

Tamil Arasu : monthly

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**Eighth
World Tamil Conference**

Special Issue



Fashion Fabrics in Rainbow Dyes. Cynosure of all Eyes

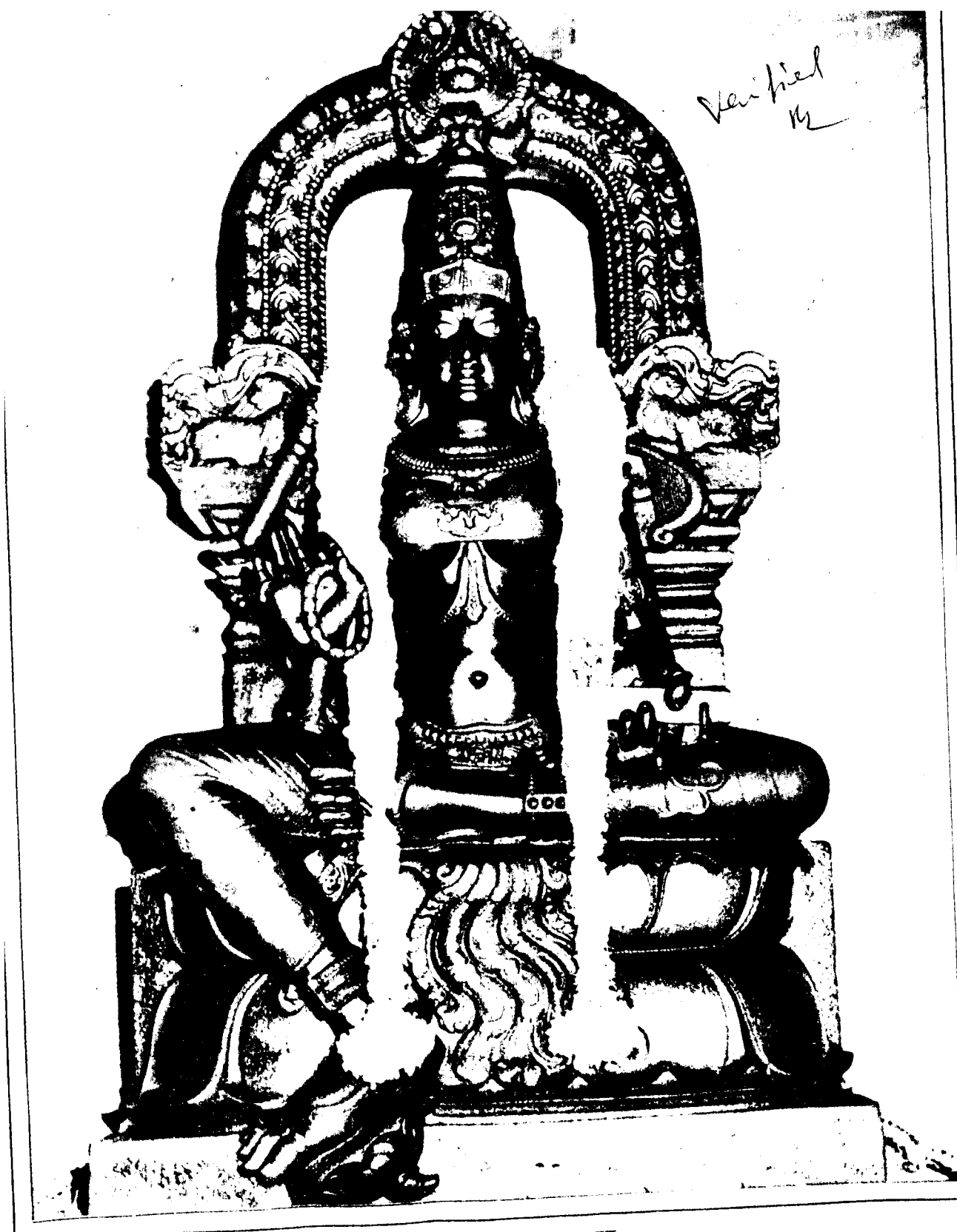
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MOTHER TAMIL

Long Live Pure, Chaste Tamil!
Long Live the Good Tamil Folk!

TAMIL ARASU

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Tamil Arasu takes pride in presenting special articles to commemorate the forthcoming historic VIII World Tamil Conference. The Special articles are of general interest relating to the uniqueness of Tamil language, literature and Tamil Nadu's cultural achievements. We believe that you'll thoroughly enjoy going through the pages of this special issue.

- Editor



splended resilience which has overcome the onslaught of alien challenges and the vicissitudes of time to maintain its purity and majesty. Tamil literature is a treasure house of enchanting lyricism of poets and edifying wisdom of sages; of exciting history of saints and engrossing biographies of great warriors - all propounding truth and beauty, courage and heroism, love and universal com-

language, is traditionally, an international mega event aimed at uniting Tamil sentiments from all over the world; a veritable treat for the connoisseurs of Tamil art and culture; in short, a grand cultural spectacle, fulfilling the cultural aspirations of lakhs and lakhs of people, treating them to rich intellectual and artistic fare.

Eighth World Tamil Conference will modernise and equip Tamil Language with necessary strength and quality to meet increasing needs...

Dr. J. Jayalalitha Hon'ble Chief Minister

I have great pleasure in addressing all of you, on the eve of the prestigious Eighth World Tamil Conference, scheduled to take place at Thanjavur, from the 1st January to the 5th January 1995; and also in extending a warm invitation to every one of you, to take part in this spectacular cultural bonanza of this decade.

When we turn the pages of the history of mankind, we are awestruck by the magnificent beauty and exquisite harmony of the Tamil language, and its

passion. I am quite proud to mention here that it was our ancient Tamil Sangam poet Kanian Poonkundranar who declared to the whole world that "To us all towns are one, all men our kin" - professing the concept of Universal Brotherhood, in the ancient Sangam age itself.

I am sure, you will all agree with me, that the World Tamil Conference held with this global perspective, which is unique and distinct to the linguistic ethos and the effervescent literary milieu of our glorious Tamil

I am extremely happy to recall with pride and gratitude, the magnificent manner in which Perarignar Anna conducted the Second World Tamil Conference in 1968 at Madras; and again the majesty with which Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR, hosted the Fifth World Tamil Conference in 1981 at Madurai. Now, following their illustrious footsteps, inspired by the unbounded love and abundant affection showered on me by millions and millions of my beloved people of Tamil Nadu, I consider it an unique privilege



and a great honour to host the Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur, which will begin to unfold itself beautifully, at the dawn of the New Year, on the 1st January, 1995.

I am glad to tell you all, that the proposed Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur, will not only strive to combine all the virtues of the earlier Conferences, but will also try to impart a scientific orientation to the linguistic processes of the Tamil language, modernising and equipping it with the necessary strength and quality to meet the ever increasing needs, arising out of the rapid advancement of science and technology.

The temple city of Thanjavur, with all its historical splendour, is getting a thorough face lift, to welcome the distinguished Tamil academicians and scholars, dignitaries and eminent personalities from all over the world, besides every one of you. The Conference will be studded with enlightening seminars, engaging literary discourses, thought provoking symposia, soul stirring

music concerts, colourful dances and stage plays. Above all, there will be a meticulously planned, mammoth procession, with exquisite pageantry, depicting the greatness of our Tamil culture, and parading its entry into the 21st Century too! To make the occasion truly memorable, His Excellency the President of India, and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India will visit Thanjavur, to grace the Conference with their distinguished presence, as the Chief Guests, at the Inaugural and Valedictory functions, respectively.

Let me once again take

Thanjavur painting, an unique school of painting on its own.



this opportunity to welcome each and every one of you, to the ensuing World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur. I am sure, that by your active participation, you will certainly make the five-day-long programme lively and thrilling. I request all of you to offer your whole-hearted support and cooperation, for the smooth and efficient conduct of the Conference, and enable the Government of Tamil Nadu to make the Eighth World Tamil Conference, not only a wonderful success, but also a memorable event to be cherished always, by the Tamil speaking people of the entire world.

SINGULARITY OF THE TERM 'TAMIL'

— G. DEVANEYAN

'Tamil' is one of those words whose origin and root meaning are wrapped up in mystery. All that we can say at present without any fear of contradiction is, that it is a pure Tamil word being current as the only name of the language of the Tamils, from the days that preceded the First Tamil Academy established at Thenmadurai on the river Pahruli in the submerged continent.

After some of the Vedic Aryans migrated to the South, Tamil got the descriptive name 'Tenmoli' lit. 'the southern language', in contradistinction to the Vedic language or Sanskrit which was called 'Vadamoli', lit. 'the northern language'.

The word 'Tamil' or 'Tamilan' successively changed into 'Dramila', 'Dramila', 'Dramida' and 'Dravida' in North India and at first denoted only the Tamil language, as all the other Dravidian dialects separated themselves from Tamil or came into prominence one by one only after the dawn

of the Christian era. That is why Sanskrit and Tamil came to be known as Vadamoli and Tenmoli respectively. This distinction could have arisen only when there were two languages standing side by side, one north and the other in the south, both coming in contact with each other. The Buddhist Tamil Academy which flourished in the 5th century at Madurai, went by the name of 'Travida Sangam'. Pillai-lokacariyar, a Vaisnava Acharaya of the 14th Century refers to Tamil literature as 'Dravida Sastram'. Even Tayumanavar, a Tamilian saint who lived in the 18th Century, employs the word 'Travidam' to designate Tamil, on account of the established usage of the term in religious literature.

Telugu was the first Dravidian dialect to separate from Tamil, and so, Kumarila-bhatta, an eminent Brahmin writer of the 7th century A.D., uses the term Andhra-Dravidabhasha, 'the Telugu-Tamil

language' for the first time to designate the entire family of the Dravidian languages.

Whether the initial letter is voiced or voiceless, we do not find an 'r' inserted after it in any of the various forms of the word 'Tamil' employed by foreigners, as in those used by North-Indians or Sanskritists. In the Indian segment of the Peutinger Tables, we find the names Damirice and Dymirice, and in the Cosmography of the geographer of Ravenna, the name Dimirica. We can safely identify these names with Tamilakam, by which name the Tamil country was generally known in ancient days. The Chinese pilgrim, Hwen Thsang has the form Tchi-mo-lo, which may also be read Dimala or Dimara. There is no difficulty in identifying this word with the name Tamil. The name given to Tamil by the first Danish Missionaries was Lingua Damulica, which may mean the Tamil languages or 'the language of the Tamil country'. In the Pali of the Mahawanso, the form used is Damilo, the derivative of which is



Damilo. Tamil was written 'Tamil' and the Dravidian family of languages styled 'Tamulian' at one time by European writers.

The oldest form of Dravida appears to have been Dramila or Dramila. The Dravidas are called of Buddhism in India" (A.D.1573), and this is the form in which the word occurs again and again in the old Malayalam versions of the Sanskrit Puranas. The next old form that appears

to have been most widely in use in Dramida, which by a single consonantal change becomes Dravida. It is apparent that the form Dramila is closest to the word Tamil.

Sanskrit has a tendency either to separate the consonant and vowel of the initial syllabic-consonant of a word and insert an 'r' between them, or to de-vowelise the syllabic-consonant and insert a 'r' after it, when naturalising Tamil words.

E.G. Tamil	Sanskrit
Padi	Prati
putavi	Prithvi
Padimai	Pratima
Madi	Mri
Padikam	Pratika
Madangam	Mridanga
Pavalam	Pravala
Medu	Mridu

It is exactly in keeping with this tendency that the word Tamil first became Dramila in Sanskrit. If we take all the Sanskrit alternations of the word Tamil in their historical order, there will be no difficulty at all in identifying the word Dravida with Tamil. Dr. Caldwell has rightly discovered their identity,

Idli and Dosa are part of the World Famous Tamil Nadu Cuisine. (Apart from Manapparai Murukku, Tirunelveli Halwa, etc. Chettinad cuisine of Tamil Nadu - with a plethora of non vegetarian goodies, is unique and is strong enough to rouse passions)



but has gravely erred in deriving the original from its corruption, i.e., 'Tamil' from 'Dravida. It is owing to this wrong conclusion that he has reversed the order of the Sanskrit forms of the word Tamil. Evidently he had no knowledge of the Sangam literature, and consequently no idea of the Lemurian origin of Tamil. The Vedic Aryans set foot on the Indian soil not before 2000 B.C., the first Tamil Academy seems to have flourished not later than 5000 B.C. when the language had no other name than Tamil. This chronology proves the preposterousness of Dr. Caldwell's conclusion. Even without chronological evidence, it is easier to derive 'Dravida' from 'Tamil' than 'Tamil' from 'Dravida, and hence the correction of the mistake by Dr. Grierson in this Linguistic Survey of India. It also naturally seems improbable and absurd on the face of it, that the highly civilized Tamilan people residing in the extreme

south should remain for long without a name for their language or themselves, and then be called by the Aryan immigrants, not by a Tamil but by a Sanskrit name.

The etymology of the word Tamil, as I have already stated at the outset, is not yet known. Some attribute to the word the meaning 'that which singularly possesses the letter 'l', and some others 'sweetness.' Both of these do not hold water, as the former demands comparison with all the other languages of the world as a prerequisite, and the latter only expresses the high esteem in which the language is held by the people who speak it. The holy way to squeeze a plausible meaning out of the word is to treat it as a corruption of the compound word tamil, which may mean either 'one's house' or 'one's country'. Originally it may have been prefixed to moli as an epithet so that the whole may have meant 'house-hold language' or

Thirukkural

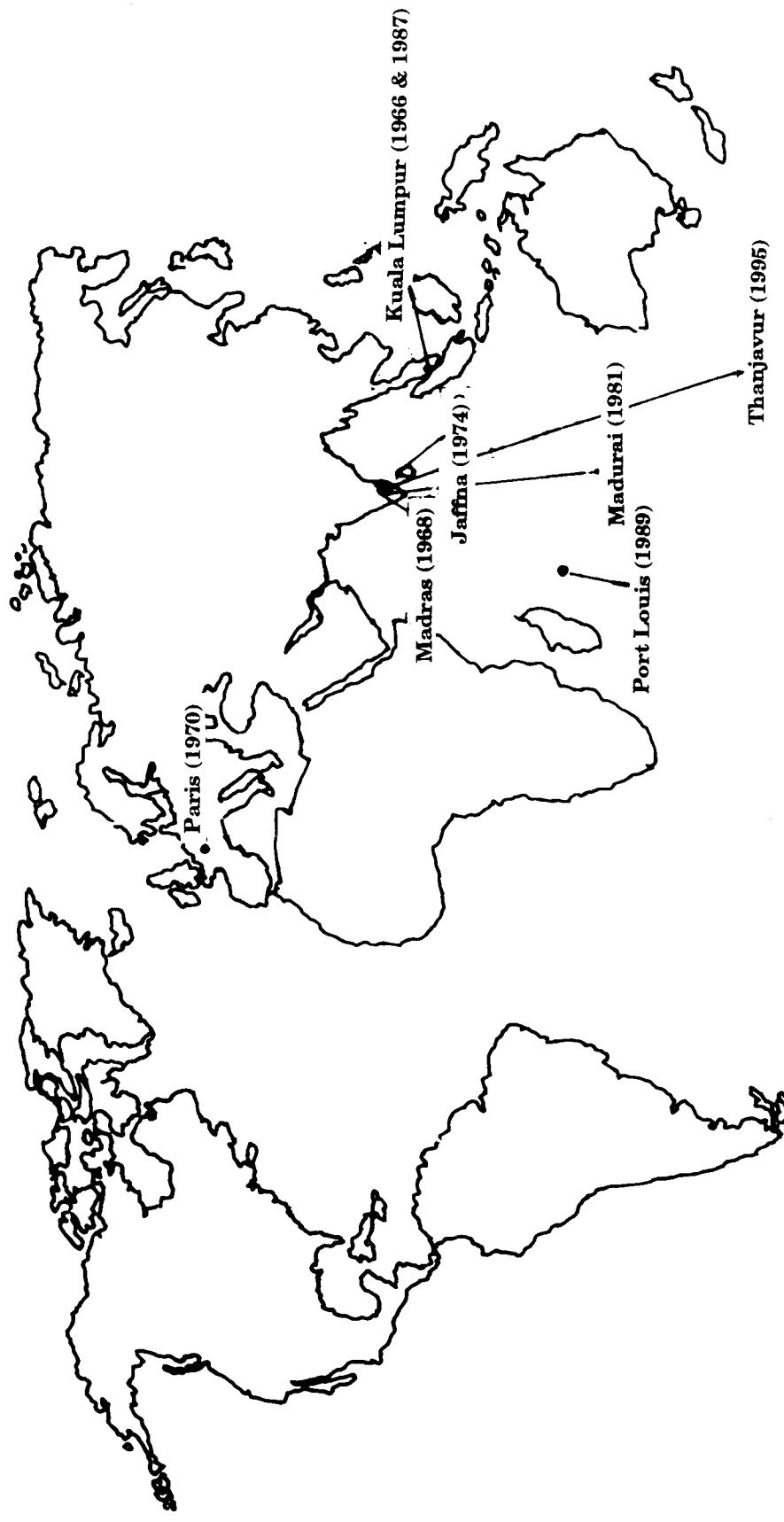
*When water fails, functions
of nature cease, you say;
Thus when rain fails, no men
can walk in 'duty's ordered way.'*

'language of homeland', and denoted the refined speech of Tamil Nadu which differed from that of contiguous northern countries called **mol peyar deyam**, 'countries where the speech changed or was in the transitional stage'. Then, in course of time, the epithet itself may have come to denote the language and gradually evolved into the present form Tamil. Mutation of I into l is not uncommon in derivation. Comp. mal-malai (cloud or rain), **kal-kal-kal-kal** (blackness).

"The word Tamil occurs in all the ancient Tamil classics as a common or generic name for the people and their language in India. The word is as old as the Tamil language and hence there is no need to derive it from foreign words like Dravida".

Many do not know that the words 'Tamil' and 'Dravida' are different forms of one and the same vocable. The Concise Oxford Dictionary, which treats 'Tamil' as a native word, declares 'Dravida' to be a Sanskrit one and the name of a province of South India.

VENUES OF THE WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCES



WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCES

CONFERENCE	YEAR	DATE	PLACE	COUNTRY	CHAIRMAN
First	1966	16-23, April	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	Thiru V.T. Sampanthan
Second	1968	3-10, January	Madras	India	Hon'ble Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai.
Third	1970	15-18, July	Paris	France	Prof. Jean Fillozat
Fourth	1974	3-9, January	Jaffna	Sri Lanka	Prof. S. Vidhyananandan
Fifth	1981	4-10, January	Madurai	India	Hon'ble chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandran
Sixth	1987	15-19, November	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	Datto S. Samivelu
Seventh	1989	1-8, December	Port Louis	Mauritius	Arumugam Parasuraman, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Malaysia.
Eighth	1995	1-5, January	Thanjavur	India	Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J.Jayalalitha





SUSTAINING TAMIL ENRICHMENT AND GROWTH THROUGH WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCES

First World Tamil Conference - 1966

The First World Tamil Conference was held at Kuala Lumpur from April 16, 1966 till April 23, 1966 at the famous Tunku Abdul Rahman Conference hall. It was the first time ever that a Tamil Conference of such magnitude was being conducted. The father of modern Malaysia and the first Prime Minister of that country, Tunku Abdul Rahman inaugurated the Conference.

This Conference was jointly organised by the University of Malay, National Indian Education Development Council and International Association of Tamil Research. The Conference was sponsored by the Malaysian Government was held due to the initiative and efforts of Thaninayagam Adigal.

Seminars were held for five days from April 18th & 22nd. 240 delegates and 50 observers had registered for the seminars while 132 delegates and 40 observers attended them. 150 papers were presented, majority of them in English.

After the conclusion of the Conference, three public lectures were held on April 24 and 25. Two lectures were in Tamil.

Two Exhibitions were held as part of the Conference. The Education Minister of Malaysia, N.G. Mohamadgir Shogari inaugurated the Exhibition on Archeological discoveries in South East Asia. The Second Exhibition that displayed rare books, manuscripts and portraits was inaugurated by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Bhakthavachalam.

Malaysian Cultural Programme were also held during the Conference.

Second World Tamil Conference - 1968

The Second World Tamil Conference was held at Madras from 3.1.1968 through 10.1.1968 in a grand and fitting manner. Perarignar Anna presided over the Conference.

The Conference was inaugurated by His Excellency, the President of India Dr. Zakir Hussain.

To coincide with the Conference, statues of Avaiyar, Kannagi, Kambar, Dr. Robert Caldwell, Dr. G.U. Pope, Thiruvalluvar, Bharathiyar, Bharathidasan, V.O.Chidambaram, and Veeramunivar were installed on the famous Marina Beach on Jan 2nd. Earlier On Jan 1st, Sir A. Ramasamy Mudaliar unveiled the statue of Perarignar Anna. All these statues were

erected keeping in mind the rich Tamil History.

At the Conference, Perarignar Anna announced the decision to form an 'International Tamil Research Institute' at Madras. The Institute, accordingly, was established in 1969.

It was recommended during the Conference that a Trust may be formed for furthering Tamil Research.

500 delegates attended this Conference which included 250 delegates from abroad. Seminars were held from 4.1.68 to 10.1.68. A total of 36 sittings were held. 164 papers were submitted and they were published in 1971, in three volumes.

The souvenir of the Conference was released by Tamil Nadu Governor Sardar Ujjal Singh. The souvenir carries at the beginning, an introductory article by Dr. M.G.R.

Elder statesmen Rajaji inaugurated the Exhibition organised during the Conference, at the Senate hall

of Madras University. The Vice-Chancellor of Madras University Dr. A. Lakhmanswamy Mudaliar presided. The Exhibition carried specimens and articles on Tamil culture, civilization, art, literature and language. An exhaustive "hand book" on the Exhibition was published as guide to the Exhibition.

A cultural fiesta with displays of classical dance, music and drama was also held throughout the Conference.

Third World Tamil Conference - 1970

The Third World Tamil Conference was held the capital of France, Paris from 15th July 1970 till 18th July. French Professor Jean Fillic Zat presided over the Conference and inaugurated the Conference too.

UNESCO Secretary General Malcolm Adiseshiah presided over a seminar and addressed the gathering in three languages - Tamil, English and French. A. Subbiah read out the report on the Second World Tamil

Conference which was held at Madras.

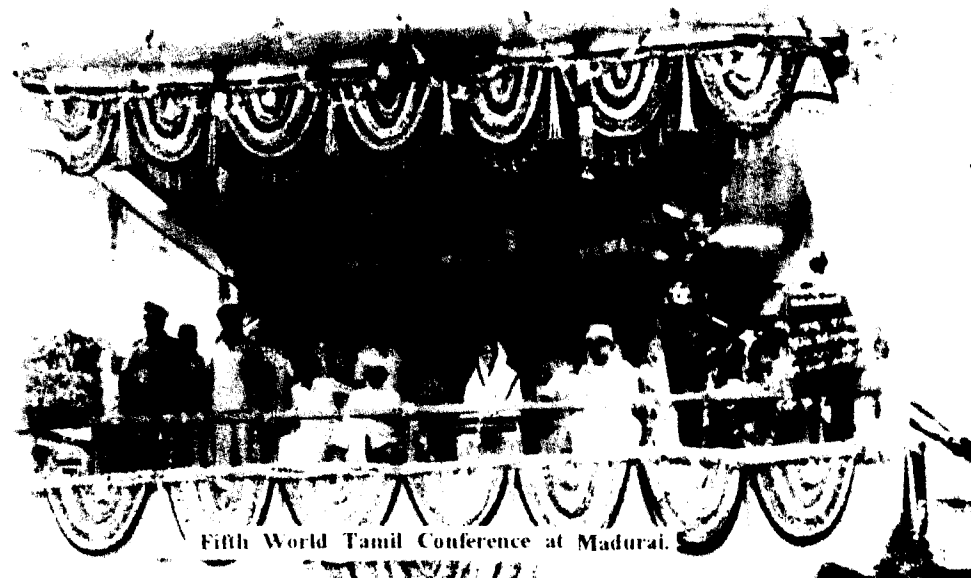
150 Delegates and 60 observers participated in the Conference. Only the papers of the participants in the Conference were read out at the Conference. 24 papers were presented. English and French were widely used in the Conference.

The Exhibition organised as part of the Conference carried rare Tamil books and manuscripts.

Tamil Nadu Finance Minister M. Mathialagan, Tamil Nadu Opposition leader P.G. Karuthiruman, Dr. M. Varadarasanar and Vice-Chancellor of Madras University N.D. Sundaravivelu also attended the Conference.

Fourth World Tamil Conference - 1974

The Fourth World Tamil Conference was held from 3.1.74 through 9.1.74 at Jaffna in Sri Lanka. The Conference was presided over by S. Vidyanandan, organiser of





Srilankan branch of the International Association of Tamil Research.

The research seminar was divided into General sessions and Group Seminars. A total of 115 papers were presented and later published in three volumes.

Cultural programmes were presented at Veerasingham Mandapam, Open-air auditorium and at Kandi women's College, every evening. Natyanjali, Farmer's dance, Kavadi, Karagam, Bharatha Natyam, Kutchipudi, performances were held along with dramas and music performances for the benefit of delegates and the local public.

A pageantry of floats carrying portraits of Sri lankan poets and with displays on the political, Industrial and trade scenes of the country was also organised.

The Exhibition of the Conference was inaugurated by Vimal Amarasekara, the head of the Government in Jaffna. The Exhibition exhibited the history of the Tamil speaking Sri lankans, and their achievements in various spheres of life & activity.

Fifth World Tamil Conference - 1981

The Fifth World Tamil Conference was held at Madurai from January 4, 1981 through January 10th. The Conference was held under the auspices of the International Tamil Research Institute headed by A. Subbiah.

About 800 delegates representing 40 countries attended the Conference. The seminars were held

at the Madurai Kamaraj University campus from 5.1.81 until 10.1.81. The president of the International Tamil Research Institute, Justice Dr. S. Maharajan welcomed the delegates to the Conference.

Tamil Nadu Governor Sadiq Ali inaugurated the Conference.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. G. R. presided over the Conference.

About 250 papers were presented at the Conference. The papers have since been published in three volumes.

It was at this Conference that Dr. M. G. R. announced the decision of the Tamil Nadu Government to establish the World Tamil Sangam and the Tamil University at Thanjavur.

During the Conference, a commemoration souvenir, a who's who of delegates to the Conference and a souvenir on the cultural programmes held during the Conference were published and released.

Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi was present on the including day of the Conference.

Sixth World Tamil Conference - 1987

The Sixth World Tamil Conference was held at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia from Nov. 15, 1987 to Nov. 19, 1987. The organising committee to the Conference was headed by the Malaysian Minister for PWD, Datho S. Samivelu.

The Conference was jointly sponsored by Malaysian Government, University of Malay, World Tamils Federation and Indian Methodology Association.

The papers to the Conference are yet to be released. The commemoration souvenir was richly illustrated and carried 24 articles on science and technology.

Seventh World Tamil Conference - 1989

The Seventh World Tamil Conference was held at the capital of Mauritius, Port Louis from December 1st 1989 through 8th December. The Conference was organised on the personal initiative of the then Mauritian Education Minister, Arumugam Parasuraman.

About 200 delegates representing 22 nations participated in the Conference. The Seminar was held from 4th Dec until 7th Dec and more than 150 papers were presented in the sessions.

Among the dignitaries who attended the seminars were Malaysian Minister Datho S. Samivelu, Chief Minister of Mauritius Anneroth Jugnath, Governor Veerasamy Ringadoo, Vice-Chancellor V. C. Kulandaisamy and others.

Two general sessions and a Kavi Arangam were also held during the Conference.

An exhibition of "Tamil Resettlement" was inaugurated during the Conference.

A Fiesta of cultural programmes was offered to the delegates of the Conference. All the delegates were provided a three day excursion around the country.

Information Courtesy:-

Dr. T. Mahalakshmi



Thaninayagam Adigal's Contribution to Tamil Amudhan Adigal

As the Eighth International Conference - Seminar for Tamil Studies is drawing near and as the Tamil people and scholars are gearing themselves up for this historical event, our memories go back to Thaninayagam Adigal who dreamt about such International Tamil Conference and Seminars. It was he who almost single-handedly, organized the First Seminar at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1966.

When Thaninayagam Adigal, the then Head of the Department of Indian Studies at the University of Malaysia, proposed in the Council for Tamil Develop-

ment and Research at Madras that an International meeting of Tamil Scholars drawn from Indian and foreign universities be convened every year by the Tamil Nadu Government, many were sceptical about it. Finally the proposal was accepted and it was decided to convene a meeting immediately after the International Congress of Orientalists in 1964. When Thaninayagam Adigal realised that the decision was not going to be implemented, he made use of the opportunity provided by the Congress of the Orientalists at New Delhi to assemble the Indian and Foreign Tamil scholars present there and founded the International Association for Tamil Research. Prof. Jean Filliozat of France was elected its President and Thaninayagam Adigal its General Secretary.

It was almost a miracle

that Thaninayagam, who had no liking for Tamil in his earlier days in Jaffna, Colombo or in Rome, decided to become a student of Tamil literature in Annamalai University in 1945. The doyens of Tamil scholarship such as Dr. T. P. Meenatshisundaram and Dr. A. Chidambaram were at Annamalai then and they inspired him to delve deep into Tamil studies. Thaninayagam Adigal was so much enamoured of Tamil Literature that he decided to continue his Tamil studies in Annamalai, leading to M. Litt. degree after completing his M.A. in Tamil. His M. Litt. thesis 'Nature in Ancient Tamil Poetry: concept and Interpretation' was hailed as the best of its kind by Dr. Kamil Zvelebil, the then doyen of Dravidologists in Europe. His evaluation is proved by the fact that this thesis, which was first pub-



ANTIQUITY OF TAMIL

G. Devaneyan

Certain literary traditions respecting the immemorial antiquity of Tamil and the Tamils are as follows:

(1) Kambar: a great poet of the 12th century, describes Tamil as eternal.

(2) An Old anonymous stray poem exalts Tamil as follows:-

onga lidaivan duyarn
tolavilangi
engolinir nalat tirulakarrum -
anguvarrul
minner taniyali vengadiron -
renaiyadu
tanne riada tamil.

Translation:

Of the two things that hail from a mountain, shine so as to be adored by the great, and expel darkness from the earth surrounded by the roaring sea: one is the hot-rayed sun riding on a single-wheeled chariot of lightning-like effulgence, and the other the incomparable Tamil.

(3) The idea expressed in the 34th stanza of Purapporul Venba Malai, that the origin of the Marava community was anterior to the evolution of earthy soil out of rocky ground. Though inordinately exagger-

Tamil is the only living ancient language. It has been difficult to date the birth of Tamil. We present here a literary investigation into the antiquity of Tamil Language.

rative, serves to point out the high antiquity of the Tamil race.

(4) Another hyperbolic statement by Parimelalagar, the popular commentator of Thirukkural, that the three royal lines, viz. Chera, Chola and Pandiya, were continuing prosperously from the time of Creation, serves the same purpose.

Caldwell's observations on the High Antiquity of the Tamil Form of Speech:

Passages from Caldwell's Dravidian Comparative Grammar affording glimpses of the primordial nature of Tamil:

"Does there not seem to be reason for regarding the Dravidian family of languages, not only as a link of connection between the Indo-European and Scythian groups, but in some particulars, especially in relation to the pronouns - as the best surviving representative of a period in the history of human speech older than the Indo-European stage, older than the

Scythian, and older than the separation of the one from the other".

"It is a different question whether some of the Dravidian forms and roots may not have formed a portion of the linguistic inheritance which appears to have descended to the earliest Dravidians from the fathers of the human race. I should be inclined however to seek for traces of that inheritance only in the narrow area of the simplest and most necessary, and therefore probably the most primitive, elements of speech".

The hypothesis of the existence of a remote original affinity between the Dravidian languages and Sanskrit, or rather between those languages and the Indo-European family of tongues, inclusive of Sanskrit, of such a nature as to allow us to give the Dravidian Languages a place in the Indo-European group, is altogether different from the notion of the direct derivation of those languages from

Sanskrit; The hypothesis of a remote original affinity is favoured by some interesting analogies both in the grammar and in the vocabulary, which will be noticed in their place.

Some of those analogies are best accounted for by the supposition of the retention by the Dravidian family, as by Finnish and Turkish, of certain number of roots and forms belonging to the pre-Aryan period, the period which preceded the final separation of the Indo-European group of tongues from the Scythian".

"Much light is thrown by the pronouns on the relationship of languages and families of languages; for the personal pronouns, and especially those of the first and second persons singular, evince more of the quality of permanence than any other parts of speech, and are generally found to change but little in the lapse of ages. They are more permanent even than the numerals, the signs of case, and the verbal inflexions; and though, like everything else, they are liable to change, yet their connections and ramifications may be traced amongst nearly all the languages of mankind, how widely so ever sundered by time or place. In some instances the personal

pronouns constitute the only appreciable point of contact of feature of relationship between languages which appear to have belonged originally to one and the same family but which, in this lapse of time and through the progress of mutation, have become generically different. This remark especially applies to the pronouns of the first person, which of all parts of speech appears to be the most persistent".

"I need not call attention to the beautiful and philosophical regularity of this quadruple set of remote, proximate, and intermediate demonstratives and interrogatives. In no other language or family of languages in the world shall we find its equal, or even its second. In addition to which, the circumstance that the demonstrative vowels are not only used in these languages with an invariable and exact discrimination of meaning which is not found in the Indo-European tongues (with the solitary and partial exception of the New Persian), but are also associated with a corresponding interrogative vowel of which the Indo-European tongues are totally ignorant, tends to confirm the supposition which I have already expressed, that the Dravidian family has retained

some prae-Sanskrit elements of immense antiquity; and, in particular, that its demonstratives instead of being borrowed from Sanskrit, represent those old Japhetic bases from which the demonstratives of Sanskrit itself, as well as of various other members of the Indo-European family, were derived".

"I regard the comparison of words, when carefully and cautiously conducted, as important help to the determination of lingual affinities; and it will be found, I think, that the following vocabularies bear independent testimony, in their own degree, to the same result at which we arrived by grammatical comparison - viz., that the Dravidian idioms exhibit traces of an ancient, deep-seated connection with Prae-Sanskrit, the assumed archaic mother-tongue of the Indo-European family, - whilst at the same time the traces they exhibit of relationship to the languages of the Scythian group, especially to the Ugrian tongues, are, on the whole, closer, more distinctive, and more essential".

"Whatever words, therefore, might appear to be the



common property of Hebrew and the Dravidian languages, would have to be regarded either as indicating an ancient, pre-historic intermixture or association of the Dravidians with the Semitic race, or rather perhaps, as constituting traces of the original oneness of the speech of the Noachide".

Ancient trade with Egypt

"Not only was there commercial intercourse between the Tamil country and the Mesopotamian valley, but there is some evidence that the trade of South India extended to Egypt in the III millennium B.C." says W.H.Schoff. "Thousands of years before the emergence of the Greeks from savagery.....Egypt and the nations of Ancient India came into being, and a commercial system was developed for the interchange of products within those limits, having its centre of exchange near the head of the Persian gulf. The people of that region, the various Arab tribes and more especially those ancestors of the phoenicians, the mysterious Red Men, were the active carriers or intermediaries. The growth of civilisation in India created an active merchant marine, trading to the

Euphrates and Africa, and eastwards we know not whither. The Arab merchant, apparently, tolerated the presence of Indian traders in Africa but reserved for themselves the commerce within the Red sea, that lucrative commerce which supplied precious stones and spices and incense to the ever increasing service of the gods of Egypt. This was their prerogative, jealously guarded, and upon this they lived and prospered according to the prosperity of the Pharaohs. The muslins and spices of India traders in their ports on either side of the gulf of Aden, carrying them in turn over the highlands to the upper Nile, or through the Red Sea and across the desert to the Thebes or Memphis." It may be added that the articles taken to Egypt by the Arab intermediaries were South Indian ones and that South Indian Paradavar took them in their boats to Aden and the East African coast.

"In the inscriptions of Harkhut, an Assuan noble under the Egyptian king Mernere of the VI Dynasty (B.C.2,600) occur the following:-I descended (from country of Yan, Southern Nubia) with 300 asses laden with incense. Ebony, grain, panthers, ivory, throw sticks

Thirukkural

*A, as its first of letters,
every speech maintains;
The 'Primal Deity' is First
through all the world's
domains.*

and every good product." The ebony, which was superior to the African one and was in ancient times taken from India to the Persian gulf, when the Arabians took it to the coast of Africa, and from there it was taken via the Upper Nile to Egypt, as it was in later times, i.e. 1,500 B.C. and after this date Indian ebony was so popular that Theophrastus (IV century B.C.) ascribes the wood to India only and Virgil (Georgics ii.116.7) speaks of it as peculiar to India. In a later chapter it will be shown that grain and panthers were exported to Africa in later time. These two articles here mentioned may also have gone from South India.

"In the VI dynasty, under Pepi II (XXVI century B.C.) a royal officer, Sebni, sent to the Tigre highlands, records how he descended to Wawat and Uthek, and sent on the royal attendant Iri, with two others, bearing incense, clothing (Probably cotton), one tusk and one hide. Now the Deccan was

the only part of the world where cotton cloth was woven in those far off days.

"The Ivory mentioned above was African but may also have been Indian. From early times Indian ivory was in demand, partly because it was finer than any other. Moreover it was easier to kill elephants in Indian forest than in the wilder, thicker and more unhealthy African forests. The elephant-hunters of Abyssinia and Somali land who supplied African Ivory to the Egyptian kings used adzes, axes and swords; and India was the only country hence iron implements could have been imported in those times. In exchange for these, India

imported from Africa incense and sweet-smelling gums, largely used in this country in the Vedic Age. There is record of the export of iron from India in the next age and we may well believe that this commerce existed in the earlier age.

"The Vedic mantras refer to men who went to far off lands for "interchange of merchandise." Traders "desiring wealth sent ships to sea" parties of merchants went on the ocean in ships with a hundred oars" to distant lands for sale and barter. This of course does not refer to Tamil trade but if the Northern Arya people traded to distant countries, the South Indian sailors must have been their teachers of the art of sailing; for the latter had

MOST ADVANCED TAMIL CIVILIZATION

Among the most important kingdoms of the south in Tamil land were those of the Pandyas, Cholas, and Pallavas. In general, Tamil civilization was very advanced, based as it was on a flourishing sea trade.

While, politically, kingdoms rose and fell, and there was a fatal fragmentation, culturally the Tamil cities were on a par with the most advanced urban civilizations in the World.

- T. Walter Wallbank,



developed from early times extensive sea-trade and the former were not sailors in early days.

South's Link with Ancient Egypt: New light on History.

Recent Archeological finds in Egypt had confirmed that there were close contacts between the Tamils in South India and pre-dynastic Egyptians, Mr.Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, said at Hyderabad on 31.8.62.

"Laying the foundation-stone for the State Archives building in Osmania University campus he said the Egyptian finds bore close resemblance to those unearthed in Tamilnad. These discoveries had proved beyond doubt that the Tamils had contacts with Ancient Egypt's pre-dynastic people.

Mr.Kabir said it was very difficult to say who were the indigenous people of India. Even the Adivasis might not be the indigenous people. It was, however, certain that the Indo-Gangetic people were comparatively new and for a time when the Deccan Plateau was populated the Gangetic Plain was unfit for human habitation".



STATUES OF TAMIL STALWARTS AT MADRAS



Saint Thiruvalluvar

The author of Thirukkural, the book of couplets that provides a comprehensive and universal vision of life.

Thirukkural contains 1,330 couplets in 133 chapters and deals with topics such as domestic life, asceticism, wealth, polity, affairs of state, etc.



Avvaiyar

The authoress of Athichudi, Kondraivendan, Naivazhi, Vakkundam and other poetry. Avvaiyar is believed to have lived long and was honoured by the erection of her statues during ancient times.



Kavichakravarthi Kambar

Born at Thiruvazhundur of the Chola Kingdom, Kambar wrote the Ramayana in the Sweetest Tamil. He lived about 1,200 years ago and has since become a legend.

We present here the pictures of Tamil Stalwarts whose statues were unveiled during the Second World Tamil Conference at Madras in 1968. These great personalities have been the milestones of Tamil history.



Mahakavi Subramaniya Bharathiar

A twentieth century fiery poet renowned for his love of Tamil. He was also a patriot and believer in the liberation of women. Had a short life, but nevertheless a great inspiration to many.



Pavendar Bharathidasan

His real name was Kana-gasubburathinam. He came under the influence of Bharathiar and was a great friend of his. A social revolutionary, Bharathidasan has also become an inspiration to the backward, depressed classes.



Robert Caldwell

This Irish Born genius is credited for having dwelt deep into the grammar of South Indian languages. He wrote a book on Comparative Grammar.





Veeramamunivar

Italian born Veeramamunivar wrote Thempavani. He also translated Thirukkural in "Latin".



G.U. Pope

Like Robert Caldwell, G.U. Pope also hailed from Ireland. He translated Thirukkural, Naladiyar & Thiruvagasam into English. His cemetery at Oxford carries the epitaph, 'a Tamil Student'.



**Kappalottiya Tamizar
V.O. Chidambaranar**

A great scholar in Tamil, V.O. Chidambaranar underwent imprisonment for the sake of freedom of his motherland. A terror to the British Imperialists, he ran two ships as competition to them.



Kannagi

The main character of the epic, Silapadhikaram, Kannagi stands for courage, values and determination in life. Temples have been erected in her honour.



AN ANTHEM

—Mahakavi Bharathiar

Long live pure, chaste Tamil!
Long live the good Tamil folk!
Long live our Bharat-land
Priceless gem divine!

May the ills afflicting us today
Disappear!
May abiding good come to us!
All evil die away!

May dharma flourish and adharm perish!
May the manly efforts,
The noble enterprises,
Of this our Aryan nation
Succeed triumphantly!
May the people of our land
Rise higher day by day!

Vande Mataram! Vande Mataram!
Vande Mataram!

—Translated by - N. Balasubramanian

Vazhai Thoranam for festive occasions



Kummi Dance by young girls

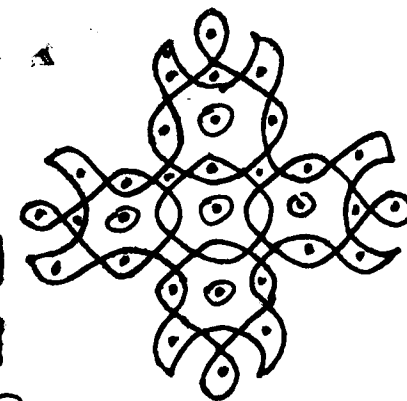


Tamil lady with flowers on her hair

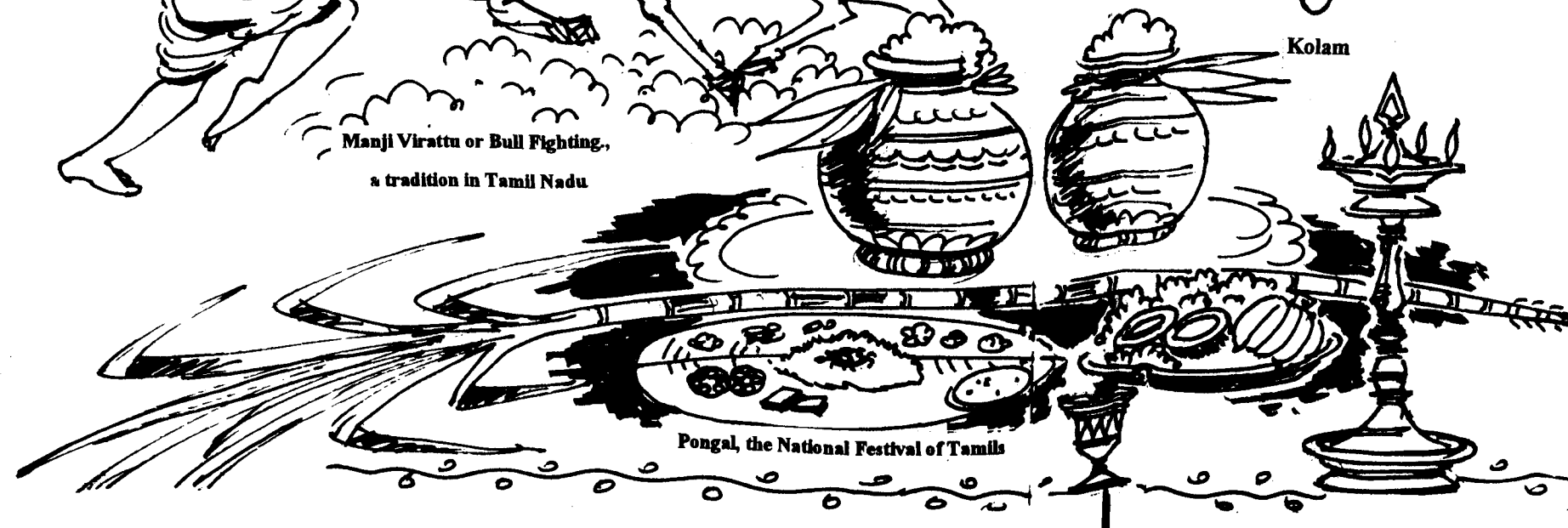
SCENES FROM THE SOCIAL LIFE OF TAMILS



Manji Virattu or Bull Fighting,
a tradition in Tamil Nadu



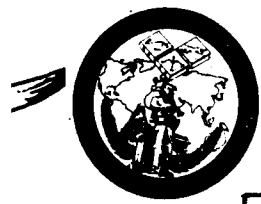
Kolam



Pongal, the National Festival of Tamils



Nadaswaram music for auspiciousness



Salient Features of the First Tamil Novel

The introduction of the literary genre, novel to Tamil is a milestone in the history of Tamil Literature. Pirataapa Mutaliyaar Carittiram by Maayuuram Veetanaayakam Pillai appeared in 1879. It is considered to be the earliest of all of the Tamil novels. Though it is the oldest Tamil novel, it still merits in many respects.

Veetanaayakam Pillai is known for his service to Tamil language and literature and to Tamil community as well. He was a noble magistrate. He was a social worker through municipality. He was source of strength and support for Tamil scholars. He has written several books. His Penmatimaalai is a musical poem. His two kirtanas viz., Carva Camayak Kiirthanaikal and Cattiya Veetak Kiirthanaikal are very popular. His Cittanata Cankirakam is a translation from Sanskrit. It deals with law. His Niiti Nuul, Tiruvarul Maalai, Tiruvarul Antaati and Peniyanaayaki Patikam are poetic works. Pen kalvi and Pen maanam are his famous prose works. His Pirataapa Mutaliyaar Carittiram is regarded to be the first Tamil novel. Though it is a novel, it provides food for thought. The human values revealed in it are still thought provoking. The teachings of this novel still remain relevant.

The author has clearly spelt out his objectives of writing this novel in

Prof. S. Innasi

the introduction itself thus:

"Tamil is devoid of prose works. I write this in order to fulfil the demand of prose works. I write this for also presenting a practical illustration of moral maxims which have formed the ranks of my earlier works Niiti Nuul, Penmatimaalai, Carva Camayak Kiirthanaikal etc. I am not a realist, but an idealist. I have not depicted life in this novel as it is, but I have had in view what it ought to be. Hence I have not exhibited any bad specimen of humanity which might be often misconstrued by the young, the immatured and the inexperienced as objects of their imitation. I have represented the principal personages as perfectly virtuous".

From the above we can easily understand how careful the author was and how he cares for the social responsibility as a writer, apart from how he is committed to mould the society with his ideals. That is why his novel is still regarded.

The work under study is an epic in prose. Hence the four fold epic themes of aram, porul, inbam and viitu find a place in it. The eighth Chapter deals with aram and porul, the ninth Chapter deals with inbam and viitu through the story of Karpalankaari and the riddle and its

explanation respectively.

