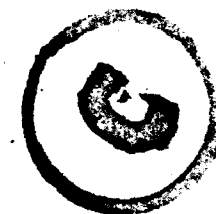


TAMIL ARASU

OCTOBER-1991.

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TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2022

Purattasi - Iyppasi

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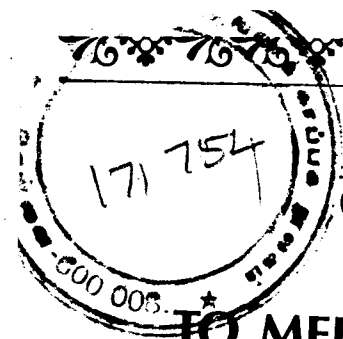
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A HUNDRED DAYS OF THE TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT WELL-SET, WELL-GEARED, TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21st CENTURY

WITH COURAGE, COMPASSION,
WISDOM AND ZEAL

Following the pathway paved by
Thanthai Periyar,
guidelines set by Perarignar Anna,
treading the track taken by
Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.
the Government under the
leadership of
Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha,
has a strong foundation, a firm
foothold and a measured pace
marching forward towards the
Twenty First Century.



To meet the challenges of the New Century and to see that Tamil Nadu
occupies a place of pride in the new era, care has been taken to prepare the
plans with diligence, devotion and dedication. Dedicated to the welfare of the
people. Plans and Projects to make the people prosperous. With the advent
of a new regime, a new era dawns for Tamil Nadu.

SALIENT FEATURES

NUTRITIOUS MEAL SCHEME OF PURATCHI THALAIVAR M.G.R.

- * Provision of Nutritious Food for Children from 6 months to 2 years old.
- * Pregnant and Expecting Women and Nursing Mothers to be given Nutritious Food at Government cost.

HOUSING SCHEMES

- * House for Every Family in 5 years time. 10

Lakh houses to be built in 5 years time. 1,22,400
houses to be built in this year.

- * Concrete houses for Adi-Dravidars. 3 lakh
houses to be built in Five Years Time. 50,000
houses, at an out-lay of Rs.6.5 crore to be built
this year.

RURAL HOUSING SCHEME

Provision of Rs.30 crore for 30,000 houses.

- * Rural Housing Scheme for the current year.

- a) 5,763 houses to be built.
- b) 1,780 houses for Middle Class People.
- c) Rs.23.78 crore for House Building Loans.

HOUSING IN MADRAS CITY

- * 77,000 houses will be built for Hutment Dwellers at a cost of Rs.200 crore under the Slum Clearance Scheme.
- * For Low Income Group Citizens - 1 lakh houses will be built at a cost of Rs.40 crore.
- * Special Housing Scheme to Policemen 10,000 houses at a cost of Rs.5 crore.

EDUCATION

- * Importance to Basic Education.
- * Women Teachers exclusively upto 5th class in all schools.
- * An amount of Rs.57 lakh will be spent for a New Scheme, for Higher Education for Backward Class Students.
- * Tamil will be taught compulsorily in every school as desired by Perarignar Anna.

INDUSTRIES PROJECTS:

- * Lignite based Generation Plant, in Joint Sector, to be set-up at Jayamkondam, (Trichy District) at a cost of Rs.5,000 crore to produce 1,500 MW Electricity.
- * 9 New Projects to be set up at a cost of Rs.600 crore through TIDCO.
- * A new Complex to produce 1600 tonnes/annum of Organo Phosphorous Pesticide Plant at a cost of Rs. 17 crore at Cuddalore.
- * Setting up an Electronics City in Sholinganallur at a cost of Rs.40.65 crore by ELCOT.
- * Setting up of Permanent Trade Fair Complex with convention Hall at Taramani, in collaboration with Trade Fair Authority of India at a cost of Rs.25 crore.

* Industrial Estate for the manufacture of Readymade Garments Handloom Fabrics in Chengalpattu-MGR District to be set up by SIDCO.

* Software Park to be set-up by ELCOT at a cost of Rs.8 crore at Coimbatore with assistance from Government of India.

* Second Paper Plant to be established in South Arcot District, utilising Sugarcane Bagasse, at a cost of Rs.1000 crore.

* Establishment of a Graphite Factory at Sivagangai at a cost of Rs.15 crore.

* Establishment of a Granite Polishing Unit at a cost of Rs.15 crore at Dharmapuri by TAMIN.

AGRICULTURE

* New Schemes to develop 24,700 acres of Fallow and Waste Lands in 8 Districts - Total Outlay Rs.150 crore. Provision of Rs.75 lakh during the year.

* Under Extension Programme - Strengthening of State Seed Farms. Total outlay Rs.1.81 crore.

RICE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

* Three more Districts - Ramanathapuram, Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar and Periyar to be brought under Integrated Rice Development Scheme at a cost of Rs.5.33 crore.

DEVELOPMENT OF DRYLAND AGRICULTURE

* Proposed to cover 2,20,000 acres in 14 Districts in 5 years at a cost of Rs.35.61 crore. During this year a target of 50,000 acres to be covered at a cost of Rs.2 crore.

OIL SEEDS DEVELOPMENT

* Seven Districts to be brought under Integrated Oil Seeds Development Programme at a cost of Rs.50 lakh.

HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

* Special credit arrangements will be made to Strengthen Horticultural Units and Fruit Processing Units.

OUR HUNDRED DAYS MARCH IS EPOCH MAKING
OUR COMMITMENT TO PEOPLE IS NATION BUILDING

HIGHLIGHTS

- * The first act of the Chief Minister after assuming charge - to keep the promise given to the electorate - Abolition of cheap liquor shops even at a loss of revenue of Rs.322 crore.
- * Preference for women in all Industrial and Developmental activities. 30% Reservation for women in Industries and in other employment opportunities.
- * Grant of Rs.1 crore for each Panchayat Union for implementing rural development programmes.
- * Special supply of rice to pensioners and old age people as in the past.
- * Medicare facilities, for the first time for 4 crore of people.
- * Drinking water facilities for 2,483 houses at Rs.10 crore. Separate scheme for 1,007 families of Adi-Dravida at a cost of Rs.7 crore.
- * Supply of Modern Looms to 37,500 weavers at the rate of two per head. Over a period 10 years, it is expected to distribute 75,000 looms.
- * Madras City to be beautified, in the next 5 years at a cost of Rs.1,250 crore.
- * Tamil Nadu Newsprint will double its out-put at a cost of Rs.395 crore.
- * Establishment of Rubber Industry at Kanyakumari at a cost of Rs.400 crore.
- * Temple Administration Board for ensuring renovation and maintenance of renowned Temples.
- * A full fledged Film City at Taramani at a cost of Rs.70 lakh.
- * Special compensation of Rs.1 lakh to families of Policemen who die in harness.
- * Enhancement of compensation to weaver's family in the event of death, from Rs.10,000 to Rs.15,000.
- * Training programme for women in Agriculture at an outlay of Rs.18 crore to train 9,000 women each year.
- * A new Dairy Project at a cost of Rs.78.48 crore to be set up at Sholinganallur near Madras.
- * A Textile Mill exclusively run by women weavers to be set up at Bargur.

RESPECTFULLY REMEMBERED

- * Setting up a suitable Memorial for Thanthai Periyar at Vaikkom in Kerala.
- * Arignar Anna's literary works to be published by the Government.
- * Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s Memorial to be suitably modified at a cost of Rs.70 lakh.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha garlanded the statue of Thanthai Periyar, on the occasion of his 113th birth anniversary. (17.9.1991)



PERIYAR BIRTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



Thanthai Periyar - this is not just the name of a leader. It is the name of an era. Fearless leaders, great intellectuals, Philosophers, freedom fighters, Social reformers have appeared in this world. Thanthai Periyar appeared to have the dynamic force of all these luminaries unified in himself.

His 113th Birthday was celebrated by the Government of Tamil Nadu in a most impressive manner at Kalaivanar Arangam on 17th September 1991.

Dr.V.R.Nedunchezian, Minister for Finance, presided over the function. Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha unveiled a portrait of Periyar and spoke on the occasion.

The Chief Minister recalled the services of Periyar in championing the progress of women in all fields.

"His honesty, integrity, sense of conviction and tireless efforts in achieving the goals he set before himself won for him the respect and regard from various parties in the State."

"The historic Vaikom agitation symbolised Periyar's determination to ensure self-respect for the oppressed sections of society. To perpetuate the memory of the struggle, the former

Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R., wanted to erect a memorial in honour of periyar at Vaikom and laid the foundation stone. But his successors neglected the project. The memorial would soon be put up at Vaikom," she said.

The Chief Minister announced: "a resolution urging the Centre to enhance the Mandal Commission reservation of 27 percent for backward classes to 50 percent will be adopted in the Assembly before the end of the Current Budget Session."

"The Government will also consider and take a decision on the question of appointment of temple archakas from all communities and inclusion of Periyar's preaching in school and college syllabi."



The Chief Minister donated Rs.5 lakhs out of party funds to Periyar Self-Respect Propaganda Trust.

Earlier, Thiru. Sedapatti.R.Muthiah, Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru. K.A.Krishnasamy, Minister for Law, Thiru.S.D.Somasundaram, Minister for Revenue, Thiru. RM.Veerappan, Minister for Education, Thiru. K.Rajaram, Minister for Food and Co-operation and Thiru.K.Veeramani, General Secretary, Dravidar Kazhagam also spoke.

The Chief Minister distributed prizes to students who won oratorical contests on Periyar and also gave away financial aid to the weaker sections to the tune of Rs.15 lakhs on the occasion.

Thiru. K.J.M.Shetty, I.A.S., Principal Secretary, Information and Tourism Department welcomed the gathering and Thiru.K.Ganesan, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations, proposed a vote of thanks.



83rd Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Perarignar Anna

The 83rd Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Perarignar Anna was got up by the Information and Public Relations Department of Government of Tamil Nadu in a glittering manner at Kalaivanar Arangam on 15th September 1991.

Participating in the celebrations, The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi, J. Jayalalitha unveiled a portrait of Anna and said that his slogans, quotations and speeches were a perennial repository of quotable quotes and it was aptly said of him "Anna had the force of a tempest and the calm of the Sea".

The Chief Minister announced that the Government will release video and audio tapes depicting the life of Perarignar Anna and his speeches, besides taking steps to nationalise his works and said available video tapes and his paintings would be arranged and released in chronological sequence. She also said that efforts would be

taken to collect all speeches and writings of Anna from the Government, All-India Radio and even private sources and these would be compiled and brought out in audio and video tapes entitled 'Anna lives'. His articles, essays,

dramas, short stories and speeches would be published in book form and sold at nominal prices so that many people could buy and read them, and added 16 mm film tapes on the life and activities of Anna would also be collected and con-



verted into video form in the proposed compilation.

The Chief Minister gave away the annual Anna Awards of the Government to 15 Highways and 14 Public Works Department Engineers in recognition of their service. She also distributed prizes to six students who participated in the oratorical and essay competitions. She also honoured Tmt. Rani Annadurai, wife of the late Chief Minister, with a ponnadai.

She handed over cheques, im-
plements and aids to 355

beneficiaries under the various welfare schemes through the Madras Collectorate. Loans for purchase of auto rickshaws, tailoring machines, iron boxes, accident compensation and relief to destitutes worth Rs. 14/- lakhs were also given away.

Dr. V.R. Nedunchezian, the Minister for Finance presided over the function.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, the Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and Thiru S. Muthusamy,

the Minister for Health also spoke on the occasion.

The Principal Secretary, Information and Tourism, Thiru K. J. M. Shetty, I.A.S. welcomed the gathering.

Thiru K. Ganesan I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations proposed a vote of thanks.

The Exhibition wing of the Information Department had also organised a photographic display on the life of Anna at Kalaivanar Arangam, the venue of the function.





GANDHIJI AND DEMOCRACY

-Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

GANDHIJI'S conception of democracy has nothing to do with numbers or majority or representation in the ordinary sense. It is based on service and sacrifice, and it uses moral pressure. He claims to be "a born democrat". "I make that claim, if complete identification with the poorest of mankind, longing to live no better than they and a corresponding conscious effort to approach that level to the best of one's ability can entitle one to make it". This is his definition of a democrat. He says further:

Let us recognize the fact that the Congress enjoys the prestige of a democratic character and influence not by the number of delegates and visitors it has drawn to its annual function; but by an ever increasing amount of service it has rendered. Western democracy is on its trial, if it has not already proved a failure. May it be reserved to India to evolve the true science of democracy by giving a visible demonstration of its success.

Corruption and hypocrisy ought not to be the inevitable products of democracy, as they undoubtedly are today. Nor is

bulk a true test of democracy. True Democracy is not inconsistent with a few persons representing the spirit, the hope, and the aspirations of those whom they claim to represent. I hold that democracy cannot be imposed from without; it has to come from within.

This is certainly not western democracy, as he himself says; but, curiously enough, there is some similarity to the communist conception of democracy. A few communists will claim to represent the real needs and desires of the masses, even though the latter may themselves be unaware of them. The similarity, however, is slight and does not take us far; the differences in outlook and approach are far greater, notably in regard to methods and force.

Whether Gandhiji is a democrat or not, he does represent the peasant masses of India; he is the quintessence of the conscious and sub-conscious will of those millions. It is perhaps something more than representation; for he is the idealized personification of those vast millions. Of course, he is not the average peasant. A man of the keenest intellect, of

fine feeling and good taste, wide vision; very human, and yet essentially the ascetic who has suppressed his passions and emotions, sublimated them and directed them in spiritual channels; a tremendous personality, drawing people to himself like a magnet, and calling out fierce loyalties and attachments- all this so utterly unlike and beyond a peasant. And yet with all he is the greatest peasant, with a peasant's outlook on affairs, and with a peasant's blindness to some aspects of life. But India is peasant India, and so he knows his India well, reacts to her slightest tremors, gauges a situation accurately and almost instinctively, and has a knack of acting at the psychological moment.

What a problem and a puzzle he has been not only to the British Government but to his own people and his closest associates. Perhaps in every other country he would be out of place today, but India still seems to understand, or at least appreciate, the prophetic-religious type of man, talking of sin and salvation and non-violence. Indian mythology is full of stories of great ascetics who, by the rigour of their sacrifices and self-imposed penance, built up a "mountain of merit" which threatened the dominion of some of the lesser gods and upset the established order. These myths have come often to my mind when I have watched the amazing energy and inner power of Gandhiji, coming out of some inexhaustible spiritual reservoir. He was obviously not of the world's ordinary coinage; he was minted of a different and rare variety, and often the unknown stared at us through his eyes.

From 'Mahatma Gandhi'
by Jawaharlal Nehru.



HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER'S INTERVIEW TO 'THE HINDU'

Question: How do you assess the performance of your Government in its first three months? What do you think are the achievements and which are the grey areas calling for more attention?

Answer: I think we have done very well in the first three months. I became the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at such a difficult time in its history, faced with problems of such magnitude on all fronts - from finances to law and order. No Chief Minister before me has taken office in such a critical juncture. Going through the Budgets of the past, in most cases they have had a surplus. But we have inherited a massive deficit of Rs.898 crores. Because of the abolition of the sale of cheap liquor, we lost another Rs.322 crores for the current year, making total deficit of

Rs.1,220 crores. Only the Rs. 322 crores was because of my decision, the rest was not due to any fault of our's, but was inherited from the previous regime.

Law and order situation

We also inherited a law and order situation which for the first time, necessitates such an elaborate security for the Chief Minister. It did not exist before. People must understand the gravity and the enormity of the challenges we are facing today. The Chief Ministership now is a crown of thorns and a chair of nails. And all these are due to the acts of commission and omission of the previous Government. Given these circumstances, we have acted against such odds in our first three months, making our performance doubly significant.

In the three months, we have tried to tackle very serious problems head on and our achievements have been significant. For instance, take the problem of the LTTE... when I assumed office, I was shocked to discover the extent to which they had penetrated and the sinister portents of their activities have now spread to Karnataka and Kerala also. The State Government with its limited resources is trying its best to contain this menace.

The Government tackled the militants problem with a political will and the police force was motivated to be tough in the crackdown on the LTTE and allied organisations. It is a measure of the effectiveness of the police action that the LTTE cadre fled to neighbouring States. There was this news report in the press, which is confirmed by our intelligence agencies, that Prabakaran has asked his cadres in Tamil Nadu to return to Sri Lanka because it was getting too hot for them here. But we are not complacent because of this. We are not taken in by the ruse either. It may well be a trick to beguile us into a false sense of complacency.

Evil of illicit liquor

Then, there was the tough crackdown on the evil of illicit liquor. The very first order I signed was to abolish the sale of cheap liquor. We fulfilled one of our main election promises. I promised womenfolk that as soon as we came to power, we would abolish cheap liquor and I kept my word. There were numerous reports from all over the State about the rampant sale of illicit liquor. So, again, we had to take a tough decision and that is why I announced that Village Administrative Officers (VAOs) and Sub-Inspectors would be held responsible if a racket was unearthed in their jurisdiction. After this there has been a great change. Even members of the legislature have

spoken about the notable achievement.

Supply of drinking water has been a source of concern and a priority area for us. We have identified 2,483 habitations which remain 'uncovered' by any scheme and over 1,000 Harijan colonies without an assured supply. We have taken up a crash programme to provide drinking water to all these habitations before the end of this calendar year and allotted funds for this purpose.

Generally, people find this Government responsive. We have instilled that confidence in the people during these three months.

We have taken steps to protect the lives and property of fishermen along our coast. They now find it a little easier to fish because the militants menace has decreased significantly. Even the Prime Minister has, for the first time, expressed concern to the Sri Lankan Government about its Navy's indiscriminate firing on our fishermen.

Important scheme

Another important development and an important scheme we have launched is the Self-Sufficiency Scheme to give Rs.1 crore to each Panchayat Union for provision of basic amenities. We have taken a Cabinet decision and I have let all the departments know that during our first year in office, the main thrust will be on provision of basic amenities to the people. The Panchayat Unions will utilise the funds to provide drinking water, roads and street lights. Except the ongoing schemes, the numerous requests for colleges, schools and buildings can be taken care of next year.

One significant project in the offing is our proposal to let the private sector participate in power generation. We wanted to tap the enormous lignite deposits in Jayamkondam in Tiruchi District.

But it was too cost-prohibitive for the State Government to take it up itself. So I broached this idea and the Centre has agreed in principle. We are waiting for the final clearance of the Rs.5,000 crore project from the Centre as it involves mining in the private sector.

You asked about the grey areas. Price rise is one of them. We are doing our best, but we are able to fix the ceiling on prices only with regard to certain commodities. We realise there is need for legislation to contain prices. If, on the one hand, we want to ensure reasonable prices for the consumer, we have on the other, to provide for freedom of trade. Any action we take is construed as infringing upon their rights. Perhaps Parliament can consider such a piece of legislation. We will also consult legal experts on this issue.

Cheaper edible oil

In the absence of palmolein in the PDS, we are racking our brains to find a cheaper substitute for it. Bran oil is equally costly. I have asked the Agriculture department to prepare a massive oilseeds programme for the State to increase production and for an increase in the production of edible oils by the Government agencies to be supplied to the people. But this will take time.

How do you view the security environment and the law and order situation in Tamil Nadu? Are you working out any arrangement with the Centre for the deportation of the Sri Lankan Tamil militants?

The intelligence agencies tell me that the danger is still there. The difference is, they (militants) had a free hand before and considered themselves lords of all they surveyed. Today, there is fear in them because this Government means business. The Government will not tolerate anti-national activities any more.

With regard to deportation, I

have already taken up the matter with the Centre - with the Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the External Affairs Minister. I was hoping to get a decision during the visit of the Home Minister last week, but it was called off abruptly. I think there should be no problem and I do not know why a decision is being delayed. Our Chief Secretary has again written to the Union Home Secretary.

There is a feeling that your pronouncements on issues such as the Cauvery dispute, Katchatheevu and 50 per cent reservations for BCs are in the nature of a confrontation with the Centre. Would you comment?

My relationship with the Centre is the same as it was always. If I stand up for the rights of the people of my State, it does not mean that I am embarking on a course of confrontation with the Centre.

In fact, I must say you have put the question very mildly, because the upcountry papers have accused me of indulging in Tamil chauvinism. That is the comment, particularly with reference to the Katchatheevu matter. I will only say it is a comment made by armchair commentators from their airconditioned offices, who move only between their offices and residences, who have no knowledge about the true state of affairs in Tamil Nadu and no concept about the Rameswaram fishermen. Why don't they make a survey? When I say India must retrieve Katchatheevu, they distort my statement and say Jayalalitha demands Katchatheevu for Tamil Nadu. I never made such a statement. I only said it must be retrieved for India. When these commentators accuse me of being chauvinistic, they must realise that about 50 Tamil fishermen have been killed since the ethnic conflict erupted in Sri Lanka for no fault of theirs - killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. On any of these occasions, has any of these newspapers bothered to

voice its condemnation? Even the Government of India had not lodged any protest with Government of Sri Lanka since 1983. Was it because our Rameswaram fishermen are only Tamilians? Are they not Indian citizens also? Do they not merit recognition by the Government as citizens of India?

Harassment of fishermen

They point to the 1974 agreement as though I was not aware of it. Under the agreement, our fishermen should enjoy full rights to dry their nets, visit the church and attend the festival without visa. But all these exist only on paper. What is the reality? whenever our fishermen approach the waters around Katchatheevu - and they have to go there because there is only shallow water all round and this area is rich in prawns - they are threatened and shot at by the Sri Lankan Navy. Their boats are confiscated, they are beaten up, captured and taken away, tortured and sent back only when they choose. And these poor fishermen do not know any other trade. What do they do for a living? Though the agreement is there, it has not been in practice.

After eight years of suffering and torture, our fishermen are turning increasingly restive. It is the State Government which has to deal with their demands. To provide security for them involves a lot of arrangements for which we do not have that kind of resources. They have to be allowed to earn their livelihood - as many as 87,085 families are involved - which is why I took up this question with the Centre.

Cauvery water row

On the Cauvery waters we have every justification to feel aggrieved. After a long drawn battle, Tamil Nadu got an interim award from the Tribunal which was far short of our expectations. We accepted it with grace but both Karnataka and the Centre have tried

to deprive us of the benefit of the award. What is the purpose of constituting a tribunal - it was done by the Government of India under its own Act of 1956. If the award of this Tribunal is not honoured, there will be no place at all for any tribunal in future in the Indian scheme of things. I am only fighting for the legitimate rights of Tamil Nadu because it is a question of life and death. Karnataka has other rivers such as the Krishna or Tungabhadra, Cauvery is our only lifeline.

On the reservation issue, it was not out of any desire for confrontation with the Centre, but for social justice. If that is construed as confrontation so be it. After all, we are not preaching what we are not practising. When we have implemented 50 per cent reservation for the backward classes why not other States and the Government of India accept it. The list of BCs and most backward classes may be different from State to State and for India as a whole. But no one can deny that social justice is essential for the BCs. We will continue to press for 50 per cent reservation in the Central services, both in jobs and in educational institutions.

What is your perception of the AIADMK-Congress(I) alliance now, as compared with the Rajiv Gandhi days? How do you view the Centre-State relations?

There has been some change after Rajiv Gandhi's death.

because of a lack of a towering personality in the Congress(I) at the top. There was some strain and pressure on the alliance, but it has settled down and has been patched up. The alliance is there and will continue.

The general expectation in Tamil Nadu was that with a Congress(I) Government at the Centre, the State could look forward to a very friendly Government. But the Centre has let down Tamil Nadu very badly in the matter of Cauvery waters dispute. This is not just my personal view but the general impression shared by the people. It was mostly this issue that put enormous strain on the alliance. We are not for any confrontation, because it will not be beneficial to the State in any way, but at the same time, I am a person who likes to call a spade, a spade. So, no matter what may have been done to patch up the cracks in the relationship between the two parties, an underlying sense of bitterness exists at having been discriminated against so blatantly, on Tamil Nadu being treated in such a stepmotherly fashion by the Centre.

Besides feeling let down on the Cauvery waters dispute, the Centre's handling of the LTTE problem is also causing us concern. It is not a party problem relevant only to Tamil Nadu. They are expecting us to handle it all by ourselves. I should not be misunderstood if I voice the feeling of the people



that the Centre has not really appreciated the magnitude of the problem faced by the Tamil Nadu Government and is treating the whole matter rather casually. The State has already incurred large expenditure in providing adequate policing all along the extensive coastline and to maintain the militant and the refugee camps. We must continue to put pressure on the LTTE cadre hiding in Tamil Nadu. We have sought financial assistance from the Government of India for meeting the immediate requirements of modernising the Tamil Nadu Police and for special assistance, treating us as a border State. On top of all this, Tamil Nadu is going through an extremely difficult financial situation. The continued silence of the Government of India on such genuine requests for help has caused me a great deal of anguish. Our request is only that the Government of India recognise the problem of Sri Lankan Tamil militants as a national problem and not just of Tamil Nadu alone.

Your Government has been accused of vindictive action against the miniscule Opposition in the Assembly and launching of criminal prosecution against Opposition politicians and bureaucrats close to the DMK regime. How do you react?

This Government has never attempted to stifle the Opposition. How can I be responsible for the incidents in the Assembly? It was a clash between the DMK and the Congress(I). There is a tendency to blame the Chief Minister for all that happens in the State. I have given clear instructions to our party MLAs not to get provoked under any circumstances. When the DMK could not fault us on any issue, they turned to the Congress(I) and got into an argument. The DMK tried to paint a different colour to the incident and bring in caste and communal overtones. But the Speaker had suspended

I Wrapper: Mahatma Gandhi
II Wrapper: Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna - Birth Anniversary Celebrations.
IV Wrapper: The Chief Minister's Police Award Function.

the MLA for obstructing the proceedings.

As for the case against the former Home Secretary it has nothing to do with the Government. Following an attack on the office of a weekly, its proprietor and editor lodged a complaint with the police specifically blaming the official for involvement in the offence. Subsequent investigation led to his arrest. We have nothing to do with it.

On the other hand, some of the Opposition MLAs have acknowledged that there has been no political discrimination or vendetta on the part of this Government. When a CPI(M) member brought to our attention the fact of a eleven-year-old hospital building lying in disuse and (in a state of) disrepair in his constituency, immediate action was taken. Orders were passed in three days and within a week the hospital became functional with doctors, staff and medicines.

What do you intend doing to sustain the initial enthusiasm among industrialists to start new ventures in Tamil Nadu?

Only because of the Assembly session I have not been in touch with industrialists. We have set the goal of making Tamil Nadu the number one industrialised State in the Country and we will sustain the interest of the entrepreneurs in achieving this. There will be no slackening of the pace.

Are you satisfied with the performance of your Ministers? Do you plan to revamp the party structure?

I am quite satisfied with the performance of my Ministers. The seniors are all experienced. The new entrants are very enthusiastic and hard working. They have given a good account of themselves and will improve as time goes on.

I have not had time to think of revamping the party. I see no problem in the Ministers continuing as party functionaries. But organisational elections have been long overdue. They were last held only in 1980. After the Budget session, we will think about it.

*Courtesy - The Hindu
 23rd September, 1991*

THE IDEAL SOCIETY OF GANDHI

Perarignar Anna



There are people who say that he is our freedom fighter and a dauntless hero who shattered our shackles.

There are people who say that he is a socialist and a champion of the poor who paved the way for the downtrodden to lead a new life.

There are people who say that he is the man who tried to establish 'Gramaraj'.

Thus, there are different kinds of people who praise him with awe and wonder, each according to his own vision and insight. It is a question worthy of investigation for all time to find out in whose vision we find the totality of Gandhi's personality. The reason is that he should not be considered an individual man. He is a symbol of the times and uprising; he is an embodiment of the Renaissance.

If we view him as a politician, we will be content to admire his 'Satyagraha' (war of righteousness) with wonder. He has won tremendous success not only in the political field but also in other fields. He has stamped his mark in all fields. His life and service are modelled in such a way that people in different fields view with one another in claiming Gandhi as one of their own because he lived and served them. This is the reason why his birthday is celebrated by the people of different walks of life. He represents an era in the history of our country. He has given splendour and strength and brought about a turning point in all fields.

The progress of a country depends on its progress in all fields, and not in one particular field only. Only from the totality of the progress made, can we judge a country's improvement! We cannot come across such a period of progress often in the history of a country, not even once in a century. Therefore, this day is of special significance not only because it is the birthday of a great leader but also because it symbolises a golden period in the history of our country.

The excellence and splendour of to-day's function should be reflected in our thought and deed for ever. Our celebrations should not end with merely singing eulogies. On the contrary, we should follow in his foot-steps, strive for the ideals he cherished, to preserve and safeguard his heritage and to rekindle the inspirations he gave us.



TO-DAY is the birthday of Gandhi, the virtuous man of world renown. This day is celebrated all over the country as a day of rejoicing. People pay their loving tributes to Gandhi according to their heart's desire. They celebrate this day by garlanding his sacred portrait, singing songs in his praise, performing 'bajan' in his honour, spinning yarn and clearing slums.

There are people who say that he is a man of pure heart and a saint who has come into this world to remove the blemish of our religion.

The beauty of a garland lies in its fragrance. The utility of a lamp lies in its light. Likewise the value of celebrations lies in the excellence of our action.

Let us not be content with defying him as an AVATHAR worth of worship not with singing his fame and remarkable achievements. I would appeal to you to remember and strive for the society he dreamt of, the ideals he propounded and the moral integrity he exemplified.

He did not perform any miracle. But he made heroes of cowards, inspired them to blow the trumpet of freedom and instilled fearlessness in them even in the face of over-whelming obstacles and difficulties.

