STs. The educational institutions run by the Minorities are conducting coaching classes to minorities students for I.A.S. and other examinations. To implement the 15 directives of the Prime Minister's instructions were issued to the Collectors to convene meetings with the minorities educational institutions and all religious institutions. To conduct special coaching classes, 25 colleges have submitted necessary proposals through the universities concerned. Because of the above schemes training will be given to 1250 students for writing various competitive examinations.

12. Setting up of I.T.I.'s and Polytechnics in minorities concentrated areas :

There are 40 I.T.I.s in this State. Out of this 5 institutions are for women. In these institutions 15,000 girl students are studying. Out of this 15,000 girl students, 1,200 are minorities communities students. The Muslim students are not attracted by the I.T.I.s. They depend on self-employment. The Muslims communities run 6 educational institutions. In each institutions 500 students are studying. Out of this 500 students Muslim students are only 200.

13. Ensuring that Minorities secure fair and adequate measures the benefits flowing from various development programmes :

As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India in Tamil Nadu for the uplift of rural people the schemes such as Integrated Rural Development Programme, Rural Land-

less Employment Guarantee Programme and Bio-gas scheme under the 20-point programme are implemented. The Collectors of all districts have been instructed to implement the suggestions of the Prime Minister.

The following statements shows the benefits derived by the Minorities :

Name of Scheme	Hindus	Muslims	Christians
IRDP	87%	7.4%	5.6%
TRYSEM	86.1%	4.5%	9.4%
NREP	84%	4.24%	6.8%
RLEGP	95.85%	1.15%	3%

This shows that the minorities people get their share from the schemes. In the Committee of implementation of 20-Point Programme and Development Programmes representation of Minorities were examined. In some districts, the development council which consists of minorities also examining the schemes.

In addition to the above, the Research Officer and the Research Investigators in the

Research Unit created in SW Department is to see whether schemes are implemented properly for the minorities Communities.

14. Redressal of grievances relating to encroachment of Wakf properties :

Suitable steps have been taken to restore amity wherever necessary. Tamil Nadu Wakf Board is taking action to convict the encroachers under section 36B of the T.N. Wakf Act 1954, whenever the encroachments are brought to the knowledge of the T.N. Wakf Board by addressing the Collectors for eviction vigorously through the Civil Courts whenever the issues needed Court intervention. There are 11,000 such eviction cases pending with the Wakf Board. Out of this 2531 cases were decided by the Court in favour of the Wakf Board. 2,955 cases are decided against the Wakf Board by the Court. 5,751 cases are pending before the Court.

15. Creating a Special Cell in this State to deal with the matters relating to Minorities :

This Government have issued orders sanctioning the creation of a Research Unit consisting of one Research Officer and two Research Investigators for monitoring the implementation of 15 Point directive of the Prime Minister for the Welfare of Minorities.

Health Effects of Major Pollutants

Sulfur-dioxide. This corrosive and poisonous gas is associated with coughs, colds, asthma and bronchitis and can aggravate heart disorders. Together with nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide can go through chemical transformations in the air to form acid rain, which can kill fish and retard growth of vegetation.

Nitrogen dioxide. A poisonous and highly reactive gas, nitrogen dioxide can be fatal at very high concentrations. At lower level, it can reduce resistance to respiratory diseases such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

Ozone. A pungent smelling, faintly bluish gas, ozone is a poisonous form of pure oxygen. It irritates the mucous membranes of the respiratory system, causing choking and coughing, and aggravating respiratory diseases.

Carbon monoxide: This colorless, odourless gas replaces oxygen in red blood cells, reducing the amount of oxygen that reaches cells in the body. Sustained exposure to high levels affects the brain initially, impairing perception and thinking, slowing reflexes, weakening judgment and inducing drowsiness. Eventually the heart is affected as well. At every high levels of exposure, a person can die from heart failure or asphyxiation. Other Symptoms of exposure to carbon monoxide include headaches, dizziness, nausea and difficulty in breathing.

Particulates: Generally thought of as dust, soot and smoke particulates can include many kinds of solid and liquid substances, some of them highly toxic. The health hazards caused by particulates can be physical, resulting from the clogging of the lung sections by fine particles, or chemical. Particulates passing to vital organs via the lungs and bloodstream can react adversely with substances in the body. The presence of particulates in conjunction with sulfur oxides can severely aggravate respiratory diseases.