The author lived in a period when women were not liberated from social bondage. The women were deprived of education and employment. They were not treated as equals to men. They are prisoned virtually in domestic and social bondages. They were in dark atmosphere. The author felt rightly that there could be no social progress without liberating women. He strived to educate them and thereby to liberate them. Hence the women form the central theme of his novel. He fulfills this through Cuntarattanni, the hero's mother and Gnaanaambal the heroine. He portrays them superior by virtue and wisdom than the male characters acquainted with them. The preface itself provides hints on this features as follows: "The principal personages who play important role in this novel are hero's mother, Sundara Anny (Cuntarattanni) and his wife Gnanambal both being ladies of high birth and fortune, with every accomplishment both personal and mental and endowed with every estimable quality that could adorn the female sex. They display their noble qualities in many trying situations of life and take every opportunity of promoting the cause of justice and humanity even at personal risk. By a fortuitous combination of circumstances over

which she had no control, Gnaanaambal rises to sovereign power in the disguise of a man, and administers the government with great wisdom and ability"

The author's intention is to teach ethical values to the society through this novel. The assessment of The Hindu, dated 24th July, 1889 is acceptable. It assesses that the great merit of his work was the purity of expression and the moral precepts of which they are so full. 'Beauty of the face is not at all real but the beauty of the heart is real.' 'Celibacy is the only ornament for women'. These two found in the Chapter 8, are among more than hundred of valuable sayings and teachings prevailing throughout the novel. All these reveals the author's interest to make his fiction as a trove of knowledge.

He feels false notions and staunch beliefs in astrology etc., are the causes of the downfall of humanity. Hence he ridicules it in the seventh chapter through a story of a mad person and by giving the title itself as Cootitap Pittu (i.e., 'horoscope madness').

Apart from the social and political aspects of the novel, one has to view the novel as a store-house of information of linguists' interests.

He expects every Tamilian should be well-versed in Tamil language and Grammar and stresses his idea indirectly. His interest in Grammar reflects in the place of showing the comparative attitude

between Pirataapa Mutali and Gnanambal in learning Tamil alphabets and their numbers in the first chapter. To point out the indecent words to call somebody, he pinpoints the usage of verbal form by adding singular suffix takarap pirayookam instead of plural. These grammatical terminologies found in the chapter 12, clearly shows his expectation that reader must have the knowledge of grammar.

Through this novel one is able to know the meaning of some usages in the colloquial form. There is a usage 'paataavati' i.e., hopeless fellow or thing which is still in current use in some places. This usage has been used as paataaviti to give the implied meaning that the fate is unpredictable. There is a general usage to denote a mischievous or cheating fellow as Capati vittaikkaaran. The meaning of it is also easily conceivable through a simile found in chapter 33.

A number of anecdotes found in the novel are food for thought. In order to educate the men of pride he uses more than ten anecdotes in chapter 36.

Necessity of paying the tax to the government is insisted by an anecdote through the organs of the body in the Chapter 34.

Some contradictory combination of the Sanskritised Tamil words and their sweetness to the ears are worth mentioning. 'Kashta Kaalam Vantu Ishtam Ceyya', Pitcaatipati and Latcaatipati,



Paapishtarkal Koopishtarkalak Vikrampuri and Akrampuri are some of them.

Of all the novels brought out so far in Tamil, Pirataapa Mutaliyaar Carittiram is mostly appreciated for its richness of hundreds of wits and humour and hence it may be called as a treasure of humour also. Learning exercises and heroic deed explained by Pirataapa Mutali in chapters 1 and 2 are some of the instances to confirm this.

The author's ideal was to make Tamil language as official language. It is highly commendable that he held such an excellent ideal about a century ago. He has devoted one full Chapter i.e., 42 to stress the richness of Tamil and its importance to use it in all lines.

One is able to note in this novel that the life of the great thinkers and philosophers are mentioned here and there. For example he quotes the behaviour of their wives of Milton and Socrates in Chapter 18. The incidents in the lives of Cicero, Alexander and Quintus are also shown in Chapter 21.

Thus the first Tamil Novel 'Pirataapa Mutaliyaar Carittiram' remains as a milestone in all respects, in the history of Tamil literature.





The Story of Printing in India is the Story of Printing in Tamil

The first book to be printed in Tamil characters was Doctrina Christiana in 1577. From a 1758 edition printed at Quilon we come to know that the Tamil title is Thambiran Vanakkam and that its author was a Portuguese Jesuit Father, Henrique Henriques. He was presiding over a Tamil College at Pinnaikayal (Tirunelveli Coast) and was responsible for establishing a Printing Press in that coastal town. The 1758 edition of Doctrina Christiana contained 16 pages and jointly was authored by Manhel de Sao Pedro.

Flos Sanctorum was another important Tamil printed book by Henriques which appeared in 1587. It was printed in Pinnaikayal and it contained 668 pages. The preface and table of contents are reported to be missing. It is a book on the lives of saints and Fr. Rajamanickam republished this work in 1967 under the title Adiyar Varalaru. Henriques was also reported to have published a Portuguese Malabar dictionary and Con-fessorio in Tamil.

சுதனியசமனெனாயுடுக்கம் எசுக்கம்மீதகது நுதாந்னயா

நுதபுலோகத்தெனையுடுக்கம் மதவிசேஷமாக
ணயம்புலோகத்தெனையுடுக்கம் மதவிசேஷமாக
மபதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக
எல்லா மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக
உயிரோடு மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக
எனதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக
தலமாரணயோகத்தெனையுடுக்கம் மதவிசேஷமாக
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சுதனியசமனெனாயுடுக்கம்
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மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக மதவிசேஷமாக

First Page of the Tamil 'New Testament' printed at Tharangapadi in 1715

In 1705 King Frederick IV of Denmark sent two protestant missionaries Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg and Pluetschau, to Tranquebar, a Danish settlement, in East Thanjavur district. They arrived at Tranquebar on 9th July 1706. Ziegenbalg mastered the Tamil language within two years and started

translating into Tamil the New Testament of the Holy Bible on October 17, 1708 and completed it on March 31, 1711.

The Tamil New Testament was printed in two parts at the Tranquebar Press, the first part in 1714 and the second in 1715 and it was dedicated to king Frederick IV of Denmark.

Catholicity of Tamil

Catholicity means universality, liberality, breadth of view. While Tamil literature has been cosmopolitan. Tamil language's breadth of universality is amazing. We present here an interesting article

Dr. Caldwell

There is no major language in the world, perhaps, that is not enriched or influenced by Tamil in some way or other. The Glossarial or grammatical affinities Tamil has with the Aryan, Semitic and Scythian languages will be exhibited later on.

"It seems proper here to notice the remarkable general resemblance which exists between the Dravidian pronouns and those of the aboriginal tribes of southern and western Australia. In what ever way it may be explained, the existence of a general resemblance seems to be unquestionable; but it has not hitherto been observed that the Australian pronouns of the first person are more nearly allied to the Tibetan than to the Dravidian. This will appear from the following comparative view of the pronoun of the first person singular.

Dravidian - I, nan, yan, na, en.

Australian - nga, ngail, ngatsa, nganya.

Tibetan - nga, nge, nged

Chinese - nge

"Whilst the base of this pronouns seems to be closely allied to the corresponding pronoun in Tibetan and in the Indo-Chinese family generally, the manner in which it is pluralised in the Australian dialects bears a marked resemblance to the Dravidian, and especially to Telugu. Telugu forms plurals by suffixing lu to the singular, the Australian dialects by a similar addition of lu, li, dlu, dli, & c. In this particular, some of the dialects of the north-eastern frontier of India exhibit also an agreement with Telugu-e.g., Compare Dhimal nathou, with nyel, you.

In the Australian dialects I find the following plurals and duals of the pronoun of the first person-we, or we two, ngalu, ngadulu, ngadli, ngalata, & c. Compare this with the manner in which the Telugu forms its plural-e.g., vandu, he, vandlu, they; and even with the Tamil 'plural exclusive' of the pronoun of the first person-e.g., nan, I, nangal, we.

The resemblance between

the Australian pronouns of the second person, both singular and plural, and those of the Dravidian Languages is more distinct and special, and is apparent, not only in the suffixes, but in the pronominal base itself. The normal forms of these pronouns in Dravidian languages are-singular, nin, plural, nim. The personality resides in the crude root ni, thou, which is the same in both numbers, with the addition of a singular formative (nin, thou) and pluralising formative m(ni-m, thous or you). In some cases the pluralising particle m has been displaced, and r, which I regard as properly sign of the epicene plural of the third person, has been substituted for it-e.g., nir, you, (in Telugu mir-u) This abnormal form nir is most used as nominative, the older and more regular nim retains its place in the compounds. Whilst i is the vowel which is almost invariably found in the singular of the pronoun of the second person, it is found that in the plural i often give places to u as in the classical Tamil numa, your, and the Brahui num you. It is to be noticed also that the modern Canarese has softened nim, into nivu or niivu, in the nominative. It is singular, in whatever way it may be accounted for, that in each of the particulars now mentioned the Australian dialects resemble the Dravidian. See the following





comparative view under the Australian head I class dual together with the plural, as being substantially the same.

Dravidian

thou, nin, nin, you, nim, nim, nir, num, nivu.

Australian

ninna, nginue, ngintoa, ningte mimedoo, nura, niva, ngurle.

Compare also the accusative of the first person singular in Tamil: ennei, me, with the Australian accusative emmeo.

The Ghana Engineer Mr. Evans Yao Dzato, who was deputed by the Government of his country to receive training on the Indian Railways, has said, during his stay in Madras, that some Tamil words like va(come), po(go), thuku(lift), and deve(an appendage to feminine names) are in ordinary use in Ewe, one of the language spoken by the people of Trans Volta district of Togoland in Ghana, and remarked that many centuries ago there must have been frequent cultural and other contacts between Ghana and South India.

Apart from the universality of Tamil words, Tamil literature is full of maxims and principles reflecting Tamilian cosmopolitanism, humanism, philanthropy and indiscriminate munificence.

The opening line of the 192nd stanza of "Purananuru" Yadum Ore Yavarum Kelir" meaning All human habitations are our native places, and all men are our relatives best manifests the cosmopolitan nature of the Tamils. Unlike Sanskrit, the Tamil language and literature are open to all, meant for all and aimed at the good of all. Thirukkural, the Chief ethical work in Tamil, sets forth excellent moral principles of universal application; enjoins on all authorities to mete out uniform justice to all irrespective of cases, creed or community.

The grammatical structure of the Australian dialects exhibits a general agreement with the language of the Scythian group. In the use of postpositions instead of prepositions; in the use of two forms of the first person plural, one inclusive of the party addressed, the other exclusive; in the formation of certain particles to the root; and, generally, in the agglutinative structure of words and in the position of words in a sentence, the dialects of Australia resemble the Dravidian as also the Turkish, the Mongolian, and other Scythian languages, and in the same particulars, with one or two exceptions, they differ essentially from the dialects which are called Polynesian. The vocabularies of the Australian dialects which have been compiled do not appear to furnish additional confirmation to the

resemblances pointed out above; but it is difficult to suppose these resemblances to be unreal or merely accidental, and it is obvious that the Australian dialects demand (and probably reward) further examination.

It is also, still more difficult to be accounted for, that some resemblances may be traced between the Dravidian language and the Bornu, or rather the Kanuri, one of the languages spoken in the Bornu country, in Central Africa. Most of the resemblances are, it true, of a general nature-e.g. the Kanuri is agglutinative in structure, it uses postpositions instead of prepositions, it adds to nouns and sentences syllables expressive of doubt, interrogation and emphasis, in a peculiarly Dravidian manner, and its verb has a negative voice. It has an objective verb, as well as a subjective, like the Hungarian. The most distinctive resemblance to the Dravidian languages in notice is in the pronouns of the second person, which is, ni as in each of the Dravidian dialects. Even this, however, as has been shown, is common to the Dravidian with Brahui Chinese, the language of the second Behistun tablets, and the Australian dialects. The Kanuri language differs so remarkably from the rest of the African tongues, that it is very desirable that its relationship should be fully investigated"

Tamil Music - A great advancement in the realm of Music-Dr. J. Jayalalitha



Bards of the Sangam age moved all over Tamil Nadu singing in Praise of the kings. The Tamil word Isai is itself significant. It denotes that which moves or melts people's hearts. In the Sangam age itself, seven notes or swaras in the musical notation had been defined. The numerous subdivisions of these notations had also been worked out a remarkable testimony to the intensive development of music by the early Tamil people. Silappathikaram is a treasure house of information on the rich music and dance traditions of that time. Quite a large variety of musical instruments were also used right from the Sangam age. Many musicians of high repute were patronised by the Kings and Rulers.

The pinnacle of development of Tamil music was achieved during the time of the Nayanmars and Alwars, and the great hymns of these servant of God evoke some of the deepest emotions of Bhakthi in the hearts of the people who are blessed enough to hear them. The Thevaram hymns can be said to constitute the first regular musical compositions set in definite Raga and Thala. The Raga concept is evident for the first time in Thevaram hymns, a great advancement in the realm of music. It is interesting to note that almost all the original Panns (Ragas) exist even now. The hymns of

the Nayanmars and Alwars had a profound impact on the lives of the Tamil people. The great G.U. Pope was so moved by the sight of hundreds of people proceeding to the temple in the Trichy Fort every day, singing hymns of Thiruvagasam, that it led him to study Thiruvagasam, and eventually to translate it into English. There are inscriptions of the grant of land and money to Othuvams and others for rendering Thevaram hymns in the temples daily. These hymns were sung to music originally by large numbers of people according to given Ragas, but over a period of time, such renderings were confined to a class of people known as Othuvams, who you may find in the temples even today. The hymns sung in moving Tamil filled the hearts of the people with devotion, so much so that Bhakthi became synonymous with music. The Supreme Being is of the form of Music. Therefore the best method of pleasing Him is by singing hymns in praise of Him. Not only does the Almighty like music, but He also uses music to please his own devotees. There is a beautiful song in the Thevaram of Thirunavukkarasar, in which it is stated that Lord Shiva rendered Samavedha and danced to appease Parvathi, when she became angry at his keeping the maiden Ganga on his head.

துடினார் கங்கையாளன்
துடிய துயனி கேட்டு, அங்கு
ஊடினான் நங்கையாளும்;
ஊடலை ஒழிக்க வேண்டி
பாடினார் சாமவேதம்;
பாடிய பாணியாலே
ஆடினார் கெடிலவேலி
அதிகை வீட்டனாரே!

-அப்பர் தேவாரம்

Thirukkural

Long live they blest, who've stood
in path from falsehood freed;
His, who quenched lusts that
from the sense-gates five proceed.



THE KUMMI OF WOMEN'S FREEDOM

-C. SUBRAMANIA BHARATI.

We sing the joys of freedom;
In gladness we sing.

And He that shineth in the soul as Light shines in the
eye, even He is our Strength.

Dance the Kummi, beat the measure;
Let this land of the Tamils ring with our dance.
For now we are rid of all evil shades;
We've seen the Good.

Gone are they who said to woman: 'Thou shalt not
open the Book of Knowledge.'
And the strange ones who boasted saying:
"We will immure these women in our homes"
Today they hang down their heads.

Dance the Kummi, beat the measure
Let this land of the Tamils ring with our dance.



For now we are rid of all evil shades;
We've seen the Good.

The life of the beast that is beaten, tamed and tied down,
Fain would they lay it on us in the house; but we
scornfully baffled them.

Dance the Kummi, beat the measure;
The dog they sell for a price, nor ever consult his will.
Nigh to his state had they brought us--would rather
They had killed us at a blow--

But infamy seized them.
Dance the Kummi, beat the measure;

And they talk of wedded faith;
Good; let it be binding on both.
But the custom that forced us to wed, we've cast it
down and trampled it under foot;
Dance the Kummi, beat the measure;

To rule the realms and make the laws
We have arisen;
Nor shall it be said that woman lags behind man in the
knowledge that the he attaineth.
Dance the Kummi, beat the measure;

To know the Truth and do the Right,
Willing we come;
Food we'll give you; we'll also give a race of immortals.
Dance the Kummi, beat the measure.



From the papers published after the Fifth World Tamil Conference at Madurai.

The Age of Chola as the Golden Age of Tamil Literature

The period of Imperial Cholas (900-1300) has every right to be called the Golden or Augustan Age of Tamil Literature, in the matter of abundance of literary output as well as literary excellence. This Chola period does not lag behind the Sangam. In fact it far excels it. Any period of the history of a country politically great should naturally be intellectually and culturally great also. Economic prosperity and social welfare going together facilitate the production of Literature in abundance both in quality and quantity. Roman literature in the days of Augustus reaches the high water mark in the wake of the political glory of the country spreading from Spain to Asia Minor and from England to Italy when the empire was at its zenith, engulfed by affluence and plenty. In Greece too, during the Periclean days, there was a phenomenal outburst of Literature. In England, the Elizabethan age may be compared to these periods, and in our own country the Gupta period stands out uniquely as the Golden Age of North Indian History. Likewise

in the history of Tamil Literature and period of Imperial Chola 'and not the 3rd Sangam period' may be taken to be on the same level with the Literatures of other countries mentioned above in their particular periods. We may as well call this Chola period from 900 to 1300 A.D. a period of 4 centuries, The 'Golden Age of Tamil Literature'.

Both by its output in quantity and quality the Literature produced in this period far excels that of the 3rd Sangam Age. In the various fields of Tamil Literature 'Some unknown in 3rd Sangam days' like 'Kaaviyas', 'Epics', Religious, Theological and Philosophical works, both Saiva and Vaishnava, grammars, Lexicons, Prose, commentaries, inscriptions and other Works, the output is outstanding and monumental.

The greatness of Chola emperors, especially of Raja Raja, Rajendra and Kulottunga-II, their prowess, piety and love of learning, the expansion of the empire, the military glories, the commercial development both inland and overseas, the benevolent government under which people lived, all these conditions could not fail to stimulate an outburst of Tamil Literature. The epic grandeur of Periya Puranam and Kambaramayanam are but the mere reflection of the epic grandeur of the Chola. While Jayamkondan and Ottakkuththan delighted in immortalising the great military deeds of the period in resonant verses, Sekkizhar and Kambar voiced the prevalent high culture and spirit of Bhakti in the simplest and sweetest of strains in the forms of their immortal Kaaviyams, Periyapuranam and Kamba Ramayanam.

Thirukkural

*The world its course maintains through
life that rain unfailing gives;
Thus rain is known the true ambrosial
food of all that lives.*



Srilanka

One may now pass on to countries outside India. Tamil is the mother tongue of an influential minority in Ceylon from early times. The Tamils and the Sinhalese have lived together for more than two thousand years. Politics always poisoned the relationship but

during the Middle Ages. The influence of Arumuka Navalar, Vipulananta and others in modern times on Tamil prose and Tamil studies has to be gratefully acknowledged. A number of Tamil words has become part of Sinhalese. The story of Kannaki has become the story of Patni Teyyo of the Sinhalese. There are in Ceylon, Sinhalese and Tamil versions of folk songs about

from this point of view. The boat seems to have been the carrier of Tamil culture abroad. There was trade between the Tamilians and the Islands of the Far East. People had gone from here to Ceylon and to distance Camps to found kingdoms.

Kataram

Cankam poetry speaks of imports from Ceylon and Kalakam (the Ke'da) in Ma-

The Influence of Tamils on other Cultures

Dr. T.P.Meenakshisundaranar

the cultural relation is more fundamental. The Buddhists of Southern India had always been in contact with those of Ceylon. There is a Ceylonese Tamil poet in the Tamil Cankam viz. Iattu-P-putanar. The Ceylon Tamils, produced Raghuvamsa and Daksina Kailasa Puranam

this Teyyo. Sinhalese metres also remind us of the Tamil metres. One may with this knowledge look further east.

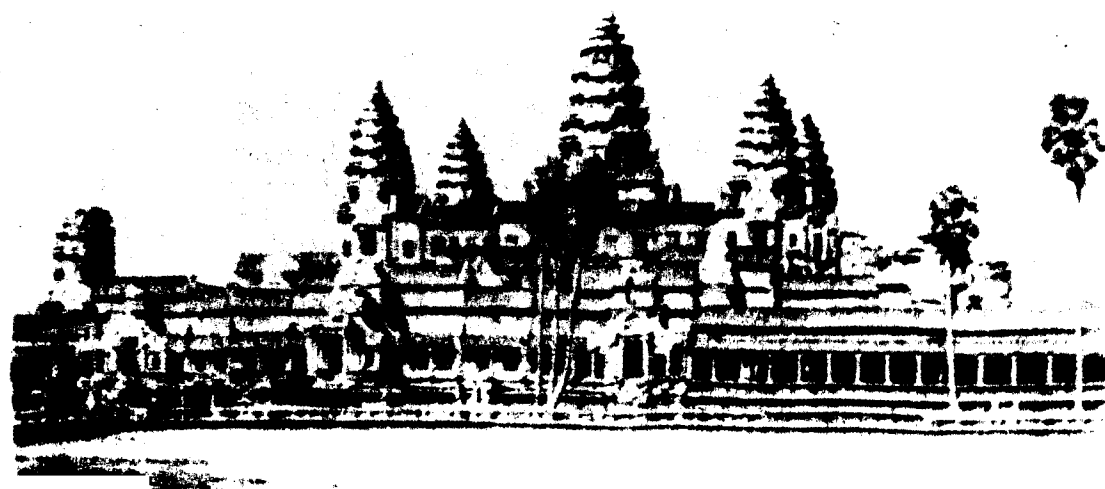
The Far East

Rulers:

The contact with the Far East is of greater interest

Ankhor Wat Temple in Cambodia

laysia. Kalakam appears in the form of Kataram probably connected with iron vessels, etc. as suggested by Fr. Thaninayagam. Kataram Kontan the conquerer of Kataram' is the title of Rajendra who led a naval expedition up to Ke'da and also of the great Sundara Pan-



dyan after whom a village is named in the Pandya country. The names of places mentioned as lying on the route of the naval expedition, occurred as the names of species and other materials in Tamil land, as explained by our early commentators like Atiyarkunallar.

Tamil Kings and the Far East

St. Cuntarar in listing the saints of Tamil land speaks in the present tense of one cinkan with the victor's anklet who was then protecting the lands surrounded by the seas. Amongst the Pallavas, there were two cinkans - one Narasimha or Mamalla and the other Rajasimha and we know Rajasimha had some kind of jurisdiction over the islands in the Eastern seas. The fact that a few bore the names of the Kings of the Tamil country (Mahendra, the predecessor of Narasimha, and Sundara, the king who came later) shows some kind of dependence on the Tamil power as pointed out by Prof. Nilakanta Sastri. We have Tamil inscriptions in Burma and we learn that the merchant guilds which traded with distant parts made gifts, for in-

stance in the name of their king Avani Narayana which is the title of Nandivaraman III.

Manimekalai

Manimekalai known to the Buddhist tradition was the guardian angel of the eastern seas and thus became the family deity of the traders on the eastern seas like the ancestors of Kovalan, the hero of Cilappatikaram who, we learn, had named his daughters 'Manimekalai' and this is the name of the famous Buddhist epic in Tamil dealing with her story.

Sugarcane

The commentator of Puraananuru speaks of a tradi-

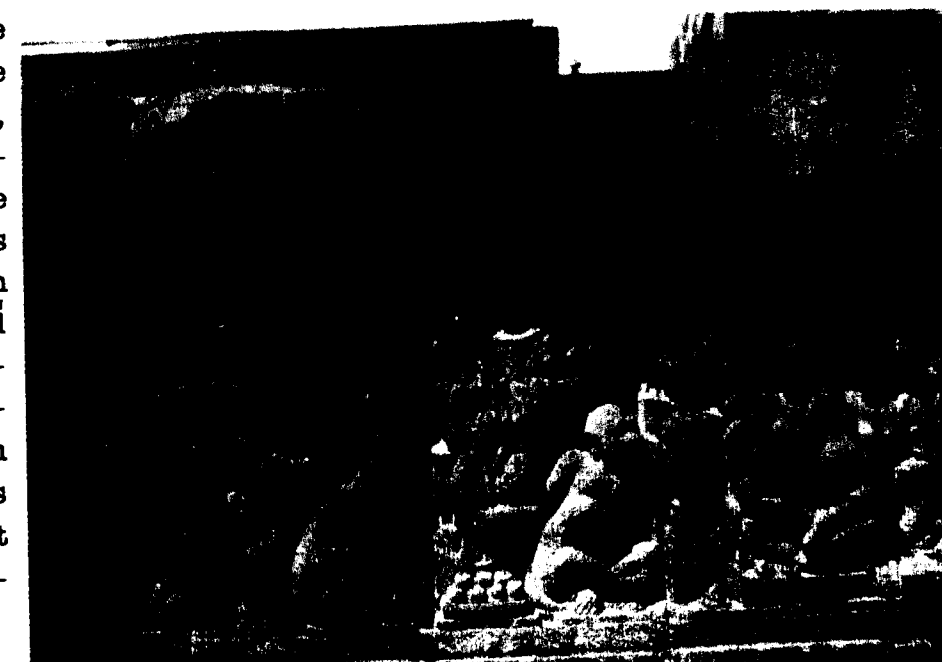
tion which attributes the famous act of bringing in Sugarcane from the eastern seas to Tamil land to the ancestors of Atikaman - a name identified by Dr. Burrow with Satiyaputras, mentioned in the Asokan edicts along with the Cholas, Pandyas and Keralaputras of the Tamil land. Thus one gets a picture of the economic and cultural interrelationship.

Conversion

There is in the epic Manimekalai, the interesting story of a ship-wrecked merchant Catuvan being brought before a cannibal

Prambanan Temple in Central Java

(This Temple carries the most comprehensive Sculptural narration of Ramayana story found anywhere in the world)





chief of the Nagas, and the merchant converting this chief and his tribe to Buddhism.

Philosophical influence

This leads us to expect more of such Philosophical and religious influences. Hinduism and Buddhism had been spreading all over these lands of the eastern seas, thanks to Indians going from Bengal, Andhra, Kalinga and Tamil Nadu. But some of the architectural remains remind us even now of Mahabalipuram. The inscriptions there speaks of Sankaracharya of Kanchipuram thus definitely establishing the relationship of those lands with the Tamil country in the religious and philosophical fields.

Panturanka and Dr. Filliozat

Dr. Filliozat had brought to notice one other Tamil influence on the South East. Kalittokai one of the Cankam anthologies refers to Panturanka dance of Siva; the dance of victory in the battle field when the fortresses of the enemies had been reduced to ashes. He danced though according to

the true pattern measured out simultaneously by his consort but yet with such violent joy that the ashes covered him so fully as to make him white and as to deserve the name of White dance. Siva therefore came to be known as Panturankan a name which went to the Far East. There Vishnu with the figure of Siva at the top came to be called Panturanka. In the Maharatta country Visnu or Vittal is known as Panturanka Vittal - a name which has ultimately to be traced to the Tamil sources though certainly through the changes that had taken place in the Far East. The whole story when described by future research, establishing completely every step of the march to the East and the West of Tamil land, will indeed be a fascinating episode in the history of culture.

Ceremonies and national festivals

The court ceremonies and national festivals of the countries like Siam or Thailand have been studied in detail by Quaritch Wales and others. The national festival of the Thais is a swing festival and the Bengali authors have been claiming this as

the swing festival for Krsna observed in Bengal, from where it has spread in recent times to even distant South India, thanks to the influence of the followers of Caitanya. But as I was able to point out in the fifties, at one of our Tamil festivals of literature and culture, this festival has two names, one in the Thai language and another is some other language. This later name though not easily understandable is "Tiruvempavai and Tiruppavai" - which any Tamilian can easily identify as a colloquial form in that country of "Tiruvempavai Tiruppavai". Tiruvempavai is the saivite hymn sung by the saivite St. Manikkavachakar whilst Tiruppavai is the hymn by the Vaisnavite saint Andal, the Mirabai of the South. This combination of these two names reminds us of the ecumenical movement started by Sri Sankarachariar of Kamakotipitam of Kanchipuram wherein every Hindu temple organises, Tiruppavai Tiruvempavai conferences. This gives us a clue to some such attempt made in an earlier age by the Vaisnavites and Saivites who went and settled down among the natives of Thailand and other

places.

Pavai in Thailand

Both these hymns are based on the older folk song pavai - the image of the earth worshipped on the banks of rivers or ponds in which the virgins bathed in the month of Margazhi (December-January) and prayed for rains for their country and good husbands for themselves. The festival in Thailand is a rain festival. Around the original Thai festival the Tamilian religious encrustation had grown and as pointed out elsewhere these Tamil poems had been explained in a peculiar way in these distant lands so as to weld together the distinct cultures of Tamil Nadu and Thailand.

New light on Thai culture

At the request of the present Sri Sankarachariar of Kamakoti I wrote a book on this subject and later I had the opportunity of going to Bangkok and seeing the open land where the festival used to be celebrated and also the three Hindu temples dedicated to Siva, Ganesa and Vishnu. Before I had been to the National Library for learning more about the manuscript dealing with

rituals and the mantras recited therein. Dr. Thaninayagam had on his visit to Bangkok for studying the Tamil mantras found the first two verses of Tiruvempavai recited as mantras. When I went later, the Librarian in charge, who was also then teaching Sanskrit, explained to me that in addition to the verses from Tiruvacakam there were also hymns from Tevaram. He remembered the words Kurayinavaru' which begins the first hymn of St. Appar. This was called 'The opening of the gates of Kailasa'. The opening of the gates' will be in 'Tamil Katai-t-tirappu' whilst closing the gates will be 'Katai-k-kappu'. St. Appar according to the tradition prevalent in the Tamil land opened the gates which remained closed for a long time in the temple at Tirumaraikkatu and the same tradition tells us that St. Tirunnanacampantar sang a hymn to close these doors as of old. In Tamil Nadu the hymns of St. Thiruvananacampantar are known as 'Tiru-k-katai-t-tirappu'. But this later name is not current in the Tamil land, though as stated earlier, it is found translated as 'The opening of the gates of

Kailasa' in Thailand.

Further light

The Library was kind enough to send me a microfilm copy of their manuscript and this is now at the Annamalai University. Tiru Singaravelu of the Malayan University had tape recorded the hymns as recited by the Brahmins at Bangkok and we had occasion to listen to those songs when the first Tamil World Seminar Conference was held at Kuala Lumpur in 1966. In a short version of Tevaram prepared for daily recital in use in southern India, the first hymns sung respectively by St. Thiruvananacampantar, St. Appar and St. Cuntarar occupy the first place, and as though confirming this usage, these three hymns were sung there at Bangkok. But it was not clear why there was no song from the Vaisnavite Tiru-p-pavai. For one thing in spite of Visnu being called Sukhoodaya Perumal there were no orthodox Vaishnavites there at Bangkok. Sukhodaya is the name of Thailand and Perumal is the Tamil Word for Vishnu who has thus become the Na-





tional Deity there. The Brahmins there have become one with the Malayans by intermarriage but still they are honoured as Rajagurus. Their names like Vamadeva reminds us of the influence of Saivite Agamas. Dr. Marr of the London School of Oriental and African studies, trying to decipher the manuscripts had found a line from Tiruppavai "narayana-namakke parai taruvan" and he mentioned this to me when he came last year to Madurai. This discovery is important for proving that

Tiruppavai was also sung at their national festival in olden days.

Brahmins

It is true a few Tamils coming from Siam to Tamil Nadu have told us that Tamil verses were sung as mantras in Siam but now we have detailed information about this, especially bringing to light the full significance of the alternate name of the Thai national festival, Thiruppavai-Thiruvembava. The Brahmins there claim to have, come to Bankok

from the Ramnad District and there manuscript is ascribed to a period not later than the twelfth century on palaeographical grounds. These Tamil verses were recited at the Corporation and other court functions apart from the recital at the national festival. This shows how the Tamil influence has become basic in the culture of the elite and the common people of these lands. This festival is learnt to have been celebrated in other places as well on the eastern seas.

Conclusion

It is thus seen that the Bhakti School of Tamil land, the Bhakti cult of the Saivite saints like St. Thiruvana-campantar, St. Appar and St. Manikka Vacakar and that of the Vaisnavi to Alvars like Antal Tiru-p-pavai fame had spread not only all through India but also all across the eastern seas. Going from place to place, the emphasis went on changing and in the Far East these became mantras to unite together the Buddhists, the Hindus, the natives and the Tamils into one cultural nation. A detailed study of these changes is thus called for.

Tamils in other countries

Tamils reputation as sea farers dates back to the Sangam age. By its strategic location of ports both in the Coromandel Coast and the Malabar Coast, both natural commodities and manufactured products found their way to west Asia, Mediterranean, Thailand, Burma, Malay peninsula and even to China.

Historically, a landful of nations have been culturally influenced by Tamils and at one time or other, by their contact with Tamil Nadu. The following are the nations with which there had been a historical affinity :-

Italy
Indonesia
Iraq
Egypt
Ethiopia
Kampuchea
Greece
China
Thailand
Netherlands
Portugal
Japan

Probably because of this sea faring heritage of the Tamils, Tamils have continuously migrated and re-settled themselves in many countries in the world. In fact they form a sizeable number in some countries such as Srilanka and Malaysia, so much so Tamil is considered as one of the official

languages in those countries. The following are the countries where Tamil continue to live :-

Sri Lanka
Guyana
Guadeloupe
Kenya
Singapore
Surinam
Jamaica
Trinidad
Tanzania
South Africa
New Caledonia
Myanmar
French Guyana
Fiji
Malaysia

Martinique
Mauritius
Uganda
United Kingdom
U.S.A
Russia
Reunion

It must be mentioned here that though the Tamils have become one with the country of their migration, they have jealously guarded Tamil culture in their living. Infact Tamil continues to be their mother tongue though in some countries, they have lost touch of writing in Tamil because of paucity of educational institutions teaching Tamil in those countries.

Therukoothu, the Folk Theatre of Tamil Nadu



THE WORD 'PEPPER'

"From the West Cost Solomon imported 'apes and peacocks and ivory', about the time when the Rig-Veda was being compiled, and our word pepper, for one of the spices which inspired western expansion into India, is derived from Tamil 'pippali'. Babylon traded with China by way of the Dravidian South, and Arab traders have kept up unceasing commerce with it".

- Kenneth Saunders
in 'A Pageant of Asia'



Bharathanattiyam symbolises the Supreme Cosmic Presence

—Dr. J. Jayalalitha
Hon'ble Chief Minister



The spark of life within is ignited by the Divine. It is the Divine that dances through the mind and heart and the body and keeps the flame of the Soul aglow. Like every other art of India, Bharathanattiyam symbolises the Supreme Cosmic Presence. God in His purest manifestation of rhythm is Dance. Dance is therefore the perfect revelation of the Supreme Reality. The English translation of some lines of a famous dance song Natanam adinar goes like this:

"Thus danced the Lord
Long, long ago in the Golden Hall of Tillai
The three worlds assembled to watch His dance
And the gods gathered all around
Adi-Sesha swayed in ecstasy, the earth trembled.
Thus danced the Lord,
So He dances
And His dance brings the world to salvation"

God is the Supreme Yogi. By His Ananda Than-dava, He brings Body and Soul together, Heaven and Earth together, bringing the world to its salvation.

Saint Thirumoolar said:
"The Perpetual Dance is His play".

A Tamil verse says:

"Our Lord is the Dancer, who like the heat latent in firewood diffuses His power in mind and matter and makes them dance in their turn".

Lord Nataraja is the Greatest Dancer because His dance signifies creation, protection, destruction and grace. His uplifted hand points the way to salvation. He holds the fire which destroys evils of the world. In the dance hall of the universe He performs the Sacred and Eternal dance.

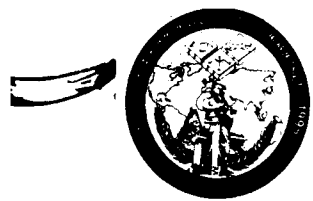
THANJAVUR - THE CRADLE OF TAMIL CIVILISATION

This important city is situated in what has been justly termed the garden of South India. It is on the vast Delta of the Kaveri, a highly cultivated and populous district, irrigated by a network of canals, and dotted with magnificent groves of coconut tress. There are more than 3,000 Hindu temples in this wealthy district, that in Thanjavur city being the finest in India. The grand anicut on the Kaveri, which feeds the irrigation canals, is said to have been made by a Chola king in the 3rd century. It was originally a solid mass of rough stone, 1,080 feet in length, sixty feet wide, and eighteen feet deep, stretching across the whole width of one of the outlets of the Kaveri River. The irrigation works of Thanjavur are unusually interesting to those who care to see such feats of engineering.

Thanjavur was the capital of the Chola dynasty, one of the greatest of the ancient Hindu monarchies from the 10th to the 14th century. It has been a place of great consequence as a political capital, a seat of learning, and a religious centre for the last 1,200

Thanjavur, the granary of the South





Grand Anicut on the Cauvery, built by Raja Raja Chozha.

years.

The fort, palace, and temple of Tanjore present a group of buildings unrivalled in Southern India.

The Fort surrounds the entire city, and was built by the Nayakar Kings of Tanjore; afterwards enlarged by the kings of the Maratha dynasty. The citadel contains a tank of very fine pure water, the great temple, and a small Christian church built by Schwartz, the well known missionary, whose beautiful tomb, by Flaxmann, is a notable specimen of the work of this famous sculptor.

On one of the ramparts is a monster gun, called Raja

Gopala, made of rings of iron welded together, and bound with hoops of brass. This gun is twenty-four feet five inches long, with an outside circumference of ten feet three inches, and bore of two feet two inches. It was made by one of the Vaishnava Nayakar kings and it has only been fired once, when the inhabitants were warned by beat of drum to clear out of the town. It was fired by a train of powder two miles long, which took forty minutes to reach the gun. All went well! It is the Palladium of the fort, and was worshipped in hours of peril.

The palace covers a large area. Its main features are the seven-storied tower, the

hall of the nayakar kings (recently excavated after a burial of 150 years), the arsenal, and the Nayakar Kurbar Hall.

The seven-storied tower has a very imposing appearance from a distance, it is a mixture of Saracenic and European architecture, and was built by Serfoji I., occupying thirty-five years in the erection.

The Nayakar Durbar Hall is a fine quadrangle. It is the most pure and perfect specimen of Nayakar architecture in existence and, differing from Madura, is purely Indian. Within this hall is the noble stature by Chantrey of Raja Sivaji, the greatest of the Maratha kings. It is placed upon the ancient stone on which the



The Famous statue of Agasthiar at Kallanai.

Nayakar kings sat to administer justice. This is a huge huge monolith of granite, twenty-four feet long, eighteen feet broad, and three feet thick, round the edge of which run sculptures representing the wars of demons. The Stately south facade of the Durbar hall should be carefully examined. The foliated arches between the pillars, now filled up with stucco, were formerly open, giving free access to the hall. Here councils of war were held.

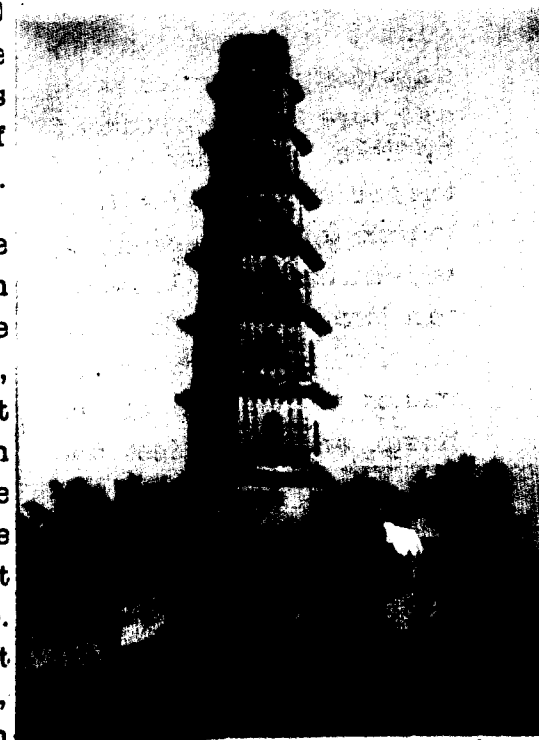
The great pagoda of Thanjavur differs from almost every other Dravidian temple, in having been conceived as whole on a well-defined plan, persevered in

to completion. It consists of two courtyards, the outer, about 250 ft square, and the inner, about 500 feet by 250 feet, in which the temple itself stands. The buildings date from the beginning of the 14th century, onwards.

The central tower of the great pagoda is the finest in India of its kind. The base is a square of ninety-six feet, and the height 208 feet. It covers the holy of holies in which the chief idol of the temple is placed. The shadow at noon doesn't project beyond the base. The huge circular dome at the top is a granite monolith, and tradition says that an inclined plane of five miles in length was built, up which

this enormous stone was rolled to the top of the tower, by forced labour. Round the basement is an inscriptions in ancient Tamil characters, giving an account of the various contributions of the pious to the erection of the building. The porch and main entrance is singularly fine.

The gateway tower is one of the oldest portions of the temple; it is dedicated to Vrihatiswaran, one of the names of Siva. It was built about A.D. 1330, by one of the kings of Conjeevaram,



Manera at Mallipattinam near Pattukottai.



who is said to have built altogether 108 similar temples in Southern India, of which this is the largest. The large sculptured figure at the entrance is the familiar doorkeeper of Dravidian temples; he has four hands, with two of which he invites the worshippers to enter, while the other two are held up in warning against presumption.



Thanjavur Palace

Half-way between the entrance-gate and the great pagoda is the famous Nandi, or sacred bull of Siva. It is crunching down under a superb pillared shrine elaborately decorated with sculpture, and surrounded by trees. The dimensions of the bull are sixteen feet from muzzle to rump, seven feet wide across the back, twelve feet two inches high to the top of the head, ten feet four inches to the top of the hump, and seven feet five

inches to the top of the back. It is sculptured from a solid block of syenite, and its daily anointing with oil has produced an effect equal to that of finest bronze. The block of stone is said to have been brought a distance of 400 miles.

On the north side of the great tower is a small temple dedicated to Parvathi, and a singularly beautiful shrine sacred to Lord Subramaniya the younger son of Lord Siva. It is of a much later period than the great pagoda

itself, probably about the middle of the 15th Century. It is remarkable for the wonderful skill and minuteness with which the details of the sculptured decorations have been worked out. The figures in the recesses are various representations of Lord Subramaniya.

The inner side of the courtyard is arcaded, and is probably the oldest portion of the entire temple fabric. The 216 compartments are occupied by lingams of black stone.

The finest brass and metal work in India is made at Tanjore and Madura. Sir Geo Birdwood says that in its bold forms and elaborately inwrought ornamentation it recalls the descriptions by Homer of the work of the

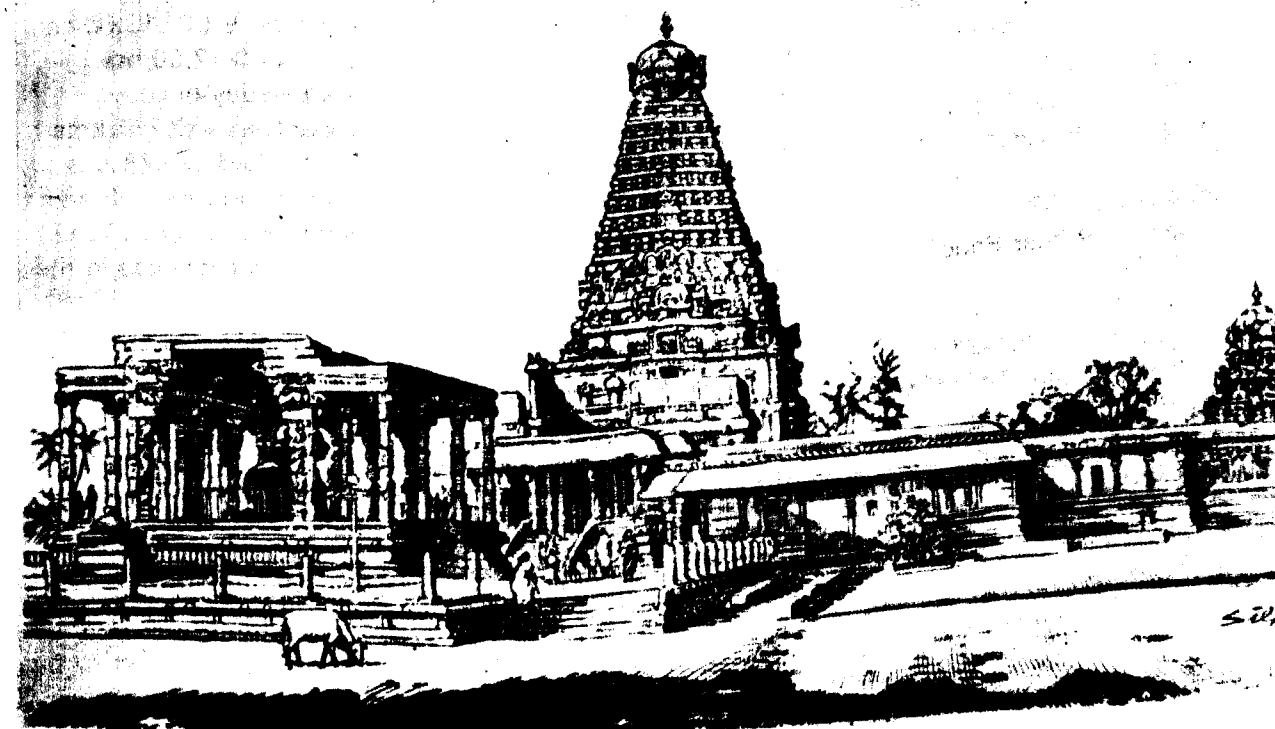
artists of Sidon in howls of antique fame. Some are simply etched, others deeply cut in mythological designs, and others dispersed all over with crustae of the leaf pattern, seen in Assyrian

sculptures, copper on brass, or silver on copper, producing an effect often of quite regal grandeur.

The gold and silver jewellery and repoussé work of Tanjore is superb, and

purely Indian, generally of mythological designs. Pretty paintings on Talc are sold in bazzars.

Courtesy:
- Picturesque India by
W.S. CAINE



A guide to Thanjavur

HOW TO GET THERE

Air: The nearest Airport Tiruchirappalli is 58 kms. and is connected by Indian Airlines and Air Lanka with Colombo. Indian Airlines also connects Tiruchi with Madras and Madurai daily.
Rail: Thanjavur is connected by rail with Tiruchi, Madurai,

Nagore and Madras directly.
Road: Thanjavur is connected with all major cities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

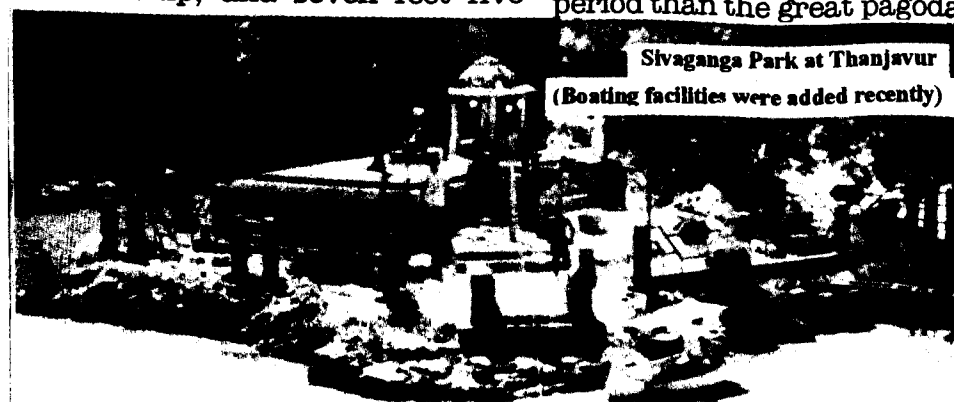
Area: 29.24 sq. kms.
Population: 200,216 (1991 census)
Altitude: 59 metres
Climate: Max. Min.
Summer 36.6c 32.5c

Winter 23.5c 22.8c
Rainfall: 111.37 mm average
Season: Throughout the year
Clothing: Tropical
Languages: Tamil, English and Marathi spoken

WHERE TO STAY

Hotel Tamil Nadu, TTDC Unit I, Gandhiji Road, Tel: 21421,

45 TAMILARASU



Sivaganga Park at Thanjavur
(Boating facilities were added recently)



21024, 21325
Hotel Tamil Nadu, TTDC Unit
II, Trichy Road, Tel: 20365
Hotel Valli, M.K.M. Road,
Near Railway Junction, 2948,
Tel: 21584
Karthick Hotel, Near Bus
Stand, Tel: 22116
Hotel Parisutham Pvt. Ltd.,
55Ga, Canal Road, Tel: 21466
Raja Rajan Lodge, Gandhiji
Road, Tel: 21730
Rajah Rest House, Old & New
Building, Gandhiji Road, Tel:
20515
Ashoka Lodge, 93,
Abrahamapandithar Road,
Tel: 20021
Yagappa Lodge,
Trichy Road, Tel: 22421
Tamil Nadu Lodge, 15/2856,
Trichy Road, Tel: 22332
Ganesh Lodge, Gandhiji Road,
Tel: 22789

Rajasekar Lodge, South East
Rampart, Opp. Town Bus
Stand, Tel: 22496
Eswari Lodge, South
Rampart, Tel: 22448

WHAT TO SEE

- ★ **Sri Brahadeeswarar Temple:** Built by the great Chola King, Raja Raja I in the 10th Century AD is an out-standing example of Chola architecture.
- ★ **The Palace:** The Palace near the temple is a vast building of masonry built partly by the Nayaks around 1550 AD and partly by the Marathas.
- ★ **Art Gallery:** In the palace there are a number of granite and bronze statues of the Chola period.