The poet Bharathi sang in a tone of melancholy thus, "People die of incessant fear and cowardice. There is nothing that they are not afraid of in the world". Gandhi wiped off that fear from our hearts. He raised an army of unarmed men who dared to defy death, facing even the challenge of a fully equipped army. He inspired the little sparrows with the courage to oppose even the mighty vultures. He

drove away diffidence from our hearts. He gave us the patriotic feeling that our country in a lienably belongs to us.

He achieved all these not by war but by non-violence, not by killing our enemies but by following the path of virtue, not by preaching hatred but by showing loves.

The exponents of KATHAKALASHEBAM have not seen by themselves the miracles said to have been performed by the great saints of the past. But we have the good fortune to see with our eyes the MIRACLES wrought by Gandhi. This SEMI- NAK-ED MAN gave a life of glory and honour to millions of our country men. What can be a greater miracle than this!

Even those who mocked at his leadership in the beginning accepted and admired him as the undisputed leader of India after he had performed this 'miracle'. To-day critics say that the path of virtue he showed will apply not only to India but also to all countries in the world which are trying to liberate themselves from the clutches of slavery.



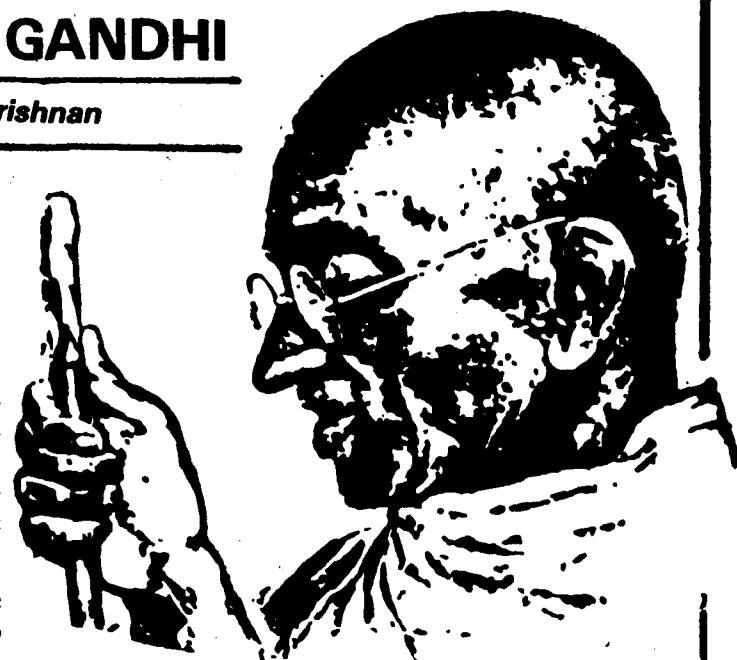
MAHATMA GANDHI

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

MAHATMA GANDHI was a visva-manuse, a world citizen. His life was a battle for the new world. For him the world was the unit, not the nation-state. Unless individual nations are prepared to think in terms of human welfare to present scientific developments would mean danger and a waste of human effort. If we wish to prevent a world war we need world co-operation. We must get ready to live in the new world that faces us. Physical unification has been effected. Intellectual concord is growing. All men can be fed, housed and clothed by economic co-operation. Spiritual accord should be realized.

Gandhiji secured for us freedom so that we may be able to build a non-violent social order which may be of help to the world. He worked for a warless world. The resolution about disarmament passed unanimously by the U.N. the other day showed how he led our country in the right direction.

Wars are caused by the passions in our heart, by the blind, black, uncontrollable greed in us. Each one of us has to fight the battle within himself, Kurukshetra is within us. Each one of us has to decide between love which saves the world and hate which destroys it. We have to purify ourselves by our effort and save others by our action. Gan-



dhiji acquired the chastity of those consecrated to truth whose power is matchless by the practice of fasts, prayers and vows. Gandhiji occupies an important place in the spiritual evolution of mankind. He speaks to us of the promised land, the goal of our endeavours. Though some of us may not enter it we have to strive for it and salute it from a far. Whenever we think of Gandhiji, let us remember that the power of the human spirit is mightier than the mightiest bomb.

- From occasional speeches and writings.

In the 16th century the outside world knew of India only as a country that abounded in cloves and spices, gold and gems and as a country full of simpletons who knew not how to utilize them.

Although freedom-fight was begun like the morning star in the days of Tilak, it was only after Gandhi entered the Congress that the world realised that the whole of India was throbbing with a spirit of awakening and alertness. The world used to view India only through the bright rays of Gandhi's fame.

It was Gandhi who created an agitational attitude which was selfless and did not care for results. Prior to that, the country was dominated by learned people who begged for freedom by humble petitions.

His appearance, physique, talk, habits and manners were not such as to induce war mentality. But he was able to generate in the minds of millions of our countrymen the spirit of heroism which enabled them to defy even the mighty armies.

In all his public services we cannot come across a strong invective or an unjust act of any self-seeking plan. The influence of his selfless services brought name and fame not only to India but also to the whole of Asia and it spread in such a way as to instil terror even in the minds of the European imperialists who were highly proud and arrogant of colour bar. Heads of foreign Governments flocked to him to listen to his words with rapt attention. Even kings considered it an honour to stay in his humble cottage.

He never felt or said that 'Swaraj' was the end of our struggle. Nor did he fail to tell us how the country and the people should attain a healthy status.

He firmly believed that Swaraj was only a means to an ideal. He stressed that in the history of a country, Swaraj is, no doubt, a golden leaf but not the final one. He preached that slavery should be abolished at all costs because it is an impediment to the progress of the country.

The chains of slavery have been shattered. But let us ask ourselves whether we have succeeded in creating the India of his dreams. Let us have the moral courage to give a negative answer. Let this day instil in our minds the firm determination to create the India that he dreamt of.

He drove away from our minds the fear of the British Government. But have we become fearless in other fields? Certainly not. So long as society consist of the privileged and the underprivileged, the haves and the have nots, the mighty and the weak, how can fear be cast away?

Fear threatens us. Scarcity menaces us. Hatred drives us. Fear should be cast away and virtue

should blossom. When we are celebrating the birthday of this great sage, let us dedicate ourselves to this ideal.

We see abundant wealth and abject poverty, magnificent cities and poverty-stricken slums, big factories and bands of unemployed men, religious institutions and profiteers, swindlers, hoarders and black-marketeers side by side. He toiled throughout life not to see such a pathetic sight but to create a clean and ideal country free from these evils.

It is not a country where we see murder and theft, gambling and drinking. It is worse than a forest which is even free from these evils.

Gandhi desired to establish a glorious and unblemished country free from gambling, exploitation and class hatred. But what is it that we see in India, when we are celebrating his birthday? Communal clashes, the cruelty of untouchability, the exploitation of the weak by the mighty, rebellion-torn cities, woe-stricken villages, political chicanery and social conspiracies—all these are rampant with none to curb them. The quarrel of linguistic imperialism has not come to an end where democracy is practised.

We are celebrating Gandhi's birthday when we are not in a position to enforce prohibition successfully. Such a deplorable state will not change so long as we reverse Gandhi as a saint and miracle-monger.

We should realise that Gandhi is not dead but he has become one with us. His thoughts and ideals have not perished. We should have the strong determination to accept them as our ideals. This should be the underlying significance of celebrating the birthday of Gandhi who is no more with us. This is not only a day for proclaiming his immortal fame but also a day for us to resolve to put into practice his excellent ideals since we have accepted them in toto.

In his days the alien Government was frightened to hear his voice of protest and quit India. But many things, such as falsehood, unscrupulousness, illiteracy, inadequacy, casteism and class hatred that should be driven out, are still there. Purity, truthfulness, fearlessness and spirit of service are necessary to drive them away. We are celebrating the birthday of Gandhi only in order to possess these qualities. I should like to remind you of what Jawaharlal Nehru said about the ideal India of Gandhi: "Even the poorest should consider this land as a land of theirs. They should realise that they have power and importance in its set-up. There should not be caste superiority among people. All communities should live in amity and peace. I shall strive to usher in an India of that type."

Radio talk by Anna on 2,10.1967



Awards to Police Personnel

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha presented the Chief Minister's Police Medals and cash awards to personnel of the State Police, Prison, Fire Service and Home Guards at a function organised by Director General of Police at Nehru Stadium on 15th September, 1991.

While addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said that she

was aware of the hurdles in the way of policemen in discharging their duties and responsibilities. As she was also holding the Home portfolio, she said it was her duty to improve the quality of life of police personnel and several schemes for their welfare were under preparation and would be implemented soon.

The Chief Minister referred to

the demands of the policemen for increased risk allowance, conveyance allowance, uniform allowance, kit maintenance allowance, group insurance scheme and a special family benefit pension and housing facilities and said that she wished to make announcements at the function itself, but she could not do so as the Assembly was in session.

She sought the dedicated cooperation of each and every one in rooting out the evil of liquor in the State and said people had reposed their confidence in police as it alone could protect them. Hence, Policemen should make ef-

forts to ensure that the confidence was justified, she added.

Following an impressive parade led by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Armed Reserve Thiru B.B. Singh, the Chief Minister presented gallantry awards to eight police and prison officials, while 71 police, prison, fire and home guards personnel were awarded for outstanding devotion to duty. The awards carry a citation besides cash awards ranging between Rs.2,000/- and Rs.3,000/-. Then a police band enthralled the audience.

The Chief Minister dedicated a Morita turn-table ladder costing

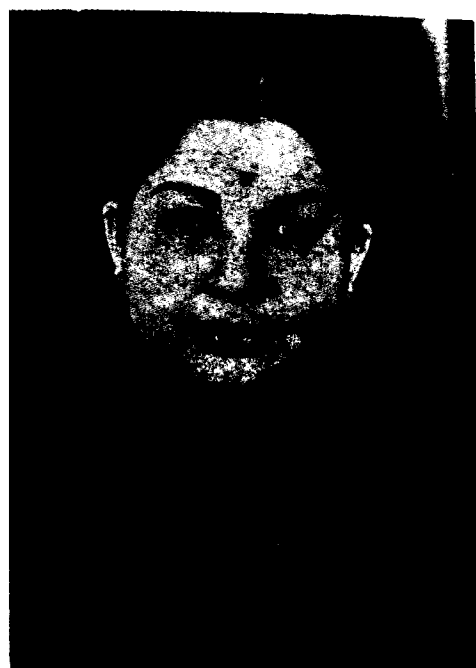
Rs.2.84 crore to the State for use by the fire service.

The Home Secretary, Thiru K. Malaisamy, I.A.S., also spoke on the occasion.

Thiru S.Sripal, Director General of Police, welcomed the gathering.

On arrival, the Chief Minister was received by the Director-General of Police, the Inspector-General of Police, Law and Order, Thiru W.I. Davaram, the Inspector-General of Prison, Thiru V.Vaikunth, the Director of Fire Service, Thiru G.Veeraraghavan and the Madras Police Commissioner, Thiru R. Rajagopalan.





ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE IN THE ASSEMBLY BY THE HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER AND OTHER MINISTERS

EDUCATION

* The Government would provide compulsory education till the fifth standard to all children in five years time in a phased manner.

* A State Advisory Committee on Education and a State Council for Higher Education would be constituted soon. The advisory panel would consist of experts, educationists and Vice-Chancellors as members. The Council being set up on UGC's recommendation would function as a link between the Commission and the Universities. The Council which would have educationists and Vice-Chancellors as members will look after clearance and monitoring of UGC grants and projects. It would give a momentum to higher education in the State.

* Tamil would be made compulsory in schools in the State. Every student studying in all the schools of the State would have to learn Tamil atleast as a language. (Compulsory teaching of Tamil in all schools would begin for the new students hereafter.)

* The Government would launch a special integrated Non-Formal Education Programme through which 15 lakh unemployed educated Youth would teach 15 lakh drop-outs bringing them back to the education system. Books and other articles would be supplied free to them.

* The Centre had allotted Rs.72.2 lakh for an Educational television studio in the DPI complex. This will prepare educational cassettes for television and radio.

* The total Literacy Campaign would be extended to seven more Districts. By 1995, it was proposed to make 70 lakh people literate.

FOOD AND CO-OPERATION

* Efforts would be made to enroll women members in the Societies which comes under the Co-operative department to the extent of 30 percent.

* The Government has announced a wage hike for the seasonal employees working in the monopoly paddy procurement centres. The maximum wage will now be Rs.210 and the minimum Rs.120.

INDUSTRY

* 15,400 registered small units would be set up this year providing employment for 1.66 lakh persons. Efforts would be made to launch 1,00,000 small and tiny industries in five years.

* The Government plans to start a Rs.400 crore tyre manufacturing unit in joint sector in Kanyakumari District to exploit natural rubber available there.

* ELCOT is establishing a Rs.40.65 crore electronics City at Sholinganallur, near Madras. It has planned to set up a Rs.8.15 crore tool room unit, a Rs.44.95 crore copper foil project and Rs. 6 crore fax machine unit in Madras.

* TIDCO would promote nine projects on an outlay of Rs.600 crore in the joint sector which would be commissioned by 1994-95. They include a Rs.300 crore nitro phosphates complex at

Chidambaram District, a Rs.10 crore fruit processing complex in Dharmapuri District, a Rs.40 crore heat transfer fluid project in South Arcot District, a Rs.100 crore acrylic complex in Thanjavur, Rs.75 crore aluminium rolled products and Rs.20 crore coconut based products in Kanyakumari District, Rs.30 crore diketene derivatives, Rs.20 crore extra neutral alcohol in South Arcot District and a Rs.5 crore fly ash bricks project in Chengalpattu-MGR District.

* A compact export promotion cell would be set up in the Directorate of Industries and Commerce to provide advice and guidance to prospective exporters.

* An NRI cell would be set up in SIPCOT to advise NRI entrepreneurs and to help in selection of projects.

* An Industrial Estate would also be set up at Kakalur in Chengalpattu-MGR District for making ready made garments and handloom fabrics.

* It has been proposed in the first phase for the lignite based power project of 500 MW in the joint sector with an outlay of Rs.1,500 crore in five years time.

* TAMIL will begin work on Rs.15 crore Graphite beneficiation project at Sivaganga in Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar District.

* The Government has instituted an award for entrepreneurs who achieve excellence in quality production.

TRANSPORT

* The Government has proposed to start a new bus Corporation, named after MGR. The Corporation would be called 'Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Transport Corporation'. It will have its headquarters in Kancheepuram.

* The Transport Corporation would establish motels at Sriperumbudur, Ulundurpet and Thozhudur for tourists and passengers.

HEALTH

* Tamil Nadu Government has declared 1991-92 as the 'Year of Safe Motherhood'. The Government will concentrate on reduction in maternal mortality and infant mortality, safe delivery and birth spacing, enforcing proper age for marriage and educating women in these aspects.

* 76 Primary Health Centres would be established.

* From the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund Rs.1 crore has been sanctioned to purchase a whole

body scan for the Government General Hospital's Neurology Department in Madras.

* Government will launch a major drive on AIDS awareness. A separate cell has been started in Madras Medical College, Madras, for research in the prevention of AIDS in Tamil Nadu.

* Primary Health Centres would be upgraded in 15 Taluks. 14 Taluk hospitals would be taken up for increase in bed strength to 32.

* 22.25 acres of vacant land of T.B. Sanatorium have been given to Dr.MGR Medical University for locating the Administrative buildings of the University.

LABOUR

* The Government would amend the Industrial Establishments Act to grant compulsory holidays to workers on polling dates and other important occasions.

* A special cell for women would be set up in the office of the Labour Commissioner to look after the problems of women and child labour. Besides promoting education, training, welfare and advancement of social and economic status of women, it would collect, analyse and disseminate information on various aspects of women labour in various economic sections.

* A survey would be undertaken to identify women workers employed in beedi rolling at home so that they could avail benefits under labour laws.

* Thousand houses, each costing Rs.15,000 would be constructed for beedi workers at Mukkudal and Melapalayam in Tirunelveli Kattabomman District.

* It has been proposed to introduce a two wheeler taxi service, a scheme designed to generate self-employment opportunities to the educated unemployed youths. Licence would be given to some mopeds which will have a distinct colour to carry passengers on the pillion. The charge would be fixed by the Government depending on the distance. This would help the people to commute within the city at fares lesser than those charged in auto-rickshaws. This service will be first started in the city and if found successful, it would be extended to other cities.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

* A Rs.400 crore World Bank aided drinking water programme has been drawn up by the Government. This would provide drinking water facilities

to 10,000 habitations in five years time. 500 habitations would be covered in the current year.

- * For the plan to provide 10 lakh Houses in five years the Government agencies would construct 1.22 lakh houses this year.

- * With an outlay of Rs.108.31 crore for the current year, the Housing Board, has proposed to construct 2,655 LIG houses, 2,535 MIG units 1,475 HIG houses, 174 MIG flats and 361 rental flats for the Government employees.

ADIDRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

- * 10,000 Wells would be sunk which would be totally subsidised, for the benefit of farmers. Power connections would be given to 9,000 wells on priority basis in this year itself.

- * The amount given to perform the last rites of persons belonging to Adi Dravidar Community on their death would be increased from Rs.100 to Rs.200.

- * 40 hostels would be constructed at a cost of Rs.32.42 lakh. In the hostels for SCs and STs, an additional 1000 students would be admitted.

- * It has been proposed to provide house-sites to 75,000 Adi Dravidar families at a cost of Rs.4 crore. 50,000 houses for SC and ST would be constructed this year for which Rs.11.50 crore has been allotted in the budget.

- * Special Tahsildars would be appointed for the purpose of acquisition of lands and distribution of pattas for construction of houses for Adi Dravidars.

HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES

- * 2,000 houses at a cost of Rs.5 crore would be constructed during the year for the weavers. Medical check-up centres would be established at Erode, Arni and Kancheepuram.

- * The Government has taken up a Rs.348 crore project to convert 37,500 old-type handlooms into 70,000 powerlooms. A sum of Rs.30 lakh has been allotted during the current year for taking up initial work of the project. The project will be executed over a period of 10 years, co-financed by NABARD.

- * The Government has proposed to modernise 50,000 handlooms at a cost of Rs.42.30 crore as a five year project.

- * A Rs.6 crore multi-storey building would be constructed at Kancheepuram for selling silk clothes and a similar sales complex would be built in Erode at a cost of Rs.3 crore. Co-optex centres

would be set up in six places at a total cost of Rs.5 crore.

- * For modernising co-operative spinning mills, a programme has been prepared with an outlay of Rs.26.28 crore for which IDBI assistance is sought. Rs.7 crore has been set apart for rehabilitation and modernisation of co-operative spinning mills.

- * A scheme to provide a pension of Rs.250 per month for ten years to the family, in the event of death of a weaver who is a member of any co-operative society, would be introduced.

REVENUE

- * 50 lakh house-site pattas would be distributed to persons belonging to weaker sections of society, in five years time.

- * The Government has sanctioned Rs.240 crore for drought relief works.

- * The Government is planning to recruit 5000 document writers. Preference will be given to the physically handicapped.

- * To encourage the growing of trees it had been decided to permit planting of trees on poromboke land. Whoever plant and nurse the trees could enjoy the benefit from such trees.

- * A Rs.13 crore programme has been sanctioned for modernisation of the Government Central Press in Madras.

SOCIAL WELFARE

- * A Rs.307 crore scheme to improve facilities at the nutritious noon meal centres in 9 Districts in the State would be set in motion before February 24, 1992. Industrialists and philanthropists have come forward to fund this scheme.

- * A sum of Rs.1 crore has already been released for the maintenance work of noon meal centres and Rs.1 crore for the purchase of new vessels.

- * A new programme for entrepreneurship development among women would be launched in the current year to the benefit of 800 persons.

- * Rs.5 crore has been earmarked for the marriage assistance scheme to poorer sections in the current year. Rs.4 crore has been allotted to the assistance scheme for pregnant women. Rs.30 lakh would be allotted for the inter-caste marriage aid scheme.

- * The age limit of the hearing impaired and orthopaedically handicapped who are travelling free in buses have been extended from 15 to 20.

POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES

- * The State Government has drawn up a Rs.80.45 crore modernisation programme for the Tamil Nadu Police and sought full grant from the Central Government.

- * Formation of bomb disposal squads and sniffer dog squads, training at the National Security Guard Training Centre, mine sweeping at the MEG, Bangalore and Commando Training at the National Security Guard with a VIP security course would be the highlights of the training programmes for the police force.

- * Government would revive the Police Housing Corporation.

- * It has been proposed to open a new police station at Puthiamputhur near Ottapidaram in Chidambaranar District at a cost of Rs.6.14 lakh and a control room at Kumbakonam at a cost of Rs.20.82 lakh.

- * Six new fire stations would be opened. The Kamarajar division of the fire service would be bifurcated with the headquarters in Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar.

- * Under the Japanese aid scheme, last year Tamil Nadu have acquired a Rs.332 crore turn table ladder mounted on a vehicle which would reach 46 metres, two air-conditioned ambulances, nine portable pumps and six fire suits.

- * The families of the policemen killed while discharging their duties would be granted Rs.1 lakh each from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. They will be entitled to get the last drawn pay as pension till the scheduled retirement of the concerned policemen and the usual family pension later.

- * It has been decided by the Government to set up a police station on experimental basis in the city, fully manned by women.

- * Food allowances, Uniform allowances and kit maintenance allowances given to police personnel have been increased considerably.

- * The yearly contribution to the policemen's welfare fund by the Government would be doubled to Rs.10 lakh.

- * The Government would increase its contribution to the fire service personnel welfare fund from Rs.60,000 to 1.5 lakh.

- * The proposed Police Housing Corporation will construct 1000 tenements during the current year.

AGRICULTURE

- * The Government has instituted prizes worth Rs.10 lakh for farmers recording the highest yield, with the first prize of Rs.50,000 for paddy. The awarding of prizes would be started this year. Ten seats will be reserved in the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University for children of the farmers winning these awards to study undergraduate courses if they fulfil all the eligible criteria.

- * Rupees one lakh will be given as prize to the scientists and their group who produce good varieties of seeds which proves to be popular among farmers and which last for a long time.

- * The Government has decided to restore G.D.Naidu Agriculture University to its old name as Tamil Nadu Agriculture University.

- * The scheme to bring 25,000 acres of dry land under cultivation would be implemented this year at a cost of Rs.15 crore in Dharmapuri, Madurai, Anna, Ramanathapuram, Kamarajar, Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar, Tirunelveli-Kattabomman and Chidambaranar Districts.

- * Rural roads would be laid to help farmers transport their produce to markets.

- * 400 Village extension centres would be built shortly. 9,000 women will benefit every year learning various aspects of farming in these centres. The cost of this scheme would be Rs.17.98 crore.

LAW

- * Three District courts would start functioning at Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga and Srivilliputhur.

- * A Rs.57 lakh project would shortly be sanctioned under the central scheme for the modernisation of prison administration.

FOREST AND FISHERIES

- * The Government has proposed to spend Rs.60 crore for the forest improvement works during the current year.

- * A Rs.84.73 crore project has been prepared by the Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation to cultivate high yielding eucalyptus trees in 30,000 hectares in six years time.

- * There is a proposal to raise 70 million fish seedlings by co-operative societies which would be implemented with external aid.

- * A proposal for establishing a prawn farmers co-operative marketing society in Chengalpattu-MGR District is under consideration. An aquaculture industrial estate at a cost of Rs.4 crore will be developed.

- * An oceanarium at a cost of Rs.3 crore would be established on the Marina in Madras.
- * Forest Department will start using Micro-lite aircraft to check illegal felling of trees during night time.
- * A sum of Rs.50 lakh has been set apart to provide sophisticated weapons, vehicles and communication equipments for forest officials to control smuggling of sandalwood.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

- * All the sanitary workers of Corporation, Municipalities and Town Panchayats in Tamil Nadu will be issued with rain coats. 50% cost will be met by the local bodies and remaining by the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

- * Vacuum cleaners would be tried as an experimental measure for clearing carbage.

- * All the cattle in the city will be shifted out over the next five years. As the presence of cattle in the city create problems of health and hygiene and affect the traffic flow, the Government has decided to move out the cattle in a phased manner out of Madras.

- * Tiruchi and Salem Municipalities will be upgraded as Municipal Corporations.

- * The Government has allocated Rs.3 crore for changing fused bulbs and better street lighting in rural areas.

TAX RELIEF

- * Products made of sea shells are exempted from sales tax.
- * Tax on imported raw silk has been reduced to two percent from six percent.
- * Sales tax is totally exempted for rabbit, monkey and pig feeds.

- * Tax has been reduced to four percent from 10 per cent for baby milk foods.

- * The Government is considering the setting up of a high level committee on sales tax, to suggest ways to simplify and to provide an efficient tax system.

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

- * During the current session of the Assembly new bills will be introduced for appointment of non-hereditary trustees to temples and for better administration.

- * Temple lands will no longer be given for long term lease. The maximum period of lease would be five years.

- * To preserve and promote the vedas, agamas and sastras a 'Tamil Nadu Institute of Vedic Science' will be set up. One of the works of this institute would be to translate the Sanskrit works into Tamil.

- * Some of the temples from Madras and Salem regions would be brought under a new unit in Vellore. Madurai region would be bifurcated to create another establishment at Sivaganga.

- * The insurance scheme is being modified so that the solatium to the families of temple staff who dies in harness is doubled to Rs.20,000.

- * The Government has sanctioned Rs.10 lakh to carryout repairs and renovation of the Mahalingaswamy temple and the Mahamaham tank.

- * The pension for the 'Oduvars' with 10 years service and who have crossed 60 years would be increased to Rs.300 from Rs.250.

PUBLIC WORKS

- * A Rs.150 crore special programme for relaying 8,000 km of roads in the State would be launched soon. This would be carried out in 5 years time.

- * A Rs.45.28 crore project would be taken up this year to improve 800 km of rural market roads.

- * Work on the East Coast Road from Madras to Cuddalore at a total cost of Rs.53 crore has commenced. The State has urged the Centre to upgrade the road from Madras to Kanyakumari as national highway.

LEGISLATURE

- * Members of the Assembly will get Rs.250 a month as constituency allowance.

- * The rail allowance for the Members is being hiked from 4 paise to 10 paise per Kilometre, and the bus fare allowance from 12 paise to 25 paise per kilometre. For travel on non-bus routes they will get 50 paise a kilometre against 25 paise at present.

- * Members would be entitled to bring with them their spouses for coming to Madras for Assembly session. The Government would meet their to and fro rail fare.

- * Allowances of the Assembly staff have been hiked.

LIFE SAVING SERVICES OF THE SURGICAL GASTROENTEROLOGY AND PROCTOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- Prof. Dr. N. Rangabashyam

The Surgical Gastroenterology Department was started in the year 1975 at Government General Hospital, Madras and is doing yeomen service to the needy for the past one and a half decades.

Some of the speciality services that are rendered and available here are unique of their kind in the whole of India.

A. Specialised surgical procedures are:

- a. Oesophageal Surgery
- b. Gastric Surgery
- c. Colorectal Surgery
- d. Hepatic and Pancreatico-Biliary Surgery
- e. Proctology Services

B. STAPLER SURGERY

C. LASER SURGERY

D. ENDOSCOPIC SERVICES

E. EMERGENCY SERVICES

a. OESOPHAGEAL SURGERY

Among the various diseases that affect the gullet, strictures and cancer require major surgical correction. Such diseases are treated with the help of sophisticated equipments and specialized techniques. The other speciality services are also utilised for this. At present, the cancer is cleared surgically without opening into thorax, a procedure available only in selected centres throughout the world. In advanced cancers, patients are treated without surgery, using laser which enables the patient to eat well.

b. COLORECTAL SURGERY:

Among the diseases involving the large intestine cancer stands at the foremost again. Treatment on par with that available in developed countries is available in this department.

Early lesion are removed with endoscope itself without surgery. Some of the lower rectal cancers needing permanent placement of Ostomy on the abdominal wall are managed effectively by ostomy therapist and are eminently accepted by most of the patients.

More and more steps are taken now a days to preserve the normal passage (anus) and staplers are used to construct otherwise difficult anastomosis. This is the trend world over.

Patients with diseases where the entire large intestine has to be removed were left with ileostomy. This has been an event of the past. Now a days pouches are constructed what will act like large intestine and allow patients to pass motion via naturalis. Such construction of neo anus is a pride of the department and the department has remained for long, as the only institution, to offer such treatment in India.

c. HEPATIC SURGERY:

Major surgical procedures like removal of part or one lobe of liver

Prof. Dr. N. Rangabashyam, Ph.D., FRCS. Ed., is a renowned surgeon and a peerless professor and has an academic and professional career of national and international repute. He has to his credit several awards from the National and International Arena. He is the Honorary Doctor to the President of India. He is the Chief of the Gastroenterology and Proctology Department of the Government General Hospital, Madras, and he gives details of the special treatment of diseases in his unit.

(hepatectomy) is being routinely carried out in this department. Laser is effectively used for this. In the management of Hydatid disease of liver cryocone helps to prevent the spread of the disease and such facility is available, for over a decade in this department.

d. PANCREATO-BILIARY SURGERY:

On par with the rest of the fields, diseases of biliary system and pancreas are managed effectively here. The mortality of a major pancreatic surgery, for eg. Pancreatico duodenectomy compares well with that of the best centres elsewhere in the world. At present, the department is aiming to introduce laparoscopic cholecystectomy, a technique by which the diseased gall bladder can be removed through laparoscope.

e. PROCTOLOGY SERVICES:

The Proctology clinic caters to the most common anorectal problems like piles, fissure, polyps etc. Simpler office procedures like injection therapy, Banding, laser therapy of piles and other office surgical procedures are undertaken in this clinic. Patients with bleeding per rectum, pain in the anal region etc, due to these diseases are treated and send home the same day.

B. STAPLER SURGERY:

This is a relatively new field in surgery. With the help of staplers even difficult anastomosis of various parts of bowel can be easily performed. With the availability of disposable staplers, the surgical time is also considerably reduced. Again the Department takes the pride, in being the first to offer such facility in our country.