Lead: Roughly 90 percent of airborne lead comes from autoemissions. Lead smelting and processing industries also are significant sources. Lead concentrates in bone and soft body tissues. Its most pronounced effects are on the bloodforming, nervous and kidney systems.

Hydrocarbons: Primarily a product of automobile fuel combustion, hydrocarbons are unburned fuels in gaseous or vapour form. At the levels generally prevailing in the air, hydrocarbons may have no direct effect on human health. In a confined space of ours, they could cause asphyxiation by displacing the air.

Flag Day Festival in Tamil Nadu

Flag Day is celebrated every year on 7th December since the independence of India and the Armed Forces Flag Day is to honour the valiant dead, to salute the veteran brave and to renew their pledge with the services personnel who are in active services. This year (i.e.) 1986 Flag Day is being observed throughout the country on 5th December.

Funds are raised through Hundi collections on Sale of Flags and by getting donations from the generous public on Flag Day. Out of these funds various welfare activities are being carried out by the Government through the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare. The Directorate of Ex-servicemen's Welfare looks after the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families, the families of serving men and also the resettlement of war disabled and war widows. The ex-servicemen population in Tamil Nadu is approximately 6.50 lakhs.

During the year 1985-86, 6,542 ex-servicemen and their Dependants were paid grants to the tune of Rs. 35.59 lakhs which includes the constructional activities for building of Jawans Bhavans, Ex-services Centres etc. The grants include monthly grant to the destitutes, lump-sum grant, marriage grant, pocket money to the TB/Leprosy/Cancer patients, Immediate Relief Grant as spot assistance, funeral grant,

flood and fire relief grant, educational scholarship/stipend to the children of ex-servicemen, annual maintenance grant to war widows, financial assistance to the pre 1-1-1964 widows, widows of personnel served during the II World War, Old Age Pension to destitutes etc.

Rehabilitation schemes such as establishment of Jai Jawan Stalls for assisting ex-servicemen in self employment scheme by providing training facilities are also implemented.

A special Employment Cell is functioning at the Directorate of Ex-servicemen's Welfare which sponsors suitable ex-servicemen candidates against the vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen. So far about 4,664 ex-servicemen placed in suitable employment through this were Special Employment Cell.

Coaching classes have been conducted for ex-servicemen for appearing for Banking Services Recruitment Board. During the period from 1983 to 1985, 185 exservicemen were trained. During this year 121 ex-servicemen were trained, bringing up the total to 306.

Coaching classes have been conducted for exservicemen and their dependants for appearing in the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commis-



sion Examination. Previously, 210 persons were trained. During this year 101 persons were trained.

Under the scheme of PEXSEM (Preparing Ex-servicemen for Self Employment) 174 ex-servicemen were given training in Electrical wiring and welding, Poultry farming, (Broilers and Layers) dairying, specialised farm equipments, handling and repairs etc. in the Rural Extension Training Centre, Arni, North Arcot and in Rural Unit for Health and Social Welfare, K.V. Kuppam, Gudiyatham Taluk, North Arcot District.

Under this scheme, 171 ex-servicemen were trained, out of them 21 have availed loan and

Women dependants are given free training in the 12 tailoring units run by this department. 5,168 women dependants have undergone training and at present 263 women dependants are undergoing training. The annual expenditure on this scheme is about Rs. 2 lakhs.

Ex-servicemen and their dependants are given training in Typewriting and Shorthand in the 3 institutions run by this department. So far 1,000 persons have been trained. The annual expenditure on this scheme is Rs. 60,000.

269 Jai Jawan Stalls worth Rs. 12.80 lakhs have been established all over the State, so that ex-servicemen and widows could rehabilitate themselves and earn a decent livelihood.



subsidy. 66 were awaiting the sanction of loan by banks. With effect from 1-4-1986, the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu share the expenditure on this scheme on a 50:50 basis.

Defence Service Personnel are given training in Industrial Training Institutes in various trades and paid stipend of Rs. 250 p.m. during their post release training period. 96 persons have been trained and a sum of Rs. 1,57,950 was disbursed as stipend. The Government of Tamil Nadu is also sanctioning grant of upto Rs. 1 lakh towards this scheme.

As a self employment venture 114 ex-servicemen were allotted automatic Milk Vending Booths/Aavin Parlours.