- Timings: 9.00-13.00 hrs. and 15.00-18.00 hrs.
- ★ **Saraswathi Mahal Library:** In another section of the palace is the library where over 30,000 palm leaf and paper manuscripts in Indian and European languages are preserved. Timings: 9.00- 13.00 hrs. and 14.00-17.00 hrs. Wednesday holiday.
 - ★ **Tamil University (7 kms.):** Established in 1981, is engaged in research and advanced study in Tamil.
 - ★ **Hall of Music:** Also in the Palace is this acoustically perfect ancient music hall.
 - ★ **Schwartz Church:** (In the Palace garden) Built in 1779 AD by Rajah Serfoji in token of his affection

- for the Rev. C.V. Schwartz of the Danish mission.
- ★ **Sivaganga Tank:** Near the Palace is this tank known for its sweet water.

EXCURSION

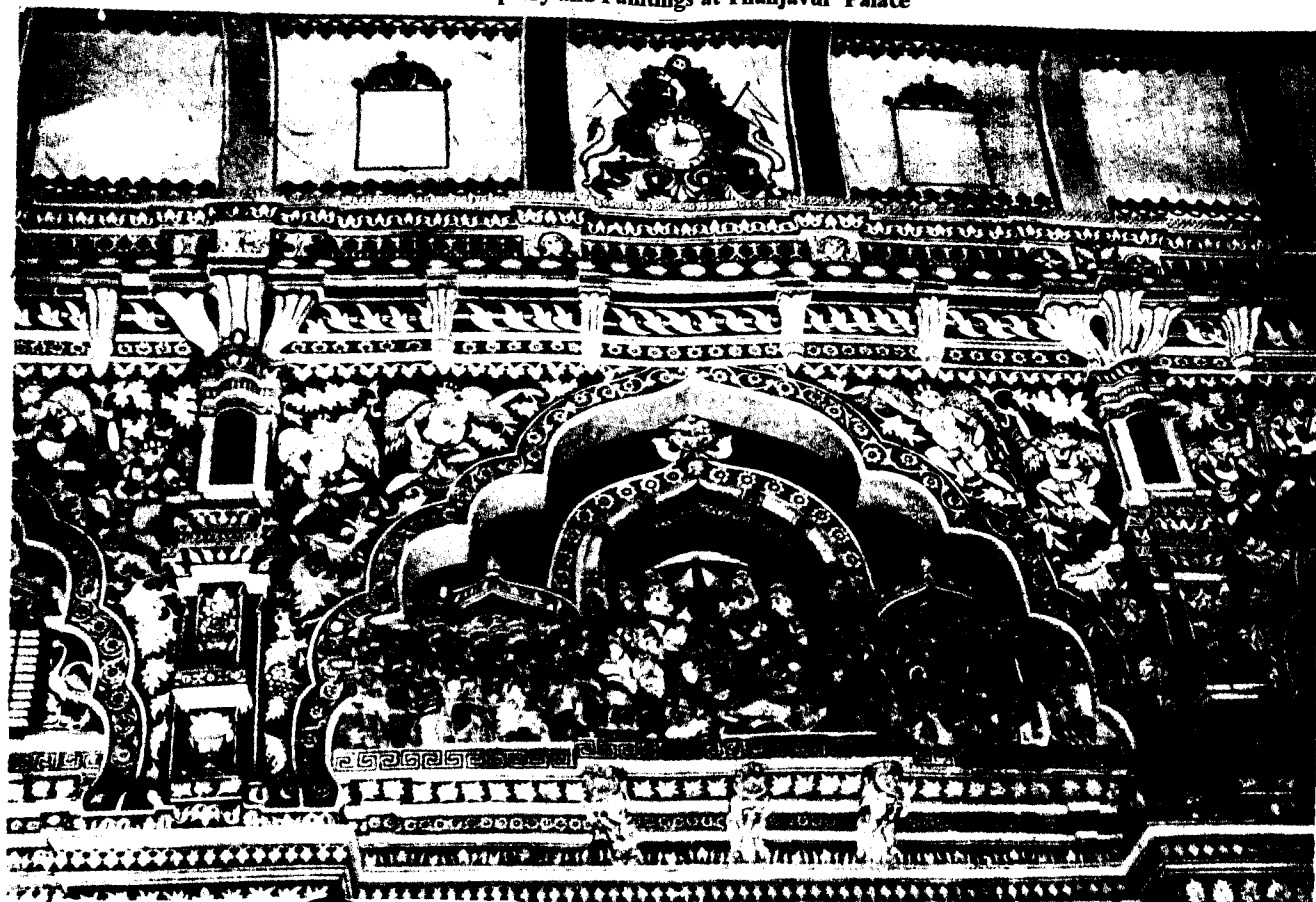
- ★ **Thirukandiyur (10 kms.):** Temples of Brahmasire-kandeswarar and Harshavi- mochana Perumal.
- ★ **Kumbakonam (36 kms.):** Sarangapani, Kumbes-warar, Nageswara and the Ramaswamy temples. Mahamagam congregation takes place once in 12 years, last held in 1992.
- ★ **Tharangambadi (Tranquebar) (105 kms.):** This coastal town was a Danish settlement from 1624 to 1825. There are
- two churches and a fort. This is one of the special tourist areas.
- ★ **Swamimalai (32 kms.):** One of six Abodes (Arupadaiveedu) dedicated to Lord Subramanya.
- ★ **Darasuram (34 kms.):** This temple dedicated to Lord Siva, was built by Rajendra Chola. Darasuram is also a silk weaving centre.
- ★ **Thirubuvanam (45 kms.):** 13th Century Chola temple dedicated to Lord Siva.
- ★ **Thiruvaiyaru (13 kms.):** Where the famous Saint Thyagaraja lived and attained Samadhi. A music festival is held here every January in honour of the saint.
- ★ **Nagore (88 kms.):** A

- renowned Muslim pilgrim centre.
- ★ **Velankanni (90 kms.):** Roman Catholic pilgrim centre.
 - ★ **Kodikarai (Point Calimere) (112 kms.):** This place is noted for its congregation of migratory water fowl, particularly flamingoes from November to January. Other wildlife like blackbuck and wild ponies are also found here.
 - ★ **Vedaranyam (104kms.):** Festivals, on full moon days in the Tamil months of Adi (July-August) and Thai (January-February) attract pilgrims from all over Tamil Nadu.
 - ★ **Manora (65 kms.):** The 8-storey victory tower was built by Rajah Serfoji in 1814.
 - ★ **Nagapattinam (83 kms.):** Nagapattinam is an important port town. TTDC runs a Hotel Tamil Nadu here.
 - ★ **Tiruvarur (55 kms.):** The Thyagarajaswami Temple here has the biggest temple chariot in Tamil Nadu. This is the birth place of Saint Thyagaraja. One of the musical trinity.
 - ★ **Thirunallar (101 kms.) (Pondicherry UT):** The famous Saturn temple town.

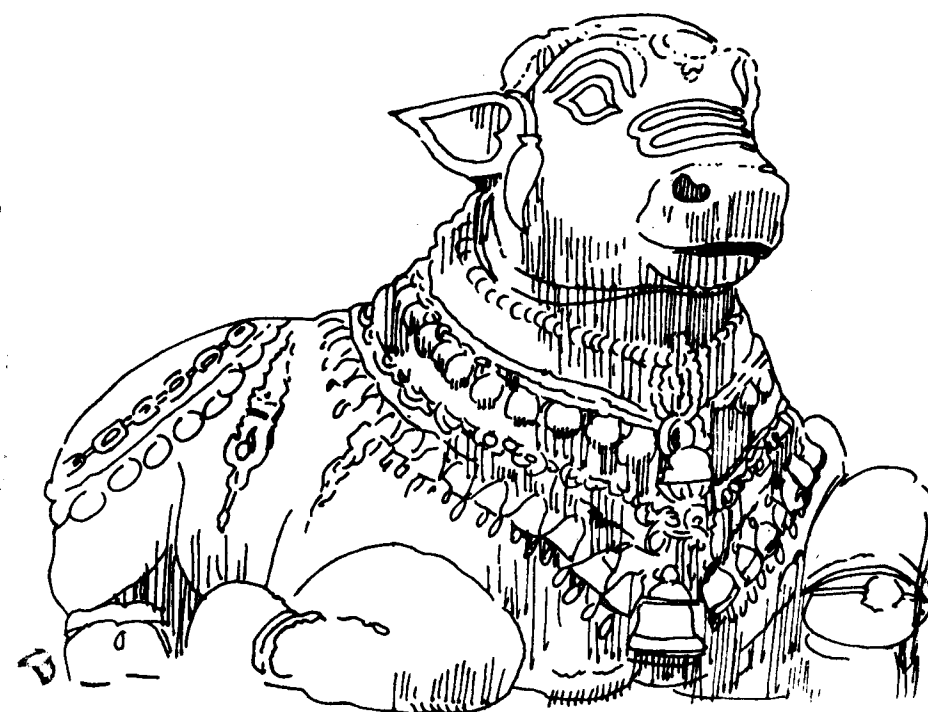
WHERE TO EAT

There are a number of unclassified vegetarian

Sculpture and Paintings at Thanjavur Palace



The Nandi at the Thanjavur Big Temple





restaurants, besides the restaurant at Hotel Tamil Nadu.

WHERE TO BUY

Shopping: Poompuhar Handicrafts Emporium, Gandhi Road, Thanjavur, Musical Instruments Society.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Temple: Sri Brahadeeswarar Temple, Mariamman Koil, etc.

Church: Schwartz Church, St. Mary's Church etc.

Mosque: Dharga near bus stand & Irwin Bridge.

RECREATION

Clubs: Cosmopolitan Club, Rotary and Union Club.

Library:

1. Local Library Authority
2. Saraswathi Mahal Library
3. Tamil University Library
4. Municipal Library

Bookshop: Appar Book Stall, Bharatha Matha Book Stall, L.K.R. book Stall & Swamy

Sports Activities: Bethannan Kalviarangam, Anna Stadium, Thilagar Thidal.

FESTIVALS

Saint Thyagaraja Aradhana Music Festival - January. Pongal (Tourist) Festival 14th to 16th January. Maham Festival in Kumbakonam - February & March once in 12 years. Last held in 1992.

Arulmigu Thyagarajaswamy Car Festival - March. Muthuppallakku Thiruvizha - May.

Annai Velankanni Festival - August-September.

Raja Raja Chola's Birthday Sathaya Thiruvizha - October every year.

Nagore, Kandoori Festival - December.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Government of Tamil Nadu, Tourist Office, Jawan Bhavan, Opp. Head Post Office, Thanjavur-1.

Tourist Information Centre, Hotel Tamil Nadu Complex, Gandhi Road, Thanjavur-1

OTHER INFORMATION

Post/Telegraph/STD/ISD/Telex/Fax etc.: Available.

Courier Service: Available.

R.M.G.H. Raja Mirasdar Govt. Hospital, Thanjavur-1.

Medical College Hospital, Thanjavur-7.

Chemists and Druggists: Available.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Tamil University, Tel: 22221

Art Gallery, Tel: 22823

Public Relations Office, Tel: 22645

State Bank of India, Tel: 20082

Town Police Station, Tel: 22200

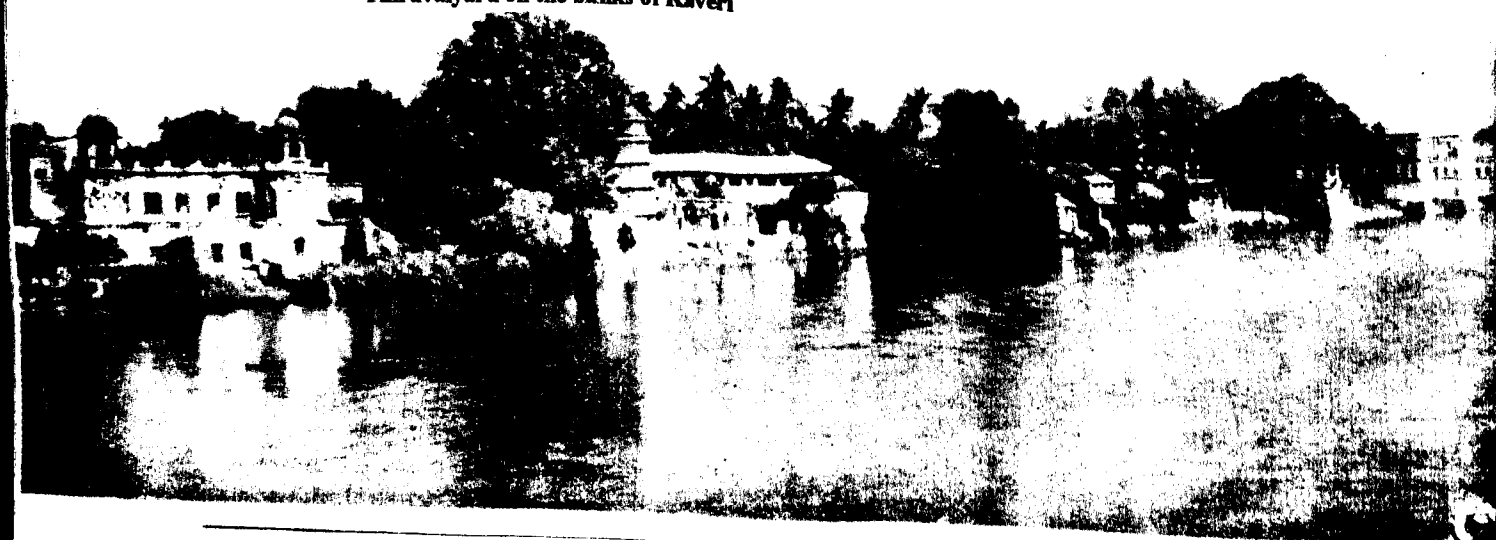
Rural Police Station, Tel: 2377

Railway Station, Tel: 22416

CRC (Cholan Roadways Corp.), Tel: 21999

TTC Bus Stand (Tiruvalluvar Transport Corporation), Tel: 20666

Thiruvaiyaru on the banks of Kaveri



Edited & Published by T. Shanmuga Rajeswaran, I.A.S., Director of I & PR, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
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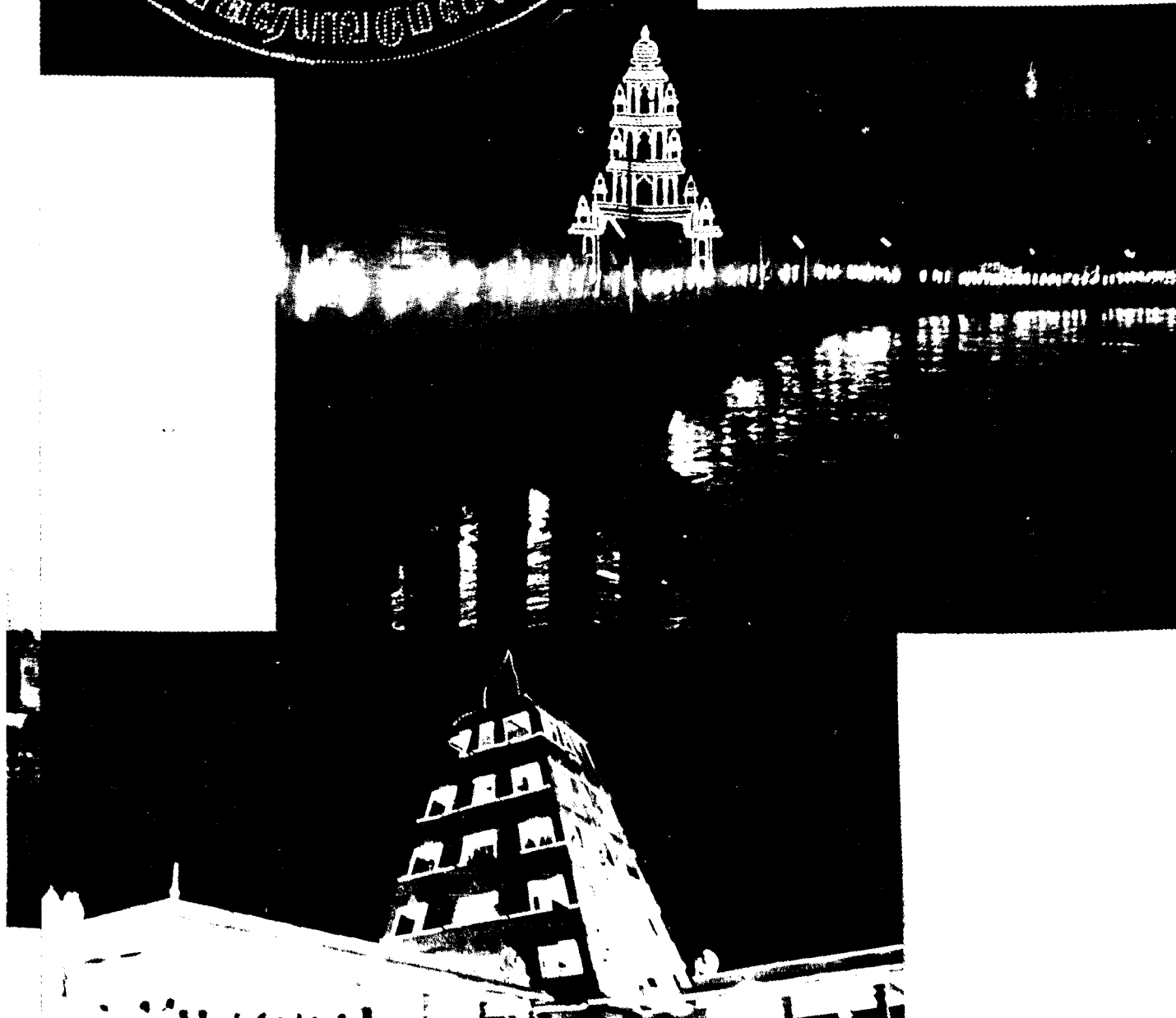


Tamil Arasu

FEBRUARY 1995 Rs. 3



ILLUMINATIONS AT THE EIGHTH WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCE



TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

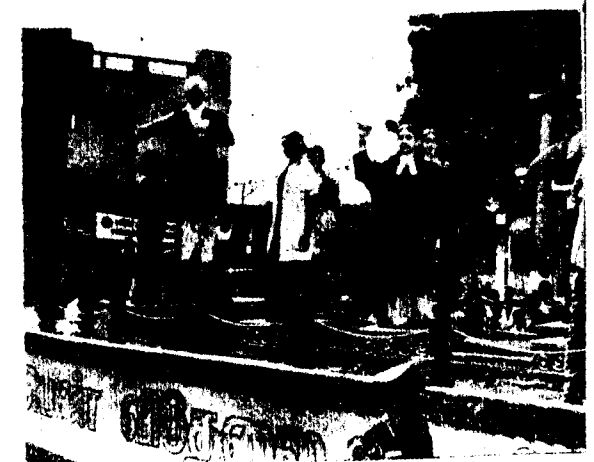
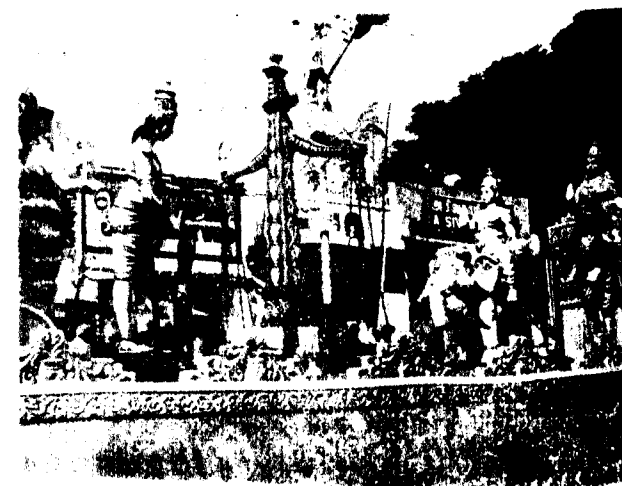
**Thiruvalluvar Year 2026
Thai - Maasi
February - 1995**

IN THIS ISSUE

- ★ The historic Eighth World Tamil Conference scales new heights.
- ★ Hon'ble Chief Minister announces the revival of the World Tamil Sangam at Madurai.
- ★ Tamil Nadu is the hub of culture that has made a deep imprint across the Indian Ocean and even beyond.

- Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao at the valedictory function of the Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur on 5.1.1995.

- ★ Tamil Eulogised in spectacular Float Pageantry.
- ★ Co-operation, a significant part of Tamil cultural traditions.
- ★ The Chief Minister's desire to develop Scientific Tamil welcomed.
- ★ Ilakkia Cholai.
- ★ Tamil Nadu's record plan outlay.
- ★ National Institute of Fashion Technology to be located at Madras.
- ★ Contribution of the Information and Public Relations Department to the success of the historic Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur.



His Excellency, the Vice President of India Inaugurates the Conference



THE HISTORIC EIGHTH WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCE SCALES NEW HEIGHTS

The Eighth World Tamil Conference was held at the Temple town of Thanjavur from January 1st to 5th, 1995. The mega event was inaugurated by His Excel-

lency, the Vice President of India, Thiru K.R. Narayanan. Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha presided over the function.

Statues unveiled

On 1.1.95, prior to the inauguration of the Conference, Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha unveiled the statue of Dr.M.G.R. installed in front of the Railway Junction. The Function was presided by Thiru S.D. Somasundaram, the Minister for Revenue. The function was attended by Hon'ble Ministers, Members of the Parliament, Members of the



Legislative Assembly, Chairpersons of various Boards and a large gathering.

Thiru Datto Samivelu, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, Malaysia unveiled the statue of the King Raja Raja Chola. Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open 'Raja Raja Cholan Mani Mandapam' and the, 'Tholkappiar Memorial Tower'.

The Chief Minister also unveiled the statue of the great Saint Thiruvalluvar installed in the Tamil University Campus. She also released 63 Books on the occasion.

At the function to declare open the Raja Raja Cholan Mani Mandapam, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed cheques, each of the value of Rs.50,000 to families of 12 martyrs who laid down their lives to the cause

of Tamil language. The names of the martyrs are Mayiladuthurai Sarangapani, Viralimalai Shanmugam, Keeranur Muthu,



Iyampalayam Veerappan, Sathiyamangalam Muthu, Peelamedu Dhandapani, Virugampakkam Aranganathan, Kodambakkam Sivalingam, Keezhapazhuvur Chinnasamy, Dhalapathi Rajendran and Thalamuthu Natarajan.

Permanent Welcome Arches

Seven permanent arches have been constructed on Main roads leading to Thanjavur. The arches are named after Athiaman, Kunthavai, Kabilar, Karikal Cholan, Velunachiar, Raja Rajan and Cheran Senguttuvan. These arches were declared open by the Chief Minister.

Float Pageantry

Hon'ble Chief Minister arrived at the special stage erected near the old bus stand to witness the floats and the cultural procession. 64 floats depicting the rich cultural mosaic of ancient Tamils and 27 cultural troupes participated in the procession. It took four hours for the pageantry to cross a point. A running commentry had been arranged both in Tamil and

English to amplify the meaning behind each of the floats.

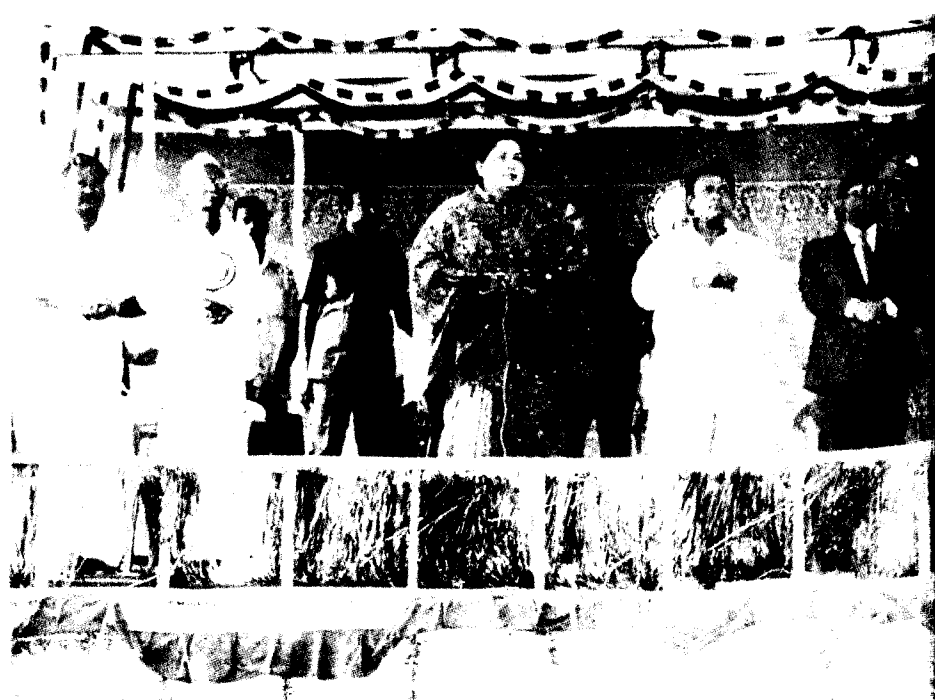
The Grand Inauguration

The inaugural function was preceded by Nadaswaram music by the Maestros M.P.N. Sethuraman - M.P.N. Ponnusamy at Annai Sathya Stadium.

The Vice President inaugurated the Conference by lighting a Kuthuvilakku. The Chief Minister presided over the function.

The inaugural address of His Excellency, the Vice President of India, Thiru K.R. Narayanan was as follows:-

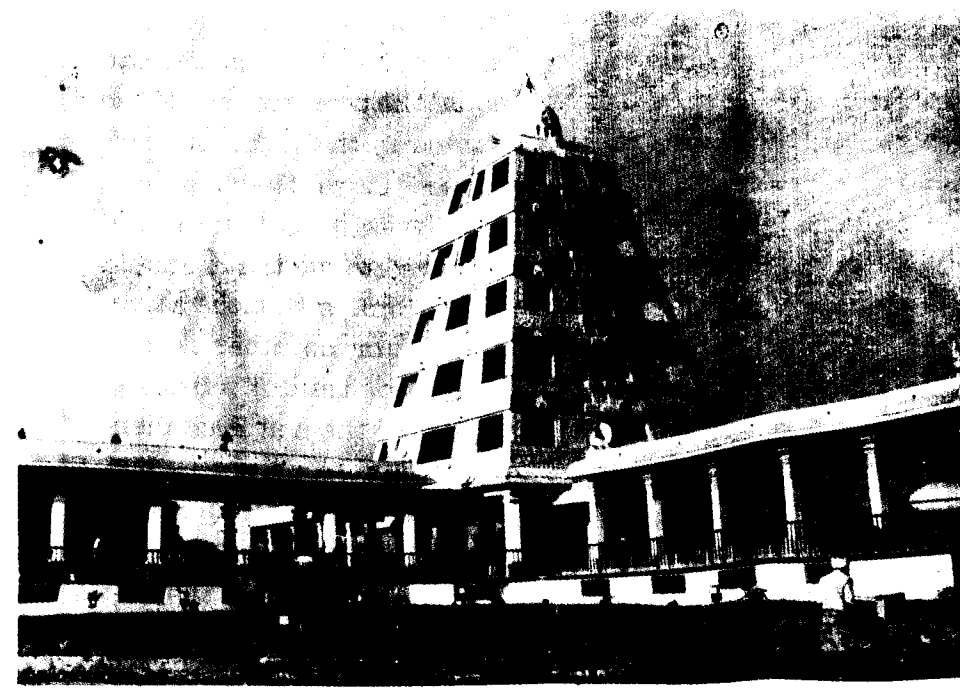
"May I, first of all, convey to this impressive and distinguished assemblage gathered in the Eighth International Conference of Tamil Studies, greetings and good wishes from Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, the President of India. He was looking forward to inaugurating this Conference but unavoidable preoccupations have prevented him from leaving Delhi at this time. May I say, on behalf of my wife and myself, how happy and honoured I am to be here at this historic city of Thanjavur to inaugurate this important Conference on the kind invitation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha. I am grateful for the warm welcome that has been ex-



tended to us.

Tamil, which is one of the great languages of India, is to-day an international language, and Tamil culture a lively current in the stream of international life. Nothing could be more demonstrative of this fact than the presence at this Conference of erudite scholars and emi-

nent personalities from twenty-three Countries of the World. The genius and the dynamism of the Tamil people had from the earliest times, under the Pallavas, the Cholas and the Pandyas overflowed the boundaries of India and influenced and enriched life and culture in our neighbourhood as well as in



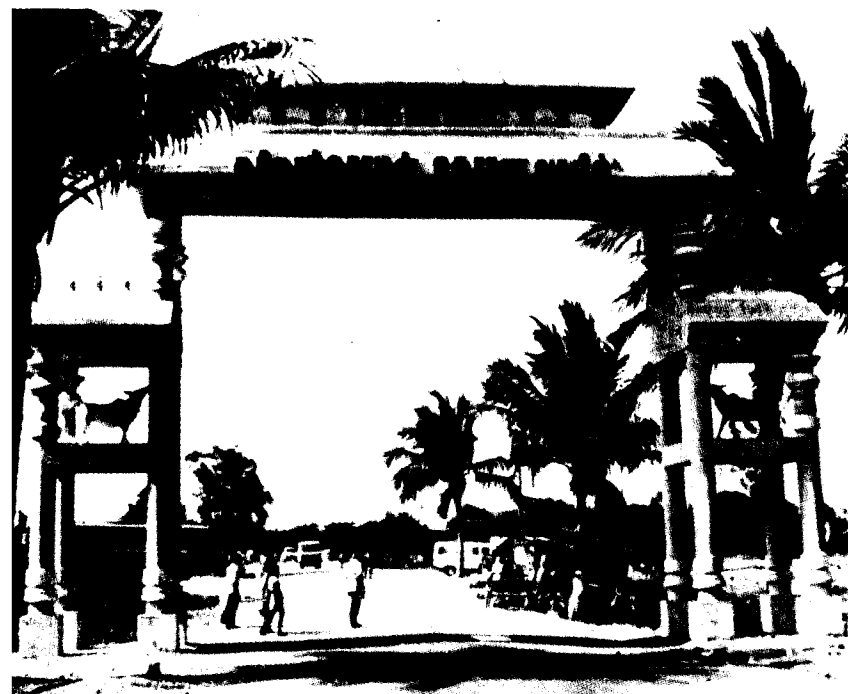
far-flung regions. India can be proud of the attainments and contributions of people of Tamil origin in the world who have identified themselves with the countries they have adopted as their homes while retaining their linguistic and cultural affiliation with their original homeland.

The language and the cul-

ture of the Tamils have their origin and development in antiquity going back to over 2500 years in history. Scholars have traced Tamil words in the Rig Veda and have discovered evidence of Dravidian culture in different parts of northern India. Indeed distinct similarities between Tamil and some of the languages of Africa have



been detected in recent times. One may recall that when the poet-President of Senegal visited India he was struck by the similarity between the language of his country and that of Tamil and caused to establish a research project for the study of this remarkable cultural phenomenon. It has been sometimes said that Sanskrit when it spread in India had overwhelmed Tamil and other Dravidian languages. While the dominant influences of Sanskrit over Dravidian languages is indisputable, the influence that Tamil exercises over Sanskrit has not been sufficiently recognized. Scholars have pointed out that some of the words in the Dravidian languages considered as of Sanskrit have often turned out to be Dravidian words adopted by Sanskrit. Students of comparative literature have noted that the story and the plot of Sudraka's Sanskrit drama "Mrichakatikam" is so similar to that of the Tamil classic "Silappatikaram" that it must have been influenced by the Tamil work which had come earlier in the 2nd or 3rd century A.D. Indeed the interaction and cross fertilization between Sanskrit and Tamil and other Dravidian languages had been one of the creative processes in India's



cultural history. We know that among the Dravidian group of languages, Tamil is one of the oldest and had influenced all of them. As a Malayalee I have no hesitation in saying that it has been acknowledged that Malayalam is the foster child of Tamil. In modern times Tamil has also contributed many words and concepts to English and other European languages as well as to the languages of South-East Asia. I think this is a subject that merits more serious research than the very useful clues contained in "Hobson Jobson". Allied to this linguistic influence has been the far reaching influence of music and dance and architecture which originated in Southern India, particularly in Tamil Nadu. Thus, in a real sense Tamil is a major Indian language and an international language with all its

cultural implications. Even as compared to the great classical languages of the world Tamil has a certain uniqueness. As the Encyclopaedia Britannica has stated: "Tamil is perhaps the only example of an ancient classical language which continues as a spoken language for more than 2500 years without undergoing change in its basic structure". I must add that Tamil has not only continued as a spoken language but is today a magnificent modern language. It has flowered into a rich contemporary literature and is today a vehicle not only of literary sentiments but modern scientific ideas and concepts.

Nobody has paid richer and sincere tribute to Tamil than Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. In 1909 while engaged in his struggle in South Africa he

wrote in his "Indian Opinion". "No other Indians can equal the performance of the Tamils in the fight (the reference is to the Transval Satyagraha). It, therefore, occurred to me that I should read Tamil with close attention, if for no other reason than to tender sincere thanks to them at least mentally. Accordingly the last one month was devoted mostly to the study of Tamil. The more I learn it, the better I appreciate the beauties of this language. It is a very fine and sweet language, and I find the Tamils have produced, and still produce, a large number of intelligent, thoughtful and wise men. Moreover since India is going to be one country, some Indians outside Madras (i.e. the Madras Presidency) should also learn Tamil". Later in 1913 when a new school was started in South Africa at which Gujarati was taught during school hours but not Tamil, Gandhiji protested to the Government and advised the people to agitate against it. Years later in 1933 Gandhiji sent a message to Tamil Lovers Conference in which he said: "The superficial knowledge that I have of Tamil has enabled me to appreciate the beauty and the richness of the language. To neglect it would appear criminal". I must congratulate the or-

ganizers of this Conference who have carried out the idea of Gandhiji and to-day what we are seeing at this Conference is a celebration of Tamil not only as a regional and national language, but also as an international language and literature.

The status of Tamil as an international language is rooted in its greatness as an Indian language. It articulates the age-old culture, traditions, myths, thoughts, dreams and aspirations of the people of India. As the great poet Subramania Bharathi sang in his immortal poem "Our Mother".

**"She has three hundred million faces,
But one sole life, majestic and strong,
Eighteen are her tongues for utterance,
And yet the heart is one"**

To-day Mother India has 900 million faces of which Tamil face is one of the most beautiful reflecting "the one sole life, majestic and strong" of India and the tongue of Tamil is one of the most mellifluous through which the heart-beat of India could be heard. No poet of India has expressed as beautifully and movingly the emotional unity of India as Bharathiyar when he sang that we would sport in row-

ing boats in moonlight on Indus waters "singing with girls from Kerala songs in dulcet Telugu". We find the immortal yearnings of Tamil Nadu and India in the following lines of Subramaniya Bharathi:

**"Mantras we shall learn and tantras
For our service; we shall measure
The sky above and the fish in Ocean
We shall explore and thoroughly know
The moon's disc, and shall also master
The science of sweeping the thoroughfares clean."**

We have gone quite some-way in measuring the moon and the stars and sounding the depths of the ocean, but I am afraid we have yet to master the science and the art of sweeping our streets clean. It is the distinction of Tamil poets and thinkers that they have attached as much importance to the philosophical soarings of the mind and high pursuits of science and technology as to

the basic and mundane tasks of keeping our environment clean and addressing the problem of the sufferings of women, children and the poor in society. When I see the programmes that Tamil Nadu has launched to give midday meals to school children, to look after the health, education and the rights of the children, to elevate the status, education and the rights of women and other social development schemes for the welfare of the masses, on the one hand, and ambitious programmes for the industrialisation of the State, for foreign investment, for export promotion, for modern technology parks and far-reaching science and technology programme, on the other hand, my mind goes back to those thrilling lines of Poet Subramania Bharathi. I am glad to say that the delegates of the International Conference have to-day the opportunity not only to discuss the language, literature and the culture of Tamil Nadu but also to see some of the cur-



rent economic and technological developments that are taking place in this State. I understand that you will be discussing at this Conference such subjects as ancient and modern Tamil literature, the official language question, the status of women, society as seen by Tamils, science and technology and 21st Century and the Arts.

In my remarks I have not so far touched upon the ancient literature and arts. I hesitate to do so before this scholarly audience. The richness, the exuberance, the originality and the humanism of Tamil literature is well-known. So are the worldly wisdom and the guides to action contained in Thirukkural which are of relevance to whole humanity. One commentator has said: "In a society ridden by caste it draws up a testament for a classless society. The whole book is a charter for human conduct having the same force to-day, eighteen centuries after it was written, it will continue to have the same force to the end of time". When one speaks of society and the social order one cannot ignore the position of women in Tamil society. It is well-known that women have contributed significantly to Tamil literature. They have

also been in the forefront of social and political action in modern times. India has shown in critical periods of its history that women can lead the country. Women are not only adorable heroines in books of poetry, drama and novel, but in actual life in our country. Jawaharlal Nehru has often stated that the status of women in a society is the real measure of the advancement of that society. It is pleasing to note that Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of India in the development and empowerment of women in our society.

In the history of Indian culture there are two themes that stand out - spiritual devotion and universal human-

ism. They are present in Tamil culture and literature from ancient to modern times. A Sangham poet wrote: "Every country is my native land and every man is my kinsman." There is no other saint in India who can rival Nandanar in his spiritual devotionism that cuts across the divisions of caste and class. In both humanism and sheer spirituality Tamil culture takes us to the summits of human experience. And Tamil is a language that can express such sublime thoughts and experiences with beauty and lucidity. It is a part and parcel of the multi-lingual unity of India. It has been said that Indian literature is one though written in different languages. Tamil is one of the languages in which the literature of India and the thought of India has blossomed with a splendour of its own".

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha recalled the Second World Tamil Conference held in Madras in 1968 when Arignar Anna was the Chief Minister and the Fifth World Tamil Conference which was held in Madurai in 1981 when MGR was the Chief Minister. She said on the footsteps of these two great leaders, she had organised the Eighth World



Tamil Conference as an 'aradhanai' to Tamil. She said Tamil has a uniqueness of helping in the growth of other languages. Even while helping the other languages grow, it retained its youth and charm.

Invasions resulted in the language dominations but in the case of Tamil, it was the other way round. King Raja Raja Cholan invaded Eastern countries. But the languages flourished with the impact of Tamil and did not die because of Tamil. It had no history of destroying other languages, she added.

She said, Tamil had books on ethics, and devotional bakthi literature which had no parallel in any other languages. She reminded the audience that this was an age of Science and Technology. She said there were two challenges before Tamil lovers and scholars. One was to bring all scientific developments that had taken place in this Century into Tamil

and the second was to equip Tamil language to face the future technology changes.

The Chief Minister said that apart from the existing three branches of Tamil - Iyal, Isai and Natakam - a fourth branch namely "Scientific Tamil" is needed today. She said, Tamil which is known for its spiritualism should be made a language of science. It should be developed in such a way that it became the medium of instruction for conveying the thoughts of Science and Technology.

"While one should be proud of the ancient history of the Tamil language, efforts should be made to find a separate place for the language in the international arena," she added.

She thanked the Vice President, Thiru K.R. Narayanan, for accepting her invitation at short notice to inaugurate the conference. Tamil people living in the entire World would thank

the Vice President for the gesture, she added.

Dr.Noboru Karashima, Chairman, International Association of Tamil Research thanked the Tamil Nadu Government for its support in holding of the Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur. He expressed confidence that the Conference would give a lead to transform Tamil into a language of modern thoughts in the 21st Century, so that it could hold its legitimate place among world languages.

Thiru Arumugam Parasuraman, Minister for Science and Education, Mauritius, said Tamil was being taught in the school system of Mauritius and the Indian Government was providing assistance for learning of Indian languages in his country.

Thiru S. Thondaman, Rural Development Minister, Sri Lanka, Thiru Datto Samivelu, Minister for Energy in Malaysia, Thiru R. Venkataraman, Former President of India, Thiru K.V. Thangabali, Union Minister of State for Welfare and Thiru P. Ramachandran, Former Governor of Kerala offered felicitations.

Dr. V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, the Minister for Finance earlier welcomed the



gathering. Thiru S.D. Somasundaram the Minister for Revenue proposed a vote of thanks.

At this function special books were released. A Souvenir of the Seventh World Tamil Conference held in Mauritius in the year 1989 was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The first copy was received by Dr. Noboru Karashima. The special Souvenir of the Eighth World Tamil Conference was released by the Vice President of India which was received by the Chief Minister. The Vice President also released the Eighth World Tamil Conference's Science Souvenir and Students' Souvenir, and the first copies were received by Thiru Datto Samivelu and Thiru Arumugam Parasuraman respectively.

Ilakkiacholai

At the function held at Police Parade Grounds a film titled 'Ilakkiacholai', produced by the Government of Tamil Nadu was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The print was received by the Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru M. Thennavan. The film was directed by Thiru R.V. Udayakumar. The film has six episodes of historical Tamil Characters.

Cultural Programmes

Following the release of



the film Ilakkiacholai, a dance drama was performed by Dr. Padma Subramaniam. A performance by Violin Maestro Thiru Kunakkudi Vaidyanathan was also held.

At the same hour, a Veena recital by Maestro Chitti Babu was performed at Thilagar Thidal. The function was presided by Thiru Datto Kumaran, Member of Parliament, in Malaysia. The Minister for Adidravidar Welfare, Thiru Anandan participated. Later, a drama "Thamizh Katha Thalaivan" was staged by the Secretariate drama troupe.

At the Raja Rajan Memorial Hall, a music programme by Selvi Sowmya, a Violin recital by Lalitha-

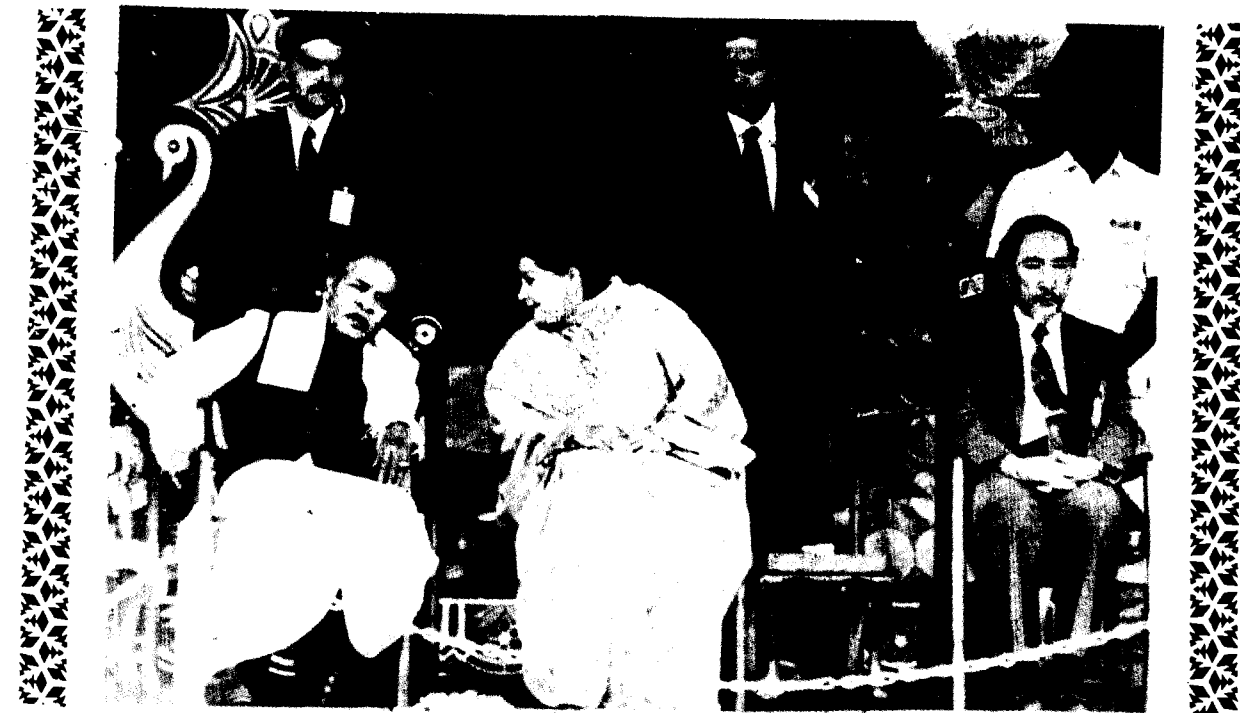
Nandini and Kottu Vathyam by Thiru Durgaprasad were held.

At 8 p.m. in the Thanjavur Big Temple's banquet Hall a Kutchipudi Dance programme, and Drama programme were organised.

A play and a dance programme were conducted at the Kalyanasundaranar Higher Secondary School.

Tamil Research sittings

Tamil scholars from various countries participated in the seminars presided by Dr. Noboru Karashima held in the Tamil University. The entire town of Thanjavur wore a festive look with thousands of people thronging to witness the programmes.



Grand finale to the World Tamil Conference

HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER ANNOUNCES THE REVIVAL OF THE WORLD TAMIL SANGAM AT MADURAI

The valedictory function of the Eighth World Tamil Conference was held at Thanjavur on the 5th January, 1995. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao participated and delivered the valedictory address. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha presided over the function.

At this function, Prime Minister paid rich tribute to the Tamil language and literature for its role in the development of other languages and cultures.

The Prime Minister, said that Silappathikaram and Manimegalai have made rich contribution and the Thirukkural was of a special significance, with its universal characteristics and this work was so remarkable and popular even today. He also pointed out the long history of the Tamils in marine trade and the spread of Tamil culture beyond the Indian

Ocean. Tamil was one of the purest forms of the Dravidian family of languages, he added.

The Prime Minister appreciated the universalism of Thirukkural and said that the ethics of Thirukkural and equality ethos of devotional literature were the unique contribution of Tamil literature to the World. He also pointed out to the contribution of Tamil to temple architecture and of Karikala Cholan's in providing irrigation through construction of dams. The bronzes of Chola period were also highly appreciated all over the world and Tamils were also in the forefront in various fields of arts, literature, music, architecture and marine trade and so on, the Prime Minister added.

At this function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the revival of the World Tamil Sangam which was announced to be set up at Madurai by the late Chief Minister Dr.M.G.R. at the valedictory of

gathering. Thiru S.D. Somasundaram the Minister for Revenue proposed a vote of thanks.