Staplers are used in the management of oesophageal, gastric, intestinal and colorectal surgery.

C. LASER SURGERY:

With the availability of Nd Yag Laser in the Department the treatment of several diseases have been simplified. With the laser instrument, it is possible to treat even advanced oesophageal cancers and cancers of the rectum and anal canal. Gastro intestinal bleeding and other lesions are also treated with laser. It is also used in liver surgeries. The advantages of laser are precision surgery and relatively bloodless field.

D. ENDOSCOPIC SERVICES:

This department is the pioneer in endoscopy work in South India. In addition to diagnostic work, many diseases like jaundice, blood vomiting etc., are successfully treated using endoscope in this department.

All sophisticated endoscopes like Gastroduodenoscopes, Colonoscopes and sigmoidoscopes

are available and are routinely put to use. The latest addition is the video-endoscopy which enables many people to view the procedure and has also got the facility to store the images for future reference. This instrument is a boon to students. In addition, the undergraduate and post graduate students of Madras Medical College, Surgeons from all the district hospitals are also taught about the various aspects of endoscopy work.

In addition to the diagnostic work up endoscopes are used to treat many diseases like blood vomiting (variceal sclerotherapy for oesophageal varices, laser coagulation of ulcer bleed and so on), cancer of the gullet and rectum (laser ablation of oesophageal cancer), stricture of the gullet (dilatation), biliary stone (removal), removal of ingested foreign body colonoscopic polyp removal etc is also done in this department to find out problems like liver cancer, cirrhosis, tuberculosis of the abdomen etc.

E. EMERGENCY SERVICES:

In addition to the routine work, many of the patients who require emergency surgery are effectively operated in this Department. Examples of such diseases treated include blood vomiting and intestinal obstruction, among various other illnesses.

OSTOMY SERVICES:

The Department has a well equipped ostomy clinic which is looking after the needs of ostomates (i.e. patients with colostomy, ileostomy, ureterostomy etc) and is manned by well trained ostomy therapists. Ostomates from all the Southern States (Andhra, Kerala, Karnataka, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu) are members of this clinic and they benefit from its services. Its main functions are to provide psychological support before and after surgery for patients who

need any ostomy, to supply ostomy appliances and to teach the patients as well as family members about the care and management of the ostomy. The clinic also conducts seminars and conferences to improve the public awareness.

On the Academic front the surgical gastroenterology department offers its services to:

- i) Undergraduate students (MBBS)
- ii) Postgraduate general surgery students (MS)
- iii) Superspeciality Gastroenterology students (MCh)
- iv) Surgeons all over the State and from elsewhere in India in the fields of endoscopy.
- v) Ostomy nursing students.

II. a) M.Ch. SUPERSPECIALITY COURSE:

The Department is the first in the Country to start Superspeciality Course in M.Ch. Surgical Gastroenterology. Surgical Gastroenterology is a field which is advancing in leaps and bounds and training surgeons in this field of Superspeciality to keep pace with the developments that are taking place in the rest of the World is mandatory. The course started in this Department is fulfilling such an aim. The course was started in the year 1985 and so far ten candidates have passed.

In addition six more candidates are presently undergoing training in this Department. Few of those who have passed out have started full fledged Superspeciality Departments at Stanley Medical College and Hospital, Kilpauk Medical College and Hospital, Peripheral Hospital, Anna Nagar, Madurai and in Kerala.

b) DIPLOMA IN OSTOMY TRAINING:

Ostomy management through ostomy clinic at Ward 10 was started first in South India in this Department in 1983. Now the

clinic has expanded so much and is spreading its services to several other centres in all southern States.

As ostomy training course (Diploma in Ostomy Therapy) has been started in the Department and thanks to the kind efforts of Government of Tamil Nadu. Four staff nurses were admitted to this course and are undergoing training at present. This course will help to train more stoma therapists so that the services can be extended to all parts of the State.

c. ENDOSCOPY TRAINING:

As the Government of Tamil Nadu has equipped all the District Hospitals with Gastrointestinal Endoscopes, the surgeons from such hospitals are being trained in the endoscopy procedures at this department. The availability of video endoscope has made this training more efficient, now a days. In addition, doctors from various parts of the Country are also being trained in advanced endoscopic procedures.

III. The other notable features of the Department include:

a) The Department has the distinction of carrying out an ex-

tensive clinical trial on pre-operative irradiation and chemotherapy in rectal malignancies with the collaboration of Radiotherapy Department. This control trial has proved its usefulness and this has been accepted as a good modality of treatment for cancer of the rectum.

b) On the academic front the Department of Surgical Gastroenterology has published more than 150 articles in National and International Journals and over 200 papers have been presented at International and National Conferences.

A text book on Gastroenterology and Proctology in Tamil edited by me has been published at the request of the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society.

Every year the Department is conducting postgraduate lecture series as part of continuing medical education. Many expert teachers from all over the country and abroad are called to deliver the lectures here.

A treatise on Ostomy management has been translated in Tamil

which is being utilized in this country and abroad.

The Department has also a well established library with reference books and journals. Many distinguished surgeons from India and abroad have visited this Department and participated in Clinical demonstrations and lectures.

Mr. James Ross PRCS, Mr. Wilkinson, Mrs. G.D. Chisholm PRCS, Mr. Peter Edmond, Secretary Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Sir Ian Todd, Mr. Bill Heald, Sir. Geoffrey Slaney, Mr. David Rosin, Mr. John McFarland, Mr. Russell, Mr. Owen Daniel, Mr. N.V. Addison, Sir James Fraser PRCS, Prof. Somasundaram and Mr. Mohan Chellappa of Malaysia and a team of British Association of Surgical Oncology surgeons and a team of Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh visited the Department. Every year foreign medical students especially from UK, USA and Canada are attending the Unit as part of their Elective Postings.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha garlanded the statue of Perarignar Anna on the occasion of his 83rd birth anniversary. (15.9.1991)



Video-endoscopy:- The facility to view the procedure and also store the images for future reference.

DISTANCE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Institute of Correspondence Course and Continuing Education of Madurai Kamaraj University was started in the year 1971. It is one of the oldest of its kind in India. The unique feature of this Institute from its very inception has been that it has highly qualified and experienced teachers appointed on a full-time basis. These teachers are endowed with the necessary skills in writing learner-based lessons and delivering condensed lectures at personal contact programmes. It is one of the few privileged distance education institutes in the Country to offer student support services like periodical broadcast of well-prepared lessons over a network of AIR Stations in Tamil Nadu. The use of this media results in the penetration of education even into remote rural areas where a large bulk of our educationally disadvantaged people live.

The Institute offers undergraduate and post-graduate courses in various disciplines catering to the needs of not only our countrymen but also those of the ethnic Indians living in Malaysia and Singapore. Besides, it offers certificate and diploma courses in a wide variety of subjects. It offers the highest number of certificate courses in the whole Country. In all, it provides education by correspondence in a record number of seventy-nine disciplines. Of them forty-seven are of a traditional nature. The rest are highly innovative and socially relevant.

Many of them are employment-oriented. A couple of them are on environment and energy management in keeping with the increasing global concern over them.

The Institute provides two streams of distance education. One stream enrolls the students on the basis of conventional eligibility norms or educational qualifications while the other admits them on the basis of a stipulated minimum age without regard to their previous educational qualifications. Under the latter pattern the minimum age limits for direct admission to U.G. and P.G. courses are twenty and twenty-five respectively.

In an effort to establish personal contact with the students and also to ease their learning process contact classes are held, mostly on Saturdays and Sundays in such select centres of Tamil Nadu as Madurai, Trichy, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore and Madras. For U.G. and P.G. Classes four rounds of two days each are held at all centres except Madras where two rounds of three days each are held. Apart from the teachers of the Institute, others drawn from various Universities and Colleges are also liberally used for the purposes of teaching in these classes.

A significant feature of the distance education system of the Institute is its strong sense of commitment to the society which is evidenced by the fact that it has thrown its doors open even for the

convicts. This, it is hoped, coupled with the efforts of the Government and several voluntary organizations, will go a long way in their rehabilitation and re-absorption into the normal social life. Appreciating our endeavours in this direction the Jail Administration of Tamil Nadu has allowed them to attend the personal contact programmes with police escort. On the successful completion of their course, they are awarded their degrees at special functions organized on the Jail premises themselves. Another important measure of its social concern is the provision of fee concession to the SC and ST students.

This academic year, the Institute has added a few more feathers to its academic cap. It has launched certificate and diploma courses in the following subjects:

1. Environmental Law.
2. Energy Management.
3. Environmental Management.
4. Educational Planning and Management.
5. Portfolio Management.

The certificate courses are of six months duration while the diploma courses are of one year duration. Some of these courses are offered by correspondence for the first time in the Country.

It is proposed to introduce personal contact programmes for the Certificate Course in Film Appreciation and Journalism as well as for the Certificate Courses in functional Arabic and functional Telugu. A Certificate Course in Public Affairs and Administration has also been launched this year. This course is intended to equip our politicians and other public men and all those who are engaged in administration or interested in public life with the necessary knowledge which will enable them to discharge their administrative or civic responsibilities better. Legislators,

Members of Civic Councils and Civil Service Personnel may also find this course extremely useful. In addition to these courses, Certificate Courses in Functional English, Document Writing, Sports Journalism, Stock Market Investment and Entrepreneur Development has also been started. P.G. diploma courses in the following branches of study introduced this year may provide new learning and job opportunities. They are:-

1. Energy management.
2. Environmental Management.
3. Environmental Law.
4. Pre-school Education.

The new post-graduate courses-M.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication and M.A. in Labour Studies- will further enrich the already diversified distance education opportunities. The first of these two will be run in active collaboration with the Press, the AIR, the Doordarshan, the Field Publicity Department, Film Institutes and Film Chambers of Commerce. The second course will seek the support, expertise and resources of the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, Department of Labour, Government of Tamil Nadu, State Labour Institute, prominent trade unions, industrial establishments in the private and public sector, State ESI, Management Education Institutes and various specialized and professional organizations. The press and the industrial establishments may give wide publicity to these courses. They can encourage their employees to join these courses. They may even make these courses a part of the traineeship or in-service training of their top-echelon cadres. While recruiting personnel for the work requiring competence in these fields, they may prefer the candidates who have undergone these courses to others.



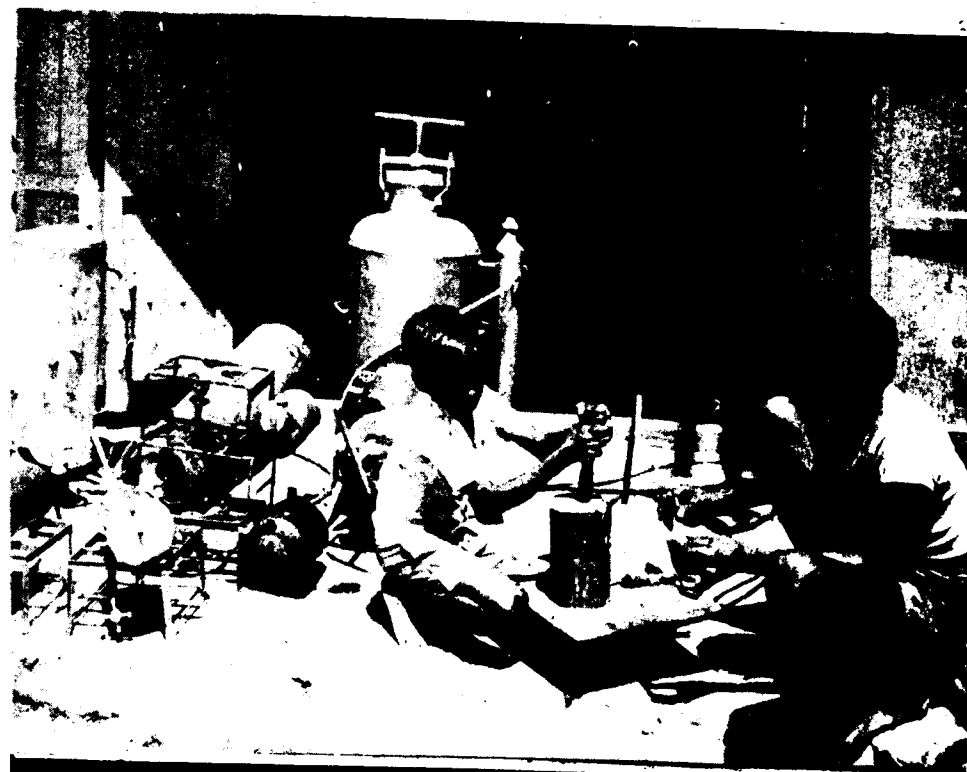
Important Programmes of the Information and Public Relations Department for the year 1991-92

Remodelling of Bharat Ratna Dr. M.G.R. Samadhi:

Government has decided to remodel Bharat Ratna Dr.M.G.R. Samadhi and reconstruct it in a grand manner. The architectural design plans have been approved and the construction of a model to scale is now in progress. The reconstruction of the Samadhi is estimated to cost around Rs.70 lakhs.

Thiruvalluvar Memorial:

Government has decided to install a granite stone statue of Thiruvalluvar of a height of 133 feet on the minor rock adjacent to Vivekananda Rock in Kanyakumari. Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.3.6 crore for the above work. This work has been entrusted to the well known sculptor Thiru V.Ganapathi Sthapathi. The raising of this memorial will be executed through the Tamil Nadu State Construction Corporation Limited. A sum of Rs.50 lakh has so far been released and the work is in progress.



CHILD LABOUR: A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH

"The Childhood, shows the man
As morning shows the day"
(Milton.....)

Child labour is a social problem in so far as it arrests and retards the natural process of a child into full adulthood. It is an economic problem as it retards the production capacity of human resource. In India, it is a condition of despair, grief and agony.

United Nations declaration states: "Every child has got the right to affection, love and understanding, to adequate nutrition and medical care; to free education, to full opportunity to play and recreation." Right from the beginning of the industrial era of mass production, industrialists began to employ children on a large scale. This has resulted in the problem of child labour prevalent the world over. Modern capitalistic industrialisation in the specific historical context of India has created a new army of child workers whose conditions are

even more hostile than those described by Marx in the context of British capitalistic development in the nineteenth century.

It is the chronic poverty which is responsible for the prevalence

United Nations declaration states: "Every child has got the right to affection, love and understanding, to adequate nutrition and medical care; to free education, to full opportunity to play and recreation."

and perpetuation of child labour. Children from poor families are compelled to join the labour force by the need to supplement the family income. In families with high fertility and low income, children have to work due to economic necessity. In case of parental incapacitation, children became the sole bread winners.

The number of industries where

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Department of Economics
University of Madras

the child labourers are predominantly seen are as follows:

1. The match industry
2. The diamond polishing industry
3. The precious stone polishing industry
4. The glass industry
5. The brass-ware industry
6. The hand-made carpet industry in Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir
7. The lock making industry
8. The slate industry in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

Preference for Child Labourers

There are ample reasons why employers prefer children to adults. Children have a less developed ego and status consciousness. The adaptive capacities of children are more superior to those of adults. Employers find children more amenable to discipline and control. They can be coaxed, disciplined, pulled up and punished for defaults without jeopardising relations. The children can be engaged in almost the same amount of work with lesser cost. Children are also more active, and quick and feel less tired in certain tasks. They are also

better candidates for tasks of a helper, assistance, housemaid etc.

In the agricultural sector, children work as helpers in sowing, weeding, harvesting and threshing. A majority of them are casual workers. The majority of children in India are employed in the unorganised sector. So they are commonly found in small plantations, wayside restaurants and small hotels, cotton ginning and weaving, match making, stone breaking, handicrafts, automobile and metal workshops. Child

labour has increased sharply both in the traditional handicraft as well as in the labour intensive industries.

Magnitude of the Problem

A look into the entire child population is essential before identifying the magnitude of child labourers. According to 1981 census the child population in the age-group 0-4 happened to be 93,098, in the 5-9 age-group was 88,523 and 82,563 in the 10-14 age-group totally it stood at 2642 crore. By 1991, it is projected that it will rise to 27.38 crore as stated in the report by the Ministry of Human Resources. In Tamil Nadu the total child population stood at 1.620 crore which is projected to be 1.629 crore for 1991. According to 1971 census, the estimated number of child labourers was 10.7 million and several authorities believe that this is gross under-reporting. The NSS has estimated that the child labour for the year 1973 to be 16.33 million and the projected figure for 1983 is 17.36 million. As per the 1984 report of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, only 87 per cent of children in the age-group of 6-11 years and 44 per cent in the age-group of 11-14

years are being provided education in the classes I to VIII.

School-going children stood at 620 per 1000 in Tamil Nadu by 1971 which has increased to 718 per 1000 by 1981. This is to say that the rest are either partially employed or fully employed thus denying them the opportunity to equip more skill and thereby to increase their earning capacity. In Tamil Nadu itself Kanyakumari District stands first i.e. above the State's average at 849 per 1000 and Dharmapuri lags behind as the last at 661 per 1000. In the rural areas, child education is much less and

is extremely low in Dharmapuri District at 391 per 1000.

Child labour is more prevalent in rural areas than urban areas. Male children, as the main and marginal workers, constitute 10.1 per cent in rural and 3.7 per cent in urban areas. Female children population engaged as the main and marginal workers constitute 7.8 per cent in rural and 1.5 per cent in urban areas. Whatever be the percentage and composition, the magnitude of the problem with associated evil effects attracts the attention of social and economic forums.

Child Activity in India: 1981 Census

Activity	Rural		Urban		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Percent of Children aged 5-14 the specified activity						
Main worker	9.2	5.2	3.6	1.3	7.9	4.4
Main and Marginal worker	10.1	7.8	3.7	1.5	8.7	6.4
School going	48.3	27.4	69.3	60.4	52.9	34.7

Source: Computed from; Census of India 1981 Series-1, India Part II Special, Report and Tables Based on 5 per cent sample data, Controller of Publications, Delhi, 1984, pp.2-3, 200, 204 in part II Tables.



Legal Provisions

The Constitution of India provides safeguards for children through certain directives. Articles of 15, 24, 39, 42, 43 and 45 were passed to take care of their interests. The National Policy Statement runs like this: "Children shall be protected against neglect, cruelty and exploitation". The Factories Act 1948 (Amended in 1949, 1950, 1954) prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age. Several enactments have been passed. These protective provisions of the enactments do not cover children employed in smaller establishments. In reality, the majority of the child workers actually work in the small scale sectors. Though several acts and policies have been promulgated to eradicate child labour, it still exists since poverty and inequality are in existence even after three decades of planning.

The existing laws do not touch the important segments of the economy. The Encyclopaedia of social work in India records: the existing legal provisions still do not cover a large number of children engaged in unregulated employment such as domestic service, public recreation, street hawling etc. Gurupadaswamy Committee (1979) was unable to find in most cases the practice rationale for the varying definition of 'Child' for purposes of employment. A survey conducted by the labour Bureau in 1979 into the problems of child labour in a number of units in the organised sector in different States found that in most of the factories, the hours of work

It is the chronic poverty which is responsible for the prevalence and perpetuation of child labour. Children from poor families are compelled to join the labour force by the need to supplement the family income.

The long term goal of eradication of child labour might be possible through universalisation of primary education, rapid economic growth, economic and social equity, abandonment of poverty and increasing the earning capacity of parents.

as prescribed under the Factories Act were not being strictly adhered to. Harbans Singh Commission report says (1976) the children are employed longer than the stipulated hours of work. The protective legislations are cunningly evaded by the employers. Hence the problem persists and the blatant violation of the law goes unchecked. Actually the law-breakers are much more manipulative.

India contributes to one-third of Asia's child labour and a fourth of the world's working children. It has the dubious distinction of having the largest number of working children in the world. There are numerous occupation of hazards like health problem, accidents, ex-

ploitations, unsatisfactory working conditions, insecurity of employment, long working hours, low wages and bonded child labour.

The eradication of child labour is nothing short of utopian, at least in the present juncture. The practical approach should be to minimise the exploitation and improve the total lot by education and proper health care in the short run. Eradication of child labour can be aimed at as a long-term measure.

The problem is multi-dimensional. The line of action should be directed towards provision of non-formal education, security of employment, prevention of night work, fixation of minimum wages and maximum working hours, provision for paid holidays, enactment of comprehensive legislation and formation of trade unions. The long term goal of eradication of child labour might be possible through universalisation of primary education, rapid economic growth, economic and social equity, abandonment of poverty and increasing the earning capacity of parents.

The ulcer of untouchability has gone so deep down that it seems to pervade our life. Hence the unreal differences. 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.

A rain forest is one of nature's most astounding creations packed with the richest variety of plant and animal life. It is a self-contained system in which each living organism is linked with all others and wherein life-cycles are so well established that there is perfect recycling and no waste whatsoever. A rain forest is lush and green and warm and teeming with life, parts of which might still not have come into the focus of man.

Rain forests abound in the equatorial region. At present, the Trans-Amazon, East African and the Indo Malayan are the main areas in which rain forests flourish. It is mainly in the Amazon basin, that one finds tracts of rain forests at their pristine best, still untouched by the exploitation of man. In India, it is mostly in the Western Ghats that the rain forest is seen. It was in the news very recently when there was a hue and cry from nature lovers and environmentalists over a proposal to clear it for constructing a hydroelectric project.

An impressive feature of a rain forest is that it has a four-layered structure made up of plants at 1. the ground level, 2. the low-canopy level 3. the mid-forest level and 4. the canopy level.

Found at the ground level are the fungi, bacteria and other insects that act as decomposers. It is a nursery for seedlings of plants. Present in the low-canopy level are the shrubs that grow like dwarf trees. Distributed in the mid-forest level are the tall, straight trees, clothed with mosses and lichens. The top most canopy consists of three component strata of trees namely 60', 60' to 120' and 120' to 200' in height. Orchids, ferns, pepper and bromeliads are some of the plants seen here. The layers of the canopy act like the roof of a green house, trapping heat and

RAIN FOREST

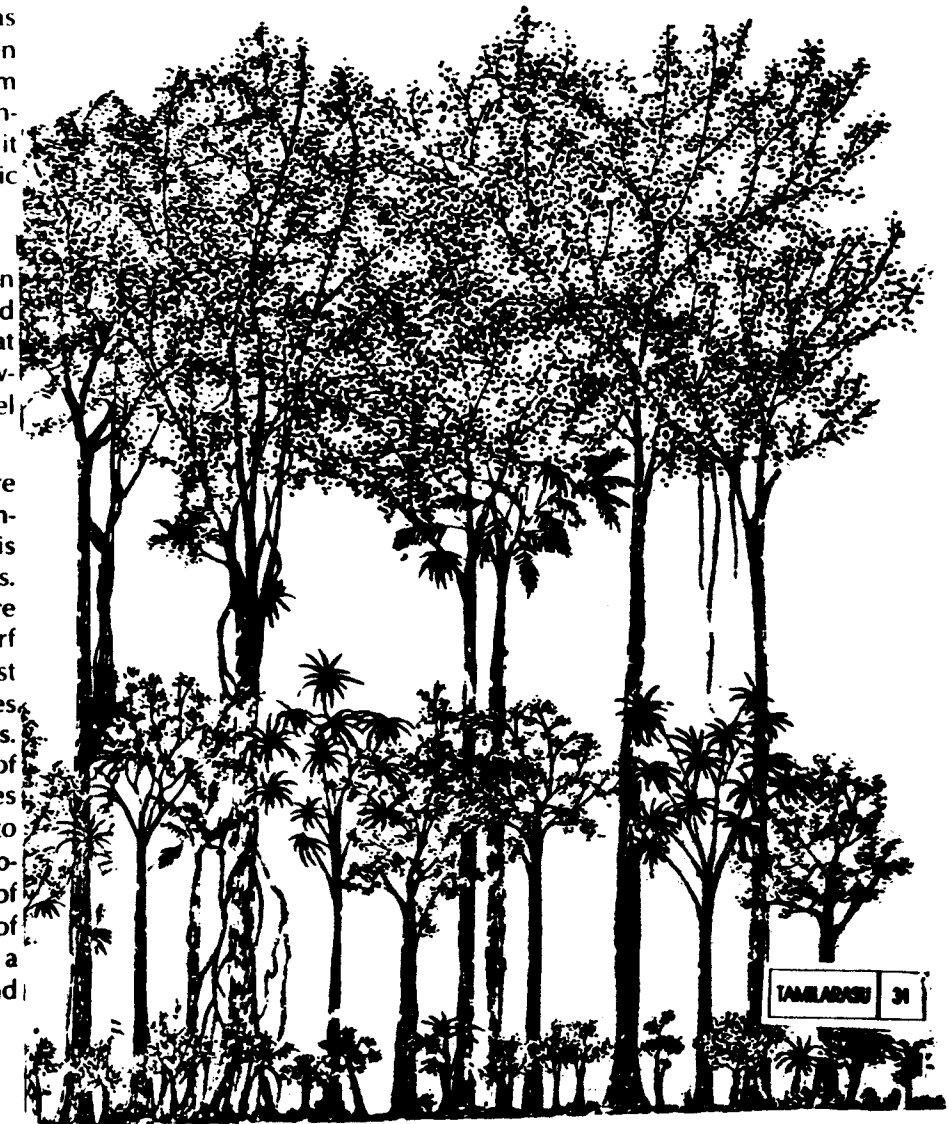
M.N. Pushpa
Asst. Curator,
Govt. Museum,
Madras.

moisture such that there is hardly a dry season in the rainforest.

A characteristic of plants and animals seen here are that they are abnormal in size. Thus shrubs that are normally 4' to 5' in height grow like dwarf tree. In the forests of East Africa there are giant sized grasses growing upto a height of 30' to 40'. A land turtle from the rain forest weighs about 400 pounds. A moth is ordinarily a small creature. In a rain forest there are moths whose wings alone span about 12".

As for the fauna of a rain forest, these consists of howler monkeys, birds, tree frogs, snakes, lizards and army ants. The army ants move in huge colonies and would attack any creature that crosses their path. They leave a scent behind as they move thereby helping other intruders to avoid crossing their path. At the canopy level the vegetation contains drip tips which prevent stagnation of water at the top. It also has extension of the trunk buttresses, to prevent the trees from toppling.

At the ground level a type of climbers called Lianas are present. They climb up other trees reaching great heights. These are long and trailing and achieve astonishing dimensions with the woody stem as much as 2' thick. Lianas are sun-lovers that they



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braided their stem from branch to branch, from tree to tree that even if a tree is severed at the bottom it cannot fall. Found in the canopy level are the epiphytes or air plants. The trees found in the rain forest also has some defence mechanism. Thus found in the Palm trees are sharp spinous structures that prevent the animals feeding on the trees and at the same time providing food to the canopy dwellers.

Rain forests are the place where we could see the co-operative and interactive relationships, between plants and animal. Thus found in the bull-horn acacia (it is a species name) are a colony of ants that feed on the nectar and protein, which in turn drives away the other insects and also prevents the growing of vines and strangler upon the trees.

In a rain forest the soil is very poor due to constant leaching by rains. However the decomposers work so efficiently that the shallow roots absorb the minerals immediately and circulate it to all parts of a plant forming a 'stable

JL
121107 N7072 N91
Buttresses



Strangler fig

system'. In this system no dead leaf or animal remains on the ground for more than 24 hours.

Since flowers are produced at different levels, trees in the mid-forest level have 'cauliflory', that is flowers directly arising from the trunk. They also have pendulous blossoms and brightly coloured,

scented flowers. Mimicry is very commonly seen among the insects just for the purpose of safeguarding themselves.

These rain forests which have the best eco-system and evolutionary reservoirs, at present are fast disappearing due to destruction by man for various purposes. Thus many of the rare plants and animals are in danger of extinction. Most of the plants and animals of the forest are immune to virus diseases and studying them may give a clue to scientists to find out means of immunity against such diseases. The destruction of the rain forest may lead to scarcity of timbers and also some of the important medicinal plants. Ultimately, due to the destruction of the rain forest the weather pattern is also likely to be disturbed.

The trees of the rain forest are described as "Green robed senators of mighty woods" by a reputed naturalist. If we do not take care of them, we would be losing for ever one of the wondrous creations of nature.

Stilt roots



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TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2022

Iyppasi - Karthikai

NOVEMBER - 1991

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HOMAGE TO LATE THIRU RAJIV GANDHI

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Thiru P.V. Narashima Rao, arrived at Madras on 25th October 1991 on a one-day visit, his first after assuming office. His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi, J. Jayalalitha, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and other Ministers received him at

the airport where he was accorded a rousing reception.

Soon after arrival the Prime Minister, accompanied by the Chief Minister, left for Sriperumbudur to receive the 'Ekta Kalasa' containing holywaters from more than 30 holy rivers brought by padayatris from Ameti. The Prime Minister



the Chief Minister paid homage to late Thiru Rajiv Gandhi at the spot, where he was assassinated on May 21st, 1991. They also planted saplings at the venue.

Paying poignant tributes to the memory of Rajiv Gandhi, the Chief Minister, who presided over the function, asked every citizen to take a pledge, that they would never allow balkanisation of the country at any cost. The conspiracy to kill the former Prime Minister was hatched by some traitorous foreign elements in collaboration with some evil forces in Tamil Nadu. It was the duty of the people to see that those responsible for such killing should be rooted out lock, stock and barrel from political and public life.

The Chief Minister also said what was heartrending was that Rajiv Gandhi who wanted to root out all the evil forces from the soil of Tamil Nadu and see a good Government in the State was not alive to see it now.

Though the explosive device that killed Rajiv Gandhi was of a foreign origin the fact that it was assembled with local collaborators made the people of Tamil Nadu hang their head in shame. The people of the State now realised the role of such culprits and they would not give room for such forces to carry out horrendous acts any more. They had already shown this determination in the elections, she added.