72 Exservicemen and their dependants have been granted lump sum grants for starting Petty Business/Trades to the tune of Rs. 49,500.

Under the scheme of BLISS (Bank Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme) 1,371 ex-servicemen have availed loans from the Nationalised Banks to the tune of Rs. 103.83 lakhs for starting

94199

remunerative self employment ventures. A sum of Rs. 2.68 lakhs has been paid as interest subsidy from the amalgamated Funds.

Widows received considerable assistance in the form of various grants. Marriage Grant of Rs. 1,500 is paid to all widows of defence personnel killed in action towards the celebration of their daughter's marriage. Widows who have lost their husbands in various battles after independence receive Rs. 600 every year as Annual Maintenance Allowance, as a token of gratitude and remembrance. Housing grant of Rs. 5,000 is also sanctioned to these war widows. So far 101 widows have been sanctioned housing grants to the tune of Rs. 4,78,500.

Ex-servicemen and widows are assisted to celebrate one daughters' wedding with grants and kind worth Rs. 1,000. During the year 1985-86, 922 were assisted to the tune of Rs. 4,61,000.

Destitute ex-servicemen and widows of ex-servicemen who are above 60 years of age are given a monthly financial assistance of Rs. 100 till their life time and 129 ex-servicemen/widows are being assisted with an annual commitment of Rs. 1,54,800. Widows of Defence Personnel who retired prior to 1-1-64 with service pension and died subsequently

Contributions by the public on Flag Day constitute the main stay for implementation of welfare measures for Ex-servicemen /dependants. In this aspect, the people of Tamil Nadu have always been generous and over the years, the targets have been achieved through the efforts of the collection machinery, and above all the generosity of the people and their kindness and affection for the personnel of the armed forces.

Tamil Nadu, during 1985, has collected Rs. 64,25,816 towards Flag Day funds and thus merited the first award of the special Trophy instituted by the Government of India for highest collection. The Trophy was received at New Delhi from the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Thiru Rajiv Gandhi by the Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. Navalar V. R. Nedunchezhiyan, at the meeting of the Kendrya Sainik Board held on 10th December 1986.

Flag day collection - Award for TamilNadu

were not eligible for family pension. In order to help these widows they are sanctioned a sum of Rs. 50 per month and children allowance of Rs. 10 per month restricted to two children. So far 1,492 widows have been paid to the tune of Rs. 27.76 lakhs.

A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs has been set aside to assist the ex-servicemen who undergo major surgeries like heart surgery/kidney transplantation.

There are eighteen 12 bedded wards for ex-servicemen in Taluk Headquarters Hospitals. The amount spent for these purposes from the welfare funds is Rs. 15.47 lakhs.

Under the scheme of grant of monthly financial assistance of Rs. 100 per person affected by Leprosy/Cancer and total blindness in Tamil Nadu as at present 58 persons are being assisted with a total financial expenditure of Rs. 69,600 per year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Revitalisation of Meyyur Gudapakkam Land Colonisation Co-operative Society :- 34 new members have been inducted after proper training in agriculture methods. The land holdings of each member will be 4.4 acres for cultivation purposes.

Since this is a dry farming area with inadequate irrigation potential through the existing 13 wells, a scheme to bring water from the Cooum river bed at an approximate cost of Rs. 8.30 lakhs is being progressed.

Nearly 56,000 palmyrah nuts have been sown. A scheme is also under processing to plant casuarina in about 150 acres by which the ex-servicemen residing in the colony will be benefitted by a cash inflow of about Rs. 7.5 lakhs by the end of 5 years is expected.

Election Bandobust Duties :- Nearly 18,000 ex-servicemen were mobilised and were appointed as Special Police Officers during the period of Local Bodies elections in 1986. Tamil-Nadu is the first State to utilise ex-servicemen in large number for such a public cause.

There are 8 Jawans Bhavans constructed each one at Tiruchirappalli, Salem, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Madurai, Sivakasi and 2 at Vellore at a cost of Rs. 73 lakhs. Construction of Jawans Bhavans at a cost of Rs. 33 (Thirty three) lakhs at Cuddalore and Saidapet is under progress.

District Ex-services Centres exists in all the districts of Tamil Nadu except Chengalpattu, Anna District, Kanniyakumari, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram and Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Districts. These ex-services centres provide lodging facilities to the ex-servicemen/serving personnel in transit for a short duration.

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