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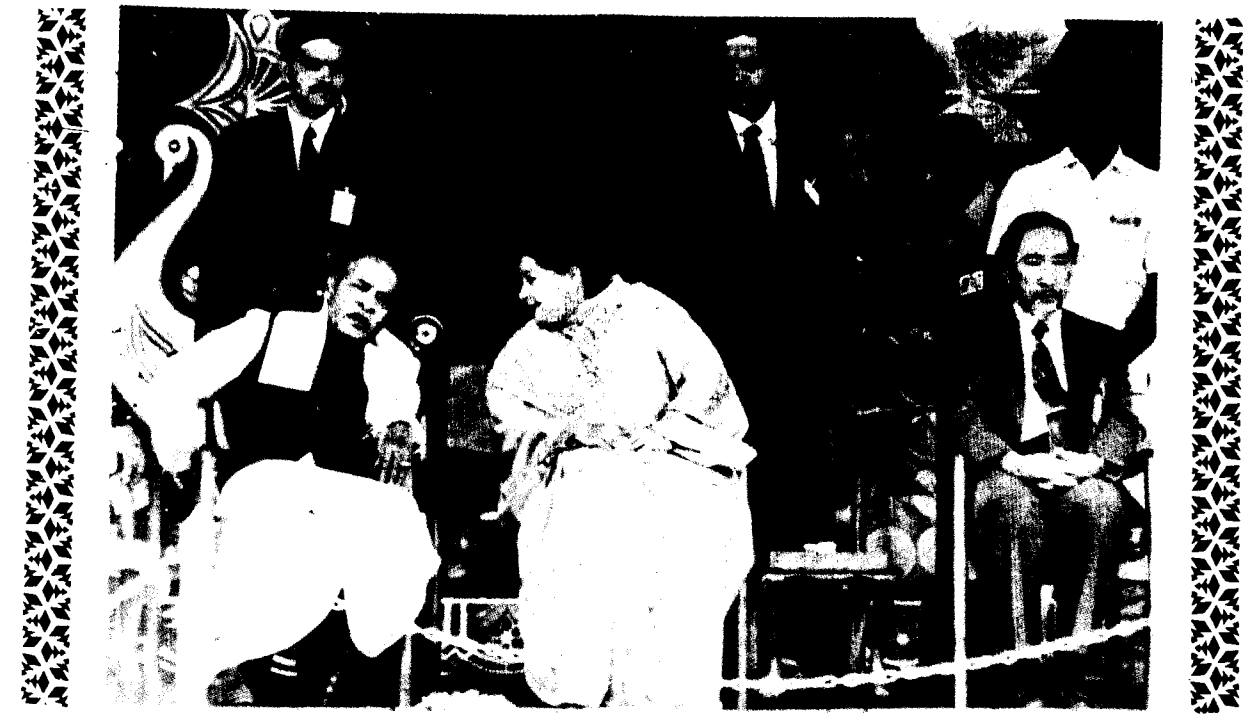
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A play and a dance programme were conducted at the Kalyanasundaranar Higher Secondary School.

Tamil Research sittings

Tamil scholars from various countries participated in the seminars presided by Dr. Noboru Karashima held in the Tamil University. The entire town of Thanjavur wore a festive look with thousands of people thronging to witness the programmes.



Grand finale to the World Tamil Conference

HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER ANNOUNCES THE REVIVAL OF THE WORLD TAMIL SANGAM AT MADURAI

The valedictory function of the Eighth World Tamil Conference was held at Thanjavur on the 5th January, 1995. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao participated and delivered the valedictory address. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha presided over the function.

At this function, Prime Minister paid rich tribute to the Tamil language and literature for its role in the development of other languages and cultures.

The Prime Minister, said that Silappathikaram and Manimegalai have made rich contribution and the Thirukkural was of a special significance, with its universal characteristics and this work was so remarkable and popular even today. He also pointed out the long history of the Tamils in marine trade and the spread of Tamil culture beyond the Indian

Ocean. Tamil was one of the purest forms of the Dravidian family of languages, he added.

The Prime Minister appreciated the universalism of Thirukkural and said that the ethics of Thirukkural and equality ethos of devotional literature were the unique contribution of Tamil literature to the World. He also pointed out to the contribution of Tamil to temple architecture and of Karikala Cholan's in providing irrigation through construction of dams. The bronzes of Chola period were also highly appreciated all over the world and Tamils were also in the forefront in various fields of arts, literature, music, architecture and marine trade and so on, the Prime Minister added.

At this function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the revival of the World Tamil Sangam which was announced to be set up at Madurai by the late Chief Minister Dr.M.G.R. at the valedictory of



the Fifth World Tamil Conference. The etymological Tamil lexicon project, which was started 20 years ago was stopped after two volumes were published, would be revived to bring out a comprehensive lexicon with the assistance of the Tamil Nadu Government, she added.

The Chief Minister, also said that the work of Tamil encyclopaedia project started in 1947 was stopped after 10 volumes had been published and it is now proposed to bring out a new series with updated information and latest development in various fields.

Besides, the Chief Minister announced that new Chairs would be created in Universities abroad for Tamil studies and that a grant of Rs. 75 lakh would be sanctioned to the 83 year old Karandai Tamil Sangam (near Thanjavur), which is doing yeomen service. The grant is for the improvement of infrastructural facilities such as library, hostel, canteen and so on.

A grant of Rs.10 lakh would be given to Dharmapuram Gnanambikai Government Arts College for Women to start a new course on Pragmatic Tamil and a Department of

Women's Studies would be started in Tamil University, Thanjavur for studies on the development of women since the days of Sangam Age. It is proposed to describe Karaikkal Ammaiyar as the "Mother of South Indian Music" in all future references in order to recognise her services for the cause of Tamil Music (pann), she said. The Chief Minister announced the slogan, "Indrum Thamizh, Endrum Thamizh" to provide an impetus to the development of Tamil language.

The Chief Minister pointed out that any language which refused to accept changes, could not develop, but would stagnate and weaken. She also reminded the audience that Tamil should develop in a modern world without losing its unique character and that in the context of fast changing developments in the world of Science and Technology. Tamil language has to get prepared to meet the challenges of the future, she added.

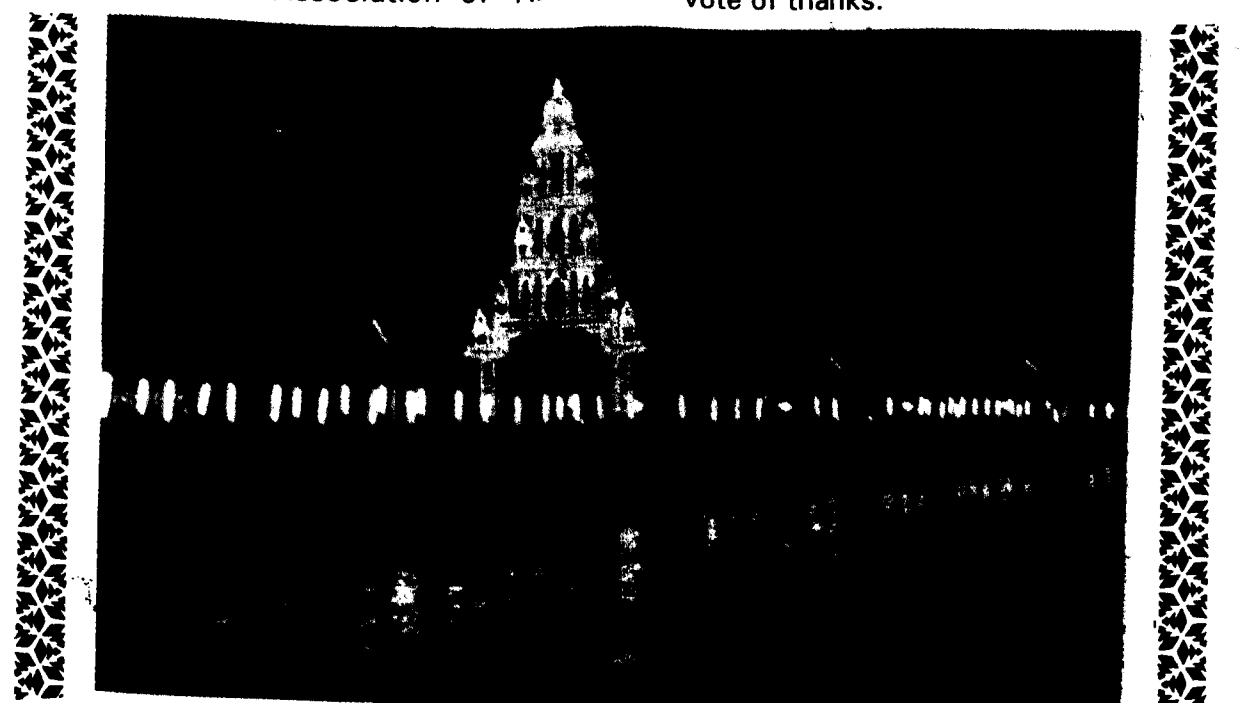
The Chief Minister thanked the Prime Minister for extending his full support by his presence which signifies his abundant love for Tamil literature and the Tamil people. She also thanked the Hon'ble Union Minister for com-



munication, Thiru Sukh Ram for gracefully releasing a special commemorative stamp on the occasion.

Earlier, the Hon'ble Revenue Minister Thiru S.D. Somasundaram welcomed the gathering hailed the Chief Minister as "the heroine of social justice." The Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Dr. Noburu Karashima, President International Association of Tamil

Research, Thiru Datto Samivelu, Malaysian Minister for Energy, Thiru S. Thondaman, Sri Lankan Minister for Rural Industries and Animal Husbandry, Thiru Arumugham Parasuraman, Mauritius Minister for Education, Thiru K.V. Thangabalu, Hon'ble Union Minister for State for Social Welfare, Thiru Mani Shankar Iyer and Thiru Era. Anbarasu, Members of Parliament were also present at the function. The Hon'ble Minister for Law Thiru K.A. Krishnaswami proposed a vote of thanks.





"TAMIL NADU IS THE HUB OF CULTURE THAT HAS MADE A DEEP IMPRINT ACROSS THE INDIAN OCEAN AND EVEN BEYOND"

—Hon'ble Prime Minister at the Valedictory of the VIII World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur on 5.1.1995

As I stand before this large international gathering of distinguished Tamils, I feel privileged to be in the midst of people who have made a name for themselves and for India through their individual and collective achievements. In these last five days scholars from all parts of the world have enlightened this gathering with the contribution of the Tamils to India and to the world. The historic city of Thanjavur has now joined the ranks of cities like Kuala-Lumpur, Madras, Madurai

and Paris which have had the honour to host this conference earlier. The serene waters of the Kavery flowing gently past this renowned centre of art and culture provide an idyllic setting for a conference of this nature.

This international gathering brings together vividly the vastness of the spread of Tamil as a culture, as a language and in the world its spread has been quite remarkable. Here one can see that Tamil Nadu is the hub

of a culture that has made a deep imprint across the Indian ocean and even beyond.

Thanjavur gave us the music trinity namely, Thiagaraja Swamigal, Muthu swamy Deekshithar and Shyama Sastri and the fore-runners of Tamil music Arunachala Kavirayar, Muthu Thandavar and Marimutha Pillai. It is also the birth place of Tamil music. Divine hymns of the devotees enchanted Thanjavur. Apart from music, Thanjavur is also famous for



its architecture, handicraft, dance, music and the fine arts. Thanjavur paintings are famous throughout the world. An air of aesthetic excellence pervades the atmosphere here. Here stands the Big Temple, that monumental Chola edifice, holding aloft the torch of a rich heritage in full splendour and grandeur.

In commemoration of this conference the, Rajaraja Chola stamp is being released. I have just released it. I also understand that Gold coin is to be issued in a very near future in commemoration of this occasion. It is indeed befitting that we pay our homage to this patron of arts who has left the indelible stamp of his rule on our country. The cholas

have a pride of place in our history. They were probably the first Indians who established a strong maritime presence across the seas. They also fostered maritime trade in the Far East.

Let me now come to the theme of this conference, which is "Contribution of Tamil culture to the 21st Century". The distinctiveness of Tamil culture is an established fact that needs no elucidation. Equally well established is its richness and vibrance. For an erudite gathering it needs hardly be added that like all living traditions this culture has flourished not by distancing itself from, but by continuously adapting to an assimilating from different cultures.

I would like very briefly to touch upon some aspects of Tamil culture to elucidate its contributive and assimilative qualities. As a language, Tamil has preserved some of the purest forms of the Dravidian family of languages although there has been considerable borrowing from the Indo-Aryan. Tamil has the earliest and richest corpus of literature in the heroic poetry of the Sangam anthologies. The language and its literature are the linguist's delight in comparative studies and historical and social-linguistics. The idioms and metaphors of the corpus of literature have a special symbolic meaning for Tamil even today. Although they have been well researched, these classics still offer enormous scope

for further study, historical and cultural.

Tamil literature was considerably enriched by and in turn influenced Sanskrit, due to its interaction with northern literary traditions. To the Sangam anthologies one must add the rich contribution of the Jains and Buddhists such as the two epics Silappadikaram and Manimekalai and 18 didactic works or the Padinenkilkanakku. Of the latter, the Thirukkural is of special significance. With its universal character, this work has a remarkable typicality about it which explains its popularity even today.

The bhakti or devotional poetry of the Vaishnava Alvar and Saiva Nayanar of the early medieval period

(7th to 9th centuries A.D.) represent another genre of literary works, which show the continuity of the Tamil vernacular tradition, drawing upon, at the same time, from the Sanskritic Puranas and Agamas relating to Vishnu and Siva. These emotionally powerful hymns also spread the message of protest against social inequalities and the idea of community against caste.

The Tamil major and minor Kavyas similarly represent the great synthesis of Sanskritic and Tamil traditions, retaining, at the same time, in their rich poetic modes, the Tamil ethos and cultural landscape. Kamban's Ramavataram is the best example of the rendering of a Sanskrit epic in a purely Tamil setting.

In the development of South Indian scripts, Tamil has made significant contribution. It adapted the Brahmi script, which was used initially for Pali and Prakrit, to the Tamil language with its phonetic peculiarities and evolved the Grantha script for the Sanskrit language. The Brahmi script came in the wake of trade with the Ganga region through Andhra and coastal traffic into South India. It also came in the wake of the Buddhist and Jain religions spreading cross the country.

The Tamil contribution to Indian temple architecture lies in the evolution of Dravida style. One of the two major styles, Nagara and Dravida. Its evolution is marked by several stages, from the Pallava-Pandya

Rock-cut caves and monoliths, to the structural temples of the Chola and Vijayanagar periods, the Chola period representing its apogee, in the stupendous royal temples at Thanjavur and Gangaikonda-Cholapuram which are marvels of engineering skill and aesthetic sensibility. They combine the three art forms, architecture, sculpture and painting, as monumental works of art. The Chola bronze, in particular, have become cherished objects d'art in India and the world over.

This development interestingly coincides with that of the most remarkable nagara style temples such as the Lingaraja at Bhubaneswar in Orissa, the Khajuraho group of temples in Madhya Pradesh and temples of Rajasthan, all of which mark the emergence of regional states and regional cultures within an overarching idiom of temple architecture and its regional schools under royal patronage.

The Vijayanagar period saw the development of temple architecture in Tamil Nadu, through a horizontal magnification and imperial proportions, with huge pil-

lared halls and the famous Raja gopurams, dotting the landscape of Tamil Nadu. The Chola and Vijayanagar temples are iconographically rich, with stylistically advanced sculptural technique and frescoes. They are also rich in socio-religious themes.

These expansive temple structures are unique in being centres of a sacred character, as well as of economic importance and as symbols of authority, with their impressive administrative machinery and integrative role in society.

Tamil contribution to the history of ideas and philosophy has also been significant. Right from the days of Valluvar, the author of the Tirukkural, which has been translated into many other Indian languages and European languages, ideas on ethics, polity and economy have influenced not only Tamil polity and society, but have acquired universal appeal.

Comparative studies of Kural have been made with other treatises on polity like Arthashastra and great Greek thinkers like Plato and Aristotle. It is significant that the Kural belongs to that era of

Indian history in which many of the important Dharmastraic and Arthashastraic works were composed in Sanskrit and carries in it several strands of Jain, Buddhist and Sastraic influences.

Composed in terse epigrams, the work deals with three of the main purposes of human existence on Purusastra i.e. Aram (Dharma), Porul (Artha) and Inbam (Kama). Its high ethical and moral tone is as visible in its epigram on economy as on politics. Valluvar spoke of the importance of agriculture as the basis of the economy and exhorted rulers not to use oppressive methods to extract tribute or tax. His advice on a whole range of human relations and existential problems point with great acumen to the universality of such problems and the unity of humankind.

The bhakti movement of the Alvars and Nayanars represented one of the major socio-religious movements of medieval India, which directly inspired the structuring of Tamil society and influenced movements of a similar nature elsewhere in the country. In our own times we can see the lead



taken by Tamil Nadu giving resource base and his measures for flood control through dams are well-known. The imperial Cholas pursued such efforts. At the same time for nearly two millennia from the beginning of the Christian era, Tamils have embarked upon trading enterprises with other regions of India and, more significantly, on maritime trade with distant lands. This region was never an area of isolation, for it was drawn into a larger network of maritime shipping and trade from the Gujarat coast to the Bengal coast and between the Mediterranean world and east and South East Asia. Individual enterprise and corporate trading ventures have characterised these activities especially in the early centuries of the Christian era and in the early medieval time and even beyond.

In the wide ramification of early trade and commerce, Tamil traders played a major role in the trade between the Roman empire and South East Asia. The Sangam anthologies, the epics, the classical Greek accounts of navigators and geographers like Pliny, Ptolemy and the unknown author of the "Periplus of the Brythraean Sea", are corroborated by a vast body of archaeological and other evidence dispersed along the trade routes. They established the prosperity that was generated in the region by this flourishing trade.

Research has shown how the political elite, especially

Tamil rulers from the "Sangam" period onwards have paid special attention to the development of agriculture with irrigation as a major resource. The story of Karikala's attempts to make the Kaveri valley a major



the imperial Cholas, promoted this trade and how south Indian merchant guilds were the major participants. These guilds carried on inter regional trade in peninsular India and also ventured into distant lands in East and South East Asia. Spices, gems, luxury items, textiles, aromatic wood, incense and camphor were some of the items which we know were popular items of trade. The Cholas sent emissaries abroad to promote trade and political relations. They even gave liberal endowments to religious institutions.

The courage to change, the confidence to learn and the wisdom to teach are products of a strong and vibrant culture. Culture facilitates our interaction with fellow human beings and

education gives us the necessary ability to do so. Our faculties of learning are sharpened by our confidence in our culture and education. Our willingness to interact with others increases with self-assurance. When international trade and commerce flourished in this region one writer described life in the port town of Kaveripoompattinam, also called Puhar, in 2nd Century A.D. as follows:

"People speaking diverse tongues, that come from great and foreign homes, mix freely on friendly terms with those who occupy this glorious town".

When I hear people advocating our country's isolation from the world today I am astounded at their ignorance of our own history.

The environmental awareness depicted in the Sangam anthologies, the ethical precepts of the Kural and the egalitarianism of the bhakti movement show a remarkable universalism and farsightedness. We have to seek the wisdom of these ancients and try to assimilate the qualities that brought them international acclaim. We have to learn how they brought prosperity to our land. These studies should not be only academic dissertations useful as they are for their own sake, or exercises in promoting exclusivism. I would like to submit that they should have a broader social and economic objective of creating awareness and encouraging integrative and humanistic approaches.

We in India rejoice in our

freedom of belief and expression. This is the fountain of all creativity and creativity is both the precondition and the fruit of progress. It is true that creativity also leads to diversity but then happily in our civilisation we have always celebrated diversity. We do not, and should not, seek the orderliness of mediocrity or the easy course of uniformity.

As you look ahead to the 21st century, I do not need to state the obvious to you, that the contribution of a

community in the coming millennium will depend upon what it contains and what it has to offer. This in turn will depend upon its internal dynamism and ability to keep abreast with the world. Distances are shrinking rapidly in terms of time. We have to keep widening our horizons because they are

constantly closing in on us under the relentless pressure of technological progress. I am confident that your deliberations just concluded will help all of us in this task. I wish you a happy new year and all the very best till you meet again in the 9th International Tamil Conference.



BONUS TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha announced the bonus to the Government employees for the year 1993-94.

State Government employees drawing emoluments of 2,500 and below, would be paid 21 days emoluments as bonus. By this, employees at the entry level in the lowest grade would be paid Rs.1,071 as bonus. This amount is higher by Rs.159 when compared to last year. Employees drawing the emoluments upto Rs.2,500 will draw bonus computed at a level of Rs.1,600. Thus at this level, an amount of Rs.1,120 would be paid as bonus. This amount is higher than that of the last year

by Rs.107.

An amount of Rs.550 would be paid a special bonus to employees drawing more than Rs.2,500 as emoluments and similiar to those drawing emoluments in State and Central Government scales of pay and University Grants Commission scales of pay.

Part-time and full-time employees drawing monthly emoluments, employees drawing consolidated pay, noon-meal workers, village establishment and those drawing daily wages for a minimum of 240 days in a year would be paid Rs.550 as special bonus.

Despite the prevailing difficult financial situation, Hon'ble

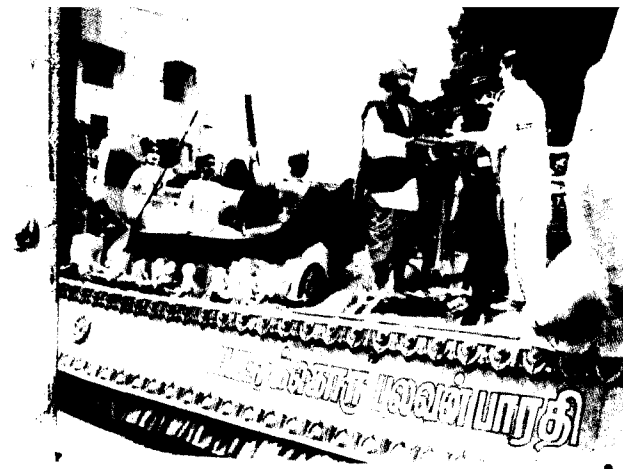
Chief Minister had announced the bonus payments to benefit about 11 lakh employees of Government and Local Bodies at a total cost of Rs.83.80 crore.

Hon'ble Chief Minister has also announced Pongal gift of Rs.100 for the year 1995 to all Pensioners including ad-hoc Pensioners of all categories and Family Pensioners of Government (including All India Services), aided educational institutions and Local bodies. By this 3.03 lakh Pensioners would be benefited. This would cost of Rs.3.03 crore to the Government.



A Grand Cultural Display also held

TAMIL EULOGISED IN SPECTACULAR FLOAT PAGEANTRY

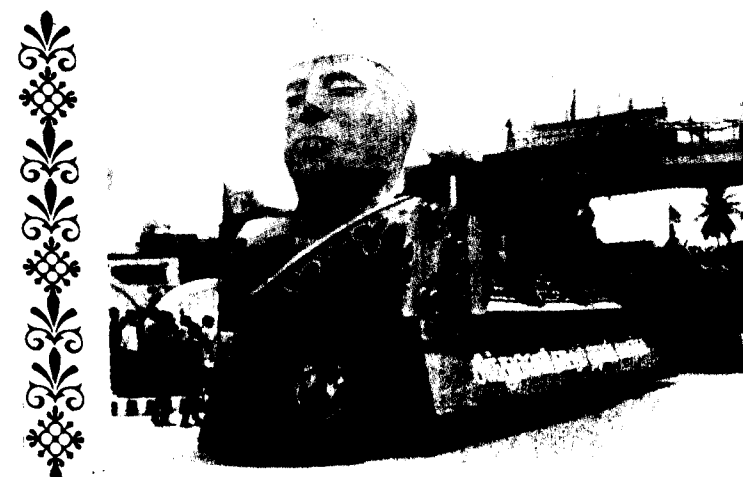


A dramatic re-creation of the grandeur of Tamil literature and Tamil history took place at Thanjavur on 1.1.95 in the august presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha. Hon'ble Ministers from Malaysia, Srilanka and Mauritius were also present.

Tamil Nadu were indeed excited.

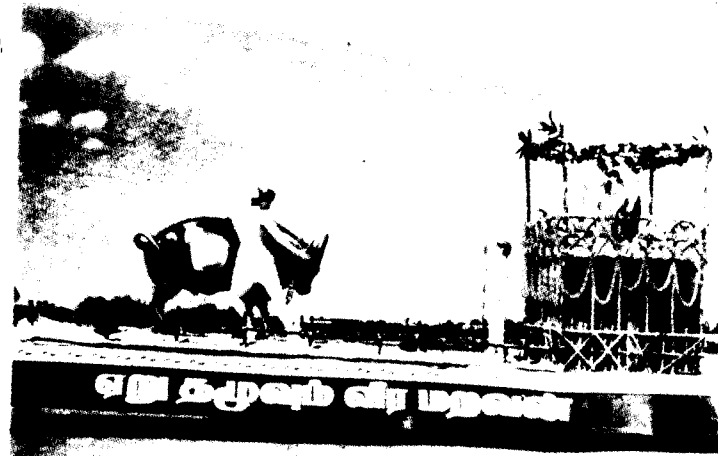
The Floats amplified Tamil history and literature. The pageantry begun with a float carrying Nadaswaram artistes playing out majestic welcome music, considered au-

spicious by Tamil traditions. The next float carried 'Mother Tamil'; the famous five geographical tracts of Kurinchi, Mullai, Marutham, Neithal and Palai were vibrantly described on different floats. The Ancient Trinity of Tamil music, The Trinity of Carnatic Music as well as the Ancient Tamil musical instruments marked the theme of three other floats. Some of the famous characters in Tamil classics such as Kannagi, Manimegalai and the courageous lady who drove away a tiger with a winnow were displayed too. Thiruvalluvar, Bharathiyar, Bharathidasan as well as the



The 54 thoughtfully and meticulously designed floats displayed important themes in Tamil literature as well as the high points in Tamil history and culture. The floats took nearly four hours to get past the VVIP dais and the people who were witness to the most colourful display of the century in

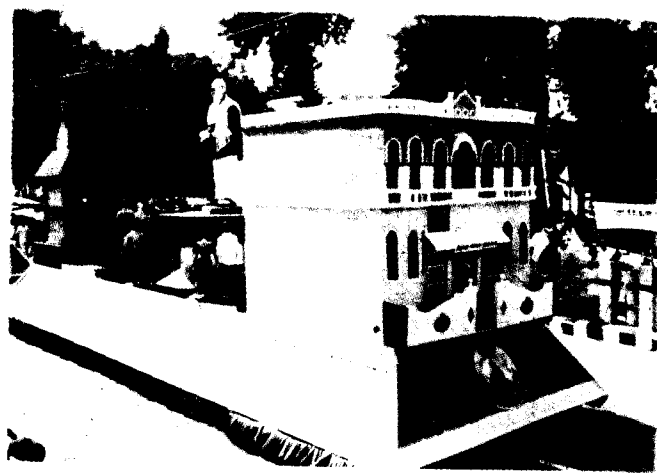




and M.G.R. were the focus of attention of three other floats. It can be said that all the 54 floats were both rich in grandeur and glamour.

The float pageantry were followed by a grand cultural display. On the forefront was a cavalry parade followed by flag bearing school children. An N.C.C. contingent, a Scout Team and a Guide team followed. Nadaswaram music,

contribution of Europeans to hiyaman gave majesty to Tamils were also on the pag- the procession. Women were eantry. The floats on the King honoured in one of the floats RajaRaja Chola, Manuneechi and another float displayed



Chozhan, Karikalan, Sibi, Kumanan, Pagen, Paari and Ad-

Aandal the Goddess of devo- tional hymns, Periyar, Anna

Temple hymns by odhuvars, blowing of horns, beating of drums, Naiyandimelam (folk drum), Bharathanatyam, Kolattam, Kummi, Tribal dance of Badugas, Folk songs, Oyilattam, Sevaiyyattam, Alagarattam, Karagattam, Kavadiattam, Bull dance, Dummy horse dance, Peacock dance, Tiger Dance, Dummy legs Dance and a display of physical feats marked the cultural display.



CO-OPERATION, A SIGNIFICANT PART OF TAMIL CULTURAL TRADITIONS

Thiru Noboru Karashima of Tokyo University, the chairman of the International Association of Tamil Research delivered the keynote address at the Eighth International Conference Seminar of Tamil Studies, held at Tamil University on 2nd January 1995. Dr.V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, the Minister for Finance inaugurated the Seminar.

Speaking on "Indian Commercial activities in ancient and medieval South-East Asia", Dr. Noboru Karashima said the spirit of co-operation and inter-reliance was a significant part of the Tamil cultural tradition. He said the recognition of this spirit was important to people everywhere. He said that in the 20th

Century people from all over the world had striven to develop their own particular society and culture, and many of them including Tamils, had achieved their goals. However, while achieving their specific goals, they sometimes were thinking of themselves for their own interests, overlooking the interests of others. He said that therefore, the next century should be one in which all people co-operative with each other to create global harmony.

Speaking on the Tamil inscriptions found in Countries in South East Asia, such as Vietnam and Thailand, he said that he had found how the Tamil merchants had organised themselves into corpo-

rate bodies such as 'Mahigiraman', 'Ainnuruvar', and 'Nanadesi', one of their conspicuous features was their non-alignment with all political powers. This non political character of their organisation had enabled them to conduct their overseas trade for centuries and to earn fame, he added.

Thiru. Karashima said these inscriptions were found in Mekong Delta of Vietnam in Takua pa, north of Krabi, in the Malay Peninsula, in Barus in North-Western Sumatra, in Nakhon Si Thammarat in Thailand, in the National Museum of Jakarta, and Pagan in Myanmar.

Regarding Srivijaya, Kadaram which had been

identified with Kedah in the Malay peninsula by some scholars, he said four inscription found in these places showed that friendly relations existed between Kadaram and the Chola country in the beginning of the 11th century continuing at least until 1015 AD. Soon after this, the famous attack by Rajendra I on Kadaram took place and this

had been recorded in many inscriptions.

Dealing exhaustively with the expedition of the Tamil Chola Kings to Jawa, Sumatra and other parts of South East Asia, Prof Karashima said that Tamils had even sent mission to China. He said the Chola Navy also crossed the Bay of Bengal again sometime around 1068 AD during the

reign of Virarajendra as inscriptions about this had been found. It had been established that Srivijaya existed in the Palembang and Jumbi region of Southern Sumatra. Chola missions were also sent to China.

The mission sent by Rajaraja I reached the Chinese court in 1015 AD. However, another mission was also sent to China from the Tamil country in 1020 AD, but before reaching the Chinese capital, the envoy died. According to the annals of the Sung Dynasty, a third mission reached China in 1077 AD and all these only showed the closer relations that existed between these two countries.

He said, in Zayton, a famous port in Southern China, a Tamil inscription was found dated 1281 recording the establishment of a Siva Temple for the health of the Yuan King. This inscription combined with other Tamil inscriptions found in South-East Asia testified to the vigorous activities and amicable character of those Tamil merchants who had crossed the ocean to South East Asia and beyond, during the ancient and medieval periods, he said.

The delegates sat in 14 sessions at the Eighth International Conference Seminar of Tamil Studies and presented more than a hundred papers.



The Chief Minister's desire to develop Scientific Tamil welcomed

Thiru R. Venkataraman, former President of India inaugurated a seminar on Tamil development held as part of the Eighth World Tamil Conference on 2nd January 1995 at the Police Grounds. Inaugurating the seminar, the former President said an expert committee should be set up to translate scientific terms into Tamil, or accept them as they are. Simple words with an original Tamil base could be used for articulating new concepts, he said.

The former President called for the acceptance of words from other languages by Tamils which, he said, would help the growth of the Tamil language. He said Tamil had accepted not only words from other languages in the past but also their modern forms of literature like short stories, novels, etc.

He said words helped one to assess the civilisation of people speaking a particular language. Words like 'Navaai', 'Kattumaram', showed that Tamils were great sea faring people. Thirukkural had evolved a code of conduct suitable for all people at all time. 'Silapathikaram' gave evidence of the musical instruments of its time and 'Agananuru' and 'Purananuru' spoke

about the love life and valour of ancient Tamils, he added.

Former Governor of Kerala, Thiru P. Ramachandran in his address said that the 25 centuries old Tamil literature starts with Sangam literature that deals with peaceful life and human feelings, followed by the famous Thirukkural. Later Bakthi literature spread with Nayanmars like Thirugnansambandar spreading Tamil through music. Now the gap between the art and science is narrowing and art is made better through science and vice versa. He said this was the time for development of Science in Tamil. Knowledge about Computer Science should be available in Tamil and efforts should be taken to frame new words in this regard, he added.

The Sri Lankan Rural Development Minister, Thiru S. Thondaman said the leadership of the Conference should be a continuous one from one Conference to another, for taking necessary follow up actions on the resolutions passed in the Conference. He expressed confidence that under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha, the Conference objective

could be met.

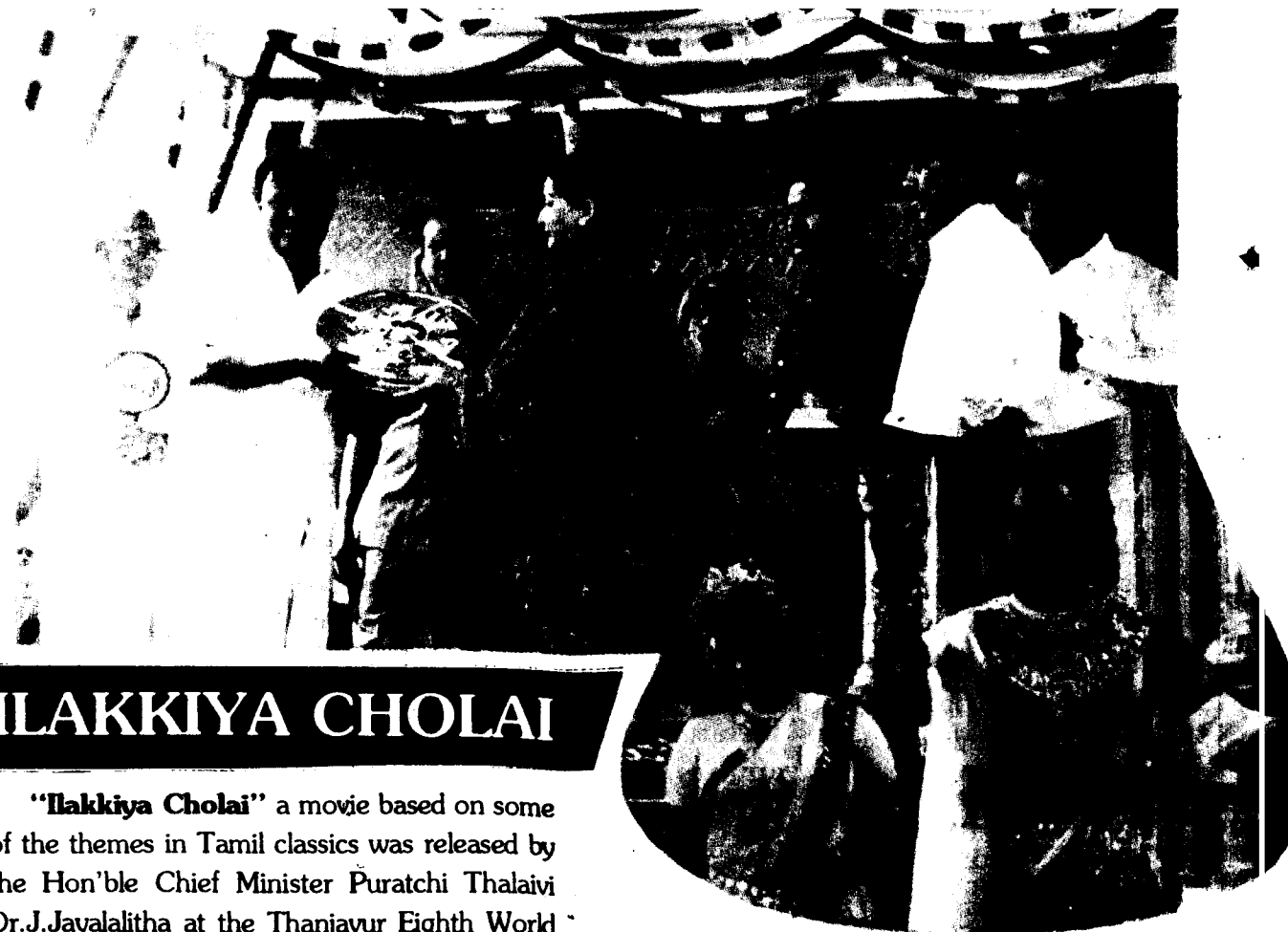
Tmt. Indrani Samyvelu, wife of the Malaysian Minister Thiru Samyvelu welcomed the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha, to develop the fourth branch of Tamil called scientific Tamil. She said that English could be accepted as a link language to have communication with the World but Tamil should not be neglected.

Thiru Pon Kumar, General Secretary of Tamil Nadu Farmers and Workers Party General Secretary called for inclusion of Tamil as a subject for deciding admission to professional colleges.

Thiru Abdus Samad, IUML General Secretary said Tamils had considered people of other countries as their own kinsmen.

Thiru Chellamuthu, Thiru Andi Thevar, Thiru Kulasekaran and Thiru V.S. Shanmugam also participated.

Thiru S. Muthusamy, the Minister for Health presided over the session. He assured the gathering that the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu would take all steps to achieve the Conference goals.



ILAKKIYA CHOLAI

"Ilakkiya Chola" a movie based on some of the themes in Tamil classics was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha at the Thanjavur Eighth World Tamil Conference on 1st January, 1995.

The film produced by the Director of Information and Public Relations under the guidance of AVM Productions led by Thiru A.V.M. Saravanan, was directed by Film Director Thiru R.V. Udayakumar.

The film is an anthology of the six incidents that have appeared in the Tamil classics and provides a glimpse of the highest standards in Tamil behaviour and conduct in ancient times. The incidents are:

- ★ An inspiring portrayal of the Brave Tamil mother who cheerfully sends her only son to the battle field, despite having heard the previous day that her father and husband have been killed at war.
- ★ The wisdom of the young King Karikala Chola who prevails on two farmers to accept the treasure they found in the agricultural land but had refused to accept it as theirs.

- ★ King Nandivarman's self immolation as he listened to Tamil Poetry - an example of his love for Tamil and disregard to the high post he held.
 - ★ King Cheran Irumporai's magnanimity of doing menial service to Tamil Poet Mosikeerana - despite the latter having committed a grave crime.
 - ★ The intelligence of King Raja Raja Chola in retrieving the lost hymns of Thevaram.
 - ★ The compassion of a King who was thoughtful and considerate to the suffering of animals and insects.
- The film starring top stars, Arjun, Sarathkumar, Karthik, Prabhu, Manorama, Suganya, Srividhya and R.S. Manohar has Thiru S.P.Muthuraman as production co-ordinator and Thiru Thotta Tharani for Art Director. Music has been scored by Thiru M.S. Viswanathan and Ramamurthy, while the Dialogue and Lyrics are scripted by Pulavar Pulamaipithan.



TAMIL NADU'S RECORD PLAN OUTLAY

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha had detailed discussions with the Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission Sri Pranab Kumar Mukherji on Tamil Nadu's Annual Plan for 1995-96. The Chief Minister was assisted by the Chief Secretary Thiru N. Hari Bhaskar, the Finance Secretary Thiru N.Narayanan, the Planning Secretary, Thiru M.A.Gowrishankar, and the Member secretary of State Planning Commission Thiru A. Nagarajan, at the discussions held on 20th January, 1995 at New Delhi.

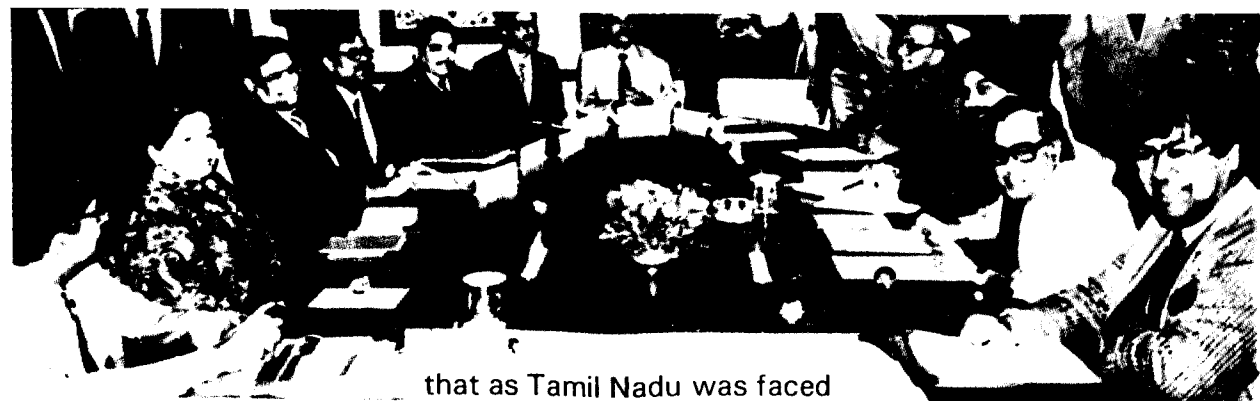
At the outset, the Chief Minister brought to the notice of the Deputy Chairman the

fact that Tamil Nadu had achieved an outlay of Rs.2232 crores in 1993-94 as against the approved outlay of Rs.2101 crores. The Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission congratulated the Chief Minister for the excellent plan performance of the Tamil Nadu Government as it had consistently exceeded the approved plan outlay.

The Chief Minister highlighted the need to step up the country's economic growth rate to more than 6% per annum. At the same time she felt that the Government of India should take specific steps to contain inflation. The Chief Minister was particular that while undertaking

economic reforms the position of the poor should not be affected. She explained that Tamil Nadu while keeping up the development efforts the outlays on social services and the safety net for the poor have actually been improved in real terms thus conferring real benefits on the poor.

The Chief Minister brought to the specific notice of the Deputy Chairman the need to make a start on the Penninsular River Waters Grid, taking up the utilisation of west flowing rivers as the first stage. She requested the Deputy Chairman to use his good offices to see that an early start is made on the Neyveli third mine cut. She also high-



lighted the fact that Tamil Nadu was willing to participate in the financing of the 2000 megawatts Nuclear Power Plant at Koodankulam. She felt that this project should start in 1995. She also wanted the Southern Gas Grid project to be expedited.

Referring to the phenomenal export effort achieved from the Tirupur area, the Chief Minister wanted special support for the Tirupur Infrastructure Development Plan. She requested an allocation of Rs. 30 crores as the Centre's support for the Tirupur Infrastructure Development Plan.

The Chief Minister also wanted the Union Planning Commission to examine whether longer term funds of 15 year repayment could be made available to the states for specified infrastructure projects.

The Chief Minister highlighted the fact that Tamil Nadu has been one of the most efficient States in raising resources to finance the plan. She also stressed the point

that as Tamil Nadu was faced with several special problems it merited special Central assistance. She highlighted the sea border problem as also the special security arrangements which are needed in the State to tackle the militants. This needed special attention. The high urban population posed severe strain on the infrastructure. The long coast line has posed new environmental problems. The road net work of the State has suffered repeated damages due to cyclones and floods. A major reconstruction programme is necessary. These issues were highlighted by the Chief Minister and she stressed the need for a special allocation by the Union Planning Commission to enable Tamil Nadu to deal with these special problems. After detailed discussions and taking into account Tamil Nadu's impressive performance in 1992-93 and 1993-94 it was decided that Tamil Nadu's plan outlay for 1995-96 would be Rs 3200 crores. This reflects 16.36% increase over the 1994-95 outlay.

Agriculture, Rural Devel-

opment and Irrigation will continue to receive special importance with a total outlay of Rs 600.77 crores as against Rs 547.23 crores in 1994-95. There will be a major step up on Industry and Power with a total outlay of Rs 1102.03 crores as against Rs 964.51 crores in 1994-95. The outlay on Transport and Communication will be stepped up to Rs 317.08 crores from Rs 287.11 crores. The Social sectors will continue to receive the highest priority and the outlay on these sectors will be stepped up from Rs 140.71 crores to Rs 199.90 crores. Housing and Urban Development will also get a major increase from Rs 152.10 crores to Rs.240.10 crores. Water Supply and Sanitation will receive a step up from Rs 387.72 crores to Rs 428.47 crores.

Tamil Nadu's Annual Plan for 1995-96 set at Rs 3200 crores reflects sustained progress towards achievement of the Eighth Plan goals of the State.

Hon'ble Chief Minister discusses Textile Industry crisis at New Delhi



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY TO BE LOCATED AT MADRAS

The Union Minister of State for Textiles Thiru G.Venkat-swamy met the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha on 20.1.1995 at Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi, to discuss the crisis the Textile Industry is facing. This is was in pursuance of the representation made by the Chief Minister to the Prime Minister on the previous day. The meeting lasted about 60 minutes.

The Chief Minister appraised the Union Minister of State about the position relating to the steep increase in the prices of cotton and cotton yarn over the past 15 months and resultant hardship to the industry in general, and to the handloom weavers in particular. She also pointed out with grave concern that the exports from

Tiruppur were greatly affected. She wanted some urgent market intervention to step up the availability of yarn at reasonable prices to benefit the weavers. The Minister of State explained that the present position was due to shortage in the production of cotton in the country in two successive years. He pointed out that steps are being taken to increase the cotton production in the country.

The Chief Minister wanted some specific action to be taken with immediate effect to bring some improvement in the situation. To bring succour to the handloom weavers she suggested that the subsidy for hank yarn should be enhanced from the present level of Rs.15 per Kg. Conceding the request of the Chief

Minister, the Union Minister agreed to increase the subsidy from Rs. 15 per Kg. to Rs.20 per Kg. of hank yarn. He also promised to consider the Chief Minister's request for the extension of the hank yarn subsidy scheme for one more year, ie., upto 31.3.1996.

The Chief Minister wanted de-hoarding operations to be intensified so that cotton and yarn are freely available. The Union Minister assured that stringent steps would be taken in implementing the Cotton Control Order and the Textile Control Order, so that quick results are obtained.

Responding to the Chief Minister's request the Union Minister assured that the Reserve Bank of India would be requested to reiterate instructions to Nationalised

banks to restrict credit against cotton stocks which provides scope for hoarding.

The Chief Minister wanted the obligations of Spinning Mills to produce specified types of yarn to be enforced. She requested that availability of yarn should be improved by immediate stringent enforcement of these obligations of Spinning Mills to produce specified yarn varieties. She also wanted that action on enforcement of these obligations should be immediate.

Responding to the Chief Minister's request for a ban on Cotton export, the Union Minister assured her that a policy of banning of cotton exports till the situation improves would be followed. He also

gave an assurance that the export of low counts of yarn would be banned.

Responding favourably to the Chief Minister's request that concessional credit be provided for co-operative spinning mills which have substantial obligations to Handloom weavers, he indicated that he would take this up with the Chairman, NABARD and do the needful.