She assured the Prime Minister that her Government would extend all support to the Centre in implementing the welfare measures for the benefit of the people.

The Prime Minister commended the Tamil Nadu Government for having acquired 12.19 acres of land for erecting a national memorial for Rajiv Gandhi at the place where he was assassinated. It would be a fitting memorial where the people could gather, search their souls and get some peace of mind and also try to mould their lives in the mould of the former Prime Minister. The Memorial would remind the people of how Rajiv Gandhi loved his country.

The Prime Minister said Rajiv Gandhi was a 'Yuga Purusha' and a Champion of Communal harmony and spirit of brotherhood. He led the oppressed people of the Country and gave them hope for a better future. He had friendliest and closest contacts with all leaders of the World.

He also thanked the Chief Minister for contributing Rs.12 lakh on behalf of the AIADMK for providing succour to those rendered homeless by the earthquake in Uttar Pradesh.

Tmt. Maragatham Chandrasekar, M.P., welcomed the gathering.

Thiru S.R.Balasubramaniam, Leader of the Opposition Party, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly proposed a vote of thanks.



"Every Drop of my blood, I am sure, will contribute to the growth of this Nation and to make it strong and dynamic".

"We have only one adversary - social and economic injustice. We have only one goal-to build a strong, self confident, self reliant, independent India. Come, now let us all work together".

—Tmt. Indira Gandhi



State Prohibition Propaganda Committee

A meeting of the State-level Prohibition Propaganda Committee was held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalitha at the Secretariat, Madras on 22nd October 1991. At the end of their discussion the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the following actions which would be taken by the Government.

★ The services of one lakh educated unemployed youths would be utilised for prohibition campaign.

★ The Government would produce feature films, highlighting how liquor wrecks an individual and his family, and would screen them in cinema halls throughout the State. The same films would be screened in rural areas through videos.

★ Beside producing feature films on the subject, the evils of liquor would be conveyed through school and college curricula.

★ With an idea of bringing better social order,

Committees would be constituted at village and town level to check the people from taking liquor.

★ With the help of voluntary organisations and agencies de-addiction centres would be set up in each District.

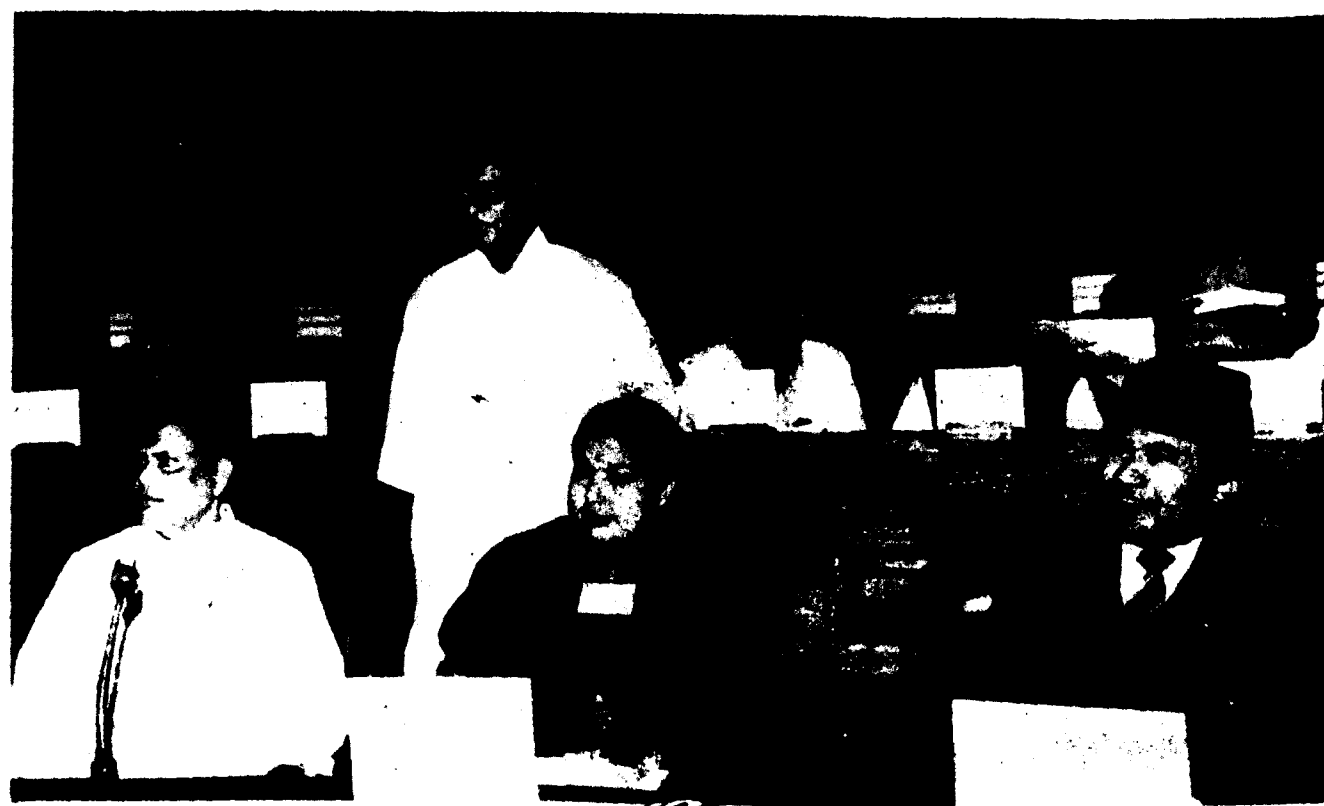
★ Children would also be inducted into the prohibition campaign with essay, drama, poetry and short story contests.

★ Drivers found driving after consuming alcohol would be relieved off their licences.

★ Prohibition propaganda would be intensified by staging plays, and publishing stories and essays in the dailies.

★ Suitable advertisements would be published in dailies occasionally, depicting the evils of drinking.

★ Alcoholists would be treated for their addiction in the free medical camps, which would be conducted throughout the State.



Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and distinguished Members of the Council,

It is quite appropriate that we are meeting here at this critical juncture to discuss an issue of vital importance for the future of the country. I must compliment the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for having taken the initiative and convening this meeting, albeit at short notice, to discuss an issue which is capable of rousing communal passions throughout our country and threatens the very fabric of the national

unity of our country. I am referring to the Babri Masjid and Ram Janma Bhoomi issue to discuss for which we have all assembled here to-day.

The Ram Janma Bhoomi and Babri Masjid issue should not be viewed in isolation. It should not be considered as the problem of two communities in the State of Uttar Pradesh or any other State in the North. It should not also be viewed as a clash of interests among some self seeking politicians representing two

important communities of our country. There is much history, much development over many years which also we cannot ignore. It is not a simple question of one community asserting its right against the rights of another community. It is my humble view that the problem of Ram Janma Bhoomi Babri Masjid must be viewed in the context of preserving the integrity of our nation; of maintaining communal peace and amity, and promoting understanding which are vital for the very existence of our nation.

I do not propose to go into the details of the history of the case because that is the realm of the historians. So far as this area is concerned, I find that our historians have not been agreeing even on the essential aspects, mainly because of the past background against

SPEECH DELIVERED BY

The Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Puratchi Thalaivi
J. Jayalalitha

at

The National Integration
Council Meeting
New Delhi

on 2.11.1991

which the history of our country has been written. The simple question is what we propose to do in the context of two communities of our country staking their claim to establish their historical right.

Our Constitution has guaranteed secular democracy. Our country is best known in the world for allowing free development of all religions, and communal and religious groups have lived in perfect amity in this country imbibing each other's culture. No doubt, we have had sordid episodes in our history which besmirch the otherwise sober picture of communal peace and amity. But we should not make much of them. It is in this spirit that I would first of all like to appeal to you all to ensure that the Ram Janma Bhoomi Babri Masjid

issue is viewed with an understanding in which one party should not score over the other. It is our view that this is possible to a great extent if we do not bring in any political considerations into this issue. In other words, sides should not be taken in this issue on the basis of one's political profession. Religious and historical matters such as the Ram Janma Bhoomi Babri Masjid issue cannot be solved by politics alone. If politics were to take over this issue, it must be political statesmanship of the highest level that should mobilise the genius and the culture of our country. I appeal to the leaders who are present here to look upon this issue in a statesman like manner so that petty considerations do not overwhelm us.

Every religion, every culture must be left free to develop in its own way. But that should not be at the expense of another religion or culture. It should not be detrimental to another religion or culture. All great religions of the world have professed the highest ideals of nobility, kindness, understanding and tolerance of each other's values. Hinduism and Islam, two of the great religions of the world are the proud inheritors of these great traditions. It must be our responsibility to see that people do not fight on grounds of location of temples or ownership of Masjids based upon insufficient appreciation of history.

I am aware of the fact that this issue is quite complicated. Judicial forums have assumed responsibility for deciding the issues. But one should not be under any misapprehension that issues of this kind can be sorted out purely on legalistic grounds. We may be buying time by taking such matters to the courts of law. You must understand that I am not saying this with any disrespect to the courts. But the fact remains that millions of people are emotionally agitated over this issue. Therefore, it is necessary that we take note of this situation and do our best to ensure that any decision that we may take has the final approval of the people.

The Uttar Pradesh Government has initiated certain actions in furtherance of an objective to put up a temple. One must not forget that the people of this country do wish to have a temple here. The question is to what extent the Uttar Pradesh Government or the Government of India is going to do this without offending the sentiments of our Muslim brethren. In this context, I welcome the suggestion that the leaders of both the religious communities would do well to discuss the issues in a con-

genial manner so that their approach may be even more appropriate than the solution which may be offered by political leadership or by the courts.

India, though predominantly a Hindu country, has over the years respected all religions, allowed all religions to flourish, and has created a milieu in which religious sentiments do not mar the friendly personal relationship of the people. Our Muslim brethren, I am sure, appreciate this and are willing to go a long way in accomodating the wishes of the Hindus of Uttar Pradesh. Let us respect the fact that there is already a Muslim shrine at this place, and our Muslim brethren must also accept the situation that there can be a temple nearby. After all, there are hundreds of places in India where mosques and temples have existed for years side by side, and they have not been the cause for provocation of communal feelings. My only appeal is that we should not think in

terms of a majority view or a minority view or that we are under compulsion to honour any one view.

Before concluding, I only wish to remind you that any decision you may take on the Ram Janma Bhoomi Babri Masjid issue would have its repercussions on the Hindu-Muslim relationship all over the country, if such a decision is not taken with the fullest understanding of all the issues involved.

In so far as our party is concerned, we will support any decision that respects the rights of the minorities, acknowledges the freedom of the majority in this country to pursue its worship in a free and fair manner, and satisfies the aspirations of our people. The discussion need not be on RAM JANMA BHOOMI VS BABRI MASJID, but could and ought to be on RAM JANMA BHOOMI and BABRI MASJID.

Thank you.

Carry on...

Our literature, art and architecture are fine specimens of human civilisation, but they have the scars and wrinkles of age. That to-day, we have a foreign historian, or scholar, in our midst to realise the glory and grandeur of Tamil Nadu. Our culture and civilisation are hoary but we have allowed scars and wrinkles to disfigure them. It is our duty, therefore, to re-discover and re-construct what is ours.

Truly great has been our achievements in the fields of literature. To be able to announce to the world that we, Tamilians, do possess great literature and to represent to the world and the entire humanity, the great Thirukkural are something about which we can have pardonable pride.

Carry on the crusade against caste which cannot co-exist with democracy; against superstition which cannot co-exist with science and against tyranny of various dimensions which cannot co-exist with liberty, equality and fraternity.

-ANNA



The 22nd District of Tamil Nadu Nagapattinam-Quaid-E-Milleth District



Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha inaugurated Nagapattinam-Quaid-E-Milleth District at Nagapattinam on 18th October 1991. This is the 22nd District of Tamil Nadu.

The Chief Minister also inaugurated Rs.88.41 crore package of measures for the development of new District.

These package included:-

- ★ Narimanam Gas Turbine Power Project at a cost of Rs.22.55 crore.
- ★ Special Road Repairs, widening of Myladuthurai-Muthupettai Road, Madras

Refineries Road and Rural Development Scheme at a cost of Rs.15.17 crore.

★ New Bus Depots at Nannilam, Karaikal and Thiruthuraipoondi, and new bus routes at a cost of Rs.1 crore.

★ New Bus Stands at Thanjavur, Koothanallur, Peravurani and Pattukottai at a cost of Rs.75 lakh.

★ Construction of 150 flats under Thanjavur neighbourhood Scheme at a cost of Rs.1.73 crore.

★ Providing protected water supply to Thanjavur, Nannilam and Nagapattinam at a cost of Rs.12 crore.

★ Construction of Hostel for Backward Class Students, PWD Office Building, Market, Police Station and Community Hall at a cost of Rs.1 crore.

★ Provision of Medical facilities, hospitals and other amenities at a cost of Rs.60 lakh.

★ Hostel for Adi-Dravidar Students at Mannargudi and Alathambadi and School building at Vet-tukadu at a cost of Rs.58 lakh.

★ Establishment of 66/11 KV Sub-Station at Thanjavur and Housing facilities to Electricity Board Staff at a cost of Rs.3 crore.

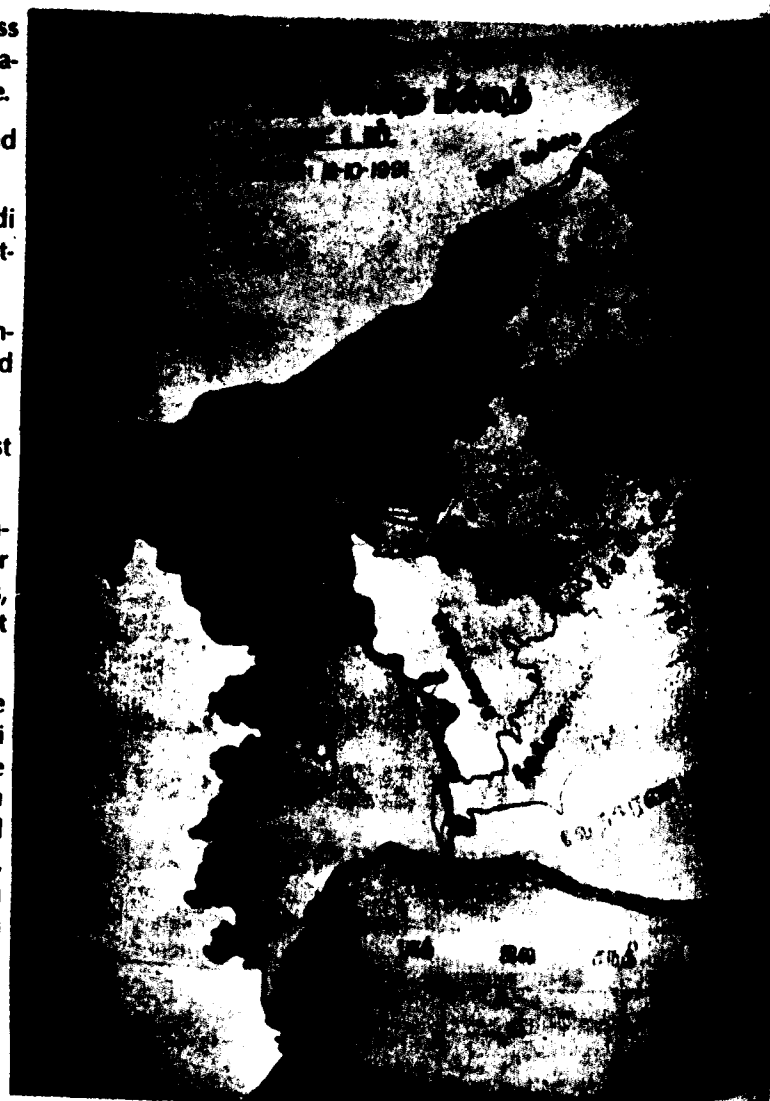
★ Welfare-measures to help 1,208 families at a cost of Rs.20.39 lakh.

★ Under the Jawahar Velai Vaippu Thittam, construction of Group Houses, new buildings for Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Noon Meal Centres, School buildings, Community Hall, Panchayat Union buildings at a cost of Rs.20 crore.

Thiru S.D. Somasundaram, Minister for Revenue welcomed the gathering. Thiru. Sedapatti R.Muthiah, Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly presided over the function. Thiru C.Aranganayagam, Minister for Labour and Employment, Thiru Alagu Thirunavukkarasu, Minister for Local Administration, Thiru K.P.Krishnan, Minister for Agriculture, Thiru S.Kanappan, Minister for Public Works and Thiru D. Jayakumar, Minister for Forest and Fisheries also spoke on the occasion.

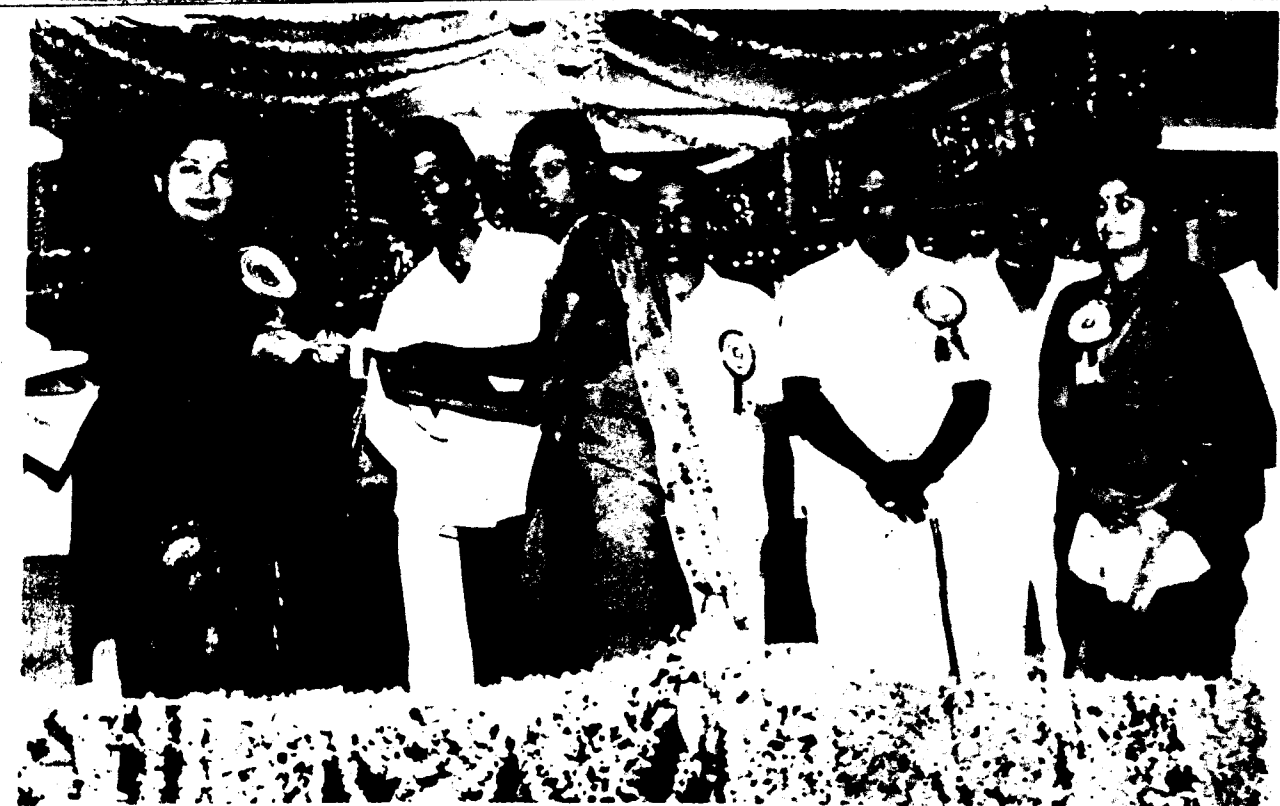
Inaugurating the New District, the Chief Minister described the Nagapattinam area as an ideal region of communal harmony, where Hindus, Muslims and Christians lived and celebrated the festivals at Sikkal Singaravelar, Nagore Durgah and Velankanni Church in great unity and joy. It was worthy example to be followed by people all over the country. But unfortunately, certain opposition leaders frustrated by the spontaneous support got by the AIADMK Government would try to sow the seeds of communal unrest by whipping up narrow caste and communal feelings. But the people would expose their true colours soon. The Chief Minister got a big 'Yes' from the people when she asked the mammoth gathering whether they would teach these cunning and selfish politicians a bitter lesson.

The Chief Minister criticised the former Chief Minister of trying to create communal and caste dissensions in the State and added that it was born only out of the excellent record of the AIADMK in such a short period of rule.



The Chief Minister added that it was most regrettable that the former Chief Minister who hailed from the District though claimed a son of the Cauvery delta had badly let down lakhs of farmers of the delta by wavering his stand on the Cauvery dispute long ago. This had created feeling that the Cauvery delta would become a desert and hence the determination of the present Government go to any extent for getting the legitimate share of the Cauvery waters.

The Chief Minister said that she was fully aware of the problems of the fishermen of the State and hence her stand on getting back Katchatheevu, which also had been criticised by the DMK. The Chief Minister appealed to the full hearted co-operation of people especially in rural areas to bring about total end to the illicit distillation of arrack. The steps taken so far had almost ended illicit distillation in the State and with little more co-operation from the Public in rural areas, the



The Hon'ble Chief Minister
Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha honoured Thiru Miakhan, the son of Thiru Quaid-e-Milleth, with a shawl on the occasion of the inauguration of the Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth District on 18th October, 1991.

total prohibition could be brought about in the State.

Unlike the great tradition of Cholas, the road of the Thanjavur District had a very dubious record, being the worst in the State. Hence the Government had taken up a road improvement programme for Rs.25 crore and had on an experimental basis decided to entrust the private sector for improvement and maintenance of the roads.

The Chief Minister said the new District had rich potential for development of petro chemical industries, and the State Government would give whatever land needed for the same to the Central Government. The District had a long coastal line where fisheries could be developed scientifically.

The State Government had just passed orders for acquisition of about 1,700 acres for the establishment of an Air-Force Station in Thanjavur, she added.

Thiru Shanmuga Rajeswaran, I.A.S., Thanjavur District Collector, explained the various features of the composite District and the prospects of Development of the new District. Thiru K. Skandan, Collector of Nagapattinam- Quaid-e-Milleth District proposed a vote of thanks.



NEHRU, GREAT EMANCIPATOR OF THE HUMAN RACE

- Dr. S. Radhakrishnan
Former President of India

Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the greatest figures of our generation, an outstanding statesman whose services to the cause of human freedom are unforgettable. As a fighter for freedom he was illustrious, as a maker of modern India his services were unparalleled. His life and work have had a profound influence on our mental make-up, social structure and intellectual development. It will be difficult to reconcile ourselves to the image of India without Nehru's active and all-pervasive leadership. An epoch in our country's history has come to a close.

As a man, Nehru combined a fine sensitivity of mind, a rare delicacy of feeling, with large and generous impulses. To the weak and the frustrated his heart went out in profound sympathy.

Nehru held the office of the

Prime Minister of our country ever since the dawn of independence; and in the long years of his premiership tried to put our country on a progressive, scientific, dynamic and non-communal basis. His steadfast loyalty to certain fundamental principles of liberalism give direction to our thought and life. We can understand the endless surprises of his attitudes and actions; all these fall into their place if we remember his faith in democracy and freedom. He used the existing social and political institutions and breathed into them a new spirit, a new vitality.

Nehru by his series of public utterances educated our people to an appreciation of the values he had cherished. He fought for a high level of human life and burnt his ideals into the understanding of the common people. By his own

powerful and vibrant voice, which we will not hear any more be created, moulded, inspired and kindled a whole generation of Indians, to a loyalty to the five principles which he held so dear. It is not enough to have great ideals. We have to work for their achievement. Time is the essence of the situation and Nehru had a great regard for the sanctity of time. The pitiless exactions of time take no denial and so the great leader has fallen.

Though in a life of sheltered ease and comfort, he drew himself into the national struggle and became a greater leader second only to Gandhi. The part that he played in the national struggle and in the final settlement of the Indian question in 1947 is a part of recent Indian History.

Nehru realized even before the advent of freedom, that our economic re-generation, our progressive modern lives cannot be achieved unless there is concerted planning. After the transfer of power, as the Chairman of the Planning Commission it was he who gave dynamism and power to the various plans which are now being implemented.

The path of Nehru as a nation builder in the early years of India's freedom was beset with fantastic difficulties and formidable challenges. The partition of the country resulting in the exodus of millions of people from one part of the sub-continent to the other amidst scenes of appalling riots, loot and arson brought it its wake problems political and economic, which defied easy solution. We have outbreaks of communal violence here and there in our country even now. This must have seemed to Nehru a terrific disillusionment of his great work, inherited from Gandhi and developed by himself.

Nehru always had a conviction that India cannot be viewed in



isolation from other states of the world. Even before the advent of freedom, he was pleading that the Indian question was a part of the large movement of the oppressed people, fighting against colonialism. He had a love of liberty, not merely for his own people but for all people of the world. He, therefore, expressed sympathy

and support for all liberation movements in Africa, Asia and South America. He believed in the liberty of all without distinction of class, creed or country.

Nehru was a great believer in world peace and the concept of one world community. No one had shown greater faith and

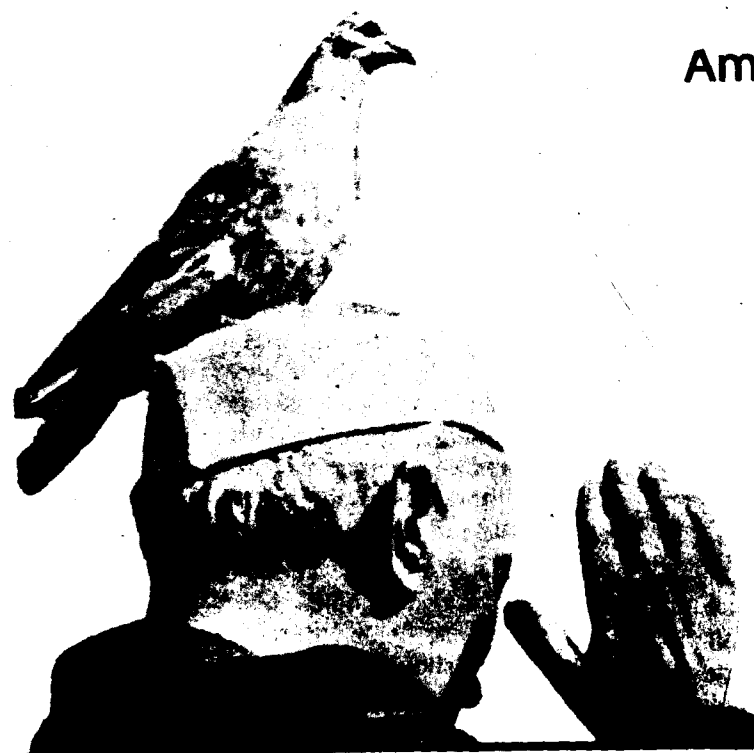
allegiance to the Charter of the United Nations than Nehru. He realised that in a thermo-nuclear age, war would mean the extinction of all civilised values. That is why he was convinced that the true role of a statesman in this distracted world lay in the way of lessening tensions and conflicts and bringing about a climate of understanding and mutual accommodation, with a view to settlement of international differences without resort to the horrors of war.

His courage, wisdom and personality has held this country together. It is these qualities which should be cherished, if we are to hold on. Our thoughts today go out to him as a great emancipator of the human race, one who has given all his life and energy to the freeing of men's minds from political bondage, economic slavery, social oppression and cultural stagnation.

I am fond of children

I like being with children and even more, playing with them. For a moment I forget that I am terribly old and that it is a very long time ago since I was a child. Old people have a habit of delivering sermons and giving good advice to the young. I remember that I disliked this very much long ago when I was a boy. Nothing, saddens me so much as the sight of children who are denied education, sometimes denied even food and clothing. If our children to-day are denied education what is our India of to-morrow going to be? It is the duty of the State to provide education for every child in the country. And I would add that it is the duty of the State to provide free education to every child in the country. Unfortunately, we cannot do all these things quickly and suddenly, because of our lack of resources and lack of teachers. But we have to get going.

- Nehru



Among the Galaxy of World Leaders

Among the galaxy of world leaders, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had secured a place of honour for the Indian subcontinent among the comity of Nations. He had saved the country from going to ruins through internal squabbles and divisionism and prevented it from economic deterioration.

We are bound to pay our respects to this great man through our words, deeds, integrity and morality.

—Perarignar Anna

JAWAHARLAL

Jawaharlal has undoubted claim to the throne of young India.

His is a majestic role.

Unflinching is his determination and indomitable his courage, what raises him to lofty heights is his unwavering adherence to moral truth and his intellectual character. He has upheld the standard of purity in the midst of political turmoil where deception, including self-delusion so often destroys integrity.

Jawaharlal has never evaded truth when it brought danger in its wake nor has he made alliance with falsehood when it would have been convenient to do so.

His brilliant mind has always turned away in outspoken disgust from the path of diplomacy where success is as easy as it is mean.

This purity of motive and undeviating pursuit of truth is Jawaharlal's greatest contribution in his fight for freedom.

—Rabindranath Tagore
8th March, 1936



INDIRA GANDHI

The Renewer of
Ancient India,

The Pillar of
Its Unity and

The Untiring Upholder of Peace



India, where the "Light of Asia" was kindled, once the brightest jewel in Queen Victoria's Imperial Crown, that vast extent of land from the Himalayas to the sea; daughter of Resource and Poverty (like Plato's Eros), with over 500 million inhabitants, 14 major languages and 843 lesser, varied in religion and race, yet one federation; 24 years ago at length after long exposure to foreign invaders, recovered her independence and was restored to her citizens as she had scarcely been since the Emperor Asoka (273-243 B.C.), the peaceful, pious and righteous, whose by-name our guest also auspiciously carries, "Priyadarshini", (Dear to Behold).

So India has returned to the Indians, in Swaraj - an immense task, but great the glory for the preservers of its unity and of its democratic Government, the reconcilers of old and new.

Of whom our guest is one, of a family that came down from Kashmir and the sources of the Indus to the Imperial City of Delhi, where it acquired the name of Nehru, and she was born in the House of Happiness ("Anand

Bhawan") in Allahabad, on the sacred river, the Ganges, "the deep silent flow of whose seven rivers" our Virgil too sings, goal of pilgrims who come to bathe and whose ashes will be committed to it; "daughter no less beautiful than her mother", no less great than her father, in as much as it is rarer for a woman to achieve supremacy in a state. We know of only three such elected by the votes of their peoples, hers by far the greatest.

Certainly from her earliest years she was plunged and tossed in the sea of politics; at four years she sat on her grandfather's knee during his trial, and when she saw both her parents carried off to prison, she went back to her nursery summoned a full assembly of her dolls, mounted a table as her rostrum, and in a passionate harangue fired them to deserve the same imprisonment, when they grew up, by their work for the freedom of their country. One doll, very dear to her, but British, she had to banish; and years later she had to ensure thirteen months of imprisonment, as we must remember with sorrow.

She had an apprenticeship rather than a childhood, and was always in the thick of the struggle, at its very pivot, when the Mahatma, Father of her country, became closely associated with her family. She fulfilled half of a Roman matrons' boast; she spun wool (like Gandhi), but she did not remain at home; at school in Poona (The pupil's Own school) she was elected Prime Minister of a mock Parliament, a pointer to the future, and passed to Tagore's University at Shantiniketan. Then with her parents she came to Switzerland, and so here to England, and to Somerville College (1936-41) in this University. Her stay was interrupted (in India November 1938 - April 1939) and distracted by various concerns (political) and for her future husband at London School of Economics.

Nor was she enchanted by the details of English history except for Joan of Arc; her father's letters from prison, "Glimpses of World History", had introduced her to the history of mankind.

A dangerous journey in wartime took her back to India, where by marriage she acquired the name

of the Master, in no relationship other than spiritual continuity. After her imprisonment, and the births of her two sons, when finally independence was achieved, she stood at her father's side for eighteen years, as the helper, hostess, companion on many journeys, of the first native Prime Minister.

Next she was elected President of Congress (the fourth Woman to be so) and entered politics on her own account, undertaking ever greater task. It must not be thought that she was wafted to her present eminence by some hereditary claim, as though power passed direct from father to daughter. She certainly follows her father's advice; "Be brave; all else will follow", but she has independently proved herself to her people, and served her father's successor (Lal Bahadur Shastri) faithfully as his Minister of Information and Broadcasting (1964-66).

Finally she was elected Leader of the Congress Party and in her second General Election she swept his opponents away with vastly increased authority. She has achieved many reforms already, as you know; the tasks ahead are enormous, especially in the present crisis.

Our gratitude is the greater that she was found time for us, graciously to visit this island, once in the centre, now on the edge of the West, a staging post between the Super-Powers, and to indicate her wish, we hope, to renew the bonds of friendship with us.

So we congratulate ourselves on this festive occasion, and when she returns to her immense tasks our good wishes will follow her, as we invoke every good fortune. Long live her father's symbol, the red rose; long live her mother's and son's the lotus.

I present to you **INDIRA PRIYADARSHINI GANDHI**, the renewer of ancient India, the pillar



STRUGGLE FOR SOLIDARITY

Divisive forces and tendencies have existed in all societies and at all times. Certainly these forces existed in India even during the years of the struggle for freedom, but the mainstream of nationalism was powerful enough to sidetrack them and also to fight them, and thus we were able to march ahead. Since Independence, we have had constantly to combat these forces in one form or another. Infact, the struggle for National Integration, the struggle for national solidarity, the struggle for safeguarding the ideals and aspirations embodied in our Constitution, has to be waged ceaselessly and tenaciously. I do not think a time can ever come when these forces will not want to raise their head. But it should be our endeavour to create an atmosphere and to create conditions in which this will not be possible and in which the whole of society will react against them.

—**Tmt. INDIRA GANDHI**

of its unity, and the untiring upholder of peace, the Mother of her country, for admission to the degree to Doctor of Civil Law "Honoris Causa".

Madam Prime Minister of India, and guide on its new path: "a woman to lead so great an enterprise"; daughter, pupil and heir at one remove, of the first leader of your free republic, your noble father; you who share the name and continue the spirit of the Mahatma.

I, by my authority and that of the whole University, admit you to the Degree of Doctor of Civil Law Honoris Causa.

(The citation of the Oxford University when the Degree of Doctor of Law Honoris Causa was bestowed on Thirumathi Indira Gandhi at an impressive ceremony on November 2, 1971, by the Rt. Hon. Harold Macmillan, the then Chancellor.)

NEWS IN PICTURES



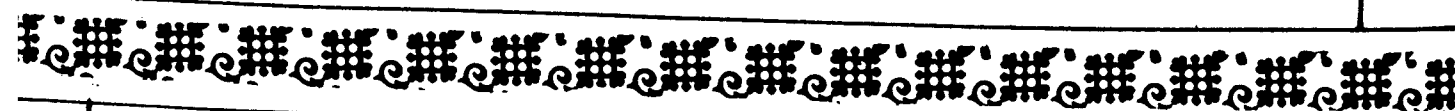
In connection with the Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations, His Excellency the Governor Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh and the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha garlanded the statue of Mahatma Gandhi (2.10.1991)

His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh administered an oath of office and secrecy to Thiru G. Viswanathan as Minister for Food at Raj Bhawan on 1st November, 1991. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha was present on the occasion.





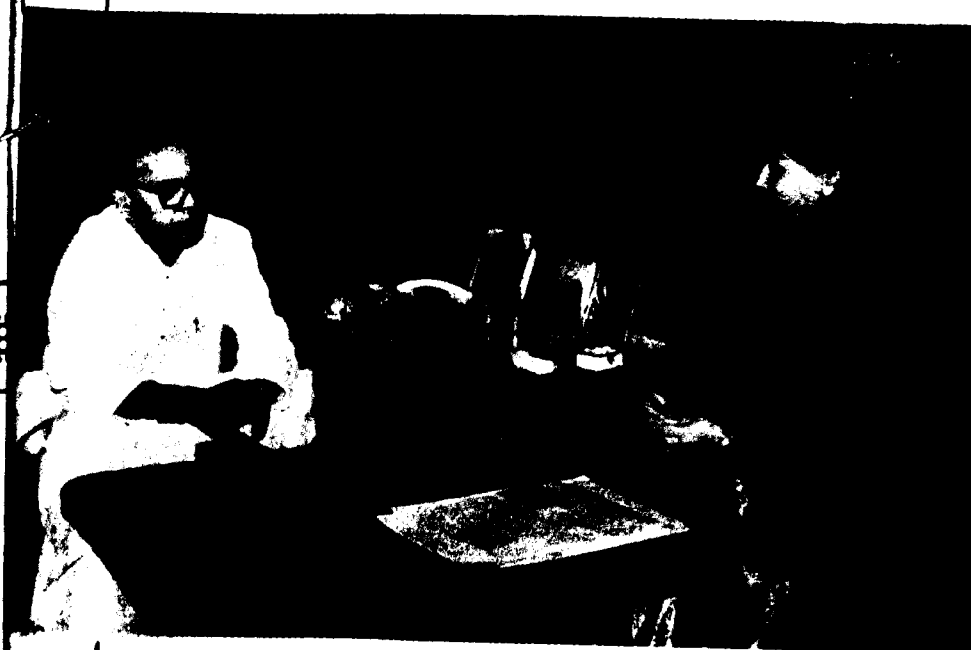
The Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V.Narasimha Rao at tea hosted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at her residence.



Thiru Ajit Kumar Panja, the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at her residence on 23rd October, 1991.



The Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru Manmohan Singh called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at her residence on 1st November, 1991.



The Hon'ble Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Thiru Pranab Mukherjee met the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at her residence on 1st November, 1991.

The Hon'ble Minister of State for Power and Non-Conventional Energy sources, Thiru Kalpanath Rai, called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at her residence on 26th October, 1991.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

30.9.91

★ The Minister for Local Administration, Thiru Azhagu Thirunavukkarasu said the city would be beautified under the "Madras Vision 2000" programme to be implemented at a cost of Rs.1,250 crore in five years.

1.10.91

The Minister for Electricity, Thiru S.Kannappan announced the following in the Assembly.

★ Under the Self-sufficiency scheme 1.6 lakh streetlights would be installed in two years with an allocation of Rs.30 crore.

★ 95,000 new power connections have been granted for agricultural, industrial, commercial and household purposes.

★ To check the low-voltage, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board would erect 37 Sub-stations.

★ A special Rs.8.39 crore scheme has been finalised to instal six sub-stations in Kanyakumari District alone.

★ The work has commenced at Pykara unit at the Sathanur dam to generate 150 MW of power at an estimated cost of Rs.114.87 crore.

7.10.91

★ A Titanium project at the cost of Rs.400 crore have been sanctioned and the work will start immediately at Palayamkayal, 10 kilometre from Tuticorin.

9.10.91

★ The Minister for Health, Thiru S.Muthusamy announced that a health check up for all will be attempted by the State Government by organising 10,000 Medical Camps over a period of 20 weeks. The camps will be of one day

duration. The plan is to have one camp for a population of 5,000. Drugs worth of Rs.2 crore will be supplied for these camps.

★ Employees of the State-owned Transport Corporations in Tamil Nadu would be given a bonus of 8.33 per cent and an ex-gratia payment of 5.67 per cent before Deepavali.

11.10.91

The taluks under Thanjavur and Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth Districts:-

★ The taluks of Thanjavur, Thiruvaiyaru, Orathanad, Kumbakonam, Thiruvaidaimarudur, Papanasam, Valangaiman, Pattukottai and Peravurani will constitute Thanjavur District.

★ The Nagapattinam-Quaid-e-Milleth District will have 11 taluks. They are Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, Nannilam, Kodavasal, Mayiladuthurai, Tarangambadi, Sirkali, Mannargudi, Needamangalam, Thiruthuraiipoondi and Vedaranyam.

12.10.91

★ The State Government is to launch a Rs.150 crore programme to improve passenger amenities in bus services. During the current year about 2,000 new buses will be acquired and 1,700 old vehicles will be replaced.

★ The Minister for Education, Thiru R.M.Veerappan announced that the State Government will issue orders that Tamil should be taught compulsorily in all the nursery schools in the State. Pupils have to pass a test in Tamil while joining sixth standard.

15.10.91

★ The Minister for Social Welfare, Tmt.

Indirakumari said all nutritious noon meal centres would be renovated. New kitchens would be constructed and chulas each costing Rs.230 would be set up. The Social Welfare Department has sought help from private social service organisations and industries to meet the cost of renovation.

18.10.91

★ The Minister for Agriculture, Thiru K.P.Krishnan said the State Government has decided to issue permanent identity cards to small and marginal farmers which would enable them to get easily the facilities made available to them. The distribution of these cards would first be taken up in Thanjavur District.

24.10.91

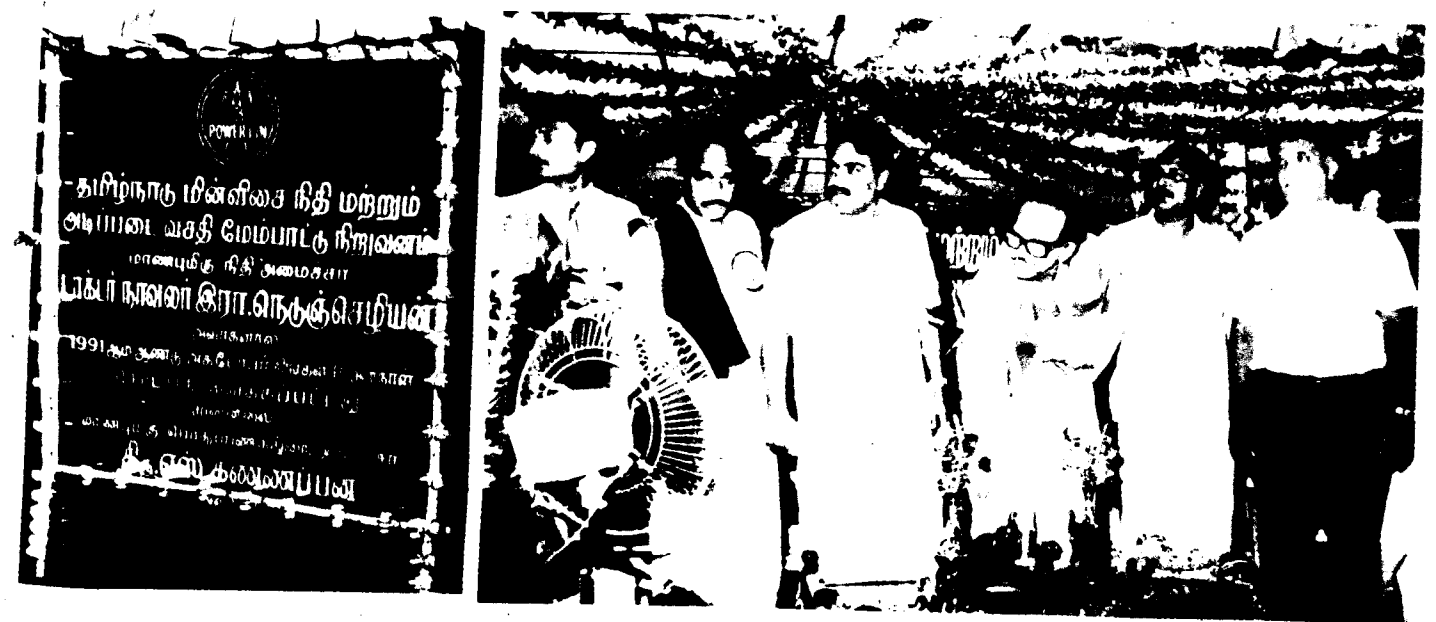
★ The Minister for Milk and Dairy Development Thiru D.Jayakumar announced that the Government would give away a bonus of 8.33 per cent and an ex-gratia of 5.67 per cent to employees of the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation for 1990-91. The maximum ex-gratia payment would be Rs.750.

25.10.91

★ The Minister for Public Works, Thiru S.Kannappan said the Government has formulated a Rs.200 crore project for modernising 2,500 irrigation tanks.

27.10.91

★ The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha has announced one additional instalment of Dearness Allowance for Tamil Nadu Government Employees with effect from 1st July, 1991. The revised DA will give a minimum benefit of Rs.67 and a maximum of Rs.315 per month, at the rate of 60 per cent of pay up to Rs.3,500.



TAMILNADU POWER FINANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited has been set up by the Government of Tamil Nadu with initial Share Capital contribution of Rs.10 Crore from the Government. The Corporation has been registered under the Companies Act 1956. Necessary Certificate of Incorporation and Commencement of Business have been obtained from the Registrar of Companies.

The Corporation has been set up with the basic objective of raising resources for the State and the power sector in particular through attractive public investment schemes, bonds, debentures and also by way of loans and investments by other financial institu-

tions. The resources thus generated are to be deployed in extending financial assistance including such types of assistance as hire purchase, leasing, loans and advances to the power sector and other State Public Sector Enterprises and assist their infrastructure development programmes.

The necessity for raising resources for the power sector projects needs no special emphasis what with the heavy backlog of much needed investments in the generation, distribution and transmission of power in the state. Substantial mobilisation of resources to specific projects in power sector are essential as a catalyst to the growth of agriculture and industry in the state. The TamilNadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation

will serve a useful purpose in this direction by providing meaningful alternatives to the investing public and playing a positive role as a financing window for major institutions like the IDBI, IFCI, ICICI etc., banks and discounts houses engaged in priority sector lending. The Corporation can also offer a medium term investment window to Central Sector Financial Institutions like LIC, GIC, UTI etc. so that the financial resources of these institutions can be channelised towards project lending for core sectors in the State like power generation and distribution.

The Corporation is launching its Fixed Deposits Schemes offering 14.5% for 25 months deposits and 15% for 36, 48, 60 months deposits respectively. Based on Reserve Bank of India regula-

ANNA'S REFLECTIONS

★ "Every problem has several aspects. Opinions may differ; that is but natural in democracy. We should critically examine and analyse the different opinions and choose the best one for efficient implementation. This is the best way of solving problems."

✧ The true treasure house of a Nation are the intrepid leaders who are driven by the soul force of idealism.

★ All ideals revolve round one fundamental ideal. It is that we should give the people a good, clean and fair life.

★ In any country of the World, society is reformed more by in-



dividual social reformers than by the people running the Government.

★ Adulteration of economic principles is a crime for which the present and future generations have to pay.

★ Democracy believes in human dignity.

★ The habit of drinking spoils not only ways of life but also the principles of life.

★ Buying books is different from borrowing books.

★ Either wealth or fertility should be consumed by people.

★ Duty, Dignity and Discipline.

★ Accumulation of wealth should not be the sole aim of man.

★ No language can equal one's mother tongue.

★ Our literature, art and architecture are fine specimens of human intelligence.

tions, the Corporation will offer quarterly payment of interest with facility for payment of interest once in a month and once in two months at slightly discounted rates. Loans on deposit will also be offered at Depositors' option with a 2% mark up on interest rates for the deposit. Being a State Government Enterprise, the Corporation will offer total security for the investments and the interest rates offered are on par with those offered by other leading private sector institutions in the field. Fully computerised operations and instant service to investors are introduced right from the beginning. The Corporation aims at excellent investor relationships combining high returns with total security cover for investments. Adequate publicity for the Corporation's investment schemes and close depositors contact are being planned to attract investors' interest and retain the investments to the best advantage of investors. Subject only to the directions of Reserve Bank of India from time to time the depositors will be offered the best of investments. Their interest will be kept upper most in the minds of the Corporation's personnel. The Corporation will function from its registered of-

fice at No.84, T.T.K. Road, Alwarpet (Near the Alwarpet Junction), Madras-18.

The inaugural function of this Corporation was held on 16.10.91. The function was presided by the Minister for Public Works Department, Thiru S.Kannappan. In his speech, he said the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha has deposited Rs.5 lakh from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, as the first deposit to the Corporation.

Thiru V.R.Nedunchezian, the Minister for Finance launched the Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation. In his speech, he said the setting up of this Corporation would lessen the burden of the Government in expansion schemes, new projects and in meeting the power demand. He said the State Electricity Board suffer great losses every year due to the subsidies given to agriculture, domestic and other sectors. People should proceed to think differently with a new concept regarding this subsidies. If the people of Tamil Nadu with their intelligence and ability work hard, the

day is not far off for Tamil Nadu to become the first State in India, as desired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha. To achieve this, a transformation of thoughts in the minds of the people has to happen. This finance Corporation would go a long way in realising our cherished goal. Industrialists who flock to other States due to the lack of power at home State could be brought back.

The Finance Minister Thiru V.R.Nedunchezian and the Minister for Public Works Department Thiru S.Kannappan personally deposited Rs.5,000 and Rs.6,000 respectively.

Thiru. Era Anbarasu, Thiru. Sridhar Members of the Parliament, Thiru Balaraman and Thiru Rangarajan, Members of the Legislative Assembly spoke on the occasion.

Thiru C.Chellappan IAS, Secretary, Public Works Department welcomed the gathering. Thiru C.Ramachandran IAS, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board introduced the schemes of the Corporation. Thiru C.Krishnan IAS, the Corporation's Managing Director proposed a vote of thanks.

EDUCATING THE POISON-EATERS IN THE PATH OF ELIMINATING DRUG ABUSE

Prof. K. Ponnusamy, Deputy Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

M. Chairman, Distinguished delegates;

Two thousands years ago the Immortal Bard Saint Thiruvalluvar Sang

துஞ்சினார் செத்தாரின் வேழல்வர்;
எஞ்ஞான்றும்
நஞ்சுண்டார் கள்ளஞ்சுண்டவர்.

They that sleep resemble the dead; (likewise) they that drink are no other than poison-eaters. He spoke of drink as poison but now the civilized world has produced Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances destroying the society the youth.

Prolonged drug abuse may cause persons to become defensive, violent or submissive, precluding them from taking part in the social events of normal life, which is the major cause of their social seclusion. Social problems, such as prostitution and gambling, are also often associated with drug abuse, which in association with a number of psycho-social factors, assumes an important role in the development of criminal, delinquent and anti-social behaviour.

Many commonly abused drugs are illegal and their possession and sale are forbidden by law. The nexus between drug abuse and criminal activity in the society, is obvious from the fact that the enormous profit generated from drug trafficking along international borders is mind boggling, though drug trafficking is recognised as a crime against humanity all over the world.

The traditional drugs of abuse in India have been Opium and herbal Cannabis.

Ganja, is known by scientific term Cannabis Sativa. Regular and prolonged use of cannabis may impair psychomotor and endocrine functions, reduce immunity and lower resistance to infection.

Aware of the untold sufferings due to consumption of life consuming drugs and lured by tonnes and tonnes of money, drug traffickers cultivate ganja. While the investment on a single plant is about Rs.10, the income from one plant is about Rs.600. A kilogram of processed ganja cost about Rs.1000 at the point of production while it is five to six times that amount in distant towns. Raising Ganja also means a threat to ecology, because of the felling of trees, which are considered silent oxygen producing factories.

In India, recent studies have linked drug peddling with arms smuggling and terrorism.

Trafficking in drugs and other related crimes generate huge illicit funds which are used to support other criminal activities, corruption, illicit arms trading and the smuggling of gold and currency.

In order to protect the people from pernicious drug-abuse, efforts should be taken continuously to educate people, about the evils of drinking and drug abuse by publicity through mass communication media and by encouraging voluntary organisation.

Provision for adequate de-addiction facilities, and strict enforcement of laws against the traffickers of narcotics, under the Narcotic Drugs and psychotropis Substances Act, 1985, and a publicity campaign for advertising the penal provisions contained therein, measures to check the inflow of drugs should be enforced strictly. Finally, by creating a strong women movement to fight drug abuse, this can be weeded out from India.

People should be made aware of the existence of de-addiction facilities.

The knowledge of the penal provisions of the drug law should be widely advertised.

Democracies of the world should come still closer to effectively counter this common enemy to mankind.

Exchange of information with regard to effective control strategies is very vital. There will be no doubt, whatsoever, that such collective endeavours would help co-ordinate the efforts in the direction of elimination of drug-abuse in a phased manner from the face of our earth.

Speech of Hon'ble Prof. K. Ponnusamy, M.Sc., B.L., Deputy Speaker Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly at 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, New Delhi on 25.9.91 ●

22nd WORLD STANDARDS DAY

World Standards Day is celebrated on 14 October each year in all International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) member countries. The initials (ISO and IEC) in an age in which abbreviations abound, may not readily be recognized. Yet they stand for two organizations, whose work however indirectly touches on the lives of millions of people throughout the world.

The ISO is the International Organization for Standardization, the IEC is the International Electrotechnical Commission. With their Headquarters in Geneva and national bodies in every major country, they are engaged in the fostering of international standardization. The International Electrotechnical Commission was founded in 1906, its first President being Lord Kelvin. The Commission's work embraces almost every sphere of electrotechnology from power which was its earliest concern, to telecommunications, electronics and electrodomestic appliances. In addition to promoting the Standardization of materials and equipment, the Commission aims to improve understanding between Electrical Engineers of all countries by drawing up a common means of expression.

The ISO was founded in 1947. The object of ISO is to promote the development of standards in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services and to developing mutual cooperation in intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity.

Standardization is by no means confined to scientific, or to industrial spheres. There is growing pressure for common standards in building construction, in banking and commerce, in transport and communications, in agriculture and forestry as well as in sectors of government such as Education and law making.

Technical Standards - as a communicating link between the buyer's needs and the producer's possibilities - make a vital contribution to Quality of life. Standards can lay down specifications and methods of measuring performance for almost any consumer product, such as vacuum cleaners, safety belts and helmets, washing machines, colour fastness of textiles etc. In to-day's world, however with an ever increasing international trade in consumer goods, there is a pressing need for international standards to ensure compatibility and comparability between similar products from any part of the world, and at the same time help to remove barriers to free flow of consumer goods and thus lower prices. That is why the work of ISO is of immediate interest to the consumer. The work of ISO is aimed at world-wide agreement on international standards with a view to the expansion of trade, the improvement of quality, increased productivity and lowering costs.

World Standards Day celebrations are aimed at promoting, at national level, the concept of standardization and its effects on everyday life; utilization of Standardization as a means for developing national economy and creating public awareness of the concept of standardization which is essential for the well being and cohesiveness of the international community of nations.

As in the earlier years, India is celebrating World Standards Day this year along with other countries of the World. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is organizing Seminars, lectures and get-together etc to focus on the importance of standardization. The celebrations are organised at BIS Headquarters and various Regional and Branch Offices.

In Tamilnadu the functions are organized at Madras, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli and Tirunelveli. This year's World Standards Day theme will be "Safety at Work."

- Bureau of Indian Standards



BHARATHIDASAN'S POEMS FOR JUVENILES

Dr. Palany Arangasamy
Professor & Head
Department of Translation
Tamil University

In about two thousand years of the history of Tamil literature, the conspicuous fact is that its ancient poetry is of high seriousness. Every other Tamil poetical work of the past needs a commentary to wade through. Even ripe scholars of commendable talent will tumble down in comprehending the poetic texts of the ages past. Harsh diction, complex structure, archaic form and elevated style along with a terseness have made these texts hardly accessible. In such a situation, until the later half of the nineteenth century, the tiny tots and young children were taught Tamil in a rigid grammatical

and literary pattern that heavily relied on the faculty of memory. Without the help of an elderly scholar, they cannot keep abreast of the broad vistas of ancient Tamil literature. So was the position in Sanskrit and other Indian languages also.

The Gurukula system of education nurtured in India for generations together afforded little scope for developing young children's initiatives and innate talents. As noted above, the ancient cankam and other classics were hardly comprehensive to youngmen and literates and by themselves they cannot go through them. But those classics are abound in references to the pretty young

and children in succeeding generations, imagination ran riot in conceptualizing even the Gods and Goddesses as children and celebrating them in a fictionalized literature known as Pillait-tamil.

But the irony behind all these is, a sort of literature exclusively for children, meant for their reading and singing seems to be a twentieth century phenomena. Even the earliest collection of tales for children, *Paramartha Guru Kathai* needed an Italian missionary to render it in Tamil and that too in prose. But easily comprehensible and simple poems for children are available only from the poetic cornucopia of Subramanya Bharathi. He, as a radical revolutionary

heralded a new era of poetry not only with his socio-religious and political themes but also in style and form. He kept a few pages set apart for young children and adolescents.

Since Bharathi's time, poetry was no longer the prerogative of the elitist and the learned. It was mitigated of its rigors and made easy to be enjoyed by young men and women. In other words, Bharathi has extended the domains of poetry to young children and old men alike and so too Bharathidasan, his successor. Bharathidasan's slender volume *Ilaignar Ilakkiyam*, Literature for the young is purposely written for young children. The only juvenilia of Bharathidasan runs to about hundred and twenty pages with one hundred and thirty poems arranged in nine sections. Since March, 1958, the year of its publication, the fact that it has undergone eight editions until 1988 is rather fair in local standards.

Bharathidasan says in his introduction that the poems contained therein are readable, relevant and suitable to the students of all ages. He also opines that among the reading public, especially the young, poetry is capable of driving home a point better than prose. The art of rhetoric serves as a catalyst to enrich one's own memory beside enabling the young to enjoy the poems by themselves. In any language, the rhythmical quality of poetry, aided by melliflous and sonorous epithets along with lexically operating onomatopoeiac and mnemonic properties linger long in boyish memory. But this doesn't mean that Bharathidasan, is analogous to Edward Lear of liméric verses. Lear is known, for his nonsense poems and animals that belong to the realm of fairy tale. Bharathidasan doesn't believe either in nonsense verses or in animals and their grotesque and

comical illustrations; nor his poems are akin to the weird creations of Lewis Carroll.

The Tamil poet has not created a world of fantasy for amusing the young. He doesn't make things supernatural for the sake of entertainment. But instead, he writes a short poem on Ghosts to ensure the young that there are no such beings in the world. No weird and unnatural creations are found in his output. Bharathidasan is pragmatic in everything he writes and of course he writes with candour, liveliness and simplicity. He endearingly instructs and enliveningly amuses the young and old, with examples drawn from work-a-day world. His animals are those that we see around us and the incidents that he points out are all drawn from every walk of life.

Unlike the English counterparts who rely at times on gaudy and inane phraseology that leads to a mere meaningless amusement, Bharathidasan has a significant method of songs that are structured to have a wide coverage. The purpose behind his unique achievement is obvious if one glances through the contents. The first section starts with glorification of mother-tongue, passes on to Nature and common sense. Besides a section on vehicles it is extended to Vocations. Living Beings, Laughter and Narrative Songs. A small section on Aubade has half-a-dozen poems that revolve around lullaby. In their totality, all the meaningful rhymes of this volume are educative and instructive besides providing a panoramic view of day-to-day life and certain benevolent aspects of Nature. Rhythmically some of the poems are baby-games, lullabies and counting rhymes.

Very rarely the poet indulges in pun and equivocation. Even when they occur, they are devoid of any complexity. A poem entitled *Are you the Tamil*, is purported to have been addressed to a young girl of

adolescent age. The title is given adroitly in such a way that Tamil is impersonated as a girl to whom the following question is posed.