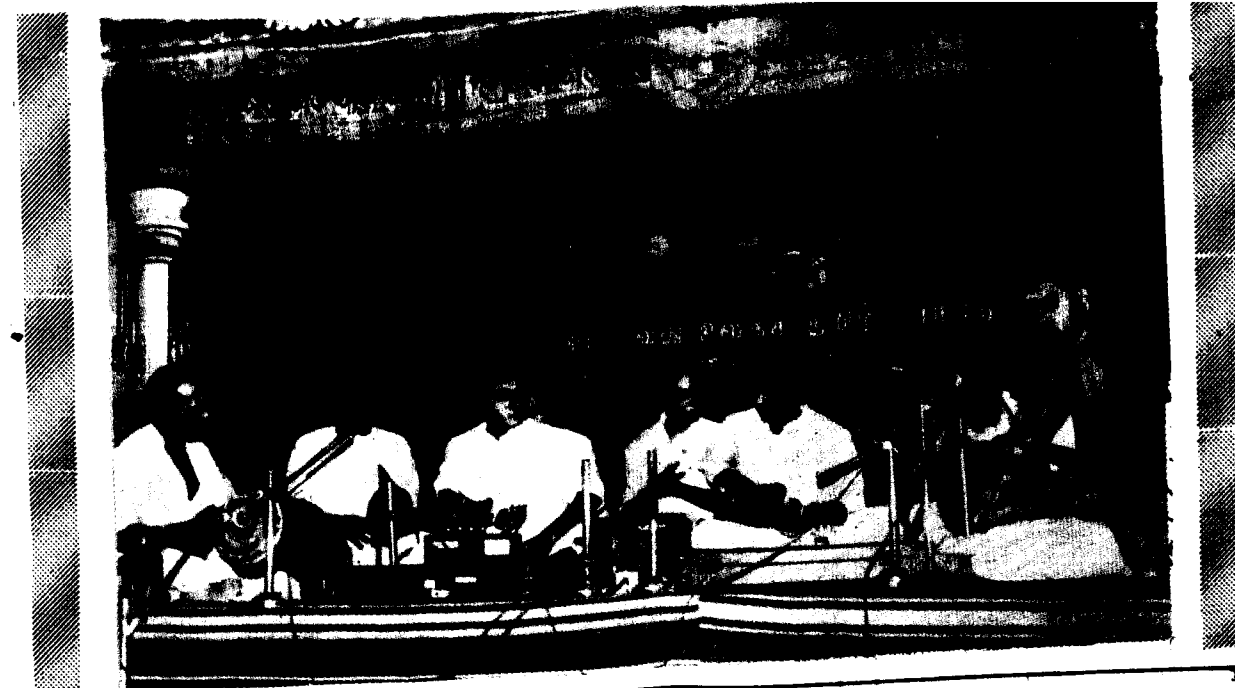
Regarding the location of a National Institute of Fashion Technology, the Chief Minister made a forceful plea that it should be located at Madras for which the land would be provided free of cost by the State Government. She also indicated that for the immediate pur-

pose of starting this Institute, an adequate built up area would be set apart. Responding to this, the Union Minister of State was glad to announce that a NIFT would be located at Madras and the formalities in this regard would be finalised in a week's time.

During the discussions Thiru N. Haribhaskar, the Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, Thiru N. Narayanan, the Finance Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Thiru T.S.R. Subramaniam, Union Textile Secretary, Thiru Vinod Malhotra, the Development Commissioner for Handlooms and Thiru V.R. Lakiri, Executive Director of the National Institute of Fashion Technology were present.



Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao on 20th January, 1995 at New Delhi.



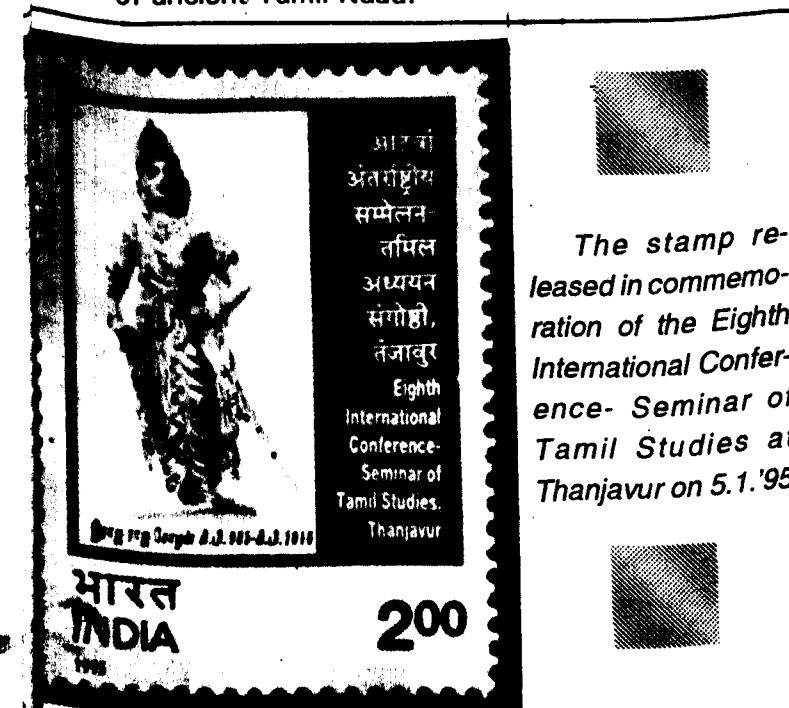
Contribution of the Information and Public Relations Department to the success of the historic VIII World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur

1. Pageantry of Floats on 1.1.1995: A magnificent cultural spectacle that Tamil Nadu has'nt witnessed ever before - with 54 exuberant floats - carefully and painstakingly designed to bring back memories of the glories of ancient Tamil Nadu.

2. Cultural Display on 1.1.1995: A breathtaking display of 27 folk performances - each comprising of 108 artistes - portraying the whole gamut and richness of Tamil culture and arts.

3. Production of the Film, "Ilakkiya Chola": The movie that was made to order for the momentous occasion - the celebration of the VIII World Tamil Conference. The movie colourfully and poignantly displays the best of values for which Tamil civilization has stood for through the ages and which were hailed in the timeless Tamil classics. The movie starring top actors such as Arjun, Sarath Kumar, Karthik, Prabhu, Vijayakumar, Manorama and Suganya, was directed by R.V. Udayakumar. The film was produced under the guidance of Thiru A.V.M. Saravanan.

4. Advertisements: Colour as well as B & W advertisements were released to highlight



The stamp released in commemoration of the Eighth International Conference-Seminar of Tamil Studies at Thanjavur on 5.1.95



the occasion. Advertisements were released in foreign newspapers also. Detailed daily programme schedules and on the facilities extended to people visiting the conference were also published. It was ensured that all Government advertisements during the period carried the message of Hon'ble Chief Minister inviting people to conference. Colourful stickers were also printed and distributed.

5. Video vans for live telecast: The conference Pandal could hold about a lakh of people and to enable all the people attending the conference have a closer view of proceedings, 20 nos. of video vans were deployed around the venue. 7 nos. of videoscopes were also installed. The video vans and videoscopes helped about 1.5 lakh additional people to witness the conference.



6. Tie-up with Doordarshan: The valedictory function of the VIII World Tamil Conference was telecast live on TV. The daily programmes of the conference were telecast, through the use of co-axial cables of the Telecommunication Department at Thanjavur.

7. Daily Cultural Programme: 80 Cultural programmes reflecting the cultural ethos of India were held during the conference, for the benefit of delegates, other visitors and the public. About 3,200 artistes participated in these programmes. 4,000 folk artistes participated in folk performances performed in street corners every day.

8. Tamil Arasu - Special Issue: A 88 page Special issue of Tamil Arasu Tamil was released on the occasion. A 48 page special issue of Tamil Arasu - English was also released.

9. Media Centre: A comprehensive modern Media Centre with facilities such as telecommunication, fax, photo-fax, etc. catered to the media during the conference. The service manned by IPROs, and APROs, came in for appreciation from the media and the public.

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TELUGU GANGA PROJECT

MEETING OF HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTERS OF
ANDHRA PRADESH & TAMILNADU

HYDERABAD ON 27-1-1995



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TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2026
Maasi - Panguni

March - 1995

தமிழ் அரசு
மார்ச் 1995
தமிழ் அரசு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்
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**CHIEF MINISTERS OF TAMIL NADU
AND ANDHRA PRADESH DISCUSS
TELUGU GANGA PROJECT**



**TAMIL NADU COMMITTED TO
THE EARLY COMPLETION OF
TELUGU GANGA PROJECT**
—Address by the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Dr. J. Jayalalitha at Hyderabad on 27.1.95

I take this opportunity to once again express my hearty congratulations to you on your spectacular victory and resumption of power in Andhra Pradesh. May I recall that it was under your auspices that the Telugu Ganga Project was given shape and launched with the signing of the historic agreement by the late Dr.M.G.R.

and your goodself in 1983? This agreement has remained a shining example of inter-state co-operation and we are committed to the early completion of this project for the supply of drinking water to Madras besides providing irrigation in the water starved region of Rayalaseema, Nellore and Chittoor Districts of Andhra

Pradesh. I am glad you are with us again to witness the fruits of the project reaching the people.

I thank you for kindly agreeing to have discussions on the Telugu Ganga Project at Hyderabad today. You may kindly recall that it was originally contemplated to complete the project with a



maximum period of six years. Due to some reason or other the project could not be completed. During later discussions the date of completion was fixed as June 1994. Again, when I discussed the progress of the Project with the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in January 1992, the date for partial completion in order to deliver water to Madras City was fixed as June 1995 taking stock of the position on ground at that time.

I wish to recall the next Meeting I had here two years ago with your predecessor on 27th January 1993, to find out ways and means of implementing the project speedily. We had not only reiterated the target date of June 1995 for the partial completion of the project but

also reached unanimity on the need for concentration on essential items of work which are critical to meet the target.

You are well aware that Madras City, the fourth largest Metropolitan City in the Country has been facing a growing shortage of drinking water supply during the last three decades. With the almost total failure of the monsoon around Madras the situation in 1992-93 was really pathetic and we had to convey water by lorries and trains from very distant places to meet the demand at least in part. The monsoon has been favourable for the past two years and at present we are able to ensure fairly adequate supply. However, knowing the vagaries of the monsoon we keep our

fingers crossed as to its service in the coming year. We are hoping that the target of June 1995 will be met with and the flow of Krishna Water will come to our rescue in the coming years.

As decided during the Joint Meeting of Chief Ministers on the 27th of January 1993, simulation studies have been undertaken by your Government and have clearly established the availability and the feasibility of supplies of 12 TMC ft. of water to Madras at near hundred percent dependability. With the preliminary draft for 'Operation Rules for Madras Water Supply' provided by your Government we have been able to satisfy the World Bank on the dependability of supply to take up the appraisal of

our Project for "Revamping of the Madras City Water Supply and Sewerage System".

In the same meeting it was decided that as stipulated in the signed Agreement both the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Government of Tamil Nadu would allocate sufficient funds so as to ensure the

works are not hampered for want of funds. Out of a total payment of Rs. 312 crore so far made by Tamil Nadu, the present Government headed by me alone has paid Rs. 190 crore since June 1991. I may also point out that Tamil Nadu's share based on the expenditure incurred for the Project up to November 1994 works out

is not keeping pace. During this period the expenditure is Rs. 212.85 crore only, against the programme of Rs. 285 crore leaving a shortfall of Rs. 72.15 crore.

I may also add that while Tamil Nadu contributed Rs. 50 crore out of the target of Rs. 50 crore. Andhra Pradesh contributed only Rs. 27.27 crore against its



completion of all essential items to meet the target date of June 1995. I have taken special efforts to ensure the flow of funds as stipulated and agreed upon, in the periodical Liaison Committee meetings and the meetings of the Chief Secretaries.

Tamil Nadu has been making payments in advance in order to see that

to Rs. 240 crore. Since the Tamil Nadu Government has so far paid Rs. 312 crore towards its share an advance amount of Rs. 72 crore is already with the Andhra Pradesh Government. While the release of funds by my Government is in tune with the agreed formula, the expenditure incurred in the last two years

target of Rs. 75 crore during 1992-93. Similarly, during 1993-94 my Government paid Rs. 60 crore rupees out of the target of Rs. 70 crore whereas Andhra Pradesh paid Rs. 75.58 crore only, against its target of Rs. 90 crore. Thus, there is an urgent need to step up the tempo of expenditure in the months ahead. While exam-



ining the physical progress so far achieved, I would request that particular care be taken to speed up works in the Kandaleru Reservoir-Poondi Canal and to tackle difficult works like the Head Sluice Construction. Rapoor deep cut reaches Swarnamukhi Aqueduct and Kalangi Aqueduct.

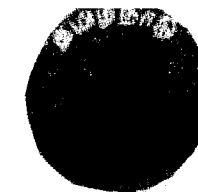
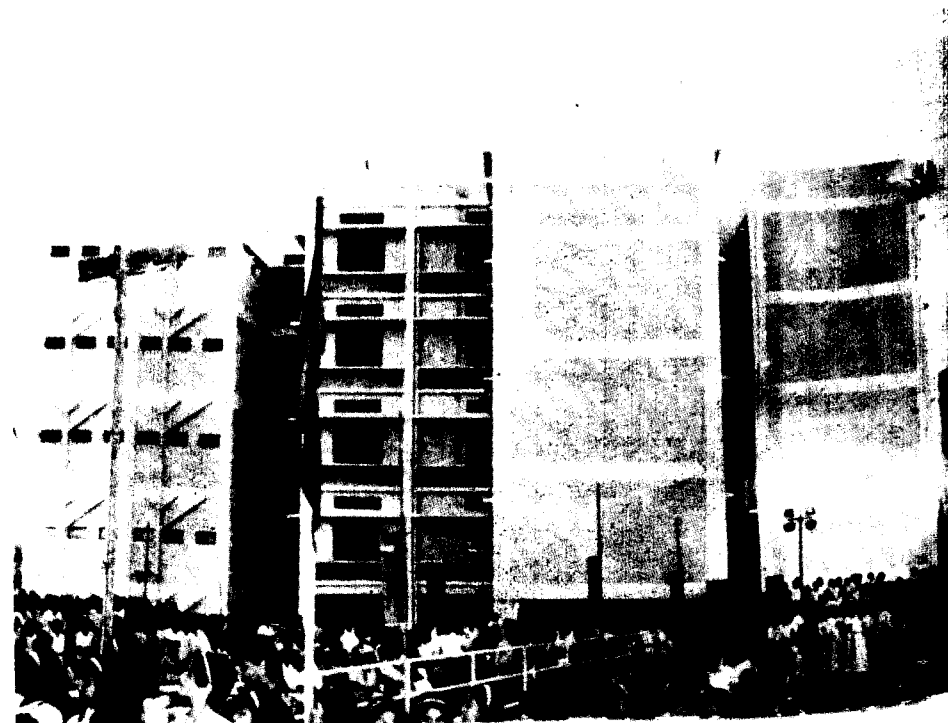
We have just been informed of the updating of

Project costs as on September 1994 which has touched a high figure of Rs. 2190 crore. Consequently, Tamil Nadu's share has shot up from Rs. 398 crore to Rs. 520.93 crore. I would suggest that a group of Engineers of both the States may be formed to scrutinise the updated estimates of the Project.

As there are only five

months left to meet the target we may have to make a critical review identify the areas where the progress is slow and launch special efforts to accelerate the progress during this working season. I seek your help and co-operation in this and wish that this Project is completed at the earliest for the mutual benefit of the people of both the States.

**Silver
Jubilee
of
SIDCO**



CHIEF MINISTER LAUNCHES SCHEMES TO PROVIDE DIRECT EMPLOYMENT TO 17,000 PEOPLE AND INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT TO 68,000 PEOPLE

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha inaugurated two industrial Complexes for electronics and readymade garment industries and launched schemes costing

Rs.54 crore as part of the Silver Jubilee of the Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO) at the Guindy Industrial Estate, Madras, on February 1st 1995.

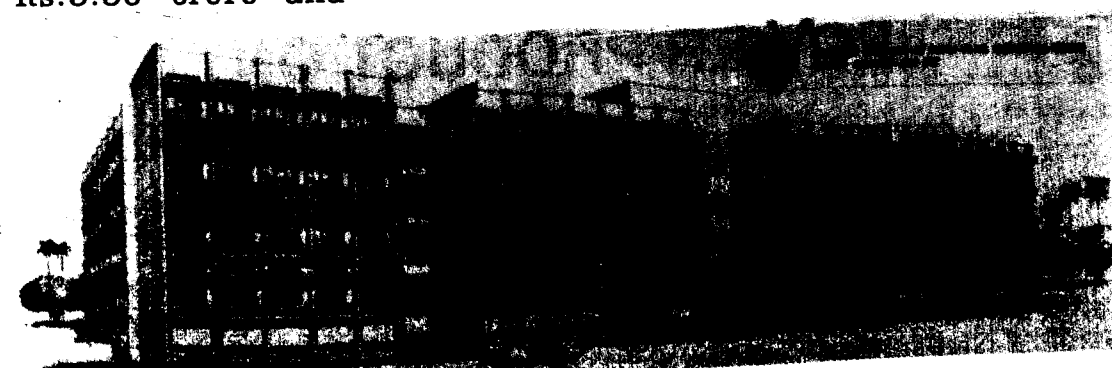
The multi-storeyed Electronics Complex with the provision of 120 units has been put up at a cost of Rs.4.50 crores and the readymade garments complex with 64 units has been

completed at a cost of Rs.4.50 crores. The Projects inaugurated by the Chief Minister on the occasion also include two Industrial Estates, one at Thanjavur costing Rs.5.50 crore and

Kuthuvillakku, the Chief Minister said the schemes that were launched would provide direct employment to 17,000 and indirect employment to 68,000 people. The Chief Minister said the

She announced that 1,000 acres of Government land in Saidapet Taluk near Madras would be allocated to SIDCO for opening new Industrial Units. These lands come under the villages of Villanoor, Pammathukulam, Puthur and Morai.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly presided over the function. Rural Industries Minister Thiru Durai Ramaswamy spoke on the occasion.



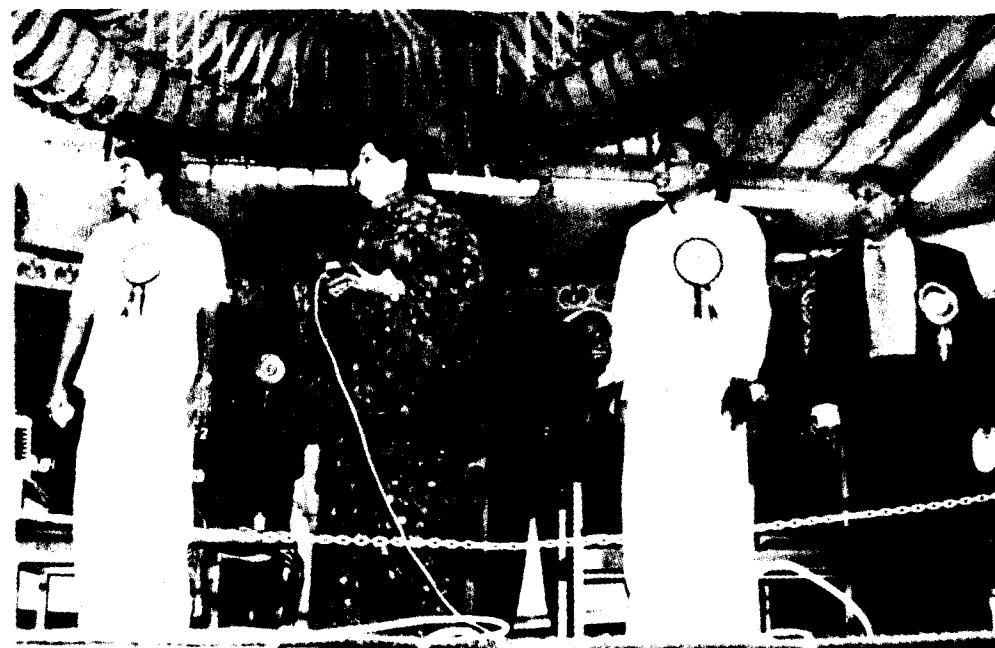
another at Bargur costing Rs.4.50 crore; 470 additional sheds in 16 Industrial Estates in the State at a cost of Rs.30 crore; and an Office Complex with all basic facilities, to cater to the needs of entrepreneurs at a cost of Rs.3 crore.

Marking the Silver Jubilee of the SIDCO by lighting a

Electronic Complex would manufacture sophisticated Medical equipments, new generation computer parts, telecommunication instruments and various hardware and software products. She also announced that educated, skilled women would be given employment opportunities in the complex.

Tmt. E.V.K. Sulochana Sampath, Chairman and Managing Director of SIDCO welcomed the gathering. She also presented a cheque for Rs.25 lakh to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. Thiru C. Ramachandran, Principal Secretary Industries Department proposed a vote of thanks.

THE NORTH MADRAS THERMAL POWER STATION DEDICATED TO THE NATION



TAMIL NADU MARCHING TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN POWER PRODUCTION

—HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER PURATCHI THALAIVI

DR. J. JAYALALITHA AT ENNORE ON 15.2.95

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha dedicated the first unit of the first stage of the North Madras Thermal Power Station to the Nation at a function held at Ennore on the 15th February, 1995.

At this function the Chief Minister said that eight new schemes to generate 5,020 MW were being implemented now and Tamil Nadu will

definitely be self-sufficient in power production, when all the Projects were completed. She, also pointed out that power generation in Tamil Nadu was gradually progressing, since her Government took over charge three years ago.

The Thermal Station, when completed, will have a total capacity of 213 MW. Three 210 MW Units would be installed at a cost of

Rs.1,192 crores. In the second stage, a 500 MW Plant will be put up and in the third stage two 500 MW units would be installed. The power expected to be obtained from all the three 210 MW units of the first stage will be 3,477 million units and this will cater to Sriperumpudur, Thiruvallam, Ennore, Korattur, Tondiarpet and Gummidipoondi areas.

The Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for



14 sub-stations to be set up at a cost of Rs.176 crores at Taramani, Mylapore, Valluvarkottam, Manali, Seven Wells, J.J. Nagar, High Court, Robinson Park, Jogir Garden, West Mambalam, Besant Nagar, Alinjivakkam. She also inaugurated a controlling system to streamline power distribution in Madras and ensure uninterrupted supply.

Expressing her Govern-

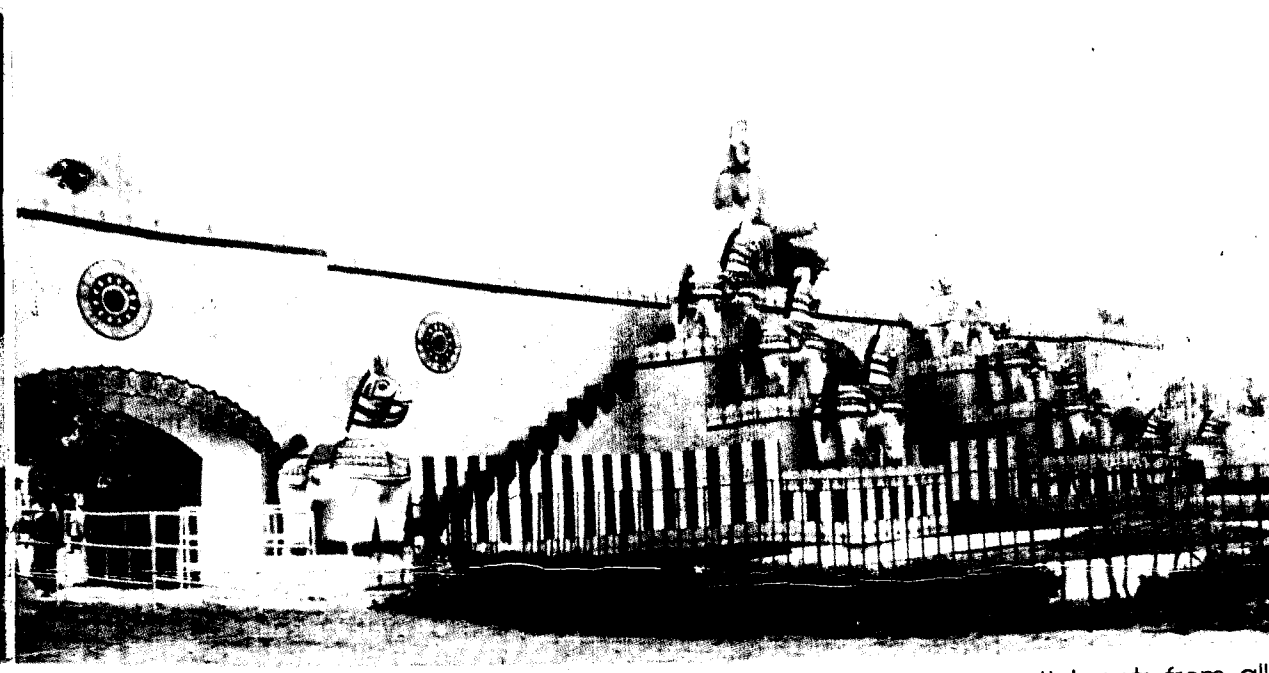
ment's concern for protecting the environment from pollution, the Chief Minister said that a 275 metre-high funnel with modern and anti pollution equipment had been set up at the North Madras Thermal Power Station. She also asserted that the State was a forerunner in harnessing Wind Power to generate electricity and the State was implementing several Projects on solar energy.

The Chief Minister also pointed out that even for the development works, the allotment, which was a mere Rs.1360 crore in 1989-90 had been gradually increased so as to reach Rs.3200 crore for the financial year 1995-96.

The North Madras Thermal Power Station has been located 20 KM north of Madras on an area of 1,107 acres. For ash dumping 1,137 more acres have been allotted. The annual requirement of coal for the first stage is estimated at three million tonnes, which is linked to Kalinga Mines in Talcher area. A satellite port will also be located nearby on an area of 1,063 acres at a cost of Rs.550 crores for receiving sea-borne coal both for the North Madras Thermal Station and the Ennore Thermal Station.

Earlier the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department Thiru S. Kannappan welcomed the gathering. The Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah presided over the function. Thiru A.P. Muthusamy, Chairman of the State Electricity Board presented a report. Thiru M. Thangadurai, Secretary, Energy Development, proposed a vote of thanks.

21st All India
Tourist
and
Industrial Fair
1995



PROGRESS OF TAMIL NADU

HIGHLIGHTED AT FAIR

★ Every year coinciding with the Pongal Festival, Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is conducting the Fair in a grand manner. This year, the 21st All India Tourist and Industrial Fair was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Thiru V.R. Nedunchezhiyan in the

presence of the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Thiru Nagoor Meeran, on 9th January, 1995.

★ The Primary objective of this Fair is to highlight various steps taken by the Government to improve the social and economic status of the people, and

the progress made in the various fields by the state. The Fair also aims to focus the attention of the tourists both domestic and foreign, to various tourist spots in Tamil Nadu and provides them with information. The Fair is conducted during the peak tourist season i.e. January-March every year.

★ The exhibits in the pavilions help even semi-literate masses to easily understand the advancements made in various fields of science and technology in the Country.

★ This year, under the dynamic leadership of our

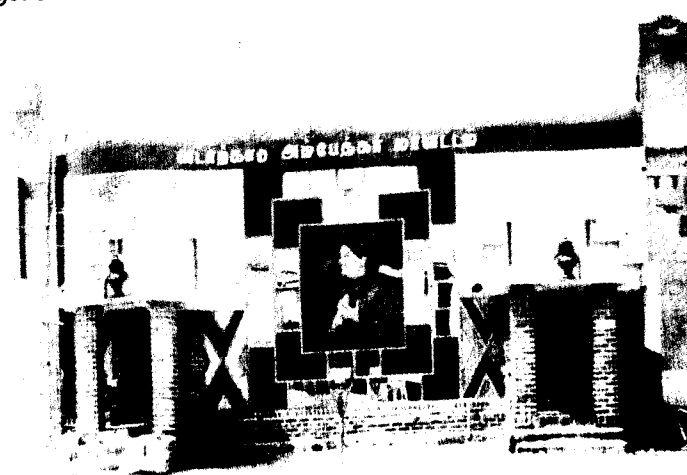
Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha and by the guidance of Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Thiru Nagoor Meeran, the Tourism Department has organised this Trade Fair in a grand manner.

★ The participants of this year's Fair include 33 Departments of the State Government and State Government Undertakings. Four department of Tourism from other State Government Departments, 14 Central Govern-

ment and Central Government Undertakings. Besides 23 District Pa-

ticipants from all over the Country.

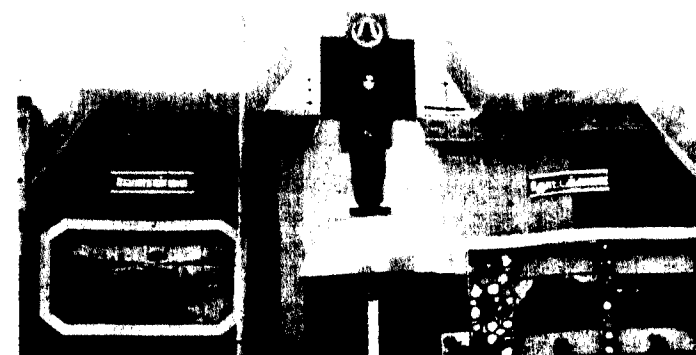
★ At the permanent "Arig-



villions have also been opened. The shopping arcade consists of 225 par-

nar Anna Kalai Arangam" daily Cultural Programmes of drama, dance and light music are being conducted.

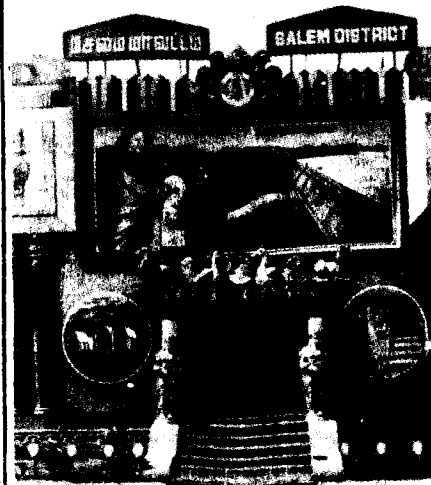
★ MGR Children's Amusement World has been created over a large area to enable children to play and simultaneously acquire knowledge. It has





been designed exclusively to attract children. People flock to see the 'Melting Man' programme which shows how man deteriorates by the use of drugs, cigarettes and alcohol. And the dancing fountain, dancing to the tune of music is a marvel to the eyes.

- ★ Special events like food fair, dog show, book fair, horticultural show, magalir mela are also being held.



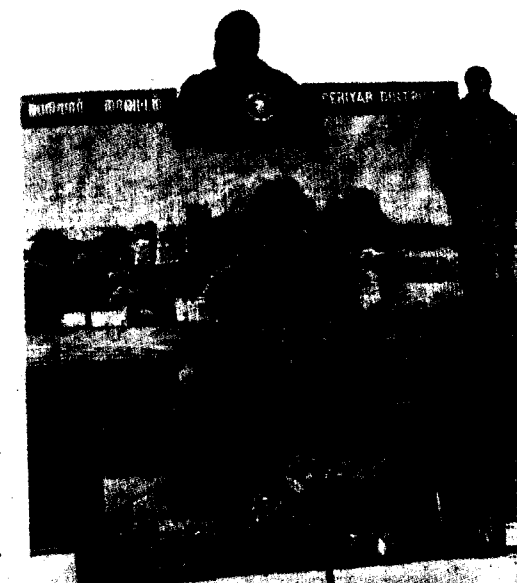
Police Force and Police Dog Squad. Thiru S.P. Anbumani, the Director of Animal Husbandry inaugurated the Rabies Awareness Programme, in the presence of Thiru VGP Babudas, Secretary of the Bharath Kennel Club. Dr. Chockalingam, the Sheriff of Madras distributed the prizes to the owners of prize winning dogs. The prizes were sponsored by VGP and the show was sponsored by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation.

- ★ M/s. Madras Refineries Limited have fabricated a Science and Technology Pavilion. This complex has been designed to impact scientific knowledge to children and the aged.
- ★ Southern Railways on its part has displayed live models of the Madras



Metro Rail Transit System and Rajdhani Express.

- ★ Colourful textiles, handicrafts, sports goods and modern kitchen ware from several states are grouped in rows in the Fair.
- ★ Special catering of hygienically prepared food items are arranged through the airconditioned Hotel Tamil Nadu Drive-in-Restaurant.
- ★ The fair provides tempo-



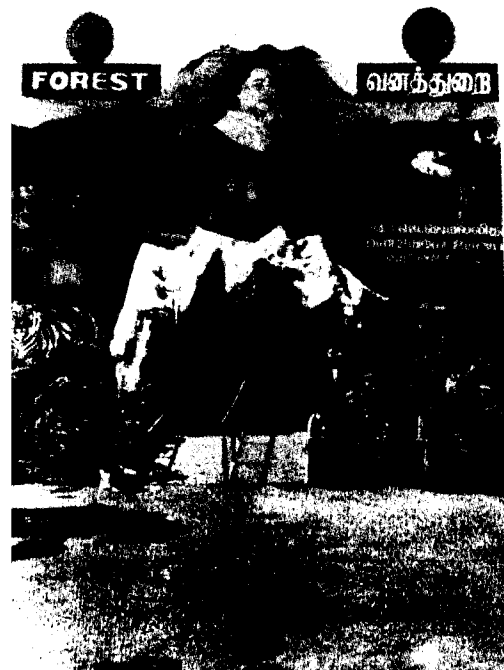
conducted every week. The Details are:-
First Prize - A gold ring worth Rs.2,500.

Second Prize - A wrist watch worth Rs.1,500.

Third Prize - A two-in-one Radio worth Rs.1,000.

- ★ Last year 40 lakh of people had visited the Fair and Rs.115.17 lakh revenue earned. The visitors' response is expected to be 50 lakh for this year Fair.

- ★ The Fair is open daily from 3 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. on working days and from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on holidays and festival days. The Pallavan Transport Corporation and Dr.Ambedkar Transport Corporation have made special arrangements for plying special buses.



- ★ The Bharath Kennel Club Organised the 13th and 14th VGP Memorial Championship dog show and free rabies vaccination programme on 18th and 19th February at Anna Kalai Arangam. Nearly 250 dogs of forty different breeds took part in the show. Participants included dogs from Railway



to show their talents.

- ★ Prizes for entrance tickets have also been planned. One lucky draw would be

NEWS IN A NUT SHELL

ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVES

A financial assistance of Rs.4,40,000/- has been announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha to the following 5 Women's Co-operative Stores at the rate of Rs.88,000/- per store.

(1) Adayar Women Consumer Co-operative Stores;

(2) East Abiramapuram Co-operative Stores;

(3) All India Women Food Council Co-

operative Stores

(4) The Rutland Gate Co-operative Stores; and

(5) Kilpauk Women Consumer Co-operative Stores.

The financial assistance will be utilised for Share Capital, Working Capital as Managerial subsidy and Managerial assistance including Technical assistance for staff required to run the business of the concerned stores.

"LOCK UP ON WHEELS"

During the Conference of Collectors and Police Officers held on 25.7.1994, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha announced that in each Police District, one Police van will be converted into a "Lock up on Wheels". The Chief

Minister on 5.2.95 issued orders sanctioning an amount of Rs.7,53,750 towards conversion of 25 mini buses into "Lock up on Wheels" and the work of conversion of the van into "Lock up on Wheels" has been ordered to be entrusted to the Cheran Engineering Corporation Limited.

THRIFT FUND SCHEME FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS

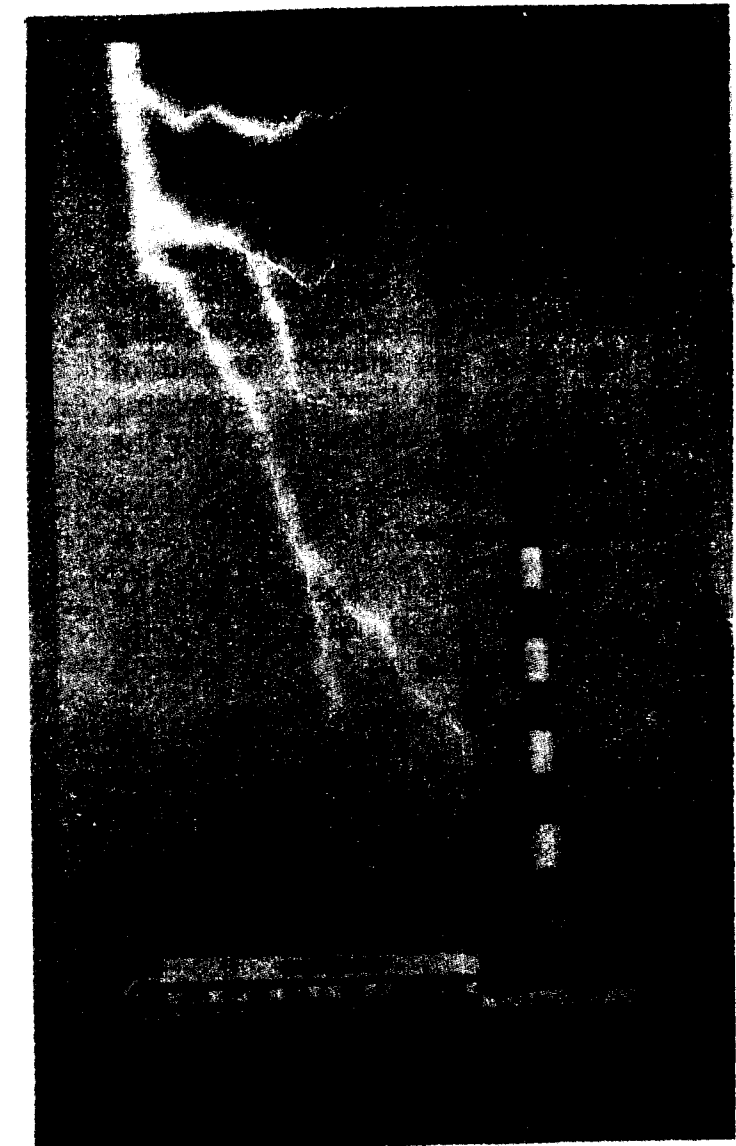
A Central Thrift Fund Scheme has been implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu with the financial support of the Government of India for the welfare of the handloom weavers. Under the Scheme a weaver is expected to contribute 8 paise per rupee of wages earned by him and both the State and Central Governments will contribute 4

paise per rupee as a matching grants. Besides the State Government pays 7% interest on the accumulated outstandings under this scheme. In order to implement this Thrift Fund Scheme during the year 1994-95, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha has sanctioned a sum of Rs.166 lakhs to benefit a large number of handloom weavers in the State.

Power Development Progress at a Glance

Tamil Nadu, with a population of 48.41 million, spread over an area of 130058 sq.km. is one the Southern States of the Country, with its capital as Madras. Major industries of the State pertain to cotton, textile, chemicals, fertiliser, paper and its products, printing and allied industries, diesel engines, automobiles, cement, sugar, iron and steel etc. A number of Public Sector Undertakings are located in the State. Important amongst them are Neyveli Lignite Complex, Integral Coach Factory, Hindustan Teleprinters, Madras Fertilisers Limited, Heavy Vehicle Factory, BHEL Trichy & Ranipet etc.

Power generation in Tamil Nadu dates back to 1908, when a few private people ventured to generate electricity from the hill streams in Nilgiris for their own use. Power development as a State-Venture commenced only in 1927, after the formation of a separate Department under the State Government for generating and distributing



POWER SCENARIO IN TAMILNADU

**A.P. MUTHUSWAMI, I.A.S.,
Chairman, T.N.E.B.**

electricity, which was in slow pace till the country obtained independence. The successive Five Year Plans however witnessed accelerated development.

The emphasis in the first three five year plans (1951-56) was on harnessing the hydel potential only.

Having exhausted most of the viable and economic hydro potential, the emphasis shifted to thermal generation. The present hydel/thermal mix of the installed capacity is in the ratio of 36:64. However the hydel thermal mix of energy generated is in the ratio of 20:80.

Tamil Nadu is interconnected with

the neighbouring States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala with 400 KV and 230 KV transmission systems. The 400 KV system is operated by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., a Government of India Undertaking. This integrated operation of the Southern Grid ensures better stability of the grid and smooth drawal of shares from the Central Generating Stations in the Southern Region by the beneficiary States.

Present Scenario

The installed capacity at the disposal of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) as on 31.3.94 is 6158 MW.

Period (at the end of)	Installed capacity at the disposal of the state (MW)	Peak demand reached during the period (MW)	Actual gross generation & purchase (Million Units)	Per capita consumption (KWH)
Pre-plan 31.3.1951	156	110	630	12
I Plan (1951-56)	256	172	1053	21
II Plan (1956-61)	571	381	2243	60
III Plan (1961-66)	1370	717	4041	92
Annual Plans (1966-69)	1470	997	5260	116
IV Plan (1969-74)	2254	1287	6948	127
V Plan (1974-78)	2424	1641	9453	157
Annual Plans (1978-80)	2719	1710	10414	183
VI Plan (1980-85)	3344	2154	13731	195
VII Plan (1985-90)	5473	2929	18273	295
1990-91 Annual Plan	5744	3094	20793	332
1991-92 Annual Plan	6019	3501	21920	360
1992-93	6090	3646	24215	370
1993-94	6158	3948	25715	380

The maximum grid demand so far reached is 4310 MW and the maximum daily energy consumption reached an all time high of 89.378 Million Units on 9.2.95.

Projects Under Implementation

With a view to augment the generation capacity, the Board is executing a number of Projects: Generating Schemes with a capacity of 865.5 MW, viz, North Madras Thermal Power Project (630 MW), Basin Bridge Gas Turbine Project (120 MW), Sathanur Hydro Electric Project

(7.5 MW), Lower Bhavani Hydro Electric Project (8 MW) and Wind Mills including Private Sector (100 MW) are under implementation and are expected to be commissioned before the end of Eighth Five Year Plan period (1996-97). In addition, two hydro schemes with a capacity of 180 MW viz. Pykara Ultimate State Hydro Electric Project (150 MW) and Parson's Valley Hydro Electric Project (30 MW) are also under implementation and they are expected to be commissioned during early Ninth Five Year Plan period.

Power Prospects

The 14th Power Survey Committee of Central Electricity Authority,

Government of India has projected the power requirement of Tamil Nadu at the end of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan periods.

TNEB has entered into power purchase agreement with NTPC for absorbing power from their proposed Thermal Power Station at Kayamkulam 2 x 200 MW and Talcher STPS II Stage 4 x 500 MW. The share of Tamil Nadu from the two Stations is around 418 MW and the Stations are expected to start its commercial operation during 2001-05.

The Board has also proposed number of new generation Projects which will be commissioned progressively in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan periods to meet the projected demand.

The available resources being limited, the TNEB will put its emphasis on the following areas to achieve its aim to improve the power availability in the State.

(1) Improve the performance of Existing Thermal & Hydro Stations by executing Renovation & Modernisation Schemes, wherever necessary.

(2) Complete the on going generation Projects as per schedules.

(3) Take measures to reduce T & D losses.

(4) Improve the general supply conditions by executing number of improvement schemes in its distribution network.

(5) Take up as much schemes as possible, which will give benefit in IX Plan period.

Performance of Power Plants and Meritorious Awards

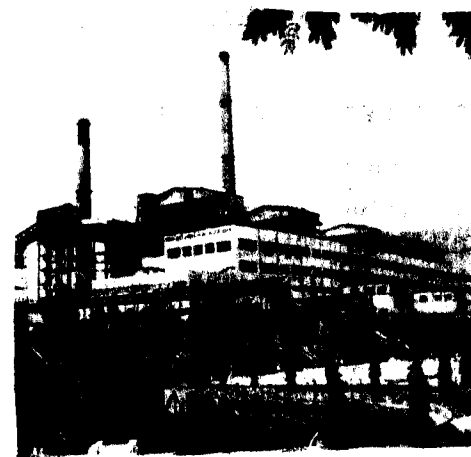
In 1993-94 the gross energy consumption in the grid was of the order of 25708 MU. Out of this, the Power Plants of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board

generated 17657 MU ie, Thermal plants generated 12962 MU, Hydel units 4599 MU and gas and wind mill contributed 96 MU. The balance 8051 MU was purchased from Central generating Stations viz, Neyveli Thermal Station I and II, Madras Atomic Power Station and Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station.

The Board has been continuously striving to get the maximum output of the existing installed capacities. The overall Plant load factor of Thermal Stations for 1993-94 was 63.2%. The plant load factor of Tuticorin and Mettur Thermal Power Stations have always been above the all India average which stands at 61%.

The specific oil consumption in the Thermal Power Station is, in general the lowest in the country and is about 2.35 millilitres/Kwh. The specific coal consumption of 0.755 Kg/Kwh compares favourably with the All India average.

The Tuticorin Thermal Power Station has received the Government of India's meritorious award for the 6th time in 1991. The Mettur Thermal Power Station got the meritorious productivity award for the first time in 1992-93. Also this Station has become eligible to get the meritorious

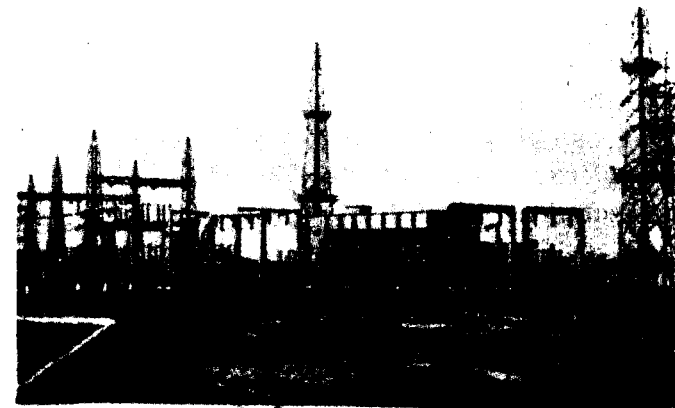


productivity award for the second time in 1993-94. Ennore and Mettur Thermal Power Stations have bagged the incentive award of the Government of India for reduction in oil consumption and Tuticorin Thermal Power Station for low auxiliary consumption for 1992.

The Wind Power generation is the highest in Tamil Nadu and the Board will get the meritorious award for 1993-94 for the fourth time in succession.

Private Sector Participation in Tamil Nadu

Keeping in view the policy of Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu, Private Sector participation in power generation is encouraged. Six Thermal Power Projects with a capacity of 4320 MW (i.e. 250 MW Lignite based Project at Neyveli, 1320 MW Coal based Project at Cuddalore, 1500 MW Lignite based Project at Jayamkondam, 500 MW coal based North Madras Thermal Power Project Stage-II, 500 MW Coal based Tuticorin Thermal Power Project Stage-IV and 250 MW lignite based project at Srimushnam, one 300 MW Gas Turbine Power Project at Pillaiperumal Nallur, two diesel engine Power Plants at Basin Bridge (200 MW) and Samayanallur (100 MW) and one OTEC Power Project (100 MW), totalling to 5020 MW have been entrusted to private promoters for development in Tamil Nadu. One more Thermal Project with a capacity of 1000 MW (North Madras Thermal Power Project Stage-III 2x500) and Two Diesel Engine Power Plants each of 100 MW capacity at Arni and Samalpatty are being in the process of entrusting to private promoters. The Power purchase Agreement (PPA) in respect of the 250 MW Project at



Neyveli and 300 MW Pillaiperumal Nallur Gas Turbine Project had already been signed. Besides the above schemes, it is also proposed to set up two Gas based Power Plants of 2000 MW capacity at Vembar in V.O. Chidambaranar District and 1000 MW capacity at Gummidipoondi near Madras in Chengai-MGR District under Private Sector. The proposals received for these two Projects are under consideration of the Government for selection of suitable promoters.

Southern Gas Grid

Government of India has proposed Southern Gas Grid along the west coast using gas from Oman for power sector and industries in the Southern States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry and this is expected to materialise by 1998. Tentatively, gas allocation for 800 MW of Power generation in Tamil Nadu has been made.

Non-Conventional Energy Sources

In respect of the development of Non-conventional Energy Sources, Tamil Nadu pioneer in this field. Tamil Nadu is one of the best windy States in the Country. There are three main passes in the Western Ghats and the wind blowing from the west through these passes is having very good

potential for Power Generation. It has been assessed that the total wind potential available for Power Generation in Tamil Nadu is around 2000 MW. Wind Mills totalling to 113 MW have so far been commissioned in the Private Sector. The total capacity of the windfarms in the State including Private Sector as on date is 132 MW. It is anticipated that the total capacity of wind mills will increase to more than 200 MW by end of March 1995. The average PLF of the wind farms in Tamil Nadu is in the range of 25 to 30%. The PLF of Muppandal wind farm is about 30% which is comparable to the wind farms in California in USA.

The Board is also going in for installation of 15 KW Solar Photo Voltaic Cells of grid connected type at the Kayathar Wind Farm. The Project is expected to be completed shortly.

A 5 MW Project in the Joint Sector by Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has been proposed at Madras to use municipal waste for power generation and the same is expected to be commissioned during 1994-95.

Co-Generation

Co-Generation in Sugar Mills and

Chemical units are given importance in Tamil Nadu. It has been estimated that a total Co-Generation capacity of 250 MW could be established in Tamil Nadu considering the 37 sugar mills in operation, which crush 13 million tonnes of sugarcane in a year. With more sugar mills coming up, this could go up to 500 MW by the end of the Eighth Year Plan. Co-Generation Plants of 7.5 MW each at Sethiathope and Cheyyar Co-operative Sugar Mills had already been commissioned and they are exporting power to Tamil Nadu grid. In view of the encouraging performance of Co-Generation plants in these two Sugar Mills, the State Government has decided to set up Co-Generation units in five more Co-operative Sugar Mills. The plants are expected to generate about 26 MW of surplus power which would be set up in due course. Special concession like purchase of power by TNEB at a rate of Rs.2 per unit, permission for banking and wheeling, exemption from generation tax etc. are extended to Co-Generation plants.

(The article is an abridged version of the one that appeared in the Souvenir released at the inauguration of the North Madras Thermal Power Station on 15.8.1995)

One of the important requirement for industrial growth is power. I know that most of you are apprehensive about the power availability in the short-term as well as in the long-term. I would like to assure you that my Government will do all that is necessary to ensure that power will not be a constraint for industrial growth. We want to set up Private-Sector Power projects using the lignite deposits available in Tiruchy District. I have already written to the Prime Minister requesting him to expedite the clearance for the policy frame-work to set up this project. Any industrial or a group of industrialists can come forward to set up this venture. The State Government will give all necessary assistance. The Government of India is proposing to set up a Nuclear Power Station in Kudangulam. We will urge them to expedite the project. We have asked for the diversion of surplus gas available in Bombay High to Madras which will again be used for power generation. If we are lucky and find enough gas in the Cauvery basin, the same will also be used for power generation. Possibilities of using non-conventional sources of energy are also being actively considered and I hope that they will also contribute substantially to increased power generation.

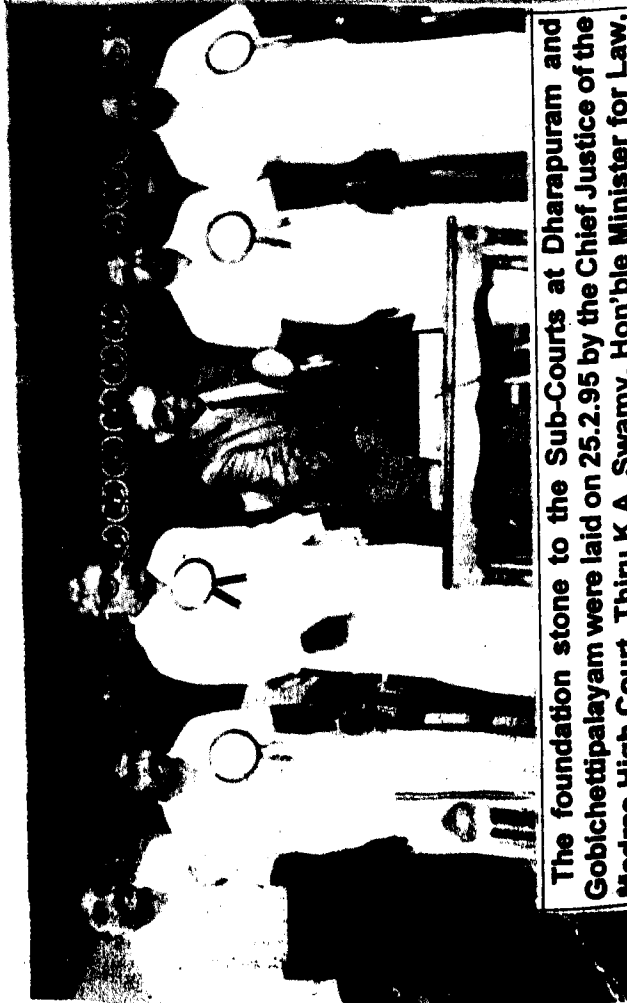
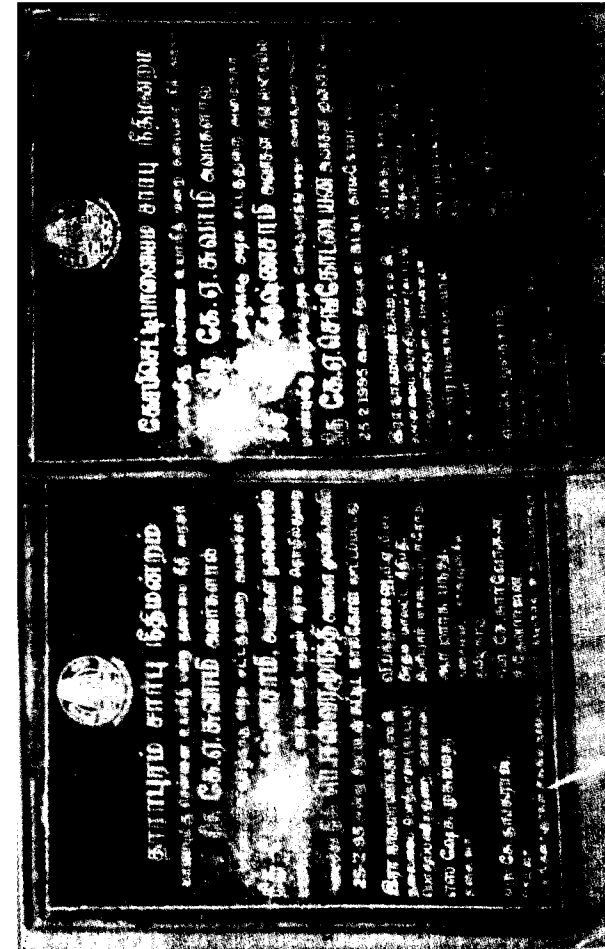
Dr. J. Jayalalitha



The Multi Media Campaign in Dindigul-Anna District was inaugurated on 30.1.95 by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru M. Thennavan. Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru S. Gandhirajan, Director of Information and Publicity Thiru T. Shanmuga Rajeswaran, District Collector, Thiru T. Pitchandi, Members of Parliament and Members of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly participated in the inauguration.

NEWS IN PICTURES

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gases, Thiru Satish Sharma called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J.Jayalalitha at the Secretariat on 8.2.95.



The foundation stone to the Sub-Courts at Dharapuram and Gobichettipalayam were laid on 25.2.95 by the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, Thiru K.A. Swamy. Hon'ble Minister for Law, Thiru K.A. Krishnaswamy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport Thiru K.A. Sengottayan and Hon'ble Minister for Khadi, Thiru P. Easwaramurthy, participated in the function.



The Government Exhibition at Vellore in North Arcot District was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Tmt. R. Indira Kumari on 3.2.'95. Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru M. Thennavan was present on the occasion.



The South African Ambassador to India, Thiru Jacques Christopher Nevwaz called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J.Jayalalitha at Secretariat on 8.2.95.

7th SAARC Games is to be hosted at Madras. A meeting was held to discuss the arrangements on 7.2.95. Hon'ble Minister for Education, Thiru K. Ponnusamy, and Representatives from Member Countries of SAARC attended the meeting.



The Relevance of Thiruvalluvar's Thought to the Modern World

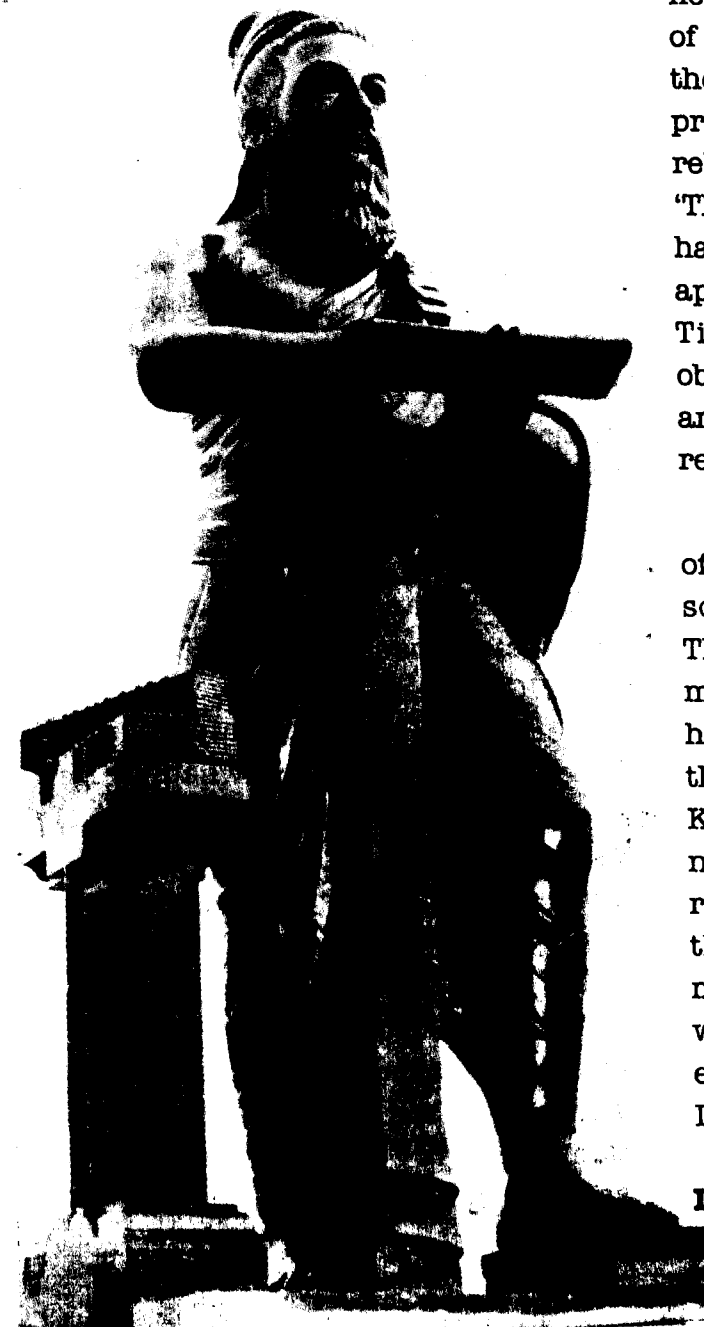
Prof. M. Jambunathan, Netherlands

In the realm of Tamil Literature of the last 2500 years, poetry with ethical emphasis is held in great esteem. There have been thousands of

poets - men and women. Of all of them Thiruvalluvar is the most outstanding. He seems to have lived in the 5th Century B.C. If that is correct, then, he should have been a contemporary of Plato, the Greek Philosopher. While the Bible, the Koran and the Vedas preach ethics based on their own religions, the 'Republic' of Plato and 'Thirukkural' of Thiruvalluvar do not have religious foundations and their approach has been purely humanistic. Thiruvalluvar has based his observations and maxims on Truth and Justice which are accepted by all religions of the world.

Thiruvalluvar's masterly handling of men and matters has attracted scholars all over the world and Thirukkural has been translated in all major languages of the world. In fact he has left behind a glorious legacy to the entire humanity and therefore Kural transcends the barriers of national boundaries, religions, class, race, language, time and space. He has thus contributed an unparalleled, masterpiece to the classics of the world literature. This view is expressed in very emphatic terms by Dr. Albert Schweitzer thus:

"There hardly exists in the Literature of the world a collection of



Maxims in which we find so much lofty wisdom."

Therefore it is certain that Tiruvalluvar belongs to the world though he was born in Tamil Nadu. In fact one would be quite surprised to know that Tiruvalluvar has not used the word 'Tamil' or 'Tamil Nadu' any where in his composition. But he has very frequently used the term உலகு meaning World.

It is clear that Valluvar wanted to make his literary Jewel useful to the entire world, to the entire human race, men and women of all times and climes and of all countries.

In his introduction to Kural in the Russian language Dr. Alexander Pyatigorsky wrote: **"The Kural of Tiruvalluvar is rightly considered as Chief D' Oeuvre of both Indian and World literature. Its lofty humane ideas are precious to the people all over the world of all periods and countries"**

The Kural consists of 1330 couplets which, printed in small letters, may be accommodated in the pocket of a child. But if a couplet is read, one has to think for hours and days together to cull out its ever increasing significance. Its philosophy is perenial; its coverage is universal; its wisdom is profound; its humanism is pervasive; its brevity is masterly; its orderliness is amazing; its poetry is exalting and its significance is deeper than the deepest ocean. The great thinker Ariel says, **"Kural, the masterpiece of Tamil literature is one of the highest and purest expressions**

of human thought".

The unique greatness of Valluvar is that he has harmoniously blended materialism with spiritualism so as to be socially relevant, universally acceptable and humanly practicable. **"It is a matchless work of synthesis"** commends Mr. Shwzo Matsungaga, the Japanese Tamil Scholar.

Kural is divided into three parts:

அறத்துப்பால் (Virtue) having 380 couplets

பொருட்பால் (Wealth) having 700 couplets

காமத்துப்பால் (Love & life) having 250 couplets

ARATHUPPAL (Virtue) deals with godly matters and also worldly matters with ethical background. It embraces 38 chapters. Tiruvalluvar has divided 'ARATHUPAL' into two sections, Family life (இல்லறம்) and Sainly life (குறவறம்).

Tiruvalluvar's Social Vision

Tiruvalluvar portrays a society of his vision based on TRUTH and JUSTICE., with all the citizens adhering to the Principles and Practices based on them whatever be their religious observances. Valluvar's tarting point itself is revolutionary- Equality of Birth.

பிறப்பு ஒக்கும் எல்லா உயிர்க்கும் சிறப்பு ஒவ்வா செய்தொழில் வேற்றுமை யான் (972)

The Philosophy of Valluvar that all men and women are born equal, is in contrast to the theories of political thinkers of his days. But today it is accepted by the whole world. He takes

matters as they existed, as he follows the line of least resistance. But he has in view the creation of a secular state, which India is today.

Valluvar gives a distinct shape of perfection to a social order of his vision. In social life, while Plato advocated promiscuity, while the ancient epic scholars were tolerant of polygamy (e.g. Dasaratha) and even poliandry (e.g. Draupathi), Valluvar advocates Monogamy - Husband and wife as 'Partners in Life' and their bondage is considered as eternal. He insists on sex morality for both man and woman.

Valluvar's ethical idealism tends to pull the human beings towards the path of sublimation of the individual and gradually transforms them into ideal members of the society. Valluvar wants to accomplish that process without destroying the established foundations of human faith. He does not want to emphasise any missionary life for all the people. He wants every one to become a good citizen.

Valluvar's classification of worldly life into two parts - Sainly life (குறவறம்) and virtuous family life (இல்லறம்) is a clear indication that a virtuous family life is in no way inferior to saintly life.

ஆற்றின் ஒழுக்கி அறனிழுக்கா இவ்வாழ்க்கை நோற்பாரின் நோன்மை உடைத்து - 48

Sainly life and family life are both termed as ARAM, ILLARAM.

A family life characterised by love of fellow beings, (அன்புடைமை) Hospitality, Affability, Gratitude, Impartiality, Self control, Discipline

(ஒழுக்கம்), Sex Morality, Forbearance, Freedom from Envy - Covetousness Back-Biting and Gossip, Benevolence, Esteem, Charity, Compassion, Truthfulness, then such a family life shortly termed as virtuous family life is the core of a society of Valluvar's vision.

This is not an Utopia. The above codes of conduct are Practicable. The Human Resources should be developed to attain such a state of sublimation both by individual efforts and by social structures. The individual, then, will be a lovable, law abiding; sociable, tolerant, useful and happy member of a society without sacrificing reasonable comforts of life.

Valluvar raises such an individual to divine heights.

வையத்துள் வாழ்வாங்கு வாழ்பவன் வாணுறையும் தெய்வத்துள் வைக்கப் படும் - 50

Porutpal (Wordly affairs)

'Porutpal' is a huge collection of Principles, Guidelines, Stipulations, Exhortations, Precautions, Essentials, Methodology, DOs and DONTs on wordly matters applicable to all sections of the society:

Polity (அரசியல்) Rulers & Guide lines

Ministry (அமைச்சியல்) Ministers & Envoys

Defence (அரணியல்) Features

Finance (கூழியல்) Ways & Means

Armed Forces (படையியல்) Essentials

Friendship (நட்டியல்) Guidelines

Citizens (குடியியல்) DOs & DONTs

Altogether there are 700 couplets on the above. A discussion of all of them is beyond the scope of this article. Therefore, a selection of couplets are taken for discussion.

POLITY

1. Six Essentials of a Ruler (Government)

A Ruler would be successful when he has six possessions: A well trained, well equipped armed forces, Industrious citizens, Ample food production and Reserves, wise and vigilant Ministers, Trustworthy Allies, Dependable fortifications and Defence structures.

படை, குடி, கூழ், அமைச்சு, நட்பு, அரண் ஆறும் உடையான் அரசருள் ஏறு - 381

2. Appointment and Delegation of duties:

As different activities require different capabilities, it is necessary to assess the requirements for accomplishing a task and a thorough analysis as to HOW, WHEN, BY WHAT, a person could complete the work should be probed. Then only appointment and delegation of work should be done

இதனை, இதனால், இவன் முடிக்கும், என்று ஆய்ந்து அதனை அவன் கண்விடல் - 517

Examinations conducted by Public Service Commission Interviews, Aptitude Tests, Oral Tests, Enquiries from references provided by the candidates, Physical tests, Medical examinations are in consonance with the idea of Valluvar.

3. Opposition:

Whether it is a Monarchy or

TAMILARASU 26

Democracy there should be people not only to advise but also to point out the faults and deficiencies in the policies and administration. This is an essential component of a good government. The Ruler or the ruling party should tolerate it and examine how far the criticism is valid and attempt rectification. In modern democracies there are opposition parties to do this function if not, no enemy is needed to pull the Ruler down. He will fall himself

இடிப்பாரை இல்லாத ஏமரா மன்னன் கெடுப்பார் இலானும் கெடும். - 448

4. Spying:

It should be the daily work of a Ruler to get correct information regarding the events happening in the country. The complete picture of what happens, where and when, by whom should be gathered. Whether the information is good or bad, useful or not, friendly or inimical.

எல்லார்க்கும் எல்லாம் நிகழ்பவை, எஞ்ஞான்றும் வல்லறிதல் வேந்தன் தொழில் - 582

5. Punishments:

It is human to err. So punishment is necessary. There is a belief that harsh punishment even for small mistakes will deter executives from commissions and omissions. But Tiruvalluvar is of different view. The Ruler may threaten such person with dire consequences. But when punishment is actually given, better it would be if it is light. The Ruler will enjoy the respect and regard of his subordinates, then.

சுடிது ஒச்சி, மெல்ல எறிக, நெடிது ஆக்கம் நீங்காமை வேண்டுவ பலர் - 562

MINISTRY (அமைச்சியல்)

1. Yardsticks:

Tiruvalluvar gives five yardsticks for choice of ministers: Strong determination, Family background, Service mindedness, Learning and Wisdom and Enterprising Spirit.

வன்கண், குடிகாத்தல், கற்றறிதல், ஆள்வினையோடு ஐந்துடன் மாண்டது அமைச்சு - 632

2. Precaution:

The wise minister is he who ever acts as if he were still on probation. He does not take the ruler's confidence for granted.

கொளப்பட்டேம், என்று எண்ணி, கொள்ளாத செய்யார்

துளக்கற்ற காட்சி யவர் - 699

3. Psychology:

A minister has to be a Psycho Analyst. The nature of his job makes him, meet many people daily. There are persons who approach him with genuine problems. There are also others who come to him to utilise his powers to serve their ulterior motives. A successful minister should be able to read correctly what passes through the mind of his visitors and the purpose behind it. If he could do so he is a divine being. He is a Demi God.

ஐயப் படாஅது, அகத்தது உணர்வானைத் தெய்வத்தோடு ஒப்பக் கொளல் - 702

4. Essentials of Ambassador:

The Ambassador should have imposing and pleasing personality, inborn wisdom in addition to deep education in all branches of knowledge as a mature diplomat with perfection.

அறிவு, உருவு, ஆராய்ந்த கல்வி, இம்முன்றன் செறிவு உடையான் செல்க வினைக்கு - 684

Many centuries after Valluvar, Prof. Alison Philips wrote in Encyclopaedia Britanica "While being a trained scholar, a historian, a

geographer and an expert in military science he (Ambassador) must also have a cultured taste for poetry and above all he must be of excellent family, richly endowed with a fine physical presence".

FRIENDSHIP (நட்பியல்)

"Tell me your friends, I shall tell you who you are" This is a well known old saying. Tiruvalluvar has devoted 50 couplets to thoroughly analyse this most important aspect of our social life. Our habits, good or bad, our customs and costumes, our food habits, our hobbies, in fact, our complete way of life-all are influenced by our friends. It is in fact a marvellous study of human psychology. I am presenting only three ideas of Valluvar.

1. Warning:

Let friendship be contracted only after knowing a man's qualities, his family background, his defects and deficiencies, and his social connections such as friends and relatives.

குணனும், குடிமையும், குற்றமும், குன்றா இனனும், அறிந்து, யாக்க நட்பு - 793

2. Service:

The triple service of friendship is to take the friend out of the wrong path, to lead him into the right path and to share in his misfortunes.

அழிவின்வினை நீக்கி, ஆறு உய்த்து, அழிவின்கண் அல்லல் உழப்பதாம் நட்பு - 787

3. No friends nor foes:

When you are down in luck, make neither friends nor foes. Be neutral even to those whom you can trust as friends or distrust as foes

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தேறினும், தேறா விடினும், அழிவின் கண்
தேறான், பகா அன் விடல் - 876

ARMED FORCES (படையியல்)

In the ancient days Armed Forces consisted of four divisions. The Artillery (Fighting from wheeled chariot) (தேர்ப்படை), Elephantry, Cavalry and Infantry. Though they have been transformed into Army, Navy and Air Force each having various subdivisions, their strategy and purpose are almost the same today.

1. Morale:

The morale of the Armed forces should be always high. Some precautions are needed. There should be no unnecessary retrenchment to make the Armed Forces thin. The ruler should not lose the affection of the Armed Forces through misconduct and mismanagement. There should be no undue economy measure affecting payment and upkeep, leading to discontentment. Then only the Morale of the Armed Forces would be at its Zenith.

சிறுமையும், செல்லாத துனியும், வறுமையும்
இலஆயின் வெல்லும் படை - 769

2. Faith, Faith, Faith

Bravery, Military pride, Tradition of Chivalry, and above all unshakable faith in the Commanders are the four qualities that make a Regiment invincible.

மறம், மானம், மாண்ட வழிச்செல்வு, தேற்றம்
என நான்கே ஏமம் படைக்கு - 766

3. Advance and Attack:

Enemy's Military manoeuvres should be expected. Adequate preparations should be preplanned to resist enemy's tactics. The Force

should advance breaking enemy's Vanguard. How long fighting would continue and how to sustain should be assessed.

தார் தாங்கிச் செல்வது தானை; தலைவந்த
போர் தாங்கும் தன்மை அறிந்து - 767

4. Truce:

If your forces are weak in men and materials, do not undertake offence. It will lead to defeat and demoralisation. Make compromise with super powers with some benefits.

உறை சிறியார், உள் நடுங்கல் அஞ்சிக்
குறைபெறின்
கொள்வர், பெரியார் பணிந்து - 680

CITIZENSHIP (குடியியல்)

The aim of Tiruvalluvar is to make men and women, the good citizens of a society. He prescribes the Dos and DONTs (the codes of conduct).

Dos:

1. Speak pleasing words:

Pleasing words uttered with cheerful look are even better than giving with willing heart.

அகன் அமர்ந்து ஈதலின் நன்றே முகன் அமர்ந்து
இன் சொலன் ஆகப் பெறின் - 92

2. Self Control:

Guard your tongue, whatever else you may not guard. You may come to grief through wrong utterance.

யாகாவா ராயினும் நாகாக்க; காவாக்கால்
சோகாப்பர், சொல்லிமுக்குப் பட்டு - 127

3. Find the truth:

True understanding is that which uncovers and shows the reality behind the apparent.

எப்பொருள் எத்தன்மைத் தாயினும், அப்பொருள்
மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்பது அறிவு - 355

4. Laugh at your troubles:

Laugh when you meet misfortunes and troubles. There is nothing like this to overcome them.

இடுக்கண் வருங்கால் நகு; அதனை
அடுத்து ஊர்வது அஃது ஒப்பதில் - 621

5. Plan and Act:

Plan fully before launching out on action. To think of devising ways and means in the course of action is fatal.

எண்ணித் துணிக கருமம்; 'துணிந்தபின்
எண்ணுவம்' என்பது இழுக்கு - 467

6. Act in the right time:

Imitate the stork in biding your time; But when the time is ripe, act with swift and sure aim even as the stork does.

கொக்கு ஓக்க கூம்பும் பருவத்து; மற்றதன்
குத்து ஓக்க கீர்த்த இடத்து - 490

7. Be resolute:

Efficiency of performance is essentially a resolute mind. All other things follow :

வினைத்திட்டம் என்பது ஒருவன் மனத்திட்டம்;
மற்றைய எல்லாம் பிற - 661

8. Do service:

The world will be friend and gather round him who lives a blameless life of service to his people.

குற்றம் இலனாய் குடிசெய்து வாழ்வானைச்
சுற்றமாய் சுற்றும் உலகு - 1025

9. Bear with wrong doers:

Arrogance leads a man to do wrong to you. But your pride lies in defeating him by your forbearance.

மிகுதியாய் மிக்கவை செய்தாரைத் தாழ்தம்
தகுதியான் வென்று விடல் - 158

10. Move with the world:

The man of true knowledge understands how the world (good

people) moves; move accordingly.

எவ்வது உறைவது உலகம்; உலகத்தொடு
அவ்வது உறைவது அறிவு - 426

DONTs

1. Do not envy:

None has grown richer by envying. No one had lost anything by not envying.

அழுக்கற்று அகன்றாரும் இல்லை; அஃதுஇல்லார்
பெருக்கத்தின் தீர்ந்தாரும் இல் - 170

2. Do not covet:

Greed is folly, it results in misery equivalent to death. Cultivate indifference in this.

இறல்சனும், எண்ணாது வெஃகின், விறல்சனும்
வேண்டாமை என்னும் செருக்கு - 180

3. Do not do evil:

Evil pursues the evil doer as his shadow pursues a man. Those who commit evil cannot escape nemesis.

தீயவை செய்தார் கெடுதல்; நிழல்தன்னை
வீயாது அடிஉறைந் தற்று - 208

4. Do not be angry:

Can there be a greater enemy to mankind than anger which kills laughter and joy.

நகையும், உவகையும் கொல்லும் சினத்தின்
பகையும் உளவோ பிற? - 304

5. Do not cause harm:

The pain that one causes to another in the forenoon returns to him that every afternoon as the law of cause and effect works.

பிறர்க்குஇன்னா முற்பகல் செய்யின் தமக்குஇன்னா
பிற்பகல் தாமே வரும் - 329

6. Do not overeat:

The man who stops eating just before the optimum, retains the joys of eating. The overeater invites disease.

இழிவு அறிந்து உண்பான்கண் இன்பம்போல் நிற்கும்
கழிபேர் இரையான்கண் நோய் - 946

7. Do not dupe your conscience:

Do not do anything which your better sense tells you that you will afterwards regret. If you have done, resolve to refrain from such a folly.

எந்நென்று இலங்குவ செய்யற்க; செய்வானேல்
மற்றுஅன்ன செய்யாமை நன்று - 655

8. Do not whisper:

When you are in the company of wise and powerful men do not whisper or smile to some one as if you and he understood something between yourselves.

செவிச்சொல்லும், சேர்ந்தனையும், அலித்துமுகல்
ஆன்ற பெரியார் அகத்து - 694

9. Do not underestimate:

Do not be misled by short stature or unimposing appearance. Some people are just like axle pin in a big chariot.

உருவுகண்டு எள்ளாமை வேண்டும், உருள்பெருந்தேர்க்கு
அச்சாணி அன்னார் உடைத்து - 667

10. Do not commit adultery:

A man who commits adultery can never escape enmity, sin, fear and infamy.

பகை பாவம், அச்சம் பழியென நான்கும்
இகலா வாம் இலிஇறப்பான் கண் - 146

CONCLUSION

The above presentation, it is believed, would enthuse the reader to delve deeper into the treasure gifted by Tiruvallurvar to the world. Under the Chapter 'benevolence' Valluvar has said:

தாளாற்றித் தந்த பொருள் எல்லாம், தக்கார்க்கு
வேளாண்மை செய்தற் பொருட்டு - 212

It means that wealth is not earned for self indulgence. A man's wealth.

Today Inter-State disputes are rearing their ugly heads, infusing poison into the lives of the different communities. Our relationship with Andhra Pradesh is a standing example of fine Inter-State co-operation and good neighbourliness. I do hope that the other States in India will emulate this example. Then we could look forward to a day when there will be no Inter-State disputes, and there will be no threat to national integration and unity.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha

should be looked upon as a stock for distress relief of the needy and poor. Mahatma Gandhiji, the Father of Indian Nation an ardent follower of Tirualluvar was fascinated by this concept which in the later years blossomed into his famous 'Trusteeship' theory.

Vinobaji, another follower of kural was attracted by a couplet:

இலம் என்று அகைஇ இருப்பாரைக் காணின்
நிலம் என்னும் நல்லாள் நகும் - 1040

'That Lady-Good Earth laughs at those who sit idle bemoaning their poverty (when there is soil to till and get the yield). This concept enthused him to launch his famous 'Bhoodhan Movement' (surplus land distribution to the poor).

Valluvar has been a source of inspiration to many great men. Why not you be one among them?

(This article appeared in the commemoration Souvenir released at the VIII World Tamil Conference held at Thanjavur)



EXCLUSIVE SILK SHOWROOMS BY CO-OPTEX BECOMING POPULAR

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society Limited popularly known as CO-OPTEX is an Apex Body for the Primary Handloom Weaver's Cooperative Societies (about 1500) in the Tamil Nadu State. Co-optex markets products produced by the Member Societies through its 434 retail outlets situated in the length and breadth of the country.

Retail Sales

Co-optex is a pioneer State level handloom organisation in the country in many ways. Co-optex has been achieving higher sales year after year, thus improving the socio-economic

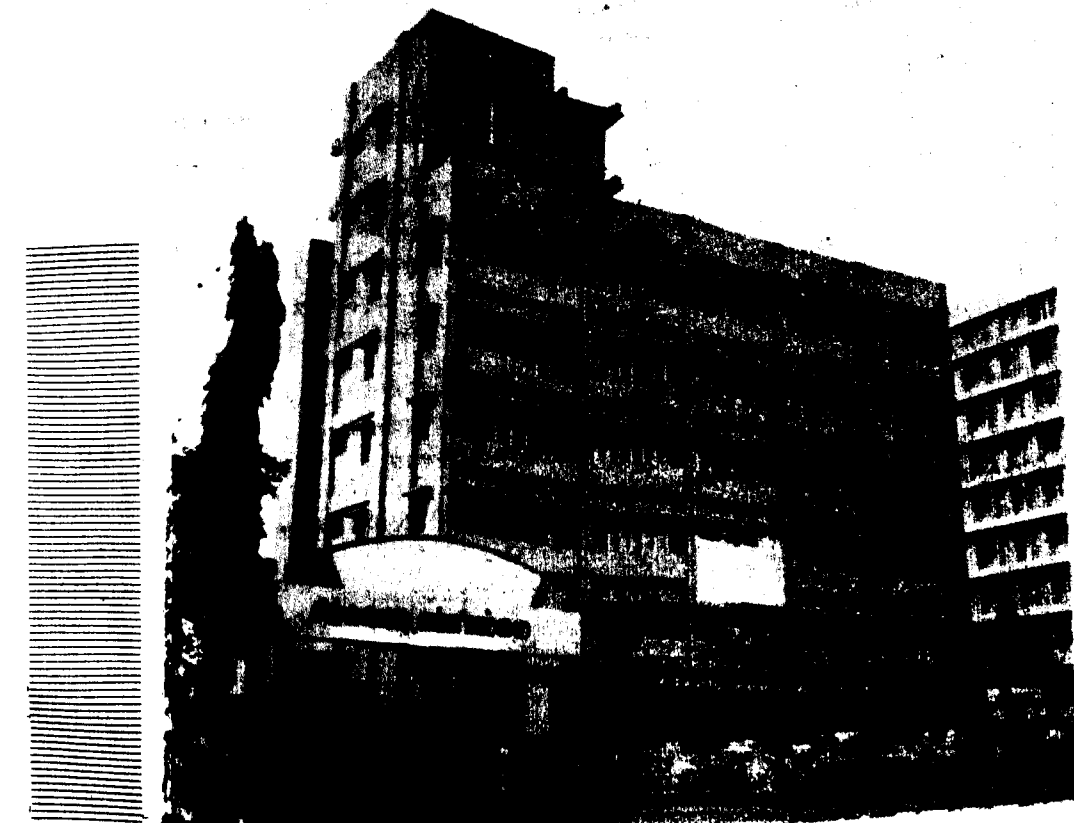
status of the Co-operative handloom weavers in the State. During the current X'mas and Pongal period, Co-optex has achieved a retail sales of Rs.2,660 lakh as against the corresponding period sales of Rs.1,993 lakh with an increase of Rs.667 lakh with 33.47% increase. From April 1994 to Pongal 1995, the retail sale of Co-optex has touched Rs.12,576 lakh as against the previous year corresponding performance of Rs.11,188 lakh with an increase of Rs.1,388 lakh. It is likely that Co-optex will achieve a retail sales of Rs.15,000 lakh during the current year as against the retail sales of Rs.12,247 lakh in the last year.

Exports

During the Second week of January '95, Co-optex has participated in the Heim Textile Fair '95 at Frankfurt, Germany. This exhibition is one of the largest exhibitions in the World organised exclusively for Home Textile products. Buyers from all over the world visited the Fair. During the Fair, spot order worth 2.46 lakh US Dollars (Indian Rupees 77.07 Lakhs) was booked. Further business worth Rs. 20-25 Lakhs is likely to mature in the next six months time.

Loomscape

During the last decade Co-optex has successfully launched exclusive Silk Showrooms in the



Southern parts of the country. The objective was to give quality Silk products to the customers at one place with wide range of designs. The project met with great success. Now Co-optex is launching a new project under the caption LOOMSCAPE. Under this project, the products to be introduced to the customers are going to be high quality Home Textile range. Although the Home Textile range are already available in many of the Showrooms, it is felt that if some exclusive product range and designs are made available with high quality, to the discerning customers, their longfelt need to have an opportunity to buy all

these ranges under one roof will be met. Some Section of Weavers will have continuous opportunity to weave high quality home textile ranges. Co-optex has developed many new items keeping in mind the customers of high income group. The ranges are

Sheetings
Napkins
Table Linen
Furnishings
Bedcovers
Pillow covers
Kitchen Co-ordinates
Dhurries
Terry Towel
Floor mats
Carpets etc.,
Co-optex has spent consid-

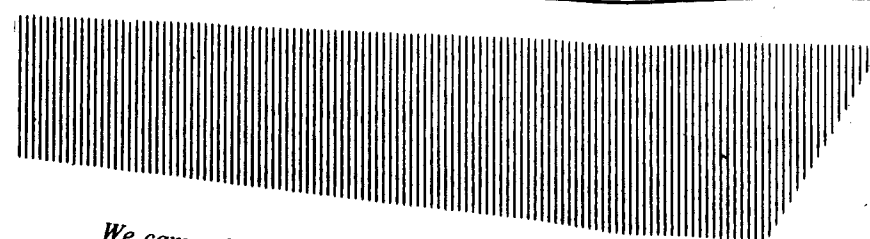
erable amount of time in developing such exclusive products with the help of specially trained weavers.

A special Showroom by name LOOMSCAPE at Vanavil has been created to sell these

products. These kinds of products are going to be available only at Loomscape Showroom. All these high fashion ranges will be shortly made available to customers of Madras under the brand name LOOMSCAPE.

Initially these products are being launched in Madras to be followed in other Metros shortly.

□



We cannot hide the fact that we have suffered a set back in harnessing the brainpower, acumen, talent and intellectual capacity richly available with us for the development of our own country. You are all aware, that despite our severe financial constraints and a very real resources crunch, we have earmarked more or less one third of our entire Budget provision for education, and we are laying stress on advanced education.

But this huge allocation pays no sizable dividend as expected, since a great number of our brilliant students have been inclined to fly away from their Motherland in search of lucrative positions in foreign countries. This practice has created a constant dilemma for our various State Governments and the Government of India, as to whether so much money should be spent on such individuals who, unmindful of their duty to the Nation, set their wings ready for an early departure out of India after graduation, having obtained a higher education at Government's cost.

Our youth must understand that sacrifice and patriotism cannot be quantified in terms of money and laurels. Patriotism has its own manifold manifestations and it is upto our youth to understand it in its true sense. Serving the Motherland in a spirit of true patriotism has no parallel in any form in the world.

I take this opportunity to appeal to all our students in general, to desist from leaving this country after completing higher studies at the cost of the Government Exchequer.

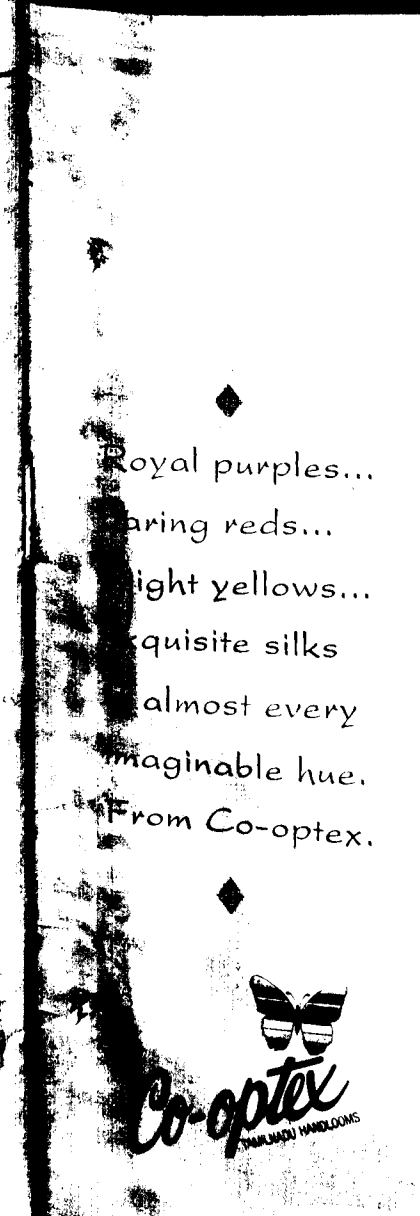
Dr. J. Jayalalitha

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TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2026

Panguni - Chithirai

April - 1995

IN THIS ISSUE

- ★ Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Water Supply Projects in Pudukottai District.
- ★ Hon'ble Chief Minister compliments the successful Tamil Nadu Athletic Contingent.
- ★ The Centre has woken up to the realities on ground and recognised the needs of the poor and the downtrodden.
—Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha in response to the Union Budget 1995-96.
- ★ Tamil Nadu Budget 1995-96.
- ★ Governor's address in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

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TAMIL NADU HAS PROVIDED PROTECTED DRINKING WATER TO 14,692 INHABITATIONS AT A COST OF RS.313 CRORES

— Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha at Pudukottai on 25.3.95

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha inaugurated water supply projects to Pudukottai and Manapparai Municipality, and various developmental schemes and distributed assistance to more than 27,000 beneficiaries costing Rs. 108 crores at a glittering function held at Pudukottai on 25th March, 1995.

Inaugurating the schemes, the Chief Minister expressed her happiness on the warm welcome given to her and she recalled her previous visit when she inaugurated welfare sche-

mes costing Rs.248 crores for the development of the District.

She said that her Government would go ahead with its programme to help the needy and downtrodden, whatever be the difficulties in implementing the welfare programmes. She said that only in consideration of the difficulties of the poor, her Government has reduced the



price of rice distributed by Public Distribution System.

Her Government had been burdened with a loss of Rs.450 crores because of food subsidies. And due to the reduction in the price of rice which would come into effect from 1.4.95 there would be a further burden to the Government by the loss of Rs.150 crores, she added.

The Chief Minister refuted the criticism that the budget was prepared with the election in mind. Instead it was a budget for promoting agriculture and industry in the State, she said.

'The per capita income is above the national average. Do you know the prize for this? The Central allocation from Income Tax and Excise Duty had been reduced. Is it not a punishment for the State Government for reducing the birth rate by implementing family planning schemes? If the subsidy is based on population, the share for the State would be reduced. Is it not a penalty for the State Government?' the Chief Minister asked.

She announced that during 1995-96, 50,000 concrete houses would be constructed for Adi-Dravidars, at a cost of Rs.105 crores and 30,000 Adi-Dravidar houses would be upgraded at a cost of

Rs.15 crores. She also announced that the Government was planning to provide colour Television sets to all Adi-Dravidar hutments.

She expressed her happiness in inaugurating the welfare schemes. She said the Government was keen to provide potable water to every village and hamlet. And on this basis Cauvery water scheme for Pudukottai at a cost of Rs.40 crores and Manapparai water scheme at a cost of Rs.10 crores were implemented, she added. After assumption of power her Government has provided drinking water to 14,692 inhabitations at a cost of Rs.313 crores, she said. The women working in granite

quarries who were earning Rs.6 per day are getting Rs.30 per day and their standard of living has been raised, she added.

The function was presided by Thiru Sedapatti R.Muthiah, Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Thiru K. Ponnusamy and Thiru T.M. Selvaganapathy, Hon'ble Ministers spoke on the occasion. Thiru S.Ragupathy, Minister for Housing welcomed the gathering. Thiru V. Varaprasad Rao, the District Collector proposed a vote of thanks.

The function was attended by Hon'ble Ministers, Members of the Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly and a large gathering.





lent performance in the National Meet and expressed happiness over the fact that the Tamil Nadu could finally break through the monopoly of the States like Kerala, Punjab and West Bengal and came very close to winning the team championship.

The highlight of the performance of the Tamil Nadu team in the National Athletic

HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER COMPLIMENTS THE SUCCESSFUL TAMIL NADU ATHLETIC CONTINGENT

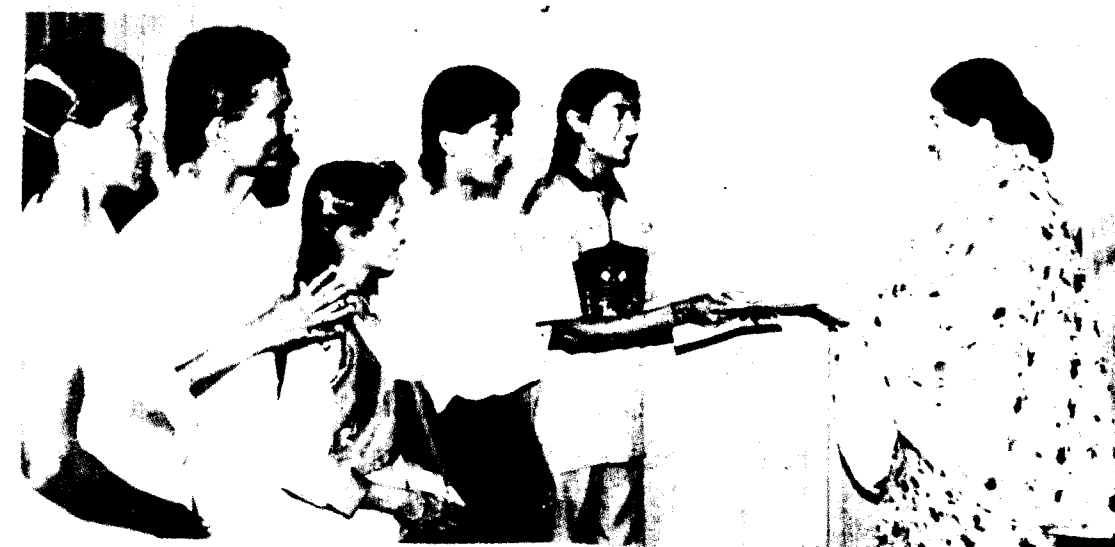
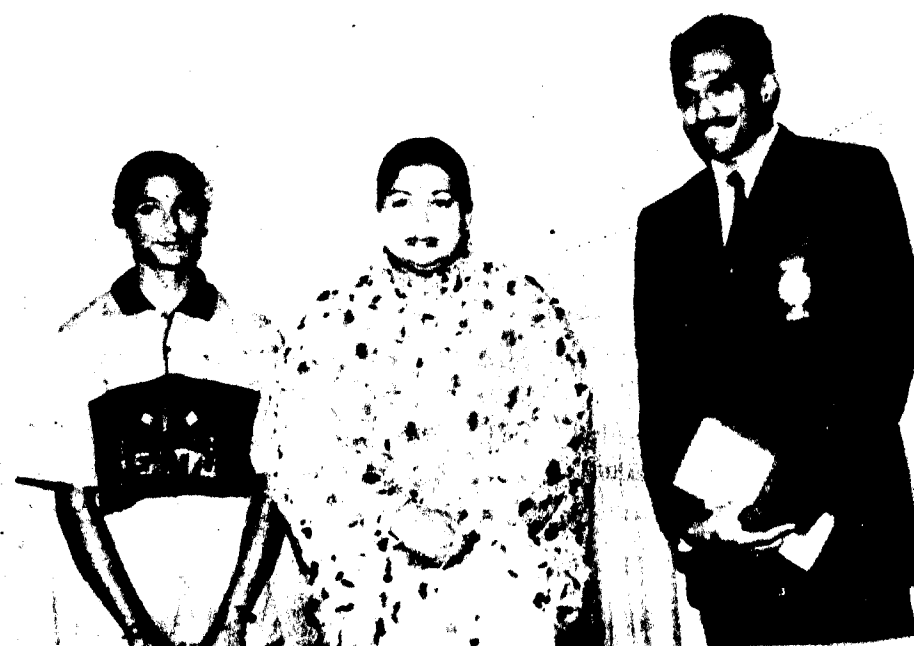
TAMIL NADU ON THE THRESHOLD OF A GOLDEN ERA IN SPORTS AND GAMES

A contingent of 11 Men and Women who participated in the Senior Level National Athletic Meet held at Bangalore during 16-18th February 1995 called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J.Jayalalitha on 14.3.1995 along with their glittering Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals at the Secretariat. Altogether 8 Men and 7 Women from Tamil Nadu secured 15 Gold Medals, 8 Silver Medals and 2 Bronze Medals.

The Tamil Nadu team secured the Second Place for Women and the Third place for Men in the Team Championship. On the whole, the

Tamil Nadu contingent secured third place in the overall championship. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J.Jayalalitha praised the Members of the Tamil Nadu contingent for their excel-

Championship is that Tamil Nadu produced the 'fastest man and woman' of the country in Mr. Ananda Natarajan and in Ms K. Solaimathi respectively. Ms Solaimathi won the best



Woman Athletic Trophy winning 4 Gold Medals and one Silver Medal. Ms Solaimathi also has the distinction of holding the Junior Championship which she won hardly a year back in the National Athletic Meet held at Bhopal, and the present Senior Level Championship now, simultaneously.

Mr. Ananda Natarajan won the Men's Championship by winning 3 individual Gold Medals. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J.Jayalalitha in recognition of the great potential in Ms Solaimathi, who is hardly 17 years old, and is studying in 10th Class in Madurai handed over the Fixed Deposit receipt for Rs.2 lakh to her, so that she could utilise the interest amount to meet any of her extra needs including Boarding, lodging and purchasing sports equipments. Earlier on the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J.Jayalalitha, Ms. Solaimathi was adopted by the Sports Development

Authority of Tamil Nadu for grooming. In addition to this, Hon'ble Chief Minister ordered that a Flat at Madurai on nominal rent be provided to the family of Ms Solaimathi enabling her family to live comfortably, as her father is a Class IV worker in the Madurai District Cooperative Spinning Mill at Mehur.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also ordered cash incentives to all 15 Men and Women of the Tamil Nadu contingent at the rate of Rs.3000 per Gold Medal, Rs.2000 per Silver Medal and Rs.1000 per Bronze Medal. This works out to a total of Rs.65,000 for the 26 medals won by the team. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J.Jayalalitha also handed over the cash incentives to 11 members of the Tamil Nadu contingent in person. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister paid rich compliments to the entire contingent and conveyed her best wishes to the team to win

more laurels for Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister while complimenting the sportsmen and women for the spectacular performance of securing Third Position to Tamil Nadu, wished that they would secure first place in the overall championship in the days to come.