Oh! ye, the girl of Tamil, the girl of Tamil

Why have you read Tamil?

The response from the lass is transliterated below.

Tamizh padit-ten, athai unnath-than

Tamizh-padit-ten-

The Tamil is a measure of honey

And to devour it, I studied it.

The two opening syllables in the first line of the Tamil version, in one sense mean 'Tamil is a measure of honey! The same two syllables of the second line, though verbally the same, means, I studied it! The implication is that studying Tamil is as sweet as tasting a measure of honey. This verbal jugglery is embedded in words that are familiar and understandable.

Similes and metaphors are so simple as to help graphically portraying the men and matters around us. The summer months of April and May are the cruellest. A poem of octuples bring out the sultriness and severity of summer eve.

Dry leaves are the pappads roasted
Boils soon, if trodded on the burning sand
Water poured into the tub gets terribly hot
Flower blossomed in orchids is withering soon;
Attic room with a cot, an unbearable oven.

Assonance, alliteration, half-rhyme, end-rhyme are effectively handled elsewhere by the poet. All these rhetorical devices are applied in a lucid style known for its simple diction and gentle movement. Under the caption, Nature,

one get a panoramic view of sylvan surroundings characterised by rain, tank, muddy pool, lotus ponds, lake, river, beach, sea, green-fields, groves, coconut tree, garden, park, mountain, stars and the moon.

A noticeable feature of this section of Nature poems is that there are eight songs that speak of the moon itself. One song alone is on the crescent moon. The rest are different in their form and content, though the source-material is one and the same. They bear ample testimony to the rare talent and rich imagination of the poet.

Under the section, knowledge, eight short poems are titled alike-

odd moments, found scribbling on the walls. In emerging out of homes, they, on seeing a stray-dog start pelting it with stones and picking up quarrels with friends. Similar mischievous acts and foolish pranks they do indulge, every now and then. It is these common follies that are noticeable among boys and girls, he gently dissuades. The aim of another poem 'useless work' is also of the same pattern, humourously dissuading them from doing certain evil actions.

Forgetfulness is not desirable. But still men are bound by it due to many reasons. Championing of this human folly by Robert Lynd in his humorous essay *Forgetting*

it elsewhere. The next day when tracing it back, he spent a lot of time - an avoidable waste. Similarly he misplaced the small needle and ran about in recovering it from elsewhere. Bharathidasan has a nice poem on the evils of absent-mindedness.

Bharathidasan may not have been ignorant of a very well-known nursery song - Solomon Grundy. However a poem reminiscent of this is found in the volume. Both these songs enumerate the seven days of a week to enable school-goers to memorize them in the order.

Solomon Grundy
Born on Monday



Behave properly. But their contents are not alike. They briefly enumerate how young and the teenaged lads should behave and act in their day-to-day life. This doesn't mean that the poet indulges in dry moralizing. Not at all. He is neither pedagogic nor disciplinarian with certain do's and don'ts. In brief and sweet readable lines, spiced with humor, he persuades the young to do the right things in ordinary life. In average households, sometimes the young ones get up, forgetting to fold up the beddings and in

need not be taken a very serious note of in this context. The reputed English essayist says, 'Who would have trusted Socrates and Coleridge to post a letter? Absent mindedness is a great virtue in them!

Under normal circumstances, one is apt to forget, due to old age. Even young people are vulnerable to it because of a careless way of misplacing things at home. Kannan groomed his hair after anointing his head. He should have placed the oil-bottle there itself but in an absent-mindedness he put

Christened on Tuesday
Married on Wednesday
Ill on Thursday
Worse on Friday
Died on Saturday
Buried on Sunday

At elementary level, the object of this nursery rhyme is to list out the seven days of the week. At a mature level, it implies that human life is short and also hints at the possibility of resurrection. Bharathidasan's poem listing the days of the week does not connote that much of subtlety and depth in meaning but rhythmically lists out

the seven days of the week.

Sunday the first day
Subsequent Monday, the second
Oncoming Tuesday the third
And then Wednesday the fourth
Appeareth Thursday the fifth
Followed by Friday the sixth
And at length Saturday the seventh
utter these ye, unfailingly.

The section *Vehicles* is a collection of very interesting portrayals of all available conveyances, both old as well as modern. There are poems on bullock-cart, single and double, horse drawn carriage, bicycle, motor-cycle, bus, lorry, train, boat, ship and aeroplane. A perusal of these sketches reveal that they are not mechanically delineated. The poems are interspersed with practical suggestions humourously conveyed—one should not be rash in driving, the boat-men must be extra careful, the motor-cyclists should attend to the wear and tear of the vehicle et cetera. A train is about to arrive in a platform. Narayan's daughter is getting herself decked with jewels and silk fabric; hectically running about in search of a small casket of kum-kum. In her undue hurry, she runs around everywhere, leaving it in the very place where she sat a few minutes before. Her frantic search for the casket has not yet ended, but the train wended its way to the station next.

Similar is the pattern in which the artisans of a typical village—potter, goldsmith, mason, balcksmith, carpenter besides a gypsy girl, errand-boy and lock-mender are portrayed. These are sections on living-beings such as fowls, doves, dogs, parrots and crows.

The entire volume is would up with nine narrative songs which form part of the last section. Self-conceit and boastfulness are not desirable qualities. A note of caution to avoid these, is hinted at in



a poem of four stanzas—crow and the ant.

The English literature abounds in voluminous nursery songs such as *Rhymes without Reason*, *A Book of Non-sense Rhymes* and *The Oxford Book of Nursery Rhymes*. They include poems that could be called as cacophony, high-sounding, artificial and mere hotch-potch. Devoid of all these jumbles, what the Tamil poet does is realistic, enlivening and interesting. Bharathidasan's co-eval is Deiskavinayagam Pillai. But

unlike Kavimani who sought source-material from English poets like William Blake, Goodrich and Emerson Bharathidasan is original as well as reasonably imaginative.

Bharathidasan wrote *Ilaigai Ilakkiyam* in his sixty seventh year of his age. He had the credit of having written more than hundreds and hundreds of poetical lines. Surprisingly, such a proven experience and maturity have not made him desist from writing for young children. This is comparable to what is said of Rabindranath Tagore. Satyajit Ray says that the great Nobel Laureate wrote in his old age a book of nursery rhymes which in Bengali called *Khapchhara*. Strictly speaking what Tagore wrote was also of 'the variety of nonsense lyrics' unlike Bharathidasan who wrote songs for the young objectively and picturesquely but without any detriment to simplicity, humour, fun and amusement, the essential pre-requisites of nursery poems in general.

The only juvenilia of Bharathidasan is meant for boys and girls of primary stage. But in practice, this slender volume is sold among the adults also, excepting the fact that certain individual songs are printed for class-use in the text-books of elementary sections. What is desirable is that this entire volume should be printed with nice illustrations so as to be evocative and appealing among the young learners. A rhyme book will be uninteresting to young children unless it is accompanied by illustration of a moderate size without out-doing the text. In the days to come, if not earlier, leading publishers in Tamil Nadu should think of bringing out the short and simple poems of this volume with multi-colour illustrations. That will also prove to be a tribute to the memory of Bharathidasan, the dynamic poet of the modern age.

NEW STRATEGIES

TO BOOST SMALL SAVINGS MOBILISATION

IN TAMIL NADU

The Small Savings Schemes are aimed at promoting and encouraging savings among the public to meet foreseen and unforeseen expenses in future and raising resources to finance development programmes of Governments. These are various types of Schemes to suit variety of purposes or needs of individuals some want high returns, some others look for regular income, still others want relief from high income tax.

There are schemes to suit these needs which may meet foreseen expenses like son's education, daughter's marriage or construction of a house.

The different categories of schemes are:

I. High return oriented schemes

1. Indira Vikas Patra
2. Kisan Vikas Patra

II. Tax Relief Schemes

1. National Savings Scheme 1987
2. National Savings Certificate VIII Issue
3. Public Provident Fund

III. Regular Income Earning Schemes

1. Post office Monthly Income Scheme
2. Deposit Scheme for retiring Government Employees
3. Deposit Scheme for retiring Public Sector Companies.



Thiru K. Allaudin, I.A.S.,
Director of Small Savings and
Social Security

IV. Other Schemes

1. 5 year Post Office Recurring Deposit Account
2. Post Office Time Deposit
3. Post Office Savings Bank Account

The phenomenal increase in Small Savings collection in Tamil Nadu in the last few years, is noteworthy and indicates the people's willingness to save for the future

and acceptance of small savings. There is conscious effort on the part of different sections of the people to earmark part of their income to save for the future by depositing in various small saving schemes which confer the dual benefit of tax-savings and providing funds for specific needs like marriage, educational expenses of the children in future. Deposit stiff competition from Banks, Mutual funds etc, the Government of Tamil Nadu achieved a net target of about Rs.400/- crore during 1990-91. The Government of Tamil Nadu are adopting new strategies to attract agents/investors through schemes like:

1. 1% cash incentive to investors
2. Incentive scheme for agents
3. District level gift linked savings scheme
4. Regional level flat linked savings scheme
5. Prize coupon scheme for agents
6. Bonus scheme for agents.

1. 1% cash incentive to investors

During the year 1991-92, public who invest Rs.1,000 or above in small savings schemes except Indira Vikas Patra, 1 and 2 year T.Ds and R.D. Schemes in the Post Offices in Tamil Nadu, will be paid 1% cash incentive. The procedure for payment of incentive being streamlined to facilitate prompt disbursement.

2. Incentive scheme for agents

SAS, MPKBY, PPF agents are paid incentives by Government of Tamil Nadu on the basis of commission earned from Government of India. It is equivalent to the commission earned from Government of India for SAS and PPF agents while it is 50% of the amount of commission earned for MPKBY agents. The agents incentive was hitherto paid in the form of Indira Vikas Patra only. But the Government have now ordered that 50% of the incentive will be paid in cash and 50% in any form of small savings scrips. This is expected to give great boost to the small savings Agents.

3. District Level Free Gift Coupon Scheme

Under this scheme, one gift coupon is issued free for every investment of Rs.500 in specified small savings schemes in the Post Offices in Tamil Nadu. Each series, has one lakh coupons and draw will be conducted after issue of all the one lakh gift coupons in that series total of 352 prizes ranging from Maruti Car as Bumper prize to Elcot Wall Clock as consolation prize are offered to investors. The scheme will be implemented throughout the year from 1.4.91.

4. Regional Level 'Own-a-Flat' Scheme

Under the scheme, one gift coupon is free for every investment of Rs.2,000 in specified small savings schemes in the Post Offices in Tamil Nadu. Each series has one lakh coupons and draw will be conducted after completion of issue of all the one lakh gift coupons. The scheme comprises 682 prizes ranging from MIG, LIG flats as 1 & II prizes to Wall Clock as consolation prize. The scheme will benefit all investments from 1.4.91. Though it was meant to last till 30.9.91 it is proposed to extend the scheme in view of demand from public and agents.



5. Prize coupon scheme for agents

Government have introduced 'Prize coupons scheme for small savings agents' for 1991-92 for the first time. Under this scheme, one free gift coupon will be issued to the Agents for canvassing and getting deposit of Rs.10,000 in small savings schemes. There will be one lakh coupons for each series and these coupons shall be issued to the small savings agents throughout the State of Tamil Nadu. There shall be a draw for each series of one lakh coupons. The total number of prizes is 900, first prize being 5 Nos. of Scooters and the consolation prize being wall clock.

6. The 'Bonus' Scheme for agents

The Government have also sanctioned 'Bonus scheme to the small savings agents' under which agents who canvased deposits from prize winning investors (first three prizes only) under both Regional Level Flat scheme and District level Free gift coupons scheme will be given

bonus prize of Mofa or bicycle or Brief case.

The investing public are requested to avail the benefit of investors incentive scheme and gift schemes, invest their money in small savings and provide for future security of the family. It is also proposed to launch special campaign to popularise small savings schemes among the student thro' Sanchayika and inculcate the habit of thrift and savings even while they are young. Thus campaign will aim at 100% coverage of all students in middle schools and above.

Similarly, we are preparing for special campaign to mobilise deposits in I.V.P., K.V.P., RD & TD etc. during Harvest seasons and bonus seasons by offering various incentives to the public as above. The public may avail of these opportunities and invest in small savings schemes which give good returns and are highly secure and help mobilise additional resources for the Government.

TAMIL NADU KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board is striving its best in ameliorating the living condition of the rural artisans through Khadi and Village Industries Schemes since its inception on 1.4.1960 (for the past 31 years). It stands first in the implementation of Village Industries at All India level and second in Khadi Programme.

The Board's activities are implemented through a 3 tier system as follows:-

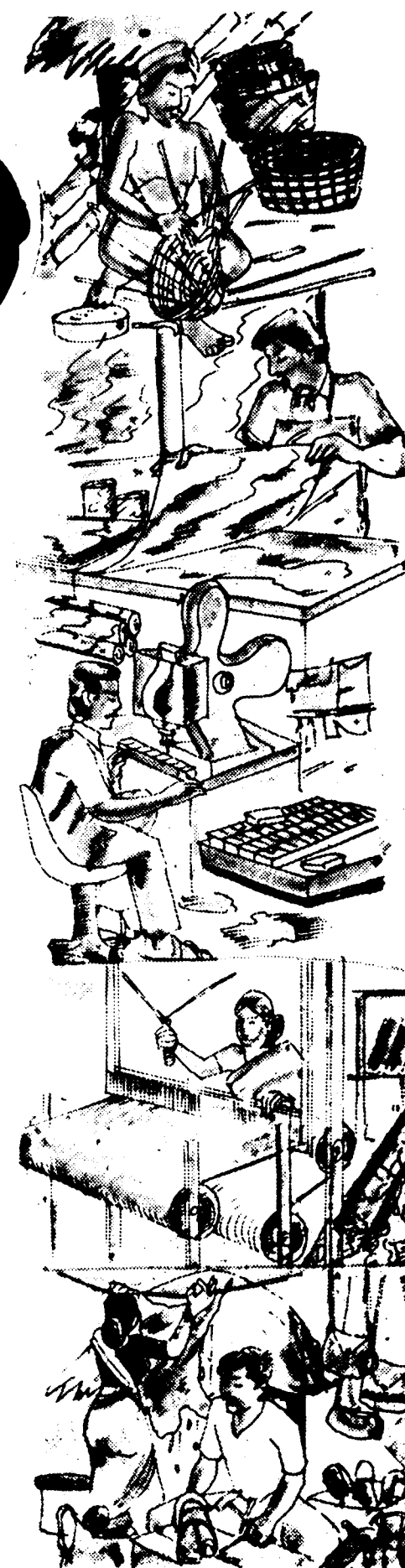
i. Board's Own Units	...	1,239
ii. Industrial Cooperative Societies	...	1,587
iii. Individual artisans	...	67,170

The Board's performance during 1990-91 and the Target for 1991-92 are as follows:-

	Achievement in 1990-91	Target for 1991-92
	(Rupees in Crore)	
PRODUCTION:		
i. Khadi	20.29	25.00
ii. Village Industries	251.59	275.00
SALES:		
i. Khadi	24.85	29.00
ii. Village Industries	280.77	310.00
Employment Provided	...	10.00 lakh individuals
of this		
a. S.C./S.T.	...	1.85 lakh individuals
b. Women	...	4.05 lakh individuals

During the Current year 1991-92 the Board proposes to generate additional employment opportunities to one lakh persons.

For the year 1991-92, it has been programmed to open 25 Khadi Kraits in the State.



5 New Detergent Soap Manufacturing Units will be started during this year.

The Board has taken over the defunct Art Pottery Unit of the Government at Virudhachalam for its revival.

To improve the designs of Khadi, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.3 lakhs for replacement healds and reeds for 1000 weavers.

To improve the marketing in the Khadi Kraft at Kuralagam, which is the biggest Khadi Sales Centre in India, Government have permitted to introduce Computer.

The Government is also considering the proposal of providing Air Conditioning to this prestigious Khadi Kraft.

The Board will be associating itself in promoting and developing Gem Cutting Industry from this year onwards.

During this year Gandhi Jayanthi and Deepavali Special rebate period, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the Government of Tamil Nadu are giving a special rebate at 10% on the sale of all varieties of Khadi.

Thus the total rebate now allowed will be as follows:-

i. Khadi (Cotton)	... 35%
ii. Polyester	... 30%
iii. Silk	... 20%
iv. Bamboo and Safta	... 30%
v. Woollen	... 20%



The above special rebate is made available from 2.10.91 to 4.11.91.

The Board has fixed target of Rs.24.10 crore for Khadi Sales during this Deepavali period throughout the State. Out of this, Rs.3.40 crore will be sold through this Khadi Kraft at Kuralagam.

Wrapper Contents

I wrapper:

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Thiru P.V.Narasimha Rao, received by His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha at the Meenambakkam Airport, Madras.

II Wrapper:

Portrait of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

IV Wrapper:

At the inaugural function of Nagapattinam-Quaid-e-Milleth District, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J.Jayalalitha, addressing amidst lakhs of people.

Exotic Designs for the New Year

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TAMIL ARASU

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Thiruvalluvar Year 2022

Karthikai - Markazhi

DECEMBER - 1991

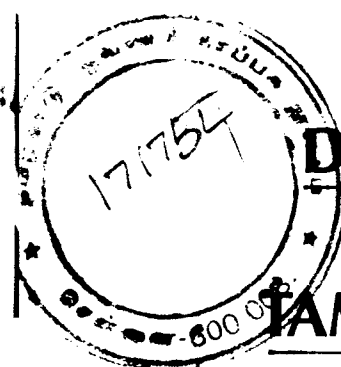
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- ★ IMPLANTS.
- ★ Preservation of Temples and Sculptures in Ancient Tamil Nadu.

— *Natana Kasinathan*
Director of Archaeology
Government of Tamil Nadu.

- ★ Ecological role played by Snakes.
- ★ Wild Life Sancturries.





DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE TAMIL NADU CRICKET ASSOCIATION



The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association was inaugurated by His Excellency the President of India, Thiru R. Venkataraman on 19th November, 1991 at the Madras University Centenary Hall, Madras.

The President lauded the contribution of Tamil Nadu Cricket Association in the progress, growth and development of the game in India and appreciated the Yeoman services rendered by Thiru M.A. Chidambaram and Thiru S. Sriraman. The magnificent Chidambaram Stadium bore testimony to their initiative and enterprise, he said.

Speaking on the occasion, His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh, said apart from its general appeal as a premier Indian sport, cricket was a great leveller. Only a healthy body develop a healthy mind and

only a healthy mind could develop qualities of patience, fearlessness, fortitude, equanimity of mind and forbearance. All this was necessary for a person to be contended and happy. Sports and games also help to develop positive emotions and offer opportunities for team spirit, co-operative efforts, self-discipline, leadership and other qualities for the development of character and personality, he said.

He added that the Chief Minister had been evincing keen interest in supporting schemes aimed at improving the sports infrastructure in the State to meet the requirements for staging international competitions.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivar J. Jayalitha, who delivered the Diamond Jubilee address and released the Jubilee Souvenir said,

"I have great pleasure in associating myself with the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Tamil

Nadu Cricket Association. I thank the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, for having given me the privilege of delivering the Diamond Jubilee Celebration address and also of releasing the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir, before this distinguished gathering.

It may be of interest to you to know that I am a life member of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association. I have played some cricket during my childhood days. However, though I may not have played Cricket in a professional sense, I have been an avid viewer of the game. I am happy that today we are celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association in a grand manner, quite befitting the tremendous service it has rendered to the cause of cricket, not only in Tamil Nadu but in the whole country. It is a matter of great pride and joy to all of us that the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association has become synonymous with the highest standards of administration, and the best traditions of service to the cause of Cricket, worthy of emulation by similar Associations in our country.

Cricket had its origin in England, but it has now conquered the world. Even the United States of America has been charmed by it. There is a certain magical quality about its appeal that casts a powerful spell on millions all over the world. To us in India Cricket has become a passion! It used to be said that Cricket is a gentleman's game! I am sure it still is! It has also become a ladies' game and we in our country have a lot of talent, which we all must encourage! It may interest you to know that Cricket in fact originated as a ladies game, played by the ladies of the Court of England during the time of Queen Elizabeth I or "Good Queen Bess" as she was popularly known, so there is nothing really surprising about women playing cricket in these modern times.

W.G. Grace, a great writer on cricket states that cricket is played by "high and low; rich and poor". Cricket is one sport, which has neither recognised nor respected any class distinctions. I may add, the historic French Revolution may not have taken place at all, if only the French Nobility had played cricket with the peasantry! It has no caste, no creed. I hope you will agree with me, if I say that in these troubled times we should all play cricket and unify the world!

Trends that are threatening global peace and the purposeful existence of mankind, can be effectively checked only by pursuits such as sports, in particular, a gentleman's sport like cricket, which is capable of generating positive values such as good will and love for peace among the people.

I must say that India has assimilated cricket so well, that certain important milestones and records in the game of Cricket have been established by our Indian Cricketers. The highest run-getter in Test Cricket is an Indian; similarly, I hope, the distinction for highest wicket-taking will also come the Indian way soon.

Tamil Nadu's contribution towards Indian Cricket, over the decades, has been splendid. Our Tamil Nadu Cricketers, who worked hard, ultimately to wear National colours, have all played very well and have done Tamil Nadu proud by fulfilling their potential and with their consistently good performance. I hope the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association will continue to nurture carefully the talent among our youth with renewed vigour. The Tamil Nadu Team did us proud, just a few years ago, by winning for the second time the prestigious Ranji Trophy, which is considered to be one of the great achievements in the Indian Cricket scene. I hope the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association's efforts in this direction will enable Tamil Nadu to win more such Trophies in the future too.

Cricketers, from all over the world always look forward to playing in Madras. Such is the spontaneous show of love towards the game; such is the magnitude of the knowledgeable crowd, that assembles in the famous M.A. Chidambaram Stadium every time a test match is played, that it is no wonder that every Cricket season spells festivity and celebration all over Tamil Nadu.

The Government recognised the merits of the game early enough to give the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association the decisive lease on the land, which once belonged exclusively to the Madras Cricket Club. Our Government is earnest about recognising and encouraging the genuinely talented among our youth in the field of sports. The Directorate of Sports and Youth Services in Tamil Nadu, through its wide coverage of schemes, has been trying to give a facelift to the entire sports scenario in Tamil Nadu.

Modernization of existing stadia like the Nehru Stadium, is one of the major steps that we are taking right now. Similarly, creation of more infrastructural facilities in all such sports complexes, irrespective of the game, is dear to our heart. I am sure, with the spontaneous and willing co-operation of the people of Tamil Nadu, our Government will be able to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of thousands of urban and rural youth, who are serious about achieving high standards of excellence in sports.

It was with this noble ideal in his mind that my Leader, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. worked



ceaselessly towards building both the physical and intellectual calibre of our youth, through his revolutionary schemes such as the Nutritious Free Noon Meal Scheme for children. Our Government has already addressed itself to the task of planning and executing schemes, which will promote alround development in Tamil Nadu, including sports. It was the AIADMK Government headed by Dr. M.G.R. which granted an exemption from property tax to the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association. The Government also waived property tax on those areas of the stadium, not fetching rental income.

Today, many of the popular games are nurtured by big Industrial houses, through active sponsorship. While welcoming this, I wish to assure you that our Government is solidly behind the efforts of such well-run Associations as the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association. We will, on our part, do everything in our power to help and encourage everyone talented in sports, in his or her pursuit of excellence.

On the happy occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, I congratulate the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association for its excellent achievements in the past, and I also extend my Best Wishes for its continued prosperity and success in the future".

The first copy of the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir, released by the Chief Minister was received by Thiru. Madhav Rao Scindia, the Union Minister for Civil Aviation.

Earlier, all the dignitaries jointly lighted the "Kuthuvilakku".

Thiru M.A. Chidambaram, Chairman, Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Committee presented a report. Thiru Balu Alaganan, President, TNCA, welcomed the gathering.

Thiru U. Prabhakar Rao, Secretary and Thiru V.A. Parthasarathy, Joint Secretary, also spoke on the occasion.

Thiru Parthasarathy read out a message from the Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Four Cricket personalities involved in the development of the game were presented mementoes by the Governor Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh, who is also the patron-in-chief of the TNCA.

Those who received the mementoes were Thiru M.J. Gopalan, Thiru A.G. Ramsingh, Thiru S. Sriraman and Thiru C.R. Pattabhiraman, former Union Minister and Ex-President of the TNCA.

All the State Ministers, besides many dignitaries, Thiru M. Gopalakrishnan, Chairman of the Indian Bank, attended the function.

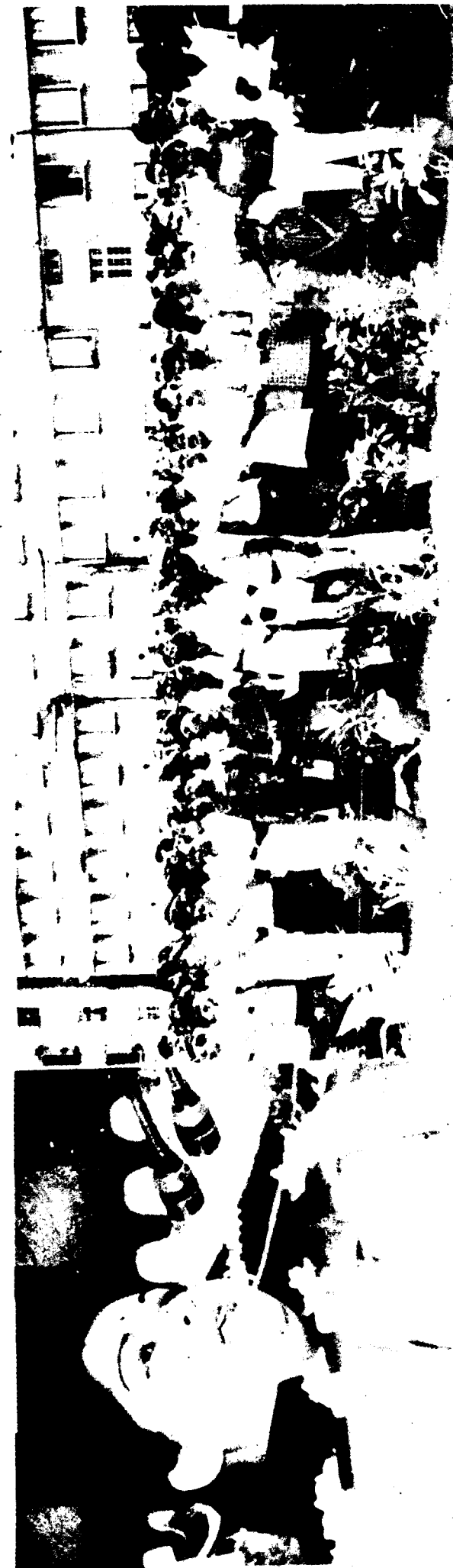
National Integration Day

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha administered the National Integration Pledge to a huge gathering of Government employees at the Secretariat on 19th November 1991.

The 74th birth anniversary of the Late Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi was observed as the National Integration Day. As the Chief Minister read out the pledge the gathering repeated it. They pledged to serve, to preserve and strengthen the country's independence and integration and solve all problems within the framework of the constitution in a peaceful way. Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary to Govt. and Secretaries of various Departments participated in the ceremony.

Madras Varsity to confer D.Litt on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha.

The Senate of the Madras University unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the proposal of the Syndicate to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature (D.Litt) on the Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha on 15th November, 1991.





FLOODS IN TAMIL NADU

The depression which lay centred 650 km East South East of Madras on 12th November 91, crossed the coast of Tamil Nadu near Karaikkal in the early hours of 15th causing intensive damage to public and private property. As the result of the cyclonic storm heavy rain lashed Tamil Nadu flooding several villages.

In Madras as the city continued to reel under the impact of the heavy rain people living in low-lying areas were evacuated and lodged in Corporation Schools as the rain water entered their huts. Food packets were distributed to the people of flooded slums. Baling out of water with pumpsets and clearing garbage was done at warfooting. The fire service and the city police were on their toes

attending to complaints of flooding and collapse of walls. Madras Collector Tmt. Jayashree Balachander I.A.S., accompanied by Revenue Officials, visited several flood-hit areas and supervised relief operations.

Chief Minister in rain-hit areas

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha visited the rain-hit areas in North and South Madras on 16th November, 1991 and consoled the affected families. Unmindful of the drizzle, the Chief Minister went round various areas and received petitions from the public. She ordered officials to speed up the relief works and distributed bread and food packets to the affected people. She instructed Members of the Legislative

Assembly to arrange alternative shelter to those living in flooded areas.

The Chief Minister in the morning of 16th, travelling by jeep visited the worst hit areas in North Madras. After inspecting the damage at Royapuram, she went to Kasimedu and distributed food packets to the people living in slum. She received petitions and enquired about availability of essentials. Then she saw the damage caused by sea erosion at Poongavanakuppam in Tiruvotiyur and assured the people that prompt action would be taken to prevent it. Driving through Tiruvotiyur High Road, she met the people at Vannarapettai and walked to Bhojarajanagar slum crossing a railtrack to see the huts



which were under knee-deep water. She promised new shelters for the people.

Driving through knee-deepwater from Basin Bridge to Vyasarpadi she distributed food packets to people living near Dr. Ambedkar College. Returning on the same route she collected petitions on her way and also from the slum dwellers near the Secretariat.

Then driving along the entire stretch of Periar Salai, she went to Arumbakkam and assured the people that prompt relief actions would be taken. From there, the

Chief Minister passing through the 100 ft. Ring road, Saligramam, Vadapalani, Ashok Nagar and K.K.Nagar went to MGR Nagar and distributed food packets.

Then, Via, Eekkaattuthangal and Guindy she went to Saidapet. She got down and saw the waterlogged slums on both the sides of Maraimalai Adigalar bridge and enquired about the relief operations being done. She distributed food packets to the people who had taken shelter in the Teacher's College, Saidapet.

For four hours she toured the

rain-hit areas and ordered the officials to take the necessary relief operations. The Chief Minister, who was informed of the bad situation of the people who had been badly hit by the cyclone and flood in Chengalpattu-MGR District directed the Chief Secretary to seek the help of the Army and Navy for relief operations.

Hon'ble Ministers	Thiru
K.A. Krishnasamy,	Thiru
K.A. Sengottaiyan,	Thiru E. Madhu
Soodhanan,	Thiru Azhagu
Thirunavukkarasu,	Thiru
T.M. Selvaganapathy,	Thiru





Mohammed Asif, Thiru M. Anandan, Thiru D. Jayakumar, the Chief Minister's Secretary, Thiru S.R. Karuppannan, IAS, Joint Secretary, Thiru K. Ganesan IAS, Madras Collector, Tmt. Jayashree Balachander IAS, Madras Corporation Commissioner, Thiru M. Ramu IAS and Special Officer (In-charge) Thiru Hari Baskar IAS, accompanied the Hon'ble Chief

Minister during her visit.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister deputed Thiru Azhagu Thirunavukkarasu, Minister for Local Administration, to tour Quid-E-Milleth District for overseeing the relief operations, which borne the brunt of the storm. Thiru K.P. Krishnan, Minister for Agriculture toured

Mayiladuthurai and Seerkazhi taluks to assess the damage.

Chief Minister requests Prime Minister for financial assistance from Central Government for Flood Relief

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha spoke to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao on 21st November 1991 and informed him



about the excessive damage caused by the recent cyclonic storm and heavy torrential rains in Tamil Nadu. She informed him that the preliminary assessment of the damages due to floods, based on the report submitted by the District Collectors, worked out to a total of Rs.340 crore. Tamil Nadu has calamity relief fund of Rs.39 crore out of which Rs.9 crore had already been spent for drought relief works. As such the Tamil Nadu Government now has only Rs.30 crore in the State's calamity Relief Fund. As such the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister explained to the Prime Minister that it could be impossible for the State Government to meet the staggering expenditure of Rs.340 crore,

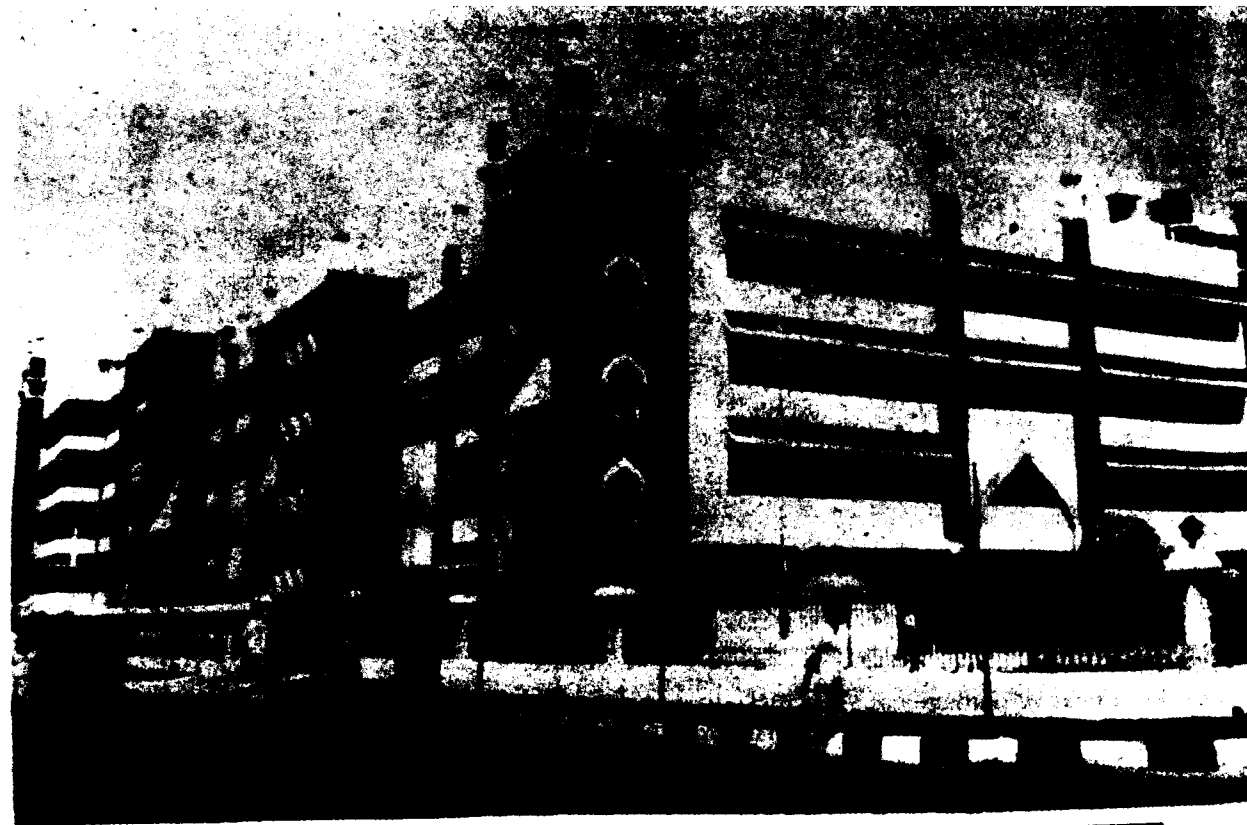
especially in view of the financial constraints already experienced by the State Government. The Chief Minister requested the Prime Minister to immediately depute a Central Team of officials to assess the damage caused by floods for the release of financial assistance. The Prime Minister assured the Chief Minister that he would immediately depute a Central Team as requested by the Chief Minister.

Central Team to assess the Cyclone affected areas

As the Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao promised he deputed a three Member Team to visit the cyclone affected areas in Tamil Nadu. The Central Team

led by the Union Agriculture Minister, Thiru Balram Jakhar met the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha at her residence on 24th November, 1991. The Team also met the Chief Secretary Thiru T.V. Venkataraman, IAS and Senior Officials of the State Government at the Secretariat and had a detailed review of the damages and the relief measures. The Central Team accompanied by the Minister of State for Law Thiru P. Rangarajan Kumaramangalam and Thiru Azhagu Thirunavukkarasu, Minister for Local Administration accompanied the Central Team on their aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas. ●





Madras Vision 2000 Project - Inauguration of Moore Market Complex

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha declared open the New Moore Market Complex put up by the Madras Corporation where the lily pond existed, on 28th November, 1991. The Old Moore Market was consumed by a fire in 1986 and this complex was raised to rehabilitate the 859 shop-keepers who were thrown out of business by that fire. She also announced that a scheme to construct shops for pavement hawkers, so that the pedestrians could walk on the side-walks in Madras was under the consideration of the Government. The Chief Minister said care would be taken to construct these shops as far as possible in the same areas where the vendors were now doing business to eke out a living.

The Chief Minister inaugurated a scheme for free supply of rain coats to the Corporation Conservancy Staff and distributed them to the workers. She also launched five-year Madras Vision 2000 Project.

The Chief Minister said her Government was taking all possible steps to speed up the implementation of the Telugu Ganga Project to bring Krishna waters to Madras and she would soon meet her Andhra Pradesh counterpart Thiru Janardhana Reddy,

to expedite the works. It was only on November 25, that the Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh led a high level official delegation to Madras to review the progress and take steps to speed up the project, she added.

The Chief Minister explained that the three lakes feeding Madras were now nearly full and it was a pity that a year's water supply was let into the sea so that none of them breached in the process. She said the Government would be developing two more lakes or reservoirs outside the city so that more water could be stored and used.

The Chief Minister called for a movement to create a civic awareness among the people so that they realised the importance of a clean environment and basic hygiene. The Government would initiate steps to see that the parks were properly maintained.

She regretted that civic amenities and maintenance works did not receive enough attention in the past two years and hence her Government was integrating various schemes to create a clean and beautiful Madras. A massive investment of Rs.1,250 crore was planned over the next five



years to provide all the basic facilities to the citizens and upgrade their quality of life.

The Government, she declared, was committed to putting an end to the mushrooming of slums in the city. "We will take immediate steps to provide dwellings to the people living in the slums and at the same time ensure that more slums were not created here". She doubted if the people living in multistorey tenements constructed by the Slum Clearance Board were genuine slum dwellers.

The Chief Minister emphasised that none of these schemes or the efforts of the Government could succeed without the co-operation of the people and appealed to the citizens of Madras to participate in this endeavour. She also commended the role of voluntary organisations like the Exnora for their involvement in maintaining some of the areas in the city.

Giving away the rain coats to the Corporation's conservancy workers, she said it was part of the scheme to provide free coats to the 33,000 conservancy staff in all the local bodies at a total cost of Rs.95 lakhs. She reminded them that it was MGR who distributed free rain coats to poor rickshaw-men when he was a film artist. "Our Government is committed to realising his dreams and completing all his unfinished tasks", she added.

Referring to the Moore Market, the Chief Minister said MGR had promised to raise a new complex for the traders who lost all their goods in that devastating fire over five years ago. She had the privilege of inaugurating the complex for which he laid the foundation stone. About 1.4 lakh sq. feet had been constructed in a three-storeyed building to accommodate 859 shops. All facilities had been pro-

vided in the complex, which was also equipped with the latest fire-fighting devices.

She inaugurated many other Corporation schemes, including a night shelter complex and a District Family Welfare Complex, besides laying the foundation stone for other projects.

Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian, the Minister for Finance, said the Chief Minister was very keen on reviving the glory and beauty of Madras and making it clean and green. The Government was adopting the policy of planning, formulating programmes, monitoring their progress and judging the performance.

Presiding over the function, Thiru Alagu Thirunavukkarasu, Minister for Local Administration, said the State Government has asked for the early completion of the Mass Rapid Transit System for Madras and its extension beyond Luz to Taramani.

Thiru E. Madhusoodhanan, who welcomed the gathering, said the Chief Minister had only recently visited every nook and corner of Madras to see the damages caused by the rains and provide relief to the affected people.

Thiru M. Ramu, I.A.S., the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras thanked the Chief Minister for her personal involvement in the development of Madras and appealed the people to co-operate to make the city clean and beautiful.

Thiru Hari Bhasker, I.A.S., Special Officer, Corporation of Madras handed over a Silver Plate with new Moore Market Complex engraved on it, to the Chief Minister.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS OF SIVANANDA SARASWATHI SEVASHRAM AT KATTANKOLATHUR

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha participated in the Children's Day Celebrations of the Sivananda Saraswathi Sevashram at Kattankolathur on 14th November, 1991, and declared open an auditorium at the orphanage to mark the birth centenary of the founder of the ashram late Thiru S.V. Iyer.

Like hundreds of deserted children driven to the streets; two and a half old Ammulu till three months ago was just surviving on the cast-off food was brought to the ashram. Ammulu was given the privilege of garlanding the Chief Minister. As she totted up with a huge garland, the moved Chief Minister received it, patted the child's cheek and took her in her arms.

While addressing, the Chief Minister asked the children housed in the ashram to devote all their time studying, as knowledge was the only wealth which could never be robbed. "You are a fortunate few to be taken care of by the ashram and you

should avail yourself of this opportunity fully to come up in life" she said.

She said there could be nothing more gratifying than to go to the rescue of orphans. This was the reason why Dr M.G.R., former Chief Minister, ushered in the massive programme for providing noon meal to children. The Government and voluntary organisations were doing an excellent job in this direction, the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister praised those in charge of the orphanage and the teachers for their efforts to educate the children.

The Chief Minister handed over clothes and sweet packets to all the children. She presented a bus costing Rs.2 lakhs to the ashram being her personal contribution. She also promised to consider sympathetically a plea for sanctioning a women's college and an ITI for orphans in the premises of the ashram.



Women's Day

Women's Day was celebrated as a part of National Integration week to mark the birth anniversary of the Late Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi on 25th November 1991.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha in her message said the aim of the Day was to create an awareness

among women; their part in the society, the opportunities provided by the Government for their development and to work for their success. She said even at the end of the 20th Century literacy among women in India had not been fully achieved. Female child was still unwanted. Both the society and the Government had to undertake a lot of measures to eradicate the problems confronting women and to make them on par with men. She expressed her wish for women to reach greater heights.

Thiru K.A. Sengottaiyan, Minister for Transport, who presided, commended the authorities for their devotion in running the orphanage.

Selvi. Sushila Indersain, President, Sivananda Gurukulam, said S.V. Iyer founded the ashram as a South Indian Centre and was instrumental in starting the educational institutions, orphanage and other centres of activities.

Thiru S. Rajaram, Honorary Correspondent of the Sevashram, said the auditorium was erected at a cost of about Rs.15 lakhs. He asked the Chief Minister to grant permission for starting an ITI and a women's college for which about 14 acres of land were available. It had also been proposed to construct cottages for the aged.

Later, the Chief Minister handed over Rs.10,001, donated to the orphanage by Thiru Kanchi Pan-nirselvam, M.L.A. and Thiru E.V. Perumalswamy. She also watched the dance programme presented by children from different schools.





RELEASE OF "Thirukkural Thelivurai"

Thirukkural Thelivurai" a book authored by the Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha at a grand function organised at Kalaivanar Arangam on 18th November 1991. Hon'ble Speaker Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah received the first copy from the Chief Minister.

After releasing the book the Chief Minister spoke of the immortality of Thirukkural and said everyone should follow the guidelines prescribed in the book. Paying rich tributes to the Finance Minister Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian she said he is one among the great leaders who have spent half of their life in jail. He was distinguished for his sense of commitments to values and hard work. She praised him for having written this volume in simple and chaste Tamil.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru RM. Veerappan, Minister for Education, Thiru S.D. Somasundaram, Minister for Revenue, Thiru K.A. Krishnasamy, Minister for Law and Thiru Thirukkural V. Munusamy paid rich tributes to Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian, the Minister for Finance, who has authored the book.

Thiru S.V. Chitti Babu, President of the Nedunchezian Educational Trust which brought out the book, welcomed the gathering.

Thanking the Chief Minister for releasing his book Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian appealed to her to host the Eighth World Tamil Conference due in 1992-93.



FLAG DAY

5.12.91

கொடிநாள் செய்தி

இந்தியத் திருநாட்டின் பாதுகாப்பை முழுமுதற் கடமையாகக் கொண்டு, சுட்டெரிக்கும் வெயிலையும், வாட்டும் குளிரையும் துச்சமாகக் கருதி, பசி, உறக்கம் எதையும் பொருட்படுத்தாமல், தம் இன்னுயிரையும் இழந்து தியாகங்கள் பல புரிந்து தாய்நாட்டைக் காக்க அரும் பணியாற்றுகின்ற நமது முப்படை வீரர்களுக்கு நாம் என்றென்றும் நன்றிக்கடன் பட்டுள்ளோம்.

இந்த நன்றியினை வெளிப்படுத்தும் வண்ணம் ஒவ்வொரு ஆண்டும் டிசம்பர் 7-ஆம் நாளன்று நாடு முழுதும் கொண்டாடப்படுவதே கொடிநாள். இத் திருநாளில், கொடிகள் விற்பனை மூலமும், நன்கொடைகள் மூலமும் பெறப்படுகின்ற நிதி, தியாகங்களும் தீர்ச்செயல்களும் புரிந்த முன்னாள் படை வீரர்களது குடும்பத்தாரின் நலவாழ்விற்குப் பயன்படுத்தப்படுகிறது. தமிழகத்தில் இவ்வாண்டு கொடிநாள் வரும் டிசம்பர் 5-ஆம் நாளன்று கொண்டாடப்படுகிறது.

தேசபக்தியிலும், தேசிய ஒருமைப்பாட்டு உணர்விலும், முன்னணி வகிக்கின்ற மாநிலமான தமிழ்நாடு, கொடிநாள் நிதி வசூலில் பல்லாண்டு களாய் இந்தியாவிலேயே முதன்மை பெற்று வந்துள்ளது என்னும் பெருமையை இந்த ஆண்டும் நிலைபெறச் செய்திடுவோம். அந்தப் பெருமையின் மூலம், வீரத்திற்கும், தியாகத்திற்கும் எடுத்துக் காட்டாய் விளங்குகின்ற முப்படை வீரர்களுக்கு நமது வணக்கத்தையும், நன்றியையும் காணிக்கையாக்கிடுவோம்.

எனவே முன்னாள் படைவீரர்கள் நலம் காக்க கொடிநாள் நிதிக்கு வாரி வழங்கிட வேண்டுமாய்த் தமிழக மாக்களை அன்புடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

ஜெ. ஜெயலலிதா
முதலமைச்சர்



MESSAGE

The Armed Forces Flag Day is an occasion when we remember and honour the members of the Armed Forces who not only protect the country against external threats but also assist the civil authorities in tackling internal disturbances and rendering relief at the time of natural calamities. It is our basic duty to extend support to the Jawans and Officers when they retire from service, and their families. The programmes which have been launched for the benefit of Ex-Servicemen require financial resources. I appeal to the people to contribute liberally to the Flag Day Fund.

BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH
Governor of Tamil Nadu

FLAG DAY COLLECTIONS & THEIR UTILISATION DURING 1990-91			
EMPLOYMENT:			
Sponsoring & Placement	1074	PEXSEM: 783 Trained.	
TRAINING:			
Tailoring	6653	SEMFEX I: 641 Ex-servicemen have been sanctioned loan of Rs.21 lakh.	
Typewriting & Shorthand	1565	SEMFEX II: 169 Ex-servicemen have been sanctioned loan of Rs.51.38 lakh.	
BSRB	211		
TEXCO			
Tamil Nadu Ex-servicemen Corporation has been established which has found jobs for ex-servicemen dependants, in the following areas:			
Printing Press	7	LUMP SUM GRANTS	287 granted
Paid Parking System	80	JAIJAWAN STALLS	305 allotted
New Paid Parking System	25	AAVIN BOOTHS	230 allotted
Selling of Season Tickets and Tickets of Pallavan Transport Corporation & Tiruvalluvar Transport Corporation	80	Industrial Plots Reservation	10%
Telecommunication Operating System	48	Tailoring Orders	1,89,410 Uniforms
Electronic Society	12	Unit Trust Agencies	54
Security Guards	544	JAWANS BHAVAN:	
Water Supply in Tiruvalluvar Transport Corporation.	18	At present, there are 8 Jawans Bhavan in the Districts and a Rest House at Kodaikkanal. The following are under construction:	
Driver	1	1. Tirunelveli	27.65 lakh
		2. Ramanathapuram	31.60 lakh
		3. C.S.D. Canteen at Tirunelveli	13.04 lakh
SELF-EMPLOYMENT:			
BLISS: 3,953 Ex-servicemen obtained loan of Rs.740 crore.			
		DISTRICT EXSERVICES CENTRES:	
		At present, there are 14 Centres	
		FUNERAL GRANT	6.94 lakh
		ARTIFICIAL LIMBS/APARATUS	
		TO DISABLED EX-SERVICEMEN	0.20 lakh
		ASSISTANCE TO OLD AGE EX-SERVICEMEN, VICTIMS OF CANCER LEPROSY & BLINDNESS	4.04 lakh
		SCHOLARSHIP TO CHILDREN	5.41 lakh
		TAILORING UNITS AND TYPEWRITING AND SHORTHAND INSTITUTES	4.87 lakh
		WIDOWS PENSION SCHEME	0.81 lakh
		DESTITUTE GRANT TO I & II WORLD WAR EX-SERVICEMEN/ WIDOWS	10.50 lakh
		IMMEDIATE RELIEF GRANT	5.33 lakh
		BLISS INTEREST SUBSIDY	5.20 lakh
		ASSISTANCE TO WAR WIDOWS/ WAR DISABLED	2.17 lakh
		MONTHLY GRANT	3.66 lakh
		MARRIAGE GRANT	8.31 lakh
		LUMP SUM GRANT	5.52 lakh
		HEART SURGERY	0.70 lakh
		GRANT FOR INDUSTRIAL SHEDS	1.25 lakh
		TOTAL EX-SERVICEMEN BENEFITTED	25,000
		AMOUNT UTILISED	Rs.100.76 lakh



ALL PARTY DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha led an All Party Delegation along with Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu and met the Prime Minister on 3rd December 1991 and presented a Memorandum requesting immediate publication of Interim Award of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal. The delegation included the State's Public Works Minister Thiru S. Kannappan and the three Central Ministers from Tamil Nadu, viz, Thiru P. Chidambaram, Union Minister of State for Commerce, Thiru M. Arunachalam, Minister of State for Urban Development and Thiru P. Rangarajan Kumaramangalam, Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs and Leaders of All the Political Parties of Tamil Nadu as well as the representative from Cauvery Delta Farmers' Association. The meeting lasted over half an hour and the discussions were held in a very cordial atmosphere. The Chief Minister explained that she was presenting the Memorandum on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu and explained the salient features of the

Memorandum and requested the Prime Minister to take action to gazette the Interim Award of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal without further delay. The Chief Minister expressed full confidence in the Prime Minister's ability to resolve the issue at a very early date. Leaders of various political parties as well as the representative of the Cauvery Delta Farmers' Association spoke thereafter fully endorsing the views expressed by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The Prime Minister gave the delegation a patient hearing and indicated that the Government of India had accepted the Supreme Court's verdict given on the special presidential reference and that the representations contained in the Memorandum would be given due consideration.

Subsequently the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had a separate meeting with the Prime Minister on various important issues relating to the State of Tamil Nadu. In particular the following subjects figured in the discussion - Viz., increased allotment of one lakh Metric Tonnes of rice for the

Public Distribution System from the Central Pool; early approval and sanction of special financial assistance for the State of Tamil Nadu in view of its strained financial conditions; and also very early and favourable consideration of adequate relief for the damage caused by devastating floods and recent cyclonic storm which affected millions of people in the State.

The other subjects discussed included, expediting the Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS) for the City of Madras by increasing central allocations, and sanction of the Satellite Port at Ennore and early clearance of the Aromatics Complex Project. The Chief Minister also requested the Prime Minister to use his good offices with the Government of Andhra Pradesh and expedite the implementation of the Krishna Water Supply Project.

The discussions were held in a very cordial atmosphere and the response of the Prime Minister was very positive and encouraging. The second meeting lasted for more than 45 minutes.



The Chief Minister - District Collectors Meeting

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha had discussions with the District Collectors at her residence on 12th and 13th November 1991. In her discussion with the Collectors she reviewed the law and order and various development programmes. The

Collectors gave a detailed account of the progress of programmes including public distribution system, noon-meal scheme, health camps, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, drinking water supply and other activities on development of Districts.



REVISED DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO THE PENSIONERS

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha announced the sanction by the Government of Tamil Nadu of one additional instalment of dearness allowance to the pensioners and family pensioners with effect from 1.7.91 at the same rates as announced by the Government of India. Accordingly pensioners and family pensioners will be paid revised dearness allowance at the rate of 60% for those drawing pension/family pension upto Rs.1,750, 45% for those drawing Rs.1,750 to Rs.3,000 and 39% for those drawing Rs.3,000 and above per month. This will give a minimum benefit of Rs.33 per month and a maximum benefit of Rs.224 per month.

The revised dearness allowance will apply to all Tamil Nadu State Pensioners/family pensioners including those of local bodies and aided educational institutions and to those families of deceased contributors Provident Fund/Non-Pensionable Establishment beneficiaries of State Government and former District Board who are in receipt of ex-gratia payment of Rs.150 per month. This will benefit about 2.30 lakh of pensioners/family pensioners.

The total additional commitment will be Rs.20 crore per annum and Rs.13.33 crore in the current financial year 1991-92.

TOTAL LITERACY CAMPAIGN

In Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the budget that primary importance would be given for the eradication of illiteracy. With the real initiation taken by the Government, seven Districts were chosen for the Total Literacy Campaign this year, 1991-92. Central Government is sharing the 2/3rd of the total cost of the projects and State Government is meeting the 1/3rd of the cost.

On 1.12.91, Review Meeting was conducted at the Secretariat, on the progress of the Total Literacy Campaign in the Seven Districts viz., Kamarajar, Pasumpon Muthuramalingam, Pudukkottai, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Kattabomman, Madurai and North Arcot. Ambedkar, Thiru TV. Venkataraman, IAS, Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Sam Pitroda, Adviser to Prime Minister, Thiru. Abil Bordia, Education Secretary, Government of India, Thiru. L. Mishra, Director-General (NLMA), New Delhi and Thiru. R.C. Panda, IAS, Special Secretary, Education Department, Tamil Nadu reviewed the progress. Collectors of Kamarajar, Pudukkottai, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli-Kattabomman, Madurai and North Arcot Ambedkar Districts presented their reports.

Total Literacy Campaign was found to be on the direction. Kamarajar, Pudukkottai and Pasumpon-Muthuramalingam Districts are expected to achieve 90% literacy by Tamil New Years Day in April 1992. Four other Districts will become fully literate by the end of 1992.

Short Notes on the Co-operative Societies Functioning under the Control of the Social Welfare Department

The Directorate of Social Welfare started a number of Women Co-operative Societies on various trades like Tailoring, Footwear, Weaning food, Stationery and Chalk making etc. with a view to provide continuous employment to poor women especially those who are living in below poverty line. At present the goods produced by these societies are supplied to Government and Government sponsored schemes thereby having a secured market.

1. Tailoring Societies

During 1987-88 there were 13 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies under the control of Directorate of Social Welfare. 16 New Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies were started during 1987-88. In addition, 43 Women Co-operative Tailoring Societies were transferred from Industries Department to the Social Welfare Department at the initiative of this Department. More over 3 Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies were registered during 1989-90. One Society in Kamarajar District has been liquidated. In all, there are 74 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies functioning in the State. These 74 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies are engaged in the stitching of the uniforms for school

children studying in the Standards I to VIII, under Nutritious Meal Programme, Directorate of Backward Classes and Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department.

Every District has an automatic cloth cutting machine supplied free of cost by the Government and the cloth is cut in the cutting centres located in each District, under the control of the District Social Welfare Officers of the concerned Districts. The cut cloth is distributed to the Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies. About 64 lakh sets of uniforms have been stitched every

year by 74 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies and a few reputed Voluntary Institutions. About 20,000 women are provided employment through various societies. The wages distributed to them is around Rs.3.87 crore. Every member, roughly earns Rs.400 to Rs.500 per month for three to four months as supplemental income every year.

Apart from the stitching of uniforms these Co-operative Societies are undertaking the stitching of seeds bags to Agricultural Department, Advertisement bags for co-optex, Uniforms for Public



Undertaking, etc. and thereby providing employment to members to the extent possible to supplement their income.

2. Footwear Co-operative Societies

During 1987-88, 39 Footwear Co-operative Societies were started by this Department for the production of free footwear to be distributed to poor children studying in Standards I to VIII (under Nutritious Meal Programme and for poor rural working women). About 2,000 Adi Dravidar Women were given training of one month with a stipend of Rs.200 and were enrolled and provided employment. These Adi-Dravidar women were also supplied a free tool kit worth Rs.250. These societies produced 11.64 lakh pairs of footwear for children and a sum of Rs.40 lakh was disbursed as wages and service charges during 1987-88. During 1988-89, 3.27 lakh pairs of footwear for rural women were produced by this Department and a sum of Rs.11.45 lakh was distributed as wages and service charges. This scheme is being con-



tinued during 1989-90 also. During 89-90, in the 1st phase 3 lakh, and 2nd phase 42,005 chappals were produced and Rs.10,50,000 and 1,47,011.50 respectively are allotted to this Department towards wages and service charges. The scheme was continued for 90-91 and Rs.24 lakh is allotted as wages and ser-

vice charges for manufacture of 6 lakh pairs of chappals.

The scheme is also continued during 91-92 and 3 lakh pairs of chappals are allotted for production during 91-92. In addition to catering to the Government sponsored programme, these women





are also being encouraged to take up self employment ventures in the production of footwear. These Adi-Dravidar women becoming members of the Footwear Society have greatly benefitted from the Government scheme of free supply of footwear to women and children.

3. Stationery Co-operative Societies

15 Stationery Co-operative Societies for women have been organised during 1979-91. Out of these, 2 societies were liquidated due to dormancy. During 1987-88 and 1988-89, funds were released for providing printing press to seven societies and double ruling machine to 13 societies and envelop making to 12 societies and machines were provided to the above said society during 90-91. Orders have been obtained for these societies from the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society. The membership of these societies is around 700.

4. Coir Co-operative Society

One Coir Industrial Co-operative Society for women was started during 1981. This society serves both as a training centre as well as

a production centre. Every year around 50 women are trained in coir rope making. In addition 100 women are provided continuous employment.

5. Chalk making society

During 1988-89, 19 Chalk Co-operative Societies were set up in addition to 2 societies already in existence. Out of which 4 societies are started for physically handicapped women. One society has been liquidated due to dormancy. The chalk crayon societies have imparted one month training to all the members of the newly formed society. A stipend of Rs.150 for one month was given to them. Production was started during mid-1989 and the products are being supplied to the Education Department. Around 1150 women were provided employment during 1989-90. Two thirds of the women in these societies are of SC and ST community and one third are of B.C. Community.

6. Weaning Food Co-operative Society

Weaning Food Co-operative

Societies were started during 1988-89. One week training was imparted to 1,650 women. A stipend of Rs.50 was given. Regular production was started during mid 1989 and the food produced is being supplied to the centres run under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme and Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project Schemes. These societies have produced 7350 M.T. food and paid wages Rs.30,03,000 to the members upto 31.3.91. The members are getting continuous employment. Two third of women in these societies are of SC & ST Community and one third of BC Community.