The Tamil Nadu contingent called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister along with Thiru Walter Davaram, Additional Director General of Police (Law & Order) and Tmt. Jayanthi, Secretary to Government, Education Department and had a photograph with the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Tamil Nadu contingent comprised of Thiruvallargal Ananda Natarajan, Venkatesh Babu, Mahimai Raj, R. Barathwaj, C. Velayutham, Jessy Mathew, Balakumar, Shaji Thomas, Ms K. Solaimathi, Ms Ancy Philip, Ms V. Jayalakshmi, Ms K. Saramma, Ms. K. Jayanthi, Ms Alphonsa Rayon and Ms Angela Lincy.

THE CENTRE HAS WOKEN UP TO THE REALITIES ON GROUND AND RECOGNISED THE NEEDS OF THE POOR AND THE DOWNTRODDEN

— Hon'ble Chief Minister
Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha
in response to the
Union Budget 1995-96



The Chief Minister, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has expressed that the Union Budget for 1995-96 did not spell out adequately the strategy to control price rise which was the immediate task. The Chief Minister also felt that given the fact that domestic savings have declined, some more measures to promote savings could have been announced.

The Chief Minister indicated that she had repeat-

edly emphasised that the rice price in the public distribution system should not be increased. The Union Finance Minister has indicated that the rice price would be kept stable by trade and tariff policies. While welcoming this assurance the Chief Minister felt that an even more categorical assurance on rice prices in the public distribution system could have been extended. She felt it was essential that an early

meeting of the National Development Council is held to consider lowering of the issue price of rice.

The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction that at last the Centre had woken up to the realities on ground and recognised the needs of the poor and the downtrodden. She welcomed the launching of the National Social Assistance Scheme which would include Old Age Pension, Survivor Benefit on Death of Bread Winner, Mid-day Meal Scheme etc., to be funded jointly by the Centre and State. The Centre should particularly recognise the experience of States like Tamil Nadu which has been a pioneer in introducing the Mid-day Meal Scheme and involve them fully in designing and implementing these schemes. In extending financial support the Centre should safeguard the position of a State like Tamil Nadu which had taken the

lead and not make it suffer financially for having gone ahead.

The Chief Minister welcomed the announcement that donations to State Backward Classes and Minorities Development Corporation and also the profits of these Corporations would be exempt from income-tax. The tax benefits extended for the benefit of the physically handicapped persons are to be welcomed.

The Chief Minister welcomed the trend towards global integration by lowering customs duties. She particularly welcomed the simplification of import duties on capital goods. This will promote investment. The reduction of import duty has now reached a level where the interests of local industry would need to be safeguarded. The reduction in import duty on molasses from 65 per cent to 10 per cent would hurt the interest of farmers in sugar producing States like Tamil Nadu. Such a steep reduction does not accord protection to the local industry.

The reduction in excise duties for various items are in the right direction. The increase in excise duty on cement will hurt the housing sector and in particular the infrastructure sector.

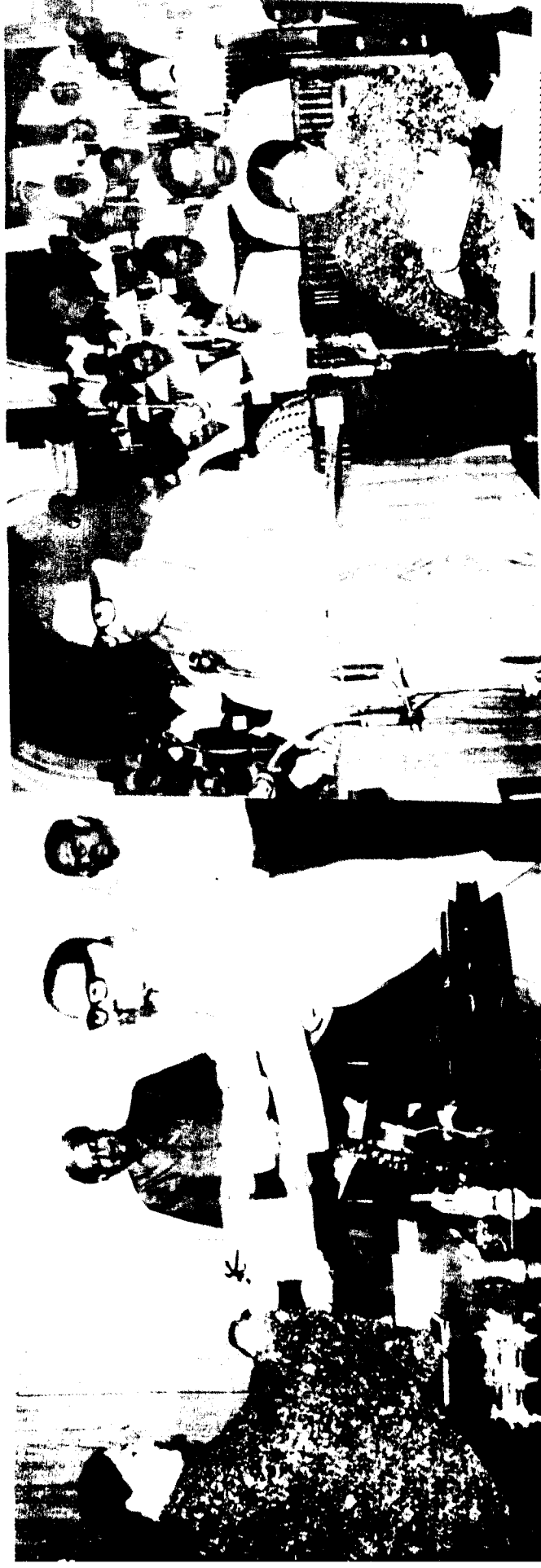


The Consul General of Singapore at Madras, Thiru T.N. Murugan called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at Secretariat on 30.3.95.

The new incentives for investment in infrastructure like the 5 year tax holiday and the creation of a special reserve are steps in the right direction to promote investment in the infrastructure sector. At the same time not enough is being done by the Centre for expediting new investment in the power sector. While the Union Finance Minister has expressed difficulties about continuing the scheme of counter guarantee and has talked of it as a short term measure, it does no credit to the Centre to delay projects which are pending for want of counter guarantee. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu cited the case of the Neyveli Zero Union Project which is pending with the Centre for the counter guarantee for months together. The Centre should match rhetoric with action.

The Chief Minister pointed out that she had repeatedly requested that a Southern Regional Development Bank be constituted with Madras as the Headquarters. She emphasised that she had raised this issue in the National Development Council on several occasions. She expressed surprise that the announcement by the Union Finance Minister covered only the North-East region and ignored the Southern Region's claim which she had repeatedly stressed.

The Chief Minister welcomed the constitution of a Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to take up rural projects through NABARD. She also welcomed the announcement of the extension of NABARD refinancing to Commercial Banks to support the handloom sector.



BUDGET1995-96

SPEECH OF
Dr. V.R. NEDUNCHEZHIAN
 MINISTER FOR FINANCE
 22-3-1995

Speech of Dr. V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, Minister for Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu, presenting the Budget for 1995-96 to the Legislative Assembly on 22nd March 1995.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

It is my pleasure and privilege to place the Revised Estimates for 1994-95 and the Budget Estimates for 1995-96 before this House for its approval.

இப்பொழுது எட்டியும் காத்ததும் காத்த
 வருத்ததும் எல்லாம் தரக

A King is he who treasures resources, stores up, defends,
 And duly for his Kingdom's weal expends.

A true leader is one who mobilises resources, conserves these resources, safeguards them and utilizes them wisely for the welfare of the people. These are the timeless principles of governance enumerated by Saint Thiruvalluvar which are relevant even today.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha has, since assuming office, followed steadfastly this path shown by Saint Thiruvalluvar. The people of Tamil Nadu stand fully behind the Hon'ble Chief Minister, who has worked tirelessly to give Tamil Nadu an excellent administration. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi by her foresight, dynamism and energetic championship of the cause of the poor and downtrodden, stands tall as an outstanding statesman of the country. The principles of democratic governance enumerated by Perarignar Anna and the humanist and people oriented programmes implemented by Ponmana Chermmal Dr.M.G.R., form the bedrock on which this Government headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha has built up a splendid administration worthy of emulation in the country.

2. This splendid edifice of growth and development has been possible in Tamil Nadu only because the base, namely the perfect maintenance of law and order has been ensured. The threat posed by foreign militants and extremists has been totally rooted out. Tamil Nadu

remains an outstanding example of communal harmony and social cohesion, thanks to the positive and affirmative action taken by this Government. It is on this firm foundation that accelerated economic development has been possible. I wish to highlight the fact that the perfect maintenance of law and order in Tamil Nadu makes it easily one of the best administered States in the country.

3. This Government assumed office in June 1991 when the nation was engulfed by an economic crisis of unprecedented magnitude. The overall economic situation of the country today has no doubt improved, but there are disturbing signs about which the Centre would do well to take adequate action. In particular, it needs to be highlighted that the instruments of macro economic management are totally with the Centre. It is therefore the bounden duty of the Centre to ensure that prices are held in check. We are greatly concerned that the Centre should take adequate steps to curb the increase in prices. In his recent budget speech the Union Finance Minister has indicated that in the coming year the Centre will use all instruments available to ensure stability in prices of wheat, rice and edible oils. We would like to urge the Centre to act effectively, utilising the foreign exchange reserves, without delay to keep prices of essential commodities in check. **The Centre should totally commit itself to the control of inflation.**

4. The Union Finance Minister in his recent budget speech has mentioned about a two - track economic strategy - of accelerating growth, investment and modernisation on the one track and strengthening anti-poverty programmes on the other. We are glad that the Centre has at last recognised the need for placing the well being of the poor as the main item on the economic agenda. This Government has always repeatedly emphasised the need for protecting the poor and the downtrodden in the wake of the new economic policies. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha in every address before the National Development Council has cautioned the Centre against increases in issue prices of rice in the Public Distribution System. She has insisted that the issue prices in the Public Distribution System should not be increased. Unfortunately, even in the recent Union Budget there is no categorical assurance that the issue prices in the Public Distribution System will not be increased. **This Government would like to insist that there be no further increase by the Centre in the prices of rice in the Public Distribution System.** We have done our utmost to protect the poor despite severe

financial difficulties. The amount provided for food subsidy has gone up from Rs.105 crores in 1990-91 to Rs.440 crores in the Revised Estimates for 1994-95. In addition, in 1994-95 we have provided Rs.75 crores to clear the arrears on food subsidy relating to previous years. The food subsidy provided by this Government will be Rs.450 crores in the Budget Estimates for 1995-96. We have requested that an early meeting of the National Development Council be convened to consider the issue price of rice in the Public Distribution System so as to benefit the poor. Without waiting for this, we have decided to bring down the price of rice in the Public Distribution System by Re.1 per kg for all varieties of rice. Accordingly, from 1st April 1995 the price of common rice will come down from Rs 3.50 per kg to Rs 2.50 per kg, and for fine and super fine rice from Rs 4.75 per kg to Rs 3.75 per kg. The food subsidy will therefore go up by an additional amount of Rs 150 crores to a total of Rs 600 crores. This is clear proof of this Government's commitment to protect the poor and the downtrodden from the rigours of price increase.

5. We have consistently maintained that in consonance with our philosophy of a strong Union and prosperous autonomous States, the Constitution would need appropriate changes to ensure that all the powers to safeguard and protect the sovereignty of the nation are with the Union while the powers and responsibilities for growth and welfare remain with the States. We shall continue to maintain this stand. Recent economic trends indicate that apart from national and internal security, it is in the social sectors that the Government's role has become even more important. Consistent with this trend, there should be a definite shift of resources in favour of the States.

TENTH FINANCE COMMISSION

6. Unfortunately the report of the Tenth Finance Commission which has recently been tabled in Parliament together with the explanatory memorandum on the action taken by the Central Government has completely belied our hopes of a more equitable pattern of Centre - State fiscal relations consistent with the pronounced shift in responsibilities towards the States. The Tenth Finance Commission has done virtually nothing towards improvement in the overall resources position of the States. The overall share of the States in Union Excise Duties has been

increased from 45% to 47.5%. At the same time the share of the States in Income Tax has been decreased from 85% to 77.5%. The net result is that there is virtually no increase in the overall share of the States. This is indeed most disappointing.

7. It may be recalled that when the Tenth Finance Commission visited the State in May 1994, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha insisted that while the share of the States in Income Tax could be retained at 85%, the share of the States in Union Excise Duties should be stepped up to 60% from the present level of 45%. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha also made a responsible suggestion that the step up in the States' share of Union Excise Duties from 45% to 60% could be done gradually from 45% to 52.5% in the period 1995-97 and moved up to 60% in the last 3 years between 1997 and 2000. She had also requested that there should be no separate earmarking for deficit States in the transfer under Excise Duties and the needs of deficit States should be taken care of through grants under Article 275(1). The Tenth Finance Commission has earmarked 7.5% out of the total of 47.5% under Excise Duties for deficit States. It is indeed distressing that the Tenth Finance Commission has merely maintained status quo in the matter of overall transfers to the States. We are left to wonder whether the Tenth Finance Commission has done any justice at all to the States.

8. The Tenth Finance Commission has also suggested an alternative scheme of devolution of resources to take effect from 1st April 1996 under which it has recommended that the share of the States in the gross receipts of Central taxes shall be 26%. In addition, it has recommended that the Additional Excise Duties be merged with Basic Excise Duties and after doing so an additional 3%, making a total of 29%, could be given to the States. It has recommended that these shares of 26% and 3% respectively should be suitably provided for in the Constitution and reviewed once in 15 years. The Central Government has not made any commitment regarding this alternative scheme of devolution. The implementation of this suggestion of the Tenth Finance Commission will require Constitutional amendments. It should be noted that the States' share reached the level of 26% in 1980-81 and the level in 1994-95 is 25.15%. In respect of the second component of 3%, a level of 2.94% was reached in 1980-81 and in 1994-95 the States' share is 3.02%. It is clear

❖ The price of rice has been brought down in the Public Distribution System by Re.1 per kg. (from Rs.3.50 per kg to Rs.2.50 per kg for common rice and for the fine and super fine rice from Rs.4.75 per kg to Rs.3.75 per kg.)

that in this alternative scheme virtually the current level of devolution is being retained with no change if we take note of the fact that certain taxes under Article 269 are also to be brought into the divisible pool. This recommendation will only divert attention from addressing a key issue raised by the States namely, that the States should be given a share in Corporation Tax. It is only in respect of Corporation Tax that the States have repeatedly insisted that a share should be given to them. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha had highlighted this before the Tenth Finance Commission and requested that a specific recommendation may be given by the Tenth Finance Commission that 20% of Corporation Tax should be given to the States.

9. The alternative scheme of devolution proposed by the Tenth Finance Commission is so far reaching and requiring so many Constitutional amendments that it would appear it may not be realised at all. It should be remembered that in respect of Consignment Tax even after a Constitutional amendment the Centre has not implemented the same. The legitimate demands of the States for a share in Corporation Tax, as endorsed by the Sarkaria Commission on Centre - State relations, have quietly been put aside by the Tenth Finance Commission, linking it to the alternative scheme. We would urge the Centre to state its position on the alternative scheme of devolution or otherwise, immediately give a share in Corporation Tax to the States.

10. I have so far mentioned about the failure of the Tenth Finance Commission to do anything worthwhile in vertical transfers to the States. I would now like to refer to some issues relating to horizontal distribution between States. The Tenth Finance Commission has penalised those States which have been doing well. States like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and West Bengal have all been affected. Well managed and well run States have been dealt with harshly. This practice of penalising the well managed States by successive Finance Commissions has to stop.

11. The Tenth Finance Commission has adopted a common distribution formula for both Income Tax and Excise Duties among the States. Tamil Nadu has always received a higher share in Income Tax than in Union Excise Duties. Adoption of a common formula for the distribution of both Income Tax and Excise Duties has meant that Tamil Nadu's higher share in Income Tax has now been brought down to the same level as in the case of Excise Duties. In the new common formula

of distribution, 20% is assigned on the basis of population in 1971, 60% on the basis of distance of per capita income, 5% on the basis of a new concept of "area", 5% on the basis of index of infrastructure and 10% on the basis of tax effort. This new formula assigns the highest share for the "distance of per capita income" criterion. The estimates used by the Tenth Finance Commission indicate that the Tamil Nadu's per capita income computed by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) is well above the national average. In view of the higher weight for the distance of per capita income criterion, Tamil Nadu which is shown to have a higher per capita income as computed by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) has to make do with a lower share. We had argued before the Tenth Finance Commission very clearly about the flaws in the estimation of per capita income on a comparable basis by the CSO and the fact that current population was being used and not the 1971 population, as required under the terms of reference. This would only penalise States which had done well in population limitation. It would have been much wiser and more progressive for the Tenth Finance Commission to have gone by the 1992 report of the Union Planning Commission on poverty percentages. Although Tamil Nadu's per capita income may be shown to be above the national average, according to the estimates by an Expert Group of the Union Planning Commission, in the year 1987-88, Tamil Nadu had a higher percentage of poor than the national average. This fact has been missed out by the Tenth Finance Commission. We are also surprised that the Tenth Finance Commission should have chosen new criteria like area and infrastructure development ignoring a robust indicator like the economic backwardness index. This attempt to be original has only resulted in

penalising States which have a high population density and which have already invested on infrastructure development. Overall the new distribution formula set out by the Tenth Finance Commission is quite disappointing.

12. In the distribution of Additional Excise Duties which is on a tax rental basis, the Tenth Finance Commission has once again, like the Ninth Finance Commission, erred in using the 1991 Census population. In our view this is not in consonance with the terms of reference.

13. The Tenth Finance Commission has also assessed the financial position of various States in the period 1995-2000 and then determined whether they need to be given special grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution to bridge the deficit if any after devolution. Only Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh among non special category States have been made eligible for a deficit grant. It may be recalled that when the Tenth Finance Commission visited Tamil Nadu on 30th May, 1994 the Chairman of the Commission indicated that Tamil Nadu's non-plan revenue account after devolution was showing a deficit. On the other hand, in its forecast for 1995-2000 the Finance Commission has held that Tamil Nadu has a surplus on the non-plan revenue account. In making its assessment of the financial position of the States for the period 1995-2000, the Tenth Finance Commission has been very harsh. A very high level of revenue receipts has been assumed. At the same time in estimating the expenditure, the Tenth Finance Commission has been totally unrealistic. It has not taken into account at all the cost of implementing any future pay revision for Government employees. It has also suggested that food subsidy extended by the States should be phased out starting from 1995-96. Another disturbing feature is that the Tenth Finance Commission has completely disallowed the payment of cash subsidy by the Government to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board towards the free supply of electricity for farm pumpsets. In addition, the Tenth Finance Commission has suggested that irrigation receipts should cover not only the operation and maintenance costs but also give a return of 1 per cent per annum on the capital invested. The result of this exercise has been to show a surplus in the case of Tamil Nadu after devolution of Central taxes on the revised basis. This makes Tamil Nadu ineligible for a grant under Article 275(1) and a share out of 7.5 per cent of Excise Duties reserved for deficit States.

14. Hon'ble Members of the House will have to take note of the fact that the Tenth Finance Commission has seriously under-estimated the expenditure needs of the State in the period 1995-2000 by arbitrarily cutting out food subsidy and completely eliminating subsidy for farm pumpsets. It has thus placed our State in a very difficult position.

15. This Government under the leadership of Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha introduced prohibition immediately after assumption of office despite the severe loss of revenue. We had taken up the issue of compensating the States to the extent of 50 per cent of the loss of revenue on account of prohibition with the Government of India. The Government of India has however, indicated that the earlier scheme of compensation of the loss on account of prohibition has been withdrawn. We had taken up this issue with the Tenth Finance Commission and requested a specific recommendation for a grant to cover the loss of revenue on account of implementing prohibition which is a Directive Principle of State Policy under the Constitution. Unfortunately, the Tenth Finance Commission has brushed aside this request stating that the projections of revenue by the Commission have been made taking into account the effect of the prohibition policy of the State on its excise revenues. It is indeed strange that an argument like this has been extended by the Tenth Finance Commission. We had made a specific request for compensating the difference between what we would have received as revenue if prohibition were not in force and the amount actually realised. The Tenth Finance Commission has indicated that it can only take note of the present position of lower revenue and cannot go into the question of compensation. Further, the revenue assumed by the Tenth Finance Commission for the year 1995-96 in the case of Tamil Nadu from State Excise Duties is Rs.687.84 crores, whereas even today we are only getting a lower revenue. This is indeed an extremely harsh treatment to the States which implement a prohibition policy.

16. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the problems posed to the State by repeated cyclones and floods. We have brought to the notice of the Tenth Finance Commission that the present annual level of contribution to the State Calamity Relief Fund of Rs.39 crores was inadequate and that a National Calamity Relief Fund should be created which could be accessed in the event of a severe calamity which is classified as a National Calamity. We had suggested that the Centre should

contribute to the creation of the National Calamity Relief Fund. We had also indicated that given the recent experience of Tamil Nadu in calamity relief expenditure, the size of the Tamil Nadu Calamity Relief Fund should be stepped up to Rs.235 crores per annum, 80 per cent of which should be met by the Government of India and 20 per cent by the State. While we are glad that the idea of a National Calamity Relief Fund has been accepted, we are quite disappointed to see that the size of the Tamil Nadu Calamity Relief Fund has been stepped up from Rs.39 crores to just Rs.56.02 crores in 1995-96 going up progressively to Rs.68.63 crores in 1999-2000. It is strange that when we have incurred Rs.94.97 crores in 1992-93 and Rs.147.28 crores in 1993-94 on calamity relief, the Tenth Finance Commission has allowed a figure of just Rs.56.02 crores. While the constitution of a National Fund for Calamity Relief and the recommendation that a Sub-Committee of the National Development Council including five Chief Ministers should supervise the operations of this Fund are welcome, the requirement that the States should also contribute to the National Fund could have been avoided.

17. We had given our detailed suggestions on the need for substantial debt relief in view of the mounting debt burden of the State. Tamil Nadu's total debt as on 31st March 1995 is estimated by the Tenth Finance Commission at Rs.13,396.57 crores. We had suggested that the grant-loan mix of Central assistance be revised from 30:70 to at least 50:50. We had also suggested that the small savings loans, should be treated as loans in perpetuity. We had also requested that the States should be given small savings loan, equal to 90% of the net small savings collections and the rate of interest on small savings loans should be reduced. We had specifically requested that 50% of Central loans raised since 1989-90 may be consolidated as on 31st March 1995 and written off and a fresh interest rate of 8% be charged on the balance consolidated loan which would be made repayable after 2000.

18. The Tenth Finance Commission has not accepted these requests and has also turned down the request of the States to treat small savings loans as loans in perpetuity. A general debt relief scheme linked to fiscal performance of the States has been recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission. Under this, Tamil Nadu can expect a debt relief amount in the range of Rs.31.17 crores to Rs.62.34 crores for the 5 years, 1995-2000 depending on its fiscal performance. The Tenth Finance

Commission has extended special debt relief to just 3 non-special category States and the special category States under high fiscal stress. Tamil Nadu is not included in this list. Obviously the scheme of debt relief is grossly inadequate and we are quite disappointed that a pressing problem has not at all been addressed adequately by the Tenth Finance Commission.

19. The Tenth Finance Commission has also introduced a new scheme of debt relief linked to the disinvestment of a State's equity in its public sector enterprises. The Tenth Finance Commission has suggested that it is necessary for all States to go in for a suitable disinvestment strategy in relation to State public sector enterprises. It has recommended that 20% of the aggregate equity in such enterprises should be disinvested and proceeds of such disinvestment should be utilised for repayment of the debt owed to the Central Government. It has suggested that if a State Government does so, the Central Government should as an incentive additionally write off debt equivalent to the amount disinvested by a State and paid back to the Centre. This is a new suggestion but it would appear that the Tenth Finance Commission has developed a strict norm for the States whereas in the case of the Centre's disinvestment from public sector enterprises, the proceeds have not been utilised to retire debt. It has been utilised to bridge the Centre's budget deficit. In the case of States, the Tenth Finance Commission wants the proceeds from disinvestment to be used to repay loans to the Centre. This is clearly an inequitable treatment. We would request that the debt relief scheme be applicable to the extent of disinvestment without insisting that it should be repaid to the Centre.

20. In allowing grants for the upgradation of district administration, the Tenth Finance Commission has provided only Rs.29.91 crores for Tamil Nadu out of the total amount of Rs.858.32 crores. The Tenth Finance Commission has allowed Rs.755.75 crores for the period 1995-2000 as grants for upgradation of primary education. Out of this amount Tamil Nadu has been given just Rs.10.94 crores. Out of Rs.1246 crores allotted for special problems, Tamil Nadu gets Rs.60 crores for slum improvement. Taken together, out of a total amount of Rs.2608.50 crores, Tamil Nadu's entitlement is just Rs.100.85 crores. Here again, Tamil Nadu suffers only because it has done well in all aspects of administration.

21. A good feature of the Tenth Finance Commission's

recommendations relates to a specific recommendation of grants to local bodies. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha made a specific request to the Tenth Finance Commission during its visit to Madras on 30th May 1994 for additional grants, as following the 73rd and 74th amendment to the Constitution, the States would need to devolve greater resources to the local bodies. We welcome the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission making available a total amount of Rs.402.86 crores for Tamil Nadu in the period from 1996-97 to 1999-2000. The total allocation for all States made by the Tenth Finance Commission for transfer to local bodies is Rs.5380.93 crores. The amounts allocated under these recommendations are to be treated as part of the States' Plans and have to be earmarked to be transferred to local bodies. This will give a big boost to the finances of local bodies. This is a land mark recommendation which is to be welcomed.

22. I have spelt out in detail our main concerns following the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission as accepted by the Central Government. We are deeply disappointed that the share of the States through organised vertical transfers has not at all improved. The estimation of the surplus/deficit situation of the States in 1995-2000 is extremely harsh and does not at all reflect the reality. We are also quite disappointed at the distribution formula which penalises better managed States. The grants allowed for the State Calamity Relief Fund are not adequate. The scheme of debt relief is extremely inadequate. The better managed States again stand penalised in the allocation of grants for upgradation of administration and special problems. The redeeming feature is the extension of grants to local bodies. Overall, we have every cause to feel disappointed with the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission.

ANNUAL PLAN

23. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the spectacular performance of this Government in ensuring consistent increases in real terms in the approved annual plan outlay and even more significantly in over-achieving the approved plan outlay in each of the years since 1991-92. When this is seen in a context where 8 of the 15 major states have been unable to achieve their original approved outlays both in 1992-93 and in 1993-94, Tamil Nadu's perfect record of matching promise

with performance is even more creditable. The Hon'ble Deputy Chairman of the Union Planning Commission congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister on this performance record in their meeting on 20th January, 1995. In 1991-92, the outlay performed was Rs.1725.98 crores against an approved outlay of Rs.1605 crores. In 1992-93, Tamil Nadu performed an outlay of Rs.1935.14 crores against an approved outlay of Rs.1766 crores. In 1993-94 again, this record was maintained and the outlay performed was Rs.2234.79 crores against an approved outlay of Rs.2101 crores.

24. Hon'ble Members are aware that for 1994-95, the Hon'ble Chief Minister secured for the State a significantly larger plan outlay of Rs.2750 crores. This massive increase in 1994-95 was undertaken to bring the State's per capita plan outlay well above the national average. There was scepticism in some quarters whether the State would be able to actually perform such a large outlay. I am happy to inform you that in the current year as well, the State is well on its way to perform the annual plan outlay in full and in fact the Revised Estimates for 1994-95 provide for an outlay of Rs.2771.26 crores.

25. For 1995-96, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha has secured for the State an outlay of Rs.3200 crores which represents a 16.36 per cent increase over the current year's outlay. The outlay fixed for the coming year consolidates on the spectacular growth achieved in 1994-95, and will ensure that the State not only achieves the over all Eighth Plan outlay of Rs.10,200 crores for Tamil Nadu in nominal terms but also in real terms. The State is committed to ensure the full achievement of the plan outlay in 1995-96 and it is for this reason that against the plan outlay of Rs.3,200 crores, the Budget Estimates for 1995-96 provide for an outlay of Rs.3,250.58 crores.

POLICE

26. No Chief Minister has done so much in so short a time as our leader Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha to make the Tamil Nadu Police the best Police Force in the country. Under her able direction the State Police is functioning with a new sense of purpose and direction. Peace and tranquillity which constitute the foundation for rapid growth have been ensured. The State Police has risen to the occasion in every situation and tackled every problem with confidence and firmness.

27. The Budget includes a total provision of Rs.420.07 crores for the Police Force in 1995-96 as against Rs.387.22 crores in 1994-95.

We have not been deterred by the lack of release of further funds from the Centre, apart from Rs.10 crores received in 1991-92, against our request for Rs.80.45 crores for modernising the police force. We have gone ahead to implement this plan and have provided funds for this in each Budget. We made a request to the Tenth Finance Commission for an upgradation grant of Rs.668 crores for Modernisation of Police Administration. But the Tenth Finance Commission has allowed only a grant of Rs.12.13 crores and that too only from 1996-97 for the period 1996-2000. We are thus forced to rely on our own resources to implement the Police Modernisation Schemes. A special provision of Rs.12.50 crores has been included in the Budget for 1995-96 to finance the State Police Modernisation Programme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha will announce details of the new programmes in the course of the debate on the Police Demand.

28. We have accorded the highest importance to the implementation of police housing schemes. So far 2002 police quarters have been built at a cost of Rs.28.50 crores. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.10.50 crores for police housing. Together with institutional finance raised from HUDCO we plan to construct 1500 quarters in 1995-96. This includes provision for the construction in a phased manner of the Police City in Madras. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha has already announced the establishment of a Police Academy at Veerapuram near Madras. A detailed project report has been drawn up. Work on this project will commence in 1995-96. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the smooth and efficient manner in which 10,000 new police constables were recruited by the Uniformed Services Recruitment Board. The new constables are being trained and positioned in the field. This is of vital importance to improve the efficiency of the Police Force.

ACTION PLAN FOR ACCELERATED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

29. Following the new economic policy initiated by the Centre, which includes delicensing and deregulation, a new competitive situation in industrial development has emerged. States have to compete with each

❖ **Old Age Pension, Pension for Destitute Agricultural Labour, Pension for widows and Deserted women and Pension for the physically handicapped have been increased to Rs.100 per month from Rs.75 per month.**

other in attracting new investments. While Tamil Nadu has done very well in retaining its position according to the latest report of the Industrial Development Bank of India for the year 1993-94, we cannot rest on our laurels. It is for this reason that the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has indicated that a new State specific action plan should be drawn up for rapid industrial development. This action plan is in continuation of the New Industrial Policy brought out by this Government in 1992.

30. We have identified several key areas where the Government will have to initiate appropriate action. These key areas include:-

- * provision of efficient and quality infrastructure
- * development of a mechanism for speedy clearances
- * easy access to land, water and power
- * encouragement to specific industry groups where the State has a comparative advantage
- * a conducive industrial relations climate
- * development of technical manpower
- * a stable fiscal policy, and
- * provision of urban infrastructure and housing

31. This Government will now focus on coordinated action in these key areas to facilitate rapid industrial development. The Governor's address has already spelt out in detail the various steps that have been taken. The Budget Estimates for 1995-96 include provisions for the various items in this action plan. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that a strong effort is being made in the new competitive situation to ensure rapid industrial development in Tamil Nadu.

SOCIAL SAFETY NET FOR THE POOR

32. In the middle of the stabilisation and structural adjustment processes following the new economic policies announced by the Centre, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha had indicated firmly that Tamil Nadu should take the lead in providing a comprehensive Social Safety Net for the poor and the downtrodden. Accordingly, this Government had initiated the concept of a Social Safety Net for the poor in the Budget for 1993-94. We have strengthened this Social Safety Net in the current year. It should be realised that when we talk of a Social Safety Net, Tamil Nadu stands out as a pioneer in the whole country. Its effort in protecting the poor and the downtrodden in the midst of economic uncertainty has been widely lauded. We have not allowed fiscal constraints to affect in any way the support that we have given for the welfare and well-being of the poor. While financial problems and difficulties have persisted, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has insisted that on no account shall we compromise in providing this comprehensive Social Safety Net for the poor.

33. It is only very recently, that too in the recent Union Budget presented on 15th March 1995, that the Centre has recognised the need for an effective social safety net. We have undertaken this task much ahead of the Centre despite the fiscal constraints. While we welcome the new direction in the Centre's policies, we would like to indicate firmly that the implementation of these programmes for the poor should be totally left to the States. We are already seeing a tendency for the Centre to intervene directly, bypassing the States in many programmes. We would like to urge that the funds for the new Social Assistance Programme and the Midday Meal Programme should be made available to the States, and the States should be allowed to implement these programmes without any

above the age of 65. Under this new scheme, a pension of Rs.100 per month will be provided. The same conditions as for the Old Age Pension scheme will apply except for the stipulation regarding ownership of land. We anticipate that this will cover one lakh Marginal Farmers. It will involve an additional cost of Rs.12 crores per annum.

38. Under the Family Distress Relief Scheme, we are providing a relief amount of Rs.5000 in the event of death of the bread-winner. About 50,000 beneficiaries are covered annually. We have decided to introduce a new Child Support Scheme to help these families. Immediately after the family is given the support of Rs.5000, a monthly support of Rs.50 will be extended to one child in the family for a period of 4 years to enable the child to continue schooling at least upto Class VIII. This will ensure that in the event of the death of a breadwinner the child does not suffer for want of education.

39. This Government is providing an amount of Rs.75 per month for four months totalling Rs.300 for every pregnant women below the poverty line. While this support compensates the loss of wages during this period, it does not ensure adequate nutrition for the pregnant women. We have decided to extend nutrition coverage for these pregnant women in the nearest Nutritious Noon-meal Centre. Every such pregnant woman who has been given Rs.300 as support will also be entitled to take a free meal every day at the Nutritious Noon-meal Centre for a period of 4 months. We expect that this scheme will benefit about 2 lakh pregnant women each year.

40. I am sure the Hon'ble Members of the House will welcome the several new initiatives that are being launched for the benefit of the poor and the downtrodden in the State. With this, Tamil Nadu will continue to be the leading State in the country to provide for the well-being of the poor.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

41. So far I have spelt out the major policy issues which require intensive focus during 1995-96. In order to save time, the schemes and projects implemented in different sectors have been set out in detail in Part-B of my speech. This may be taken as having been read out by me. However, since several new innovative schemes have been taken up in

interference. It is counter productive for the Centre to attempt to run these programmes directly.

34. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that in the Budget Estimates for 1995-96, a total provision of Rs.1960.93 crores has been made for the Social Safety Net for the poor which includes:-

- * Food Security
- * Nutrition for the aged, expectant mothers and children
- * Primary health care and medical services for the poor
- * Universal Elementary Education
- * Employment programmes for the poor
- * Essential drinking water
- * Shelter for the homeless
- * Social security programmes, and
- * Special programmes for the weaker sections.

35. This comprehensive Social Safety Net for the poor has been widely welcomed and has made Tamil Nadu easily the best State in the country in looking after the well-being of the poor and the downtrodden. We have decided to further improve the Social Safety Net for the poor in this Budget.

36. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that the Government of Tamil Nadu provides Old Age Pension, Pension for Destitute Agricultural Labour, Pension for Widows and Deserted Women and Pension for the Physically handicapped at Rs 75 per month. These schemes cover in all 6 lakh persons. We have decided to increase the pension from Rs 75 per month to Rs 100 per month. This will cost Rs.18 crores additionally per annum.

37. At present there is no pension scheme for Marginal Farmers. We have decided to introduce a new pension scheme for Marginal Farmers

different sectors intended to benefit various groups who require assistance, I propose to briefly highlight some of these new initiatives:

- * Food grain production will exceed 100 lakh tonnes during 1994-95. The thrust of the State's agricultural policy is to ensure more remunerative prices for farmers. The Agriculture Human Resources Development Project at a cost of Rs.94.56 crores will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.10 crores in 1995-96. The budget provision for the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project will be stepped up to Rs.73.43 crores. A new scheme with an outlay of Rs.1 crore to promote food processing units in the joint and associate sectors will be launched in 1995-96.
- * We will urge the Government of India to implement the Pamba-Achankoil-Vaigai link immediately. We expect to implement the Water Resources Consolidation Project to benefit 40 lakh farmers at a cost of Rs.1140 crores implemented with a budget provision of Rs.68.57 crores in 1995-96. A new reservoir across the Malattar in North Arcot Ambedkar district will be constructed at a cost of Rs.16 crores. A State Tank Irrigation Project (STIP) will be launched in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.10 crores. A special provision of Rs.10 crores has been made in the Budget for 1995-96 for completing the restoration of damage caused to the irrigation systems by floods.
- * The outlay on the Decentralised District Plan has been increased to Rs.50 crores. Financing arrangements for the maintenance and development of assets in rural areas will be completely revamped. All Panchayats in the State will be provided with colour television sets by June 1995.
- * The Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipettai will be strengthened to achieve a three fold increase in the production of canine rabies vaccine.
- * A new scheme to popularise synthetic catamarans will be launched at a cost of Rs.25 lakhs.
- * A new Forestry Research Education and Extension Project has been launched at a cost of Rs.7.54 crores with an outlay of Rs.1.50 crores in 1995-96. An Operation Greening for the afforestation of non-forest areas will be launched in 1995-96 at a cost of Rs.50 lakhs.

- * SIPCOT will set up a new industrial estate over 600 acres at Cheyyar in Tiruvannamalai. Sambuvarayar district at a cost of Rs.17.80 crores. TIDCO will support 19 projects with a total project cost of Rs.5805.93 crores in 1995-96. Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited's expansion project at a cost of Rs.525 crores is to be completed by June 1995. SIDCO will establish an Industrial Estate near Madras exclusively for women entrepreneurs in 1995-96.
- * The Power Sector plan outlay has been stepped up from Rs.624.38 crores in 1994-95 to Rs.750 crores in 1995-96. Tamil Nadu has emerged as the leader in wind power generation in the country with a total installed capacity of 132 MW out of the All India capacity of 180 MW.
- * The plan outlay on Roads will be stepped up to Rs.153.16 crores, a 19% increase over 1994-95. A new scheme for black topping of Panchayat Union roads will be launched with a provision of Rs.10 crores in 1995-96. A new Coastal Roads Improvement Programme (CRIP) will be launched in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.6.50 crores. A Ghat Roads Improvement Programme (GRIP) will be launched with a provision of Rs.1 crore in 1995-96. Rehabilitation of 39 bridges and roads in 9 cyclone affected districts under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project at a total cost of Rs.21 crores will be taken up. A new special programme for improvements to roads in industrial areas will be launched with a provision of Rs.2.50 crores in 1995-96.
- * A Tamil Nadu Maritime Board to accelerate the development of intermediate and minor ports is proposed to be set up. Detailed schemes for the development of Cuddalore and Nagapattinam Ports will be taken up. The Government of India has been requested to take up the development of Tuticorin and Ennore ports.
- * A new Urban Infrastructure Financing Institution will be set up to mobilise resources for infrastructure projects in municipal areas. A new Tirupur Area Development Corporation Limited has been established to take up the Tirupur Area Development Project at a cost of Rs.653.20 crores.
- * Substantial progress has been achieved on the various components

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will be provided with minimum specialities like gynaecology, paediatrics, ophthalmology etc. 20 Taluk Hospitals will be provided with X-ray machines. The total provision for drugs and medicines has been enhanced to Rs.96 crores.

- * A total number of 1.5 lakh women will be assisted to improve their income under various self-employment programmes during 1995-96. The Child Welfare Sub-Plan will have an outlay of Rs.768.62 crores during 1995-96. A comprehensive policy for the welfare of the handicapped has been formulated.
- * The Adi Dravidar Girl Child Support Scheme will be extended to 5 more districts viz., Chengalpattu MGR, North Arcot Ambedkar, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth. The target of distribution of house sites to 5 lakh Adi Dravidar families will be achieved during 1995-96 with a budgeted outlay of Rs.10.50 crores. Television sets will be supplied to 2000 Adi Dravidar habitations during 1995-96. The provision for the construction of hostel buildings for Adi Dravidars will be enhanced to Rs.4 crores. 50,000 concrete roof houses at a total cost of Rs.105 crores will be built for Adi Dravidars during 1995-96. A new scheme with a provision of Rs.15 crores to upgrade 30,000 houses belonging to Adi Dravidars will be launched during 1995-96.
- * 6577 houses will be built free of cost for the rural poor belonging to Backward Classes during 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.13.81 crores.
- * A new Cooperative Spinning Mills Federation has been set up with an initial share capital of Rs.25 crores. 1000 workshops-cum-houses will be constructed for handloom weavers during 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.1.90 crores. The budget provides Rs.60 crores for the scheme of free supply of sarees and dhoties in 1995-96 to 60 lakh women and 60 lakh men who are below the poverty line.
- * The total outlay on the Jawahar Velai Vaippu Thittam during 1995-96 will be Rs.311.64 crores which will be a 40% step up above the outlay for 1994-95. 10.20 crore mandays of employment will be created during 1995-96 under various employment schemes.

FINANCIAL POSITION

- 42. I have now to turn to the difficult task of matching the

of Madras Vision-2000 which envisages a total investment of Rs.4000 crores in Madras city.

- * During 1995-96, 40,000 houses will be provided under the Rural Housing Scheme with an outlay of Rs.6.40 crores.
- * The Plan Outlay on drinking water supply will be stepped up to Rs.419.97 crores during 1995-96. The New Veeranam Project is to be implemented with World Bank assistance and the budget provides Rs.159.74 crores for this project. A new Sewage Renovation Project will be implemented with the OECF (Japan) assistance at a cost of Rs.572 crores. The budget provides Rs.5 crores for this project. New funding arrangements for water supply in urban areas will be worked out to tap at least Rs.25 crores of institutional finance during 1995-96. All the 1037 remaining "no-source" habitations will be provided with protected water supply by December 1995. A revised Tamil Nadu Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project at a cost of Rs.894 crores has been posed to the World Bank for assistance. Totally 1183 Adi Dravidar habitations will be taken up for coverage as a sub component under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme during 1994-95 and 1995-96 with a total outlay of Rs.22 crores. 458 habitations affected by excess fluoride in Dharmapuri, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore and Periyar districts will be taken up at a total cost of Rs.42.27 crores. 160 coastal fishermen habitations affected by high salinity will be provided safe drinking water at a cost of Rs.6.40 crores in 1995-96.
- * A new Department of Environment will be established during 1995-96. New Common Effluent Treatment Plants for the leather industry and the textile dyeing industry will be commissioned by the Tamil Nadu Leather Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.
- * The total outlay on Education during 1995-96 will be Rs.2233.17 crores. A three year Educational Infrastructure Programme will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.160.24 crores in 1995-96. The VII South Asian Federation Games will be hosted in Madras and a games project at a cost of Rs.125 crores will be implemented.
- * 70 new Primary Health Centre buildings will be constructed in 1995-96 with a provision of Rs.1.75 crore. Every Taluk Hospital

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☆ Sales Tax have been exempted for consumer goods like candles, rubber play balls, hurricane lights, kerosene lamps (other than gas lights and petromax lights) and their wicks and glass chimneys and non pressure kerosene stoves.

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expenditure with receipts taking note of the ambitious plans and programmes which this Government has set out to achieve in 1995-96. Hon'ble Members of the House will recall the financial situation when this Government assumed office. It was then considered that Tamil Nadu would inevitably have to go in for a drastic cut in its plan outlay and would also find it difficult to even pay the salaries of its employees. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that many States have had to suffer the ignominy of indirectly borrowing from private agencies. We have not allowed this to happen. We have exceeded the approved plan outlay every year since 1991-92 and are poised to do so again in 1994-95. We have set for ourselves a plan outlay of Rs 3200 crores in 1995-96. Unfortunately, the Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations which we expected would provide some much needed financial relief, have completely belied our hopes. Even so, we have to rededicate ourselves to the task of taking Tamil Nadu further on the road to prosperity.

BUDGET ESTIMATES

- 43. The Budget Estimates for 1994-95 indicated total revenue receipts of Rs.7844.37 crores and revenue expenditure at Rs.9083.53 crores resulting in a revenue deficit of (-)Rs.1239.16 crores. Together with the estimated opening deficit of (-) Rs.196.82 crores, the net effect of transactions on all accounts at (-) Rs.201.23 crores, the expected net savings of Rs 95 crores on account of economy measures and the yield of Rs 48 crores on account of new tax effort, the closing overall deficit for

1994-95 was expected to be (-) Rs. 255.05 crores. We have taken several measures to bring the situation under control without sacrificing the plan outlay.

44. The Revised Estimates for 1994-95 indicate total revenue receipts of Rs.8135.44 crores and revenue expenditure at Rs.9187.16 crores leaving a revenue deficit of (-) Rs.1051.72 crores. Hon'ble Members of the House may note that we have brought down the revenue deficit. Together with the actual closing balance at the end of 1993-94 of Rs.69.79 crores and the net effect of transactions in all accounts at Rs.93.89 crores, the closing deficit at the end of 1994-95 is now (-) Rs.24.10 crores. It may be noted that we have ensured considerable improvement in the financial position while at the same time providing for a plan outlay of Rs.2771.26 crores.

45. In the Budget Estimates for 1995-96, revenue receipts are estimated at Rs.8985.07 crores and revenue expenditure at Rs.9910.62 crores resulting in a revenue deficit of (-) Rs.925.55 crores. The net effect of transactions in all accounts in Budget Estimates for 1995-96 will be a deficit of (-) Rs.140 crores. The anticipated closing deficit in the Revised Estimates for 1994-95 is estimated to be (-) Rs.24.10 crores. The overall total deficit at the end of 1995-96 is now estimated at (-) Rs.25.50 crores.

46. It may be noted that we have made a significant effort to bring down the revenue deficit sizeably. The overall deficit has also been brought down to a great extent. Hon'ble Members of the House will appreciate the effective financial management that we have undertaken to bring about this improvement in the situation. While we can take legitimate pride in having brought down both the overall deficit and the deficit on the revenue account, we have still to exercise caution about the overall financial position as we do not have much scope for additional mobilisation of resources. The effort will necessarily have to be on keeping expenditure in check.

EXPENDITURE POLICY

47. In my last Budget speech, I have set out the principles of the expenditure policy which this Government would pursue. It is not desirable

that Government undertakes expenditure on various activities which can be efficiently performed by others. The Government should concentrate on certain core activities and in particular, look after the well being of the poor and downtrodden. We have kept this as the main guiding principle in developing our expenditure policy. The Tenth Finance Commission has been severe on estimating the expenditure needs of the Government and has clearly indicated that States should not undertake unnecessary commitments. We will therefore have to exercise caution in setting out our expenditure policy.

48. We shall continue the policy frame that I had set out last year, namely secure improved productivity in Government with continued implementation of the Ze-bag process, target as far as practicable all schemes only for the deserving and needy poor, secure adequate recovery of costs for various services rendered by the Government particularly to the non-poor, withdraw financial support to loss making public sector undertakings from 1995-96 onwards and lastly, implement economy measures with full earnestness. We shall continue this package of measures in 1995-96. I seek the cooperation of all the Hon'ble Members in my effort.