7. Liquid Soap Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative Society

There is one liquid soap manufacturing Women Development Industrial Co-operative Society in CRD Narayanapuram near Madras. The society is supplying liquid soap and soap powder to noon meal centres in Tamil Nadu. At present the society is providing employment to 27 women members.

NEWS IN BRIEF

1.11.91

Thiru G. Viswanathan was sworn in as the Minister for Food and Co-operation. His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru Bhishma Narain Singh administered the oath of office and secrecy to Thiru G. Viswanathan at a brief function in Raj Bhavan.

2.11.91

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha addressed the first meeting of the reconstituted National Integration Council.

★ Nilgiris District Collector Selvi. Leena Nair said Nilgiris District has been sanctioned Rs.3.08 crore under the Hill Area Development Programme for 1991-92.

8.11.91

The Minister for Health Thiru S. Muthusamy said the Pallavaram tanneries, under the guidance of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, have embarked on a Rs.5 crore common effluent treatment plant at Pammal.

★ The Minister for Social Welfare Tmt. Indirakumari said the Government is considering extension of the free bus pass concessions to all the physically handicapped in the State. This is now given to handicapped below 20 years of age only. She said the Government proposed to setup a vocational training

centre in Mamallapuram for the handicapped. Priority would be given to them in employment in nutritious noon meal centres, she added.

9.11.91

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha called on the President Thiru R. Venkataraman soon after his arrival at Raj Bhavan. The two leaders discussed several problems facing the State and the Country during their meeting.

★ Tamil Nadu forms recruitment board for selection of police, fire service and jail department.

18.11.91

The Minister for Food Thiru G. Viswanathan said 1.5 lakh litres of kerosene would be distributed to the flood affected areas in the State.

19.11.91

The Minister for Food Thiru G. Viswanathan said the Government would buy 17,000 tonnes of rice from the Food Corporation of India for open market sale in a bid to check the rising prices of rice. The Government through its outlets would sell in the open market in Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai at Rs.4.50 per kilo of fine rice and Rs.4.60 per kilo of super fine.

★ The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha has enhanced

the compensation amounts to the rain victims whose huts were damaged.

The compensation to fully damaged huts in Madras city had been raised from Rs.500 to Rs.600 and that for partly damaged from Rs.250 to Rs.300. In other places it would be increased from Rs.400 to Rs.500 and Rs.200 to Rs.250 respectively.

★ The Minister for Finance, Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian said the Government is considering a proposal to implement the noon-meal scheme through women's service organisations to deliver efficient service. Under the proposal, each woman volunteer would work in a noon meal centre one day a week on a rotation basis. This could counter pilferage of provisions and corruptions at various levels in the nutritious meal scheme, the Minister said.

21.11.91

A high level meeting convened under the chairmanship of Health Minister Thiru S. Muthusamy, on the instruction from the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha discussed measures to check outbreak and spread of epidemic diseases like cholera and typhoid following the recent rains in Madras.

25.11.91

The Minister for Revenue, Thiru S.D. Somasundaram said that Government was planning to build spacious buildings for Government offices such as the collectorate unmindful of the cost in the next 14 to 20 years.

★ Union Minister for Agriculture Thiru Balram Jakhar and Minister of State for Law Thiru P. Rangarajan Kumaramangalam accompanied by the Minister for Local Administration Thiru Azhagu Thirunavukkarasu made an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas.

26.11.91

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha has ordered to increase the daily water supply in the city from 50 million gallons to 55 million gallons as the three reservoirs Poondi, Sholavaram and Red Hills have a comfortable storage following the recent rains.

Our Achievement:

★ Our aim is to achieve the welfare and happiness of each section of society. By achieving the happiness of each section, it is our aim to pave the way for the happiness of the entire society. We have succeeded in rendering service towards this goal and we shall succeed in the future also.

—Perarignar Anna.





The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha being presented with a shawl by Dr. A.S. Anand Chief Justice, Madras High Court when she visited the Madras High Court on 11th November, 1991.

Wrapper contents

I Wrapper:

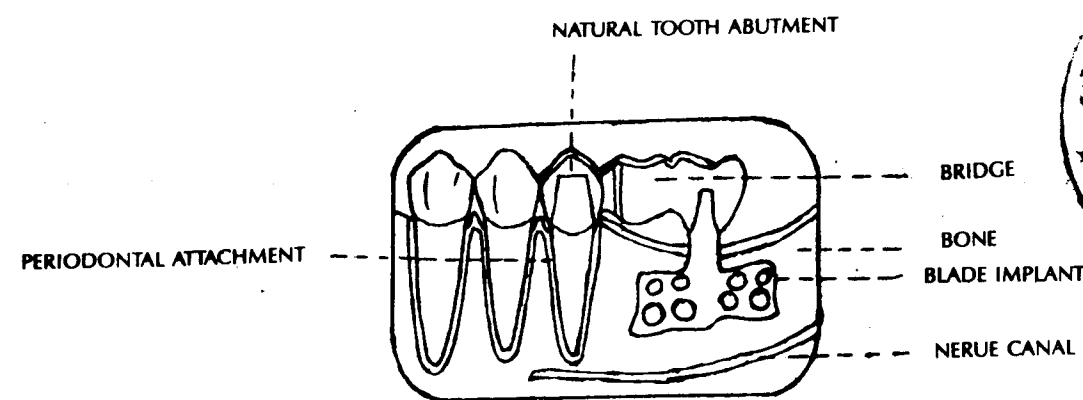
The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha distributing food packets and loaves of bread to the flood victims during her visit to the rain-hit areas.

II Wrapper:

To mark the 74th birth anniversary of Tmt. Indira Gandhi, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha administering National Integration Pledge to Government Staff at Fort St. George on 19th November, 1991.

IV Wrapper:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha having a discussion with Thiru Balram Jakhar, the Union Minister for Agriculture who had come to assess the damage caused by the recent cyclone.



IMPLANTS

Dr. A. Parameswaran, Professor of Operative Dentistry, Madras Dental College

For the first time in the history of Tamil Nadu a workshop on Implantology was conducted on 7th December 1991. This programme was organised by Madras Dental College and in particular by the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Department of Prosthetic Dentistry.

Being an imported knowhow this programme involves large expenditure, but the advantages claimed are: A fixed artificial restoration is possible with this technique where it was not possible earlier.

Implants have produced a breakthrough in the Dental profession. An implant is a device on which an artificial tooth is placed and this implant body is embedded in the bone penetrating through the soft tissue. An implant should be acceptable to the body tissues, biocompatible, non irritating and non allergic to the tissues through which it is placed.

HISTORY OF IMPLANTS:

Man has attempted since antiquity to change his appearance purposefully. Implanted artificial teeth have been tried as early as the 18th century by the Egyptians. Even stones were used as implants to replace teeth. Egyptians used teeth from other humans and animals for the purpose of implantation. Implants started developing a scientific background only from 1937. The science and art of modern implantology started developing after the tissue acceptable metal called vitallium was introduced.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are 4 types of Implants and they are as follows:

1. Intra osseous: They are placed inside the bone.
2. Sub periosteal: They are placed on the bone but beneath the soft tissue.
3. Trans osseous: These implants are placed deep inside the bone.

4. Transcanal: They are placed into the bone passing through the root canal of a tooth.

The main role of implants is to serve as intermediary prosthesis. They are supports with or on top of the jaws for a removable or fixed prosthetic appliance bearing a functional tooth.

PROSTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS:

The implant should be well supported for a prosthetic appliance. The sum total of implant prosthesis consists of an implant and its fixed or removable Dental prosthetic superstructure. In a fixed artificial tooth, the tooth is supported on one side by a natural tooth and on the other end by the implant which is embedded in the bone. (shown in fig). The ultimate success of the replaced artificial tooth is dependent on the choice of the implant and prosthetic superstructure, the insertion of a dental implant and the design and the function of the prosthetic appliance.



PRESERVATION OF TEMPLES AND SCULPTURES IN ANCIENT TAMIL NADU

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Tamils had a strong policy of not living in a village where there is no temple. It is confirmed now that the worship of idols in temples was prevalent in Tamil Nadu atleast from 2nd Century B.C. Sangam literature give sample evidences of images and temples during post christian era. They refer to Mayon, Mukkannan, Murugan and Koravai and profusely mention about temples in different names such as Kotam, Koyil, Palli etc. From 6th Century onwards number of Gods are being referred to in literature. Even different forms such as Anugraha and Samhara of Siva and the different incarnations of Vishnu are found mentioned in Bhakti literatures sung by Saiva and Vaishnava Saints.

It is evident even now that there are number of temples in each village. Big cities like Kanchi, Tanjore and Madurai are clustered with innumerable temples. Most of them are under worship and be-

ing properly maintained. According to an account of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Board there are about 35,000 temples that are under worship in Tamil Nadu. There are still considerable number of temples that are left uncared of which about fifty have been declared as monuments of Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology. How is it possible?

Temples were built not only by the ruling monarchs but also by the queens, generals, officers and individuals. They also provided for regular Pooja, maintenance and preservation. Every individual had his share in keeping the temples alive and preserving them in good condition. The epigraphs throw valuable light on the involvement of people in the preservation of temples, sculptures and bronzes.

At the time of installation of idols itself they evinced great care of them for

the posterity by fixing them with a paste prepared by mixing eight important ingredients known as ashtambandanam. (1. Gum Tiruvattappicin, 2. Cates eye Kungiliyam, 3. Kungiliyam, 4. Sugar, 5. Kavi of brick, 6. Sanjavanam (gum), 7. Gingili Oil, 8. Ghee.

The material of idols is another important factor as they are made up of hard granite stones though in some cases of sand stones. The granite stone is withstanding all natural calamities. The site selection for the building of temples was also of great significance. It is detailed in Agamas and Silpa sastras how one has to select a site for establishing a temple and what are the useable and what are not.

It seems that every big temple had its own Silpi for the timely maintenance of the temples and replacement of sculptures if they were damaged. For meeting the expenses incurred on the

maintenance of temples, a portion of the levies collected from the brides party in marriages was provided. In addition to this, the individuals who endow some offerings of the daily Pooja and applying oil and sandal paste for Tirumanjanam had also provided for Tiruppani i.e. for repair works to be carried out if necessity arise. The supervisors to inspect the repair works had also been appointed (Tiruppani Kankani).

To protect the icons and idols it appears that they had taken special care by way of cleaning them daily by means of Abhishekam. Besides the routine abishekam the ruling king and the officials seem to have instituted special sandhis on the day of their natal stars for bathing the God by pouring water from 108 kalasam (water pot) or 1000 kalasam (Sahasra kalasam).

The materials used for bathing the images are also interesting. If these materials are analysed in Laboratories we may get very good clues for the proper preservation of metal as well as stone objects. They used oil, milk, curd, honey, tender coconut, sandal and rose water for bathing the idols. Sometimes they used Panchakavyam i.e. the mixture of milk, curd, ghee, Komutram and Komiya. After having bathed they applied a paste (Kalabam) prepared by a mixture of sandal powder musk (Kasturi), camphor (karpuram) and saffron (kunkumam).

It appears that this system is followed on the basis of Kanikagamam, one of the twenty eight Sivagamas. It prescribes that the idol should be bathed by pure water mixed with Elakkai (Cardamom), Jathi, Paccai Karpuram (Camphor), Srikanda surnam, Akaru (musk), Kunkumam (Saffron) and the tender leaves of mango tree.

Then the juice of sugarcane, water of tender coconut, juice of fruits (Panchamirtam i.e. juice of Plantain, mango, Jackfruit and grapes) are to be used for bathing.

Soma Sambu Pattathi, a sanskrit treatise written by Soma Sambu Sivachariyar gives a graphic account of per-

forming abhishekam on icons. It says as follows:

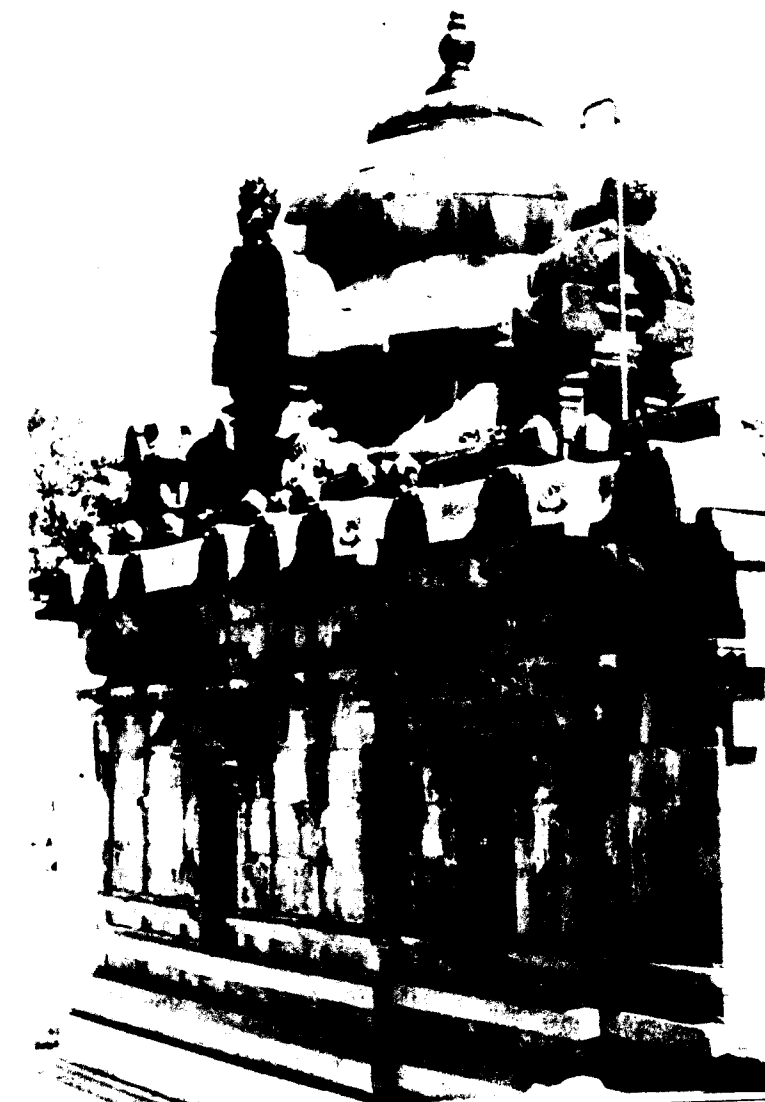
Tailabhishekam (oil) has to be performed first to Siva. After that Makkappu (paste of rice powder) and Manjal kappu (turmeric paste) have to be applied. These are to be washed by pouring water from the abhisheka kalasams (holy water pots). Then abhishekam must be made by milk, curd, ghee, honey and sugar. Then the manthrams are to be chanted showing camphor and incence in front of God.

The ancients had taken much care in protecting and preserving the bronze images in times of emergencies. In number of incidents large number of valuable bronzes have been unearthed either in temple premises or in some

other places of Tamil Nadu. In all cases it is clearly proved that they had been buried intentionally in order to protect them from the external dangers. Whenever they are unearthed they are invariably found placed upside down position. So, it is possible that they might have been laid down by the wellwishers to protect them from the onslaughts of some miscreants or of iconoclasts.

This system of preserving them under earth has clear bearing in Agamas. The following passage from the Marici Samhita, a Vaikhanasa Vaishnavite text would be read with interest.

"The Vimanarcanakalpa, (Marici text) published in Madras, 1926, Chapter 70 p.p. 435-439, gives in detail the process





of concealing metal images in times of emergency and restoring them to worship. The chapter is titled Bhayarksaratham Niskrtih.

When there is fear from robbers, enemies, invasion by the opponent kings, or disturbance in the village, in order to protect the *kautuka*, *snapana*, *utsava* and *balibera* (images used in Bali offerings, festivals, bathing ceremonies, etc.) the metal images and that of the goddesses should be hidden.

In a secret and clean place a pit should be dug. In it sand should be

spread. Over that the kusa grass should be spread. The Goddess of earth should be invoked; over this sanctified water should be sprinkled reciting the mantra, "apo hi-stha", the acarya, the worshipping priest, the yajamana along with the devotees should enter the shrine, offer salutation to the God, and obtain permission from the God, stating that "Lord so long as there is fear, till such time be you pleased to remain living in this earth". Then the divine power from the metal image should be transferred to the main deity. If there is no main image it should be invoked in the heart (of the priest) uttering the mantra *pra tad*

visnus tapate; the image should be carefully placed in the pit in order, reciting the mantra *Yadvaisnava*; the head (of the image) should be laid facing east. The pit should be closed either with sand or earth. The mouth of the pit should be closed tightly. Then one should enter the shrine again, salute the main image; a kurca made of kusa grass should be made, the divine power should be transferred again from the main image to the kurca and the same should be worshipped. If more than one month passes, that kurca discarded, a new one made in its place and worshipped.

If the conditions improve the metal image should be retrieved, cleaned with tamarind and *punyaha* rite should be performed. A series of rites are then prescribed for restoring the image to worship. Similarly different rites are prescribed for images which lay concealed for six months or over one year.

Though the text is a vaisnava scripture, such prescriptions are common to all sects, except variation in the mantras to be recited suited to the deity. It may be seen that while burying the bronzes, special homas are performed. In the case of Pollonaruva finds, it is recorded that charcoals were found on top of the place where bronzes were found indicating thereby such textual prescriptions were devoutly carried out. While the bronze images were buried for safety, no stone image was found concealed in similar manner.

Hence, from the foregoing narrations it is apparent that the above abhishekams and burning camphor and incences must have kept the idols and icons intact and preserved them for posterity. The people of those days had the maintenance of the temples in good condition as one of their routine duties and inherited a strong vow that they should not live in a place where there was no temple. Hence, if we revive the Poojas in all the temples either by the magnificent activities of the philanthropists or by the timely effort of the concerned Governments, the temples, sculptures and bronzes would be preserved for future generations without any difficulty. ●



ECOLOGICAL ROLE PLAYED BY SNAKES

Plant and grain protection plays an important role in the growth of agricultural output. Rat Control, Locust Control and Pest Control etc. are important plant protection measures. In our ancient thought this economic aspect, i.e. control of rat population by snakes and the preparation of medicine for human welfare from snake venom has been highlighted and the snakes are venerated on two days in the year in some areas of the country as an act of thanks giving. Nagapanchmi festival which falls in July-August i.e. sowing season and the Anant-Chaturdashi that falls in September i.e. at the time of harvesting of crop are the reminders of the old traditional agricultural-oriented operations.

W.H.O. has estimated in 1967 that if the rat population of the town of Bombay be controlled for one year it would save enough food to feed 9,00,000 (nine lakh) human beings for one year. According to a rough estimate 7 to 9 per cent of damage to crops and grains in storage is being done by rats. An estimate was made in 1962 at the Haffkin Institute, Bombay which revealed that in one year 21,000 persons were admitted to Bombay Hospitals for rat bites and only 4 for snake bites.

Snakes are natural predators of rat and keep a check on the rat population. One snake eats approximately 4 rats per week. Indiscriminate killing of snakes will definitely increase the population of rats as rats breed more quickly and frequently than snakes. Widespread use of rodent poison

is not economically visible for our poor farmers and is also injurious to health and the environment. During the monsoon when the fields are full of water, no amount of rodent poison can prevent the rats from damaging crops in the fields. The use of cyanide as burrow fumigate in the barns and godowns to kill rats is also not possible during this season. It is snakes that control the rat population at such times. In fact in Australia live snakes are put in some godowns of foodgrains to kill or scare away the rats. Dr. Pradhan, Head of the Entomology Department of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, had proposed a scheme in 1970 to import snakes and lizards from Africa with the help of the Canadian Government for releasing them in Rajasthan deserts to control locust nymphs.

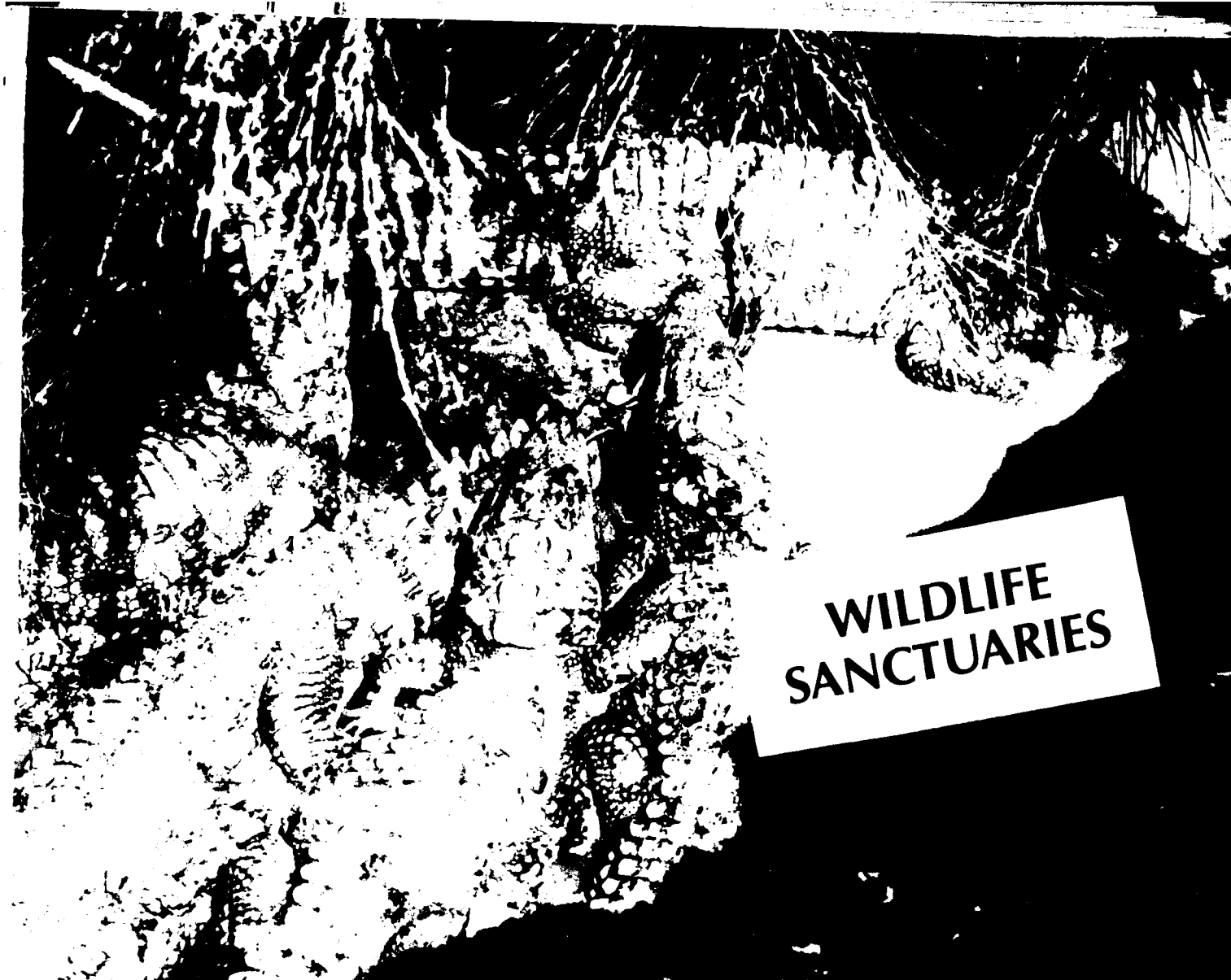
Plague which is carried by rats, killed more than 1 crore human beings during 1894 to 1947. Increase in rat population will not only cause increased damage to food grain but is also dangerous to human population as it spread many diseases, including plague, rats must, therefore, be controlled and predators like snakes are one of the cheapest way nature has devised to keep the rat population in check.

Ours is a developing country and we are getting urbanised speedily. With the growing

population and its need for more land, the forests are getting reduced. The commercial exploitation of forest resources is another cause of disturbances to the forest ecology. The rapid aggression and increased disturbances in the forest habitats has been the prime cause for the decline of Wild life. The ecology in the forests in India are today seriously threatened due to these human interferences. The snakes play an important role in maintaining the ecological balance in the forests. Wanton killing of snakes in the scarce forest lands would further endanger wildlife in the country.

Breeding and rearing of snakes in captivity is not feasible and success is only possible in very rare cases. For these reasons it is not possible to achieve breeding on a large scale for commercial exploitation even if it was thought to be desirable.

Snake skins and their products are in great demand in the world market. These also fetch highly remunerative and attractive prices. The trade, therefore, has a tremendous incentive to export snake skins and products made thereof. Such attractive prices however, are not available in the domestic market. If export trade is resumed, it is likely to have a very adverse effect on the population of snakes in the country leading to consequential damage to agriculture, general environment and ecology. ●



WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

Tamil Nadu, is about 130,069 Sq.Kms in extent of which 20,910 Sq.Kms i.e. about 16% of the total land area is under forest cover. Nevertheless in having a varied topography ranging from the high ranges of Western Ghats down to near desert conditions in Ramnad District, and the tidal swamp forests in its coast with their own floristic composition, the State lends itself to a great many types of forests.

These forests provide the home for a diversity of animals that include the Elephant, Tiger, Panther, Gaur, Sambar, Sloth bear, Black buck, Four horned antelope and several species of primates including the endangered Liontailed macaque etc.

Consequent to the implementation of the Wildlife (protection)

Act 1972, Tamil Nadu has made good progress in the work of Wildlife management. Realising the importance of wildlife conservation, and that if a species once

lost is lost for ever, Tamil Nadu has set apart quite a few sizable areas as wildlife Sanctuaries, and a National park.

There are eight Sanctuaries, one



National Park and 17 Water Bird Refuges, covering a total land area of over 10% of the total forest area. A few more sanctuaries are on the anvil.

A positive way of saving what is left of our wildlife is to manage

The State Government, as well as the Government of India had provided necessary funds to achieve the targets.

The first and foremost work is zonation for the scientific and intensive management of the sanctuary. For this purpose a sanctuary is to be divided into specific zones

depending upon the needs and objectives.

A certain portion of the sanctuary is to be set apart as the sanctum sanctorum or the wilderness zone, where no tourist activity or forest activity is to be taken up. Similarly a buffer zone, surrounding the sanctuary area to take up the spill-over or surplus wildlife population of the sanctuary.

The next step is protection. This involves protection of area against encroachment, cattle grazing and other forms of land abuse and smuggling of timber and removal of fuel. Similarly the protection for the fauna involves prevention of poaching or trapping.

The next step involves forest management and improvement to the habitat. This includes water and soil conservation, improvement of fodder resources, and drinking water facilities for the animals around the year. This has been achieved by constructing check dams across small streams and rivulets, digging percolation



and develop the habitat to make it suitable for wildlife to live and breed in tranquility. With these objectives only, most of the Sanctuaries have been constituted. To achieve these objectives, a definite management plan for each sanctuary for the conservation, development and better management of flora and fauna has been drawn. These plans are intended for a period of 10 years, and contain prescription for various objectives.



ponds, planting of various browse species.

Many of the "check dams have made small water spread areas, thereby making the vegetation around greener and planting of various types of fodder plants, and grasses in those areas has considerably improved the habitat.

Bamboos constitute the main fodder of animals like elephants. To achieve this the bamboo clumps have to be maintained in a state of high production. By sci-



Efficient tending this objective has been achieved.

Fruit bearing trees, like banyan, mango, gmelina arborea, cordiamyxa etc. have been planted around the water holes. Palatable and nutritious grasses have been planted in certain areas to improve fodder supply.

Disease prevention is a major work carried out in all sanctuaries. This is achieved by regulating cattle grazing and also compulsory vaccination of cattle which have access to the area against contagious and infectious diseases like Foot and Mouth, Rinderpest; Humorrhagic Septicaemia Black Quarter etc. These diseases can also affect the wild ungulates. By carrying out preventive vaccination of grazing cattle in and around the sanctuary; the spread of these diseases have been checked.

Communication facilities like a net work of roads, have been provided in the sanctuaries for effective patrol, protection and management of the sanctuary.

Tourism though plays a subordinate role to the conservation of wildlife, is important in that, it plays an educative and recreational role and to some extent provide income to the sanctuary.

Tourist facilities like well provided rest houses, transport facilities, for taking the tourists around the tourism zone, and camping grounds have been provided in all the sanctuaries. These facilities are intended to people of all income groups.

In some of the sanctuaries tourists are being given elephant rides to view wildlife. For this purpose elephants are being maintained and are very popular.

The staff in the Sanctuary are being provided with basic amenities such a residential quarters to live with their family, medical facilities in case of sickness.

Captive Breeding Programme:

The mugger or the marsh crocodiles were bred in captivity in Anamalai and Mudumalai sanctuaries. Eggs of crocodiles which were laid in wild conditions were collected and set for hatch and siblings hatched out were reared in captivity, the ultimate object being to release them in their original habitat.

In this, we have achieved significant success and a pilot crocodile

farm has been approved by the Government of India for the commercial exploitation of this species in our State.

Similarly in all the elephant camps, the captive elephants, have been giving birth to calves at regular intervals and the elephant camps at Mudumalai and Topslip have the distinction of producing large number of calves born in captivity.

In Kalakkad Sanctuary which has been formed to preserve the endangered liontailed macaque, the habitat improvement work included provision of food trees for the selective feeding macaques.

Observation towers have been constructed in several places in sanctuaries not only to view wildlife, but also for the study of wildlife and also as a protection measure.

Research:

Research scholars and scientists have been given facilities for the research on various problems connected with wildlife.

Thus in every sphere of work the sanctuaries have achieved significant success by providing better facilities for the fauna. This has led the State Government for declaring the Anamalai Wildlife Sanctuary as a National Park.

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