TAXES

Sales Tax

49. This Government has followed a pragmatic fiscal policy without over burdening any category. This stability in fiscal policy has been greatly welcomed. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the far reaching changes in the sales tax structure which we introduced in 1993-94. This has become a model for the rest of the country and several States have followed our lead. Industry and Trade have been requesting that Additional Sales Tax, Surcharge and Additional Surcharge on Sales Tax should all be merged with the Basic Sales Tax and an even more simple rate system be evolved, together with a concessional rate for capital goods. This issue has already been gone into by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) in the context of the introduction of a Value Added Tax (VAT) system. The report of the NIPFP was presented to the Government of India. The Union Finance Minister held a meeting on 27th May 1994 with all State Finance Ministers to consider the report of the NIPFP. It was then decided

that a Committee of 10 State Finance Ministers would go into the whole issue of tax rationalisation further. The levy of Consignment Tax has also been referred to this Committee. We have had further meetings of this Committee and also the sub committees constituted to go into various issues. Any further rationalisation including the merger of Additional Sales Tax, Surcharge and Additional Surcharge with the Basic Sales Tax and concession for capital goods, will have to go along with other measures like the return to the States of the right to levy sales tax on three commodities now exempt because of the levy of Additional Excise Duties, the introduction of Consignment Tax and so on. A coordinated view will have to be taken. We shall of course pursue this issue in the Committee of State Finance Ministers so that an early consensus can be reached, not only among States but also with Union Territories and the Government of India.

50. We have decided, as part of our fiscal policy to take steps to foster industrial growth in the State. With the lowering of import duties and the liberalisation of the economy, Indian industry has to become competitive. There is competition between States in attracting new industries. We have already launched a new State specific action plan for industrial development. This plan includes a well thought out fiscal policy. It will be our effort to move forward in establishing a simplified and rational tax system in Tamil Nadu. One of the main issues affecting the competitiveness of industry among States is the incidence of sales taxes on industrial inputs. It is our objective to minimise the cascading of taxes. As part of this process we had already widened the scope of the concessional rate of tax for inputs under sec 3 (3) of the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Act for many items in 1993-94. Again in my budget speech for 1994-95, I had announced that the concessional rate of tax under sec 3 (3) would be extended to some mineral oils, as notified, and gases used as raw materials. We could not implement this due to revenue considerations. We have now reviewed the whole issue of taxation on inputs for industries. In the newly developing competitive situation there is considerable merit in the argument, that all inputs into a manufacturing of industrial process should at best bear a nominal tax. We have decided to implement such a policy. Accordingly all mineral oils, lubricating oils, quenching oils, greases and gases which are presently not eligible for the concessional rate of tax under sec 3 (3), will now be made eligible for the concessional rate of Basic Sales Tax of 3 per cent. This will greatly help several industries relying on mineral oils and gases as

competitive. Diesel will continue to be ineligible for the concessional treatment as it is mostly used as fuel for vehicles. Petrol, aviation fuel and liquor are also not eligible since these are not industrial inputs. This concession will involve a loss of revenue of about Rs 80 crores per annum. We have decided to go ahead and implement this far reaching reform to enable accelerated industrial development in the State.

51. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that a 5 per cent sales tax is being levied on food and drink served in restaurants and hotels. The exemption limit is Rs.3 lakhs per annum. Several representations have been received that, as a specific measure to bring down prices, the Government should reduce this tax. It has been indicated that a large number of workers go to small hotels for their daily food and it will be of great help if their cost of living can be brought down. We have decided to totally do away with this tax except in respect of food and drink served in star hotels. We expect the hoteliers to bring down the prices of food and drink. Hon'ble Members of this House will no doubt welcome this measure which is directed towards bringing down the prices of food articles to benefit the common man. The loss of revenue is estimated at about Rs 20 crores per annum.

52. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that last year in an effort to broaden the tax base we had reviewed the list of goods exempted from tax and brought to tax those goods which could bear the minimum rate of tax. Based on representations received thereafter we have already restored the exemption to the following goods:

- Coconut Thatches
- Firewood
- Reading books including text books
- Students' note books and copy books
- Poultry feed, rabbit feed, monkey feed and pig feed
- Korai grass
- Indigenous products of sericulture
- Desiccated coconut
- Broom stick
- Writing pencils, colour pencils, erasers, sharpeners
- Pens, ball point pens, refills, ebonite pens, ebonite ball pens, writing ink including ink tablets

- Black boards, dusters, geometry boxes, dissection boxes and other instruments for drawing or dissection
- Stitched handloom and millmade handkerchiefs
- Palm Jaggery
- Charcoal
- Packed pickles weighing below 50 grams
- Appalams and vadams

53. Taking note of further representations and the needs of the common man and children we have decided to exempt the following goods from sales tax:

- Candles
- Rubber play balls
- Hurricane lights
- Kerosene lamps (other than gas lights and petromax lights) and their wicks and glass chimneys
- Non pressure kerosene stoves

54. **Manually operated agricultural leveller and hoe and animal drawn leveller** will also hereafter be exempt from tax.

55. Cardboard boxes are presently taxed at the residual rate of 8 per cent. Corrugated boxes are taxed at 5 per cent. We will amplify the entry in Schedule I to include card board boxes so that they are also taxed at 5 per cent.

56. The electronics industry is an important growth industry. The rate of tax on electronics goods is already at the low rate of 3%. However manufacturers of electronics goods have indicated that certain components of electronics goods like small transformers and capacitors meant for radio, television and electronic equipment are being charged at a much higher rate. They have requested uniform treatment of all components going into electronic products. We have carefully examined this request and we have decided to reduce the rate for small transformers used in electronics equipments including Power and Control transformers (stepping down from 230 V to less than 100 V power rating not exceeding 250 VA), Buck/Boost transformers (230 V/less than 100 V), Inverter transformers, Isolation transformers, Rectifier transformers, Ferro Resonant transformers, Line driver transformers (less than 50 VA), Fly Back transformers/Line output

58. Section 12 of the TNGST Act indicates the penalty that is to be charged in the event there is a difference in the tax assessed and the tax paid as per the return. At present the lowest slab rate of penalty of 50 per cent is levied if the tax paid as per the return falls short of the tax assessed on final assessment, even by a small amount. Dealers have represented that there could be small variations between the tax as per the return and the final assessment due to accounting and computer errors. This should not be penalised at the very stiff rate of 50%. We have therefore decided that a penal rate of 25% will be levied if the difference between the tax assessed and the tax paid as per the return is not more than 5 per cent. The existing rate of 50% of the difference of tax assessed and the tax paid as per the return will continue if the tax paid as per the return falls short of the tax assessed on final assessment by more than 5 per cent but not more than 15 per cent. The other slab rates of penalty will remain the same.

59. It is also proposed to exempt weaning food sold to District Collectors for the Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R Nutritious Noon Meal Programme, by a separate notification, in continuation of the exemption now existing for pulses and oil sold for this programme.

60. It is proposed to amplify and correct the existing entry in Schedule III B for water to make it clear that distilled water and mineral water in any form of container, and water sold not only in bottles and sachets but also in jugs and Jerry cans will not be exempted. Of course water sold in large drums, animal or tractor drawn tanks and lorry tankers will continue to be exempted.

61. Trade has been in two minds about the interpretation of the 40 - day time limit given by Government for "in transit" sales under the CST Act. It is proposed to clarify by a separate notification that this 40 - day limit is an overall total limit for a set of goods even if there are a series of such sales in those goods. However transactions prior to 1.4.1995 will not be reopened on this issue.

62. All these sales tax changes will take effect from 1st April 1995. Appropriate amendments to the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Act will be brought forward in the current session of the Legislature.

Entertainment Tax

63. Hon'ble Members are aware that in the last Budget the

transformers /Extra high tension transformers, Main filter transformers, Line driver transformers (ferrite core), Toroidal core transformers and R-Core transformers, Switch mode power supply transformers from 12 per cent to 3 per cent. The tax on capacitors other than those to be specified in Item 38-A of Part-D of Schedule I will be reduced from 8 per cent to 3 per cent, while the power factor and shunt capacitors (1 KVAR to 100 KVAR - 415 V or 660 V) are to be specified in Item 38A of Part D of Schedule I explicitly at 8 per cent. Electrical transformers including Transmission Power transformers (33 KV to 232 KV), Distribution transformers (33 KV to 3.3 KV) Traction power transformers (110 KV), Booster transformers (25 KV or thereabouts), Furnace transformers, Resin potted transformers (11 KV or thereabouts), Welding transformers, Step up transformers (230 V/up, 5 to 50 KV and 415/5 to 50 KV), Auto transformers (variac), Instrument transformers like current transformers and potential transformers, and parts and accessories will continue to be taxed at 12 per cent.

57. At present the rate of tax on lotteries is 3 per cent. Lotteries organised by different State Governments are allowed to be sold in Tamil Nadu. The levy of sales tax on lotteries has been reviewed. Lottery tickets are different from other goods in that their intrinsic value is negligible. They are not fully tradeable or seizable goods over a length of time. After a draw, except the winning tickets, they are of no value. The dealers have also represented about the problem of unsold tickets. In view of this they have requested a compounding system. Such a system is in vogue in Rajasthan. Taking note of these representations and also with a view to ensure that a substantial revenue from lotteries is realised, the Government have decided to introduce a compounding system. Accordingly every dealer (which term includes a distributor) of lottery tickets in Tamil Nadu may compound the tax liability in respect of lottery tickets and pay a compounded amount at the following rates, namely:

Type of draw	Amount per draw to be paid
Weekly draw	Rs 6,000/-
Monthly Instant Draw	Rs 15,000/-
Monthly Bumper Draw	Rs 15,000/-
Festival Bumper Draw	Rs 20,000/-

This system of compounding will be at the option of the dealer who will have to opt for the compounding system before the 30th June 1995.

☆ **Under the Family Distress Relief Scheme, Rs.5,000 is provided as a relief amount in the event of death of the bread-winner. In addition to the existing scheme a new Child Support Scheme is introduced to ensure that the child does not suffer for want of education. According to this scheme, a monthly support of Rs.50 will be extended to one child in the family for a period of 4 years to enable the child to continue schooling atleast upto class VIII.**

Government decided to accept the recommendations of the High Power Sales Tax Reforms Committee and to levy an entertainment tax of 40 per cent on the gross receipts of the Cable Television operators. There have been repeated representations from Cable TV operators that the present rate of tax of 40 per cent was too high and that this should be reduced substantially. While not fully conceding the request of the Cable TV operators, at the same time for better compliance and to avoid protracted litigation the Government has decided to reduce this rate to 20 per cent with effect from 1st April 1995. It is estimated that this will mean a fall in revenue of about Rs 8.50 crores.

64. Appropriate amendments to the Tamil Nadu Entertainment Tax Act will be brought forward in the current session of the Legislature.

Agricultural Income Tax

65. We have recognised the plantation industry as an important export oriented industry. In the last budget I had announced some incentives for the plantation industry. We shall introduce a Plantation Development Fund scheme to promote new investment. Under this scheme, an Agricultural Income Tax assessee will be allowed deduction from his agricultural income liable to tax, an amount equivalent to the deposit made under the new Plantation Development Fund scheme to a maximum extent of 8 per cent of his taxable income. This deposit can be maintained in a special account with the NABARD, State Cooperative Bank or any nationalised bank. The deposit can be withdrawn with interest after a period

of one year but will have to be utilised for specified investments on the plantation within Tamil Nadu like replanting, extension of planting, new construction or extension of roads and bridges, construction of factories and godowns, purchase of plant and machinery on the estate etc.

66. In my last budget speech, I had announced that interest on working capital would be made fully deductible provided, the borrowings were from scheduled banks and public sector financial institutions. I now propose to relax the condition further and allow deduction on account of interest on working capital borrowed from other sources excluding relatives subject to a ceiling of 15 per cent on the interest rate.

67. The present ceiling of Rs 10,000 under Section 5(e) of the Act which allows deduction for contributions and donations for charitable purposes will be enhanced to Rs 25,000 and for donations to the Chief Ministers' Public Relief Fund upto Rs.50,000.

68. Suitable amendments to the Act and rules to give effect of these changes will be introduced in this session to take effect from the assessment year 1995-96.

CONCLUSION

69. I had earlier indicated in my speech that the closing deficit for 1995-96 would be (-) Rs.25.50 crores. Hon'ble Members may note that I have not made any proposals for additional taxation, but have offered many concessions to promote the growth of industries in the State and also to secure the well being of the poor. The effect of these concessions is estimated to be a loss of revenue of Rs 110 crores. By undertaking various measures to control expenditure which have been outlined and by improved collection of taxes and non tax revenue, I am hopeful of neutralizing this anticipated loss of revenue. Consequent on the decision to reduce the prices of all varieties of rice in the Public Distribution System from 1st April 1995 by Re.1 per Kg., the additional commitment will be Rs.150 crores. Adding this, the net final deficit will be (-) Rs.175.50 crores. Hon'ble Members will note that this reflects a much healthier financial situation than when we assumed office nearly 4 years back.

70. Although we have reversed the trend of increasing deficits in the revenue account, the failure of the Tenth Finance Commission to

provide any worthwhile relief makes it necessary for us to continue to be vigilant in controlling expenditure. The Centre has not acceded to any of the long-standing demands of the States to improve their finances. A share in Corporation Tax has been a long standing request. This has not yet been realised. Consignment Tax which was almost implemented during the late Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi's period of office has been virtually shelved. This does not augur well for equitable sharing of resources between the Centre and the States. The Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations do not at all improve this position.

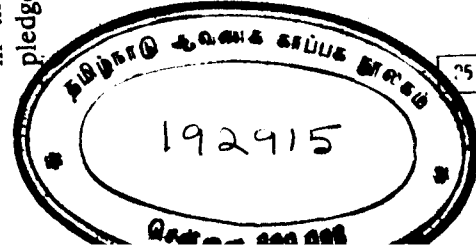
71. It has been our consistent plea that instead of discretionary flows of assistance for various programmes from the Centre, the better course would be to improve the overall share of resources of all the States. This would make the States more self reliant, consistent with their responsibilities. We do not see any movement in this direction and the Tenth Finance Commission has missed a major opportunity to correct the situation. It is time that a more meaningful debate on the distribution of resources between the Centre and the States consistent with the sharing of responsibilities takes place.

72. A State Government which wants to undertake new projects to provide essential infrastructure using external commercial borrowings cannot do so, as all the powers are with the Centre. When companies are allowed to access such borrowings, it is not clear why the Centre cannot allow a quota for the States for essential projects. We would urge the Centre to consider this issue and allocate a share out of external commercial borrowings to States which can attract such investments.

73. In June 1991, the people of Tamil Nadu gave a resounding mandate to the AIADMK headed by Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha to secure the well being of the people of the State. This Government headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has unflinchingly stood by the people of the State at all times. The grave threat posed by foreign militants and extremists has been completely eliminated. Peace and tranquillity prevails throughout the State. Among the Indian States, Tamil Nadu stands as a shining example where stability and orderliness have led to growth and prosperity. The well being of the poor has been at the core of all our development plans and programmes. Tamil Nadu's per capita plan outlay has moved up once again

above the national average. Tamil Nadu clearly is one of the fastest growing States. It is an excellent record of which we can legitimately be proud.

74. This Government has had to face many a problematic situation. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has worked tirelessly to protect the rights of the State in every forum. It is her vision, resolute action and firm and clear direction that has enabled Tamil Nadu to forge ahead on the road to prosperity. The policy of affirmative action to secure social justice has been greatly strengthened by the firm action taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha to secure Constitutional protection for the Tamil Nadu Act providing for reservation in employment and education for the Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Denotified Communities. The Social Safety Net for the poor in Tamil Nadu has earned wide appreciation. It is now being emulated by others. This Budget has been formulated with a view to seek higher growth in the State's economy. It places a new focus on rapid industrial development. At the same time, it also has several plans and programmes for the benefit of the poor and the downtrodden. The Plan outlay of Rs 3250.58 crore that has been included in the Budget is ambitious but we shall exceed this outlay to honour our pledge to the people.



- ☆ A new Pension scheme for Marginal Farmers above the age of 65 has been introduced. A Pension of Rs.100 per month will be provided under this new scheme.
- ☆ SIDCO will establish an Industrial Estate near Madras exclusively for women entrepreneurs in 1995-96.

75. I welcome constructive suggestions on this Budget from the Hon'ble Members of this House based on the sound principles of justice, truth and integrity. I request the Hon'ble Members to eschew acrimony and rancour in the debate and instead offer positive suggestions to help us to serve the people better.

76. I have great pleasure in congratulating and conveying my heart felt gratitude to Thiru N. Narayanan, I.A.S., other officers of the Finance Department, and Secretaries and officers of other Government departments for having stood by me and for rendering immense assistance in preparing this Budget in a splendid and perfect manner.

77. I earnestly request the House to kindly approve the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1995-96.

Vanakkam.

VR. NEDUNCHEZHIAN,
MINISTER FOR FINANCE.

Madras,
22nd March 1995,
Panguni 8,
Thiruvalluvar Era 2026.

- ☆ Television sets will be supplied to 2000 Adi-Dravidar habitations.
- ☆ 50,000 concrete roof houses will be built for Adi-Dravidars.
- ☆ 6,577 houses will be built free of cost for the rural poor belonging to Backward Classes.

Tamil Nadu has been blessed with bountiful harvests for the fourth year in succession. The overall food grains production is expected to exceed 100 lakh tonnes during 1994-95. This tremendous achievement of our farmers deserves the highest praise.

2. It is now well accepted that in a low income developing country in the initial phase of economic transition, agriculture faces the double challenge of absorbing additional workers while increasing the productivity of the average worker to reduce poverty. Broad based agricultural growth, involving the small and medium size farmers and driven by productivity enhancement through technological change, offers the only way to create productive employment and alleviate poverty on the scale required. Tamil Nadu's economy is in a transitional phase and the share of agriculture in the State Domestic Product, as is to be expected, has moved down from 29.42 per cent in 1981-82 to 24.18 per cent in 1992-93. It is in this transition stage that agriculture has an even more important role, as the objective of poverty alleviation remains centre stage.

3. We have formulated a policy that should facilitate rapid agricultural development keeping in mind the fact that the economy is in transition. The first and foremost objective will be to reorient Government policy in such a manner so as to enable the farmers to realise higher prices and decrease their dependence on subsidies. Thus, apart from price policy, deregulation of market controls and maximisation of farmers' well-being will be the broad objectives of Government interventions. Secondly, the supply and quality of farm inputs will be upgraded. Thirdly, the rural credit structure will be revitalised. Fourthly, agricultural support services will be upgraded. The overall objective is to improve productivity by adapting technological change while at the same time contributing to poverty alleviation.

4. Keeping in mind this policy frame, this Government has greatly improved the prices available at the farm gate for the benefit of farmers.

has released the first hybrid variety of paddy namely "MGR". This variety will be cultivated on 13,758 acres in 1995-96. A demonstration scheme to popularise this variety will be launched in the coming year.

8. Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of promotion of eco-friendly practices in agriculture. The Integrated Pest Management scheme will be implemented in 1995-96 at a cost of Rs.20 lakhs. The production of bio-fertilizers which has gone up from 1000 tonnes in 1993-94 to 1200 tonnes in 1994-95, will be further stepped up to 1450 tonnes in 1995-96. The bio-fertilizer centre at Salem will be upgraded in 1995-96 at a cost of Rs.28 lakhs.

9. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that the World Bank has given final clearance in February 1995 for implementing the Agricultural Human Resources Development Project in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.94.56 crores. This major new project will greatly promote agricultural research, teaching and skill upgradation. The budget for 1995-96 provides Rs.10 crores for this project.

10. The DANIDA assisted Tamil Nadu Women in Agriculture Project Phase-II, being implemented at a cost of Rs.28.73 crores, will be extended to 8 more districts viz., North Arcot Ambedkar, Villupuram, Ramasamy Padayatchiar, Coimbatore, Kanniyakumari, Dindigul Anna, Nagapattinam, Quaid-e-Milleth, Periyar and Kamarajar districts during 1995-96. This project will provide training for rural women working on small and marginal farms to improve their technological skills. A total number of 11,025 women will be trained during 1995-96.

11. The World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project (TNADP) with a revised cost of Rs.410 crores will be implemented during 1995-96 with greater vigour. The budget for 1995-96 makes a stepped up provision of Rs.73.43 crores for this project.

12. The efficient use of available water has been accorded the highest priority. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that a Comprehensive Watershed Development Project to cover 27,000 acres in Kamarajar, Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar and Ramanathapuram districts, at a cost of Rs.13.51 crores, is being implemented with assistance from DANIDA. Another project to cover 1,04,000 acres in Tirunelveli-Kattabomman and Chidambaranar

The procurement prices of paddy which were Rs.185 per quintal for the coarse variety, Rs.195 per quintal for the fine variety and Rs.205 per quintal for the superfine variety in March 1990, have now become Rs.340 per quintal for the coarse variety, Rs.360 per quintal for the fine variety and Rs.380 per quintal for the superfine variety as at the end of March 1995. It may be seen that the prices have almost doubled. The State advised price for sugarcane which was Rs.250 per metric tonne as in March 1990 has now become an all time high of Rs.525 per metric tonne. Simultaneously, regulations on the movement of food grains have been done away with resulting in very good prices for farmers and at the same time easy availability throughout the State.

5. Free availability of quality inputs at reasonable prices is a must for efficient agriculture. The sudden reduction of subsidies for fertilizers by the Centre and the consequent problems in availability have posed serious problems to this Government. Even so, the situation has been very effectively tackled leading to all round satisfaction. While it is true that the focus should be on improving prices of farm produce to benefit farmers, the withdrawal of subsidies has to be gradual keeping in mind the fact that real farm incomes should be improved. The availability of other farm inputs like irrigation water has to be efficiently organised. This Government will promote water users' associations to ensure timely availability of water and efficient harnessing of water resources. Despite the financial strain, this Government continues to provide free electricity for all farm pumpsets. This Government is fully conscious that any review of this subsidy will have to be accompanied by a thorough examination of farm output prices and input costs.

6. As part of the process of making agriculture efficient in the context of a transition economy, this Government places the highest emphasis on the revitalisation of the rural credit structure. It will be the effort in 1995-96 to overhaul the cooperative credit structure and the Primary Land Development Banks to cater more effectively to the needs of the farmer. The focus will be on promoting capital investment in Agriculture.

7. Government interventions in providing agricultural support services are most crucial. This Government has fully supported farmers in undertaking technological changes. The agricultural research services have been greatly strengthened. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

districts has been launched recently and involves a total cost of Rs.41.32 crores. Under the National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), 2.94 lakh acres in 84 blocks will be covered in 1995-96. The watershed development component of the TNADP will cover 2.22 lakh acres in 1995-96.

13. As part of the effort to improve the efficient supply of water, the Command Area Development Programme has been extended to cover the Cumbum Valley, Amaravathy, Kodayar-Chittar Pattanamkal commands at a cost of Rs.46.74 crores. During 1995-96, it is expected that a total area of 1.07 lakh acres will be covered at a cost of Rs.23.50 crores under this programme.

14. To improve the incomes available to farmers we have to go in for value added agriculture, horticulture and floriculture. A new scheme with an outlay of Rs.1 crore will be launched in 1995-96 to promote, in the joint and associate sectors, new food and flower production-cum-processing units. This scheme will be implemented by the Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation. The Tamil Nadu Horticulture Producers Cooperative Enterprises Federation (TANHOPE) has been launched with a seed capital of Rs.1.15 crores to increase the production and promote exports of various horticulture crops.

IRRIGATION

15. The plan outlay for 1995-96 for irrigation including minor irrigation, will be Rs. 137.07 crores.

16. Tamil Nadu has already utilised 98 % of its surface water and 62% of its ground water potential. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has repeatedly insisted on the Centre taking up the Peninsular River Water Grid. Very recently in the meeting with the Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission at New Delhi on 20th January 1995, she insisted that at least the first component of this Grid, namely the Pampa-Achankoil-Vaigai link, which envisages the transfer of 23 TMC of water to irrigate about 2.47 lakh acres in the drought prone districts of Kamarajar, Tirunelveli-Kattabomman, Ramanathapuram and Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar districts at a cost of Rs 680 crores should be taken up as the first stage of this national project. This

Government would once again urge the Centre to take up the Peninsular River Water Grid as a national project without any further delay.

17. The pattern of irrigation has considerably changed over the last decade and is currently as below:

	Lakh acres
i) Flow irrigation based on major irrigation systems and distributaries	23.47
ii) Irrigation tanks	22.23
iii) Tube wells	28.41
iv) Others	8.65
Total	82.76

18. Irrigated area is 47% of the cropped area. Our programmes in the irrigation sector will have to take note of this position and focus on the efficient utilization of available water.

19. Keeping in mind these objectives, we have been discussing with the World Bank the possibility of implementing a large project to completely rehabilitate and modernise all irrigation systems in the State. This project will ensure the completion of all on-going schemes in time. It will also completely modernise all the existing systems. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 40 lakh persons, 75% of whom will be small and marginal farmers. We hope to make a beginning on the Water Resources Consolidation Project with assistance from the World Bank. This project involves an investment cost of Rs 1140 crores and will be implemented in a period of 7 years. The Budget provides a provision of Rs 68.57 crores for implementing the Water Resources Consolidation Project in 1995-96.

20. A new reservoir across the Malattar River in North Arcot Ambedkar District will be constructed. This project will cost Rs 16 crores. It will benefit 2779.48 acres of dry land. It will also improve the drinking water supply in Perambattu town.

The Budget provides Rs 267.50 per hectare for maintenance of large and medium irrigation systems and Rs.297.50 per hectare for maintenance of minor irrigation systems. The total allotment for maintenance is Rs.27.76 crores for major and medium irrigation systems in 1995-96 and Rs.10.71 crores for minor irrigation systems. Included in this is a special provision of Rs 10 crores for the complete restoration of damages caused to irrigation systems by floods.

25. Members are aware of the herculean efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in furthering the cause of Tamil Nadu in the Cauvery Water Dispute. The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has examined four of the Tamil Nadu witnesses. After examining the remaining Tamil Nadu witnesses and witnesses from Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry, arguments will be addressed to the Tribunal. Even though Karnataka did not fully and faithfully comply with the Interim Order of the Tribunal in force from 10.12.1991, the bounty of the monsoons filled the Mettur Reservoir in the last three years, and enabled timely and adequate supplies for the Cauvery irrigation in this State. We hope that Government of Karnataka will implement the Interim Order in the coming season. We urge the Centre to intervene effectively and prevail upon the Government of Karnataka to implement this Interim Order.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

26. It is this Government's economic philosophy that poverty alleviation is best achieved by farm prosperity and the associated rural development programmes.

27. With the announcement of this Government's intention of holding elections to local bodies in June 1995, we do not anticipate any problem regarding the flow of funds from the Centre for various rural development programmes. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that the Jawahar Velai Vaippu Thittam (JVVT) will be implemented in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.311.64 crores. The budget provides for the State's share of Rs.68.84 crores for this programme. The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) will be implemented in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.45.80 crores. The Budget provides for the State's share of Rs.9.16 crores for this scheme. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) will be implemented in 1995-96 with



21. A new State Tank Irrigation Project (STIP) will be launched in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.10 crores. This project will exclusively provide for the standardisation and modernisation of irrigation tanks. This project will have two components. The first component will be the standardisation and conversion of ex-zamin tanks and the second component, the standardisation and improvement of other tanks which are with the Public Works Department. All ex-zamin tanks will be properly handed over either to the Panchayat Unions or to the Public Works Department depending on their size, by the end of 1995-96 for further maintenance.

22. The Tank Modernisation Project with EEC assistance will continue to be implemented in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.21.57 crores. We have approached the EEC for extending the project to cover 100 more tanks with an ayacut of 30,000 acres at a total cost of Rs.14.40 crores. We hope to take up this extension project in 1995-96.

23. An important project which is being implemented with assistance from the World Bank is the Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project. The outlay for this project in 1995-96 is Rs.2.13 crores. This project will provide basic safety facilities for 12 dams at a cost of Rs 8.10 crores and also rectification measures at a cost of Rs 58.01 crores for another 7 dams.

24. Maintenance of irrigation sources is of the utmost importance. It is also necessary that farmers pay for the cost of maintenance.

an outlay of Rs.80.30 crores. The budget includes Rs.42.58 crores as State's share for this programme.

28. In a federal system, the States have certain responsibilities. They should be given enough resources to match these responsibilities. They should not be dependent on discretionary flows of assistance from the Centre. Unfortunately, in vital fields like rural development, agriculture and health and family welfare there is a trend of increasing discretionary flows, whereas the more appropriate course would have been for the Centre to strengthen the resource base of the States to undertake such programmes on their own. Direct intervention by the Centre through release of funds to the District Rural Development Agencies bypassing the States is not at all a healthy trend. While it may be true that in one or two other States there have been problems in the prompt release of the Centre's share to the agencies, the fabric of Centre-State fiscal relations should not be disrupted by such new practices which bypass the State.

29. The basic amenities which are necessary in rural areas have been provided under the Self Sufficiency Scheme. Today, in Tamil Nadu, there are 1,43,266 hand pumps, 28,809 power pumps, 8,62,874 street lights in rural areas. The proper maintenance of these facilities has now been given the highest importance. The Budget provides Rs.3.19 crores for hand pump maintenance, Rs.2.45 crores for power pump maintenance and Rs.3 crores for street light maintenance. This is to support weaker panchayats to maintain these facilities in proper order.

30. Even after the provision of all basic facilities there could be local needs which are still to be met. As an important measure to promptly redress such needs, this Government has introduced the District Decentralized Plan. Under this plan it is open to the district administration to utilise the funds provided for any necessary facility or rural employment oriented programme. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that the provision for this plan has been stepped up to Rs.50 crores in 1995-96.

31. Rural sanitation is of vital importance. We have already implemented a successful project in Marakanam with assistance from DANIDA. We have requested support from DANIDA for a rural sanitation

and water supply project to cover South Arcot Vallalar and Villupuram Ramasamy Padayatchiar districts at a cost of Rs.69.30 crores. This project will be implemented in the coming year with assistance from DANIDA. We have made a major start in tackling the problem of rural sanitation under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP). In 1994-95, 59,924 individual household latrines and 260 sanitary complexes for women will be completed in rural areas. A similar target is proposed in the coming year.

32. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that by June 1995, all panchayats in the State will be provided with one colour television set. This programme is being implemented at a cost of Rs.2.90 crores and 2,000 panchayats will be covered under this programme.

33. In a decentralised system, it is important that the costs of maintaining various services and the revenues are properly balanced. At the Panchayat Union level we intend to open separate new accounts for irrigation, roads, water supply, forestry and street lighting. These new accounts will reflect clearly the expenditure on maintenance and the resources flowing to these services.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

34. This Government fully recognizes the importance of Animal Husbandry as a key sector of the economy. As a result of sustained policy intervention, Animal Husbandry has been converted from merely a subsidiary occupation in rural areas to a remunerative enterprise. The strategies of genetic improvement through artificial insemination and other breeding techniques, production of balanced feed and fodder and widening of the animal health cover net, have resulted in remarkable increases in the production of milk, meat and eggs in the State. Milk production has reached 3.96 million tonnes in 1994 as against 1.79 million tonnes in 1982. Meat production has increased to 45.15 million kgs. Egg availability has gone up from 890 million in 1982 to 3066 million in 1994.

35. Recognising the importance of the animal husbandry sector, a total outlay of Rs.10.62 crores has been provided for livestock development under the World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project. The Animal Husbandry Department and Tamil Nadu



Veterinary and Animal Sciences University are also to be covered under the new Agriculture Human Resources Development Project, also assisted by the World Bank.

36. As already announced, 386 mobile veterinary units, one in each Panchayat Union have been established. A new programme to encourage self employment among veterinary doctors will be launched in 1995-96 with a provision of Rs 10 lakhs. Under this programme 66 doctors will be actively assisted with margin money to establish their own veterinary clinics. The Budget provides for upgradation of 10 veterinary dispensaries as veterinary hospitals.

37. The Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipettai is well known for its quality vaccines. A provision of Rs 42.50 lakhs has been made for strengthening the production of canine rabies vaccine. This will enable the production to be stepped up from 7,500 doses per year to 25,000 doses per year.

38. An Integrated Dairy Development Project in Tirunelveli-Kattabomman district with assistance from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will be completed in 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs 7 crores. A new Integrated Dairy Development Project in Kamarajar District at a cost of Rs.4.66 crores will be launched during 1995-96. Under this project, a new dairy at Srivilliputhur with a capacity of 50,000 litres per day will be established. The Budget includes a provision of Rs 50 lakhs for this project.

39. The milk procurement in the State has increased from 11.83 lakh litres per day in 1992-93 to 14.69 lakh litres per day during 1994-95. We expect to step it up further to 15 lakh litres per day in the coming year. The total dairy capacity in the State has reached 19.64 lakh litres per day with the conversion of chilling centres at Kakalur and Srivilliputhur into dairies. A new major dairy at Solinganallur with a capacity of 4 lakh litres per day has been completed. In the coming year a new dairy at Tiruchirappalli with a capacity of 1.5 lakh litres per day will be completed. Work on two chilling centres with a capacity of 60,000 litres per day at Kodakkal and Sanur will be completed in the coming year. Chilling capacity at Namakkal, Sankaranandapalayam, Shanmugapuram, Sultanpet, Athur, Perambalur and Karur will be increased by another 2,14,000 litres per day during 1995-96.

40. A total area of 47,000 acres has been covered under the fodder development component of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project. During 1995-96 a further area of 57,800 acres will be covered. The Budget provides a sum of Rs.77 lakhs for this programme.

FISHERIES

41. The Integrated Marine Fisheries Development Project with assistance from the National Co-operative Development Corporation at a total cost of Rs.15.88 crores is being implemented with great success in the five coastal districts of Thanjavur, Ramanathapuram, Chidambaram, Chengalpattu MGR and Kanniyakumari. During 1995-96, a total number of 1300 fishermen will be assisted to acquire fishing craft, fishing gear and other equipment at a total cost of Rs.3.12 crores.

42. We will launch a new scheme to popularise synthetic catamarans during 1995-96. 50% subsidy will be provided for the purchase of synthetic catamarans. This scheme will be implemented at a total cost of Rs.25 lakhs.

43. Since this Government accords the highest importance to the ecological sustainability of coastal aquaculture, on the basis of the recommendations of an Expert Committee, we have brought forward legislation to regulate the establishment and management of private

sector coastal aquaculture farms in the State. It is expected that a further area of 1500 acres will be brought under aquaculture during 1995-96 under close environmental supervision.

44. The welfare of the fishermen has been accorded the highest priority by this Government. The scheme of providing 2,000 pucca houses for fishermen will be continued during 1995-96. The budget provides for a total outlay of Rs.4.80 crores for this free housing scheme.

45. During 1994-95 a total sum of Rs.9.74 crores has been disbursed to 1.35 lakh fishermen under the Savings-cum-Relief Scheme, to cover the loss of wages during the off season. This scheme, which has proved to be a major benefit to the fishermen will be continued during 1995-96.

FORESTS

46. Protection of the existing forest cover and expanding the geographical area under forest cover continues to receive highest priority. The forest cover which was 16.8 % of total land area in 1981 has increased to 17.5 % in 1994. The total plan outlay for the Forestry Sector during 1994-95 will be Rs.50.44 crores.

47. A new Forestry Research Education and Extension Project with World Bank assistance has been launched at a cost of Rs.7.54 crores. This project will cover forestry research and also conservation activities in the Kalakad Tiger Reserve. The outlay on this project during 1995-96 will be Rs.1.50 crores.

48. We had formulated a comprehensive Tamil Nadu Forestry Project which had been posed to the World Bank for funding. Based on certain observations by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, this project has been recast with a revised project cost of Rs.463 crores. We expect to secure funding for this project in 1995-96 from either the World Bank or the OECF (Japan). This project will provide for conservation of bio-diversity by preventing the destruction of plant species and habitats. The project will cover 13.68 lakh acres of forest area. It will also cover 1000 interface villages.

49. A new Operation Greening scheme for afforestation of

non-forest areas will be launched in 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.50 lakhs. A pilot project to conserve mangrove species at Pichavaram will be launched in the coming year. Under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project, a total outlay of Rs.12.74 crores has been provided for the forestry component during 1995-96.

50. Under the Hill Area Development Programme, afforestation and soil conservation works will be carried out in the Nilgiris District. A total area of 2370 acres will be covered at a cost of Rs.3.24 crores in 1995-96. Under Western Ghat Development Programme, apart from afforestation, soil engineering and soil protection works in priority watershed areas will be implemented at a cost of Rs.2.55 crores to cover 5850 acres during 1995-96.

51. Members of the House are aware of the special measures taken by this Government to safeguard forest wealth. During 1994-95 a total sum of Rs.25 lakhs was allocated for taking up various new forest protection works. During 1995-96, Rs.26.50 lakhs is to be spent on forest protection activities including the establishment of 21 forest stations. In addition, a sum of Rs.15 lakhs will be provided for provision of modern arms and ammunition to forest staff deployed in sensitive areas to ensure effective protection of forest wealth.

52. The Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation will continue to implement a major pulpwood afforestation project to cover 74,100 acres at a cost of Rs.85 crores. In 1995-96, 12,350 acres will be covered at a cost of Rs.2.50 crores.

INDUSTRIES

53. The Hon'ble Chief Minister's State specific action plan for accelerated industrial development has been announced in the Governor's address. The details of action being taken in furtherance of this action plan have been given under the different sectors. Hon'ble Members of the House will welcome this concerted action plan to promote industrial development in the State.

54. The main effort would be to develop suitable industrial zones with good quality infrastructure. Hon'ble Members of the House will be

Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL) undertaken at a cost of Rs. 525 crores is scheduled to be completed by June 1995. This project is being implemented with a loan of US \$ 75 million from the World Bank. TNPL has also broken new ground by undertaking exports of paper to Egypt.

59. As a unique scheme of urban infrastructure improvement going alongwith industrial development, the Tirupur Area Development Programme has been taken up. A new company, the Tirupur Area Development Corporation Ltd., has been formed to undertake the infrastructure development work. The project cost is estimated at Rs.653.20 crores. We have requested the Centre to provide Rs. 30 crores as their support for the equity of the new company. We expect that work on this project will commence shortly.

60. This Government stands fully committed to the development of small scale and tiny industries. It is to be noted that small scale industries contribute 40% of our total national manufacturing output. It is a very important sector. The number of permanently registered SSI units in Tamil Nadu has increased from 1,27,202 in 1990-91 to 1,98,699 as at the end of December 1994. The employment in these units has gone up from 13.74 lakhs in 1990-91 to 21.45 lakhs as at the end of December 1994. District Level Coordination Committees have been established to expedite the clearances for small scale industries.

61. The Government has placed maximum emphasis on entrepreneurship development schemes. The scheme for encouraging women entrepreneurs has been successful. So far 3400 women entrepreneurs have been trained up to the end of 1994-95. The Budget includes a scheme to orient 1400 women entrepreneurs in 1995-96.

62. In 1994-95, SIDCO will complete the construction of 200 industrial sheds at a cost of Rs.8 crores. In 1995-96, SIDCO proposes to complete the construction of 200 more industrial sheds. SIDCO will establish an industrial estate exclusively for women entrepreneurs near Madras in 1995-96.

63. As part of the overall drive to simplify procedures and accelerate clearances, inspections of small scale industries have now been limited to once a year on a random basis. Only those small scale industries involved in dangerous and hazardous processes, prone to pollution, have

glad to know that in 1995-96 new industries will be located in the growth centres which are coming up at Perundurai in Periyar District and Gangaikondan in Tirunelveli Kattabomman district. TACID will also fully establish industrial centres at Nilakottai in Dindigul Anna District and Bargur in Dharmapuri district in 1995-96. The Budget includes a provision of Rs 10 crores for the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Industrial Infrastructure Development. TACID will also take up work on establishing a large growth centre at Uthukottai near Madras. SIPCOT will undertake a new industrial estate covering 600 acres at Cheyyar in Tiruvannamalai Sambuvayar district at a cost of Rs.17.80 crores. SIPCOT will establish an Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP) at Gummidipoondi at a cost of Rs.20 crores. ELCOT has established an Electronics City at Sholinganallur near Madras. The availability of well serviced industrial sites will provide a great boost to rapid industrial development.

55. Work on the Madras Industrial Park at Sholinganallur near Madras is expected to be commenced in 1995-96. We expect this park to draw US \$ 1 billion of foreign direct investment into the State.

56. In 1994-95, TIDCO has supported 18 projects involving a total project cost of Rs.1742.19 crores. TIDCO will support in 1995-96, 19 projects which involve a total project cost of Rs.5805.93 crores. This includes a 500 MW thermal power station at Tuticorin to be set up at a cost of Rs.2,300 crores in association with Tamil Nadu Petroproducts Limited (TPL). The budget provides Rs.9.30 crores for TIDCO's programmes. SIPCOT's sanctions in 1994-95 will reach Rs.79.88 crores, being a new record. The Budget provides Rs.24.92 crores as support for SIPCOT's schemes during 1995-96.

57. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that projects are established by agencies like TIDCO in the joint sector, associate sector and escort sector. It is necessary that these investments are recycled to support new projects. Disinvestment from such projects will have to be done automatically and speedily to enable new investments to take place. In respect of projects in the associate sector, Government has decided that TIDCO can automatically disinvest at the end of a period of 3 years from the date of signing the agreement. This will enable quick rotation of capital and the financing of new projects.

58. The massive expansion project of the Tamil Nadu

to be inspected twice. The initial licences of renewal of licences will be given for 5 consecutive calendar years instead of an annual renewal. The schedule of inspection by officers of the Labour Department has been revised to be the minimum required.

64. While some of the steps announced in the Union Budget for 1995-96 like the constitution of a Technology Development and Modernisation Fund in SIDBI, extension of the National Equity Fund scheme to tiny industries and the plan to establish 100 specialised bank branches are to be welcomed, concerted action by commercial banks to solve the capital needs of this sector is necessary. We have decided to constitute an expert group to identify certain major product groups and work out specific packages to accelerate investment in small scale industries.

ENERGY

65. Tamil Nadu has been free from power cuts in 1994-95 and we expect this happy position to continue in 1995-96. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has inaugurated on 15th February 1995, a 210 MW unit at the North Madras Thermal Power Station. Two more units each of 210 MW will be commissioned in 1995-96. 4 units each of 30 MW totalling 120 MW will be commissioned at Basin Bridge in 1995-96. With so much addition of capacity in 1995-96, the power position in Tamil Nadu will continue to be comfortable.

66. The power sector plan outlay has been stepped up from Rs.624.38 crores in 1994-95 to Rs.750 crores in 1995-96. This will include Rs.520.33 crores on generation and Rs.198.35 crores on transmission and distribution.

67. Promotion of new generation projects in the private sector has been given utmost priority. A 250 MW plant based on lignite, promoted by M/s. ST - CMS Power Company is awaiting the counter guarantee from the Government of India. An immediate start to this project can be made. As already spelt out in the Governor's Address, action has been initiated for new gas and thermal stations to be installed in the private sector totalling 7120 MW involving an outlay of Rs 29,925 crores. In addition, 3 diesel plants totalling 400 MW have also been entrusted to the private sector. The final financial feasibility study of the Jayamkondam:

Integrated Lignite Mining and Power Generation Project will be taken up shortly.

68. With the entrustment of generation to the private sector, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is now in a position to improve the outlay on transmission and distribution. The losses on transmission and distribution have been brought down significantly and are currently well below the national average. In 1994-95, 38 new sub stations have been completed. A comprehensive plan with an outlay of Rs 225 crores funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is being implemented to improve the transmission and distribution net work in the Madras Metropolitan Area.

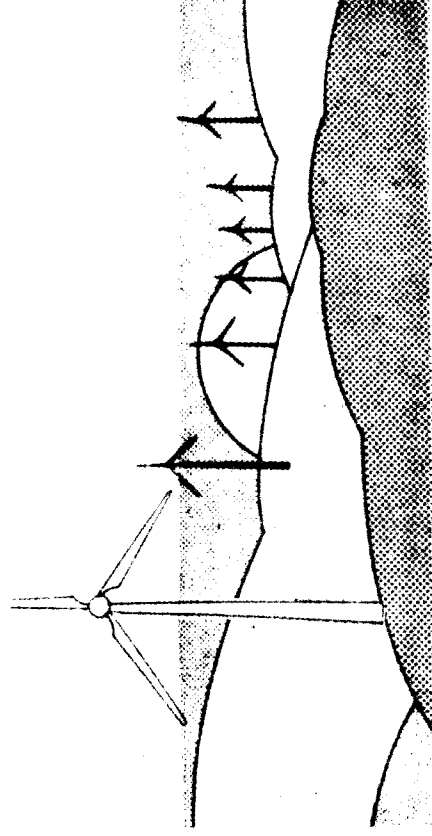
69. Even after revision of tariffs, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is confronted with a total resources shortfall of Rs.522.32 crores in 1995-96. The continued supply of electricity to farm pumpsets free of cost has imposed a major financial burden on the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. It is estimated that the total cost of supplying free electricity is Rs. 1112.40 crores in 1994-95. As the costs continue to rise, and the Government cannot provide more than Rs.350 crores as cash subsidy and other categories of consumers cannot be charged more, the situation has become quite complex. The Tenth Finance Commission has also completely disallowed provision of cash subsidy to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to cover the cost of free supply of electricity to farm pumpsets. A long term solution will have to be found in due course.

70. Tamil Nadu has placed maximum emphasis on the development of non-conventional sources of energy. Tamil Nadu stands in the forefront of wind power generation in India with a total capacity of 132 MW out of the all India installed capacity of 180 MW. Tamil Nadu's progressive policy of attracting private sector industry to wind generation has been very successful. Tamil Nadu has taken the lead in drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding with Sea Solar of USA for the development of ocean thermal energy. This has a potential for generating 100 MW. The Integrated Rural Energy Programme will be extended to 4 more Panchayat Unions in 1995-96. A beginning has been made in installing solar photo voltaic pumpsets on a pilot basis. 50 such solar photo voltaic pumpsets of 600 watts capacity each have been installed in Chengalpattu-MGR and South Arcot Vallalar districts.

will be Rs.18.50 crores. The Bus route improvement programme will also be continued with an outlay of Rs.14 crores in 1995-96. 350 KMs of newly started bus route roads earlier maintained by local bodies will be brought under Highways department's maintenance under this programme in 1995-96. The programme for roads for rural marketing centres under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project aims to provide 800 KMs of good roads in rural areas to give access to 20 major marketing centres. The outlay for this programme has been increased to Rs.12.50 crores in the year 1995-96 from Rs.10 crores for the current year. Under the Sugarcane Cess Road Development Fund Scheme, an outlay of Rs.6.43 crores will be provided in 1995-96. I am happy to announce that from this year, we are launching a new scheme for black topping of Panchayat Union roads. The Budget for 1995-96 has a provision of Rs.10 crores for this programme. The Local Roads Grant has been stepped upto Rs. 20 crores in 1995-96.

75. I am happy to inform the House that we have given special consideration to the special needs of coastal and hill areas of the State and we are launching two new schemes for substantially improving the road network in these areas. The roads in coastal areas suffer from repeated onslaughts of cyclonic storms and adverse weather conditions and their improvement is considered imperative for the growth of industries in these areas. Keeping in view this special requirement, we are launching a Coastal Roads Improvement Programme (CRIP) with an outlay of Rs.6.50 crores in the year 1995-96. In the first phase, roads in Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth district will be taken up. Similarly we have recognised the need for improving roads in the hill areas of the State to accelerate their development. A new Ghat Road Improvement Programme (GRIP) will be launched with a budget provision of Rs.1 crore in the year 1995-96. In the first phase, the Nilgiris district will be covered under this programme.

76. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that repeated cyclones and floods have considerably affected the road network, bridges and culverts, especially in coastal areas. I am happy to announce that we have taken up the rehabilitation of 39 bridges and roads in 9 cyclone and flood affected districts under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project at a total cost of Rs.21 crores. The budget for 1995-96 makes a provision of Rs.7.50 crores for this programme.



ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

71. We have recognised roads as a key component of the infrastructure sector and will emphasize the development of the road network in the State. The plan outlay on roads in the year 1995-96 has been significantly stepped up to Rs.153.16 crores as against the outlay of Rs.120.94 crores in 1994-95.

72. We are making a total provision of Rs.195 crores for the maintenance of roads in 1995-96. This provision matches with the normative levels prescribed by the Ninth Finance Commission updated to current prices and it will be adequate to maintain the entire road network of 52,585 KMs.

73. In the year 1991-92 we had launched a special repairs programme to cover the backlog of earlier years in the maintenance of roads. Including the outlay of Rs.45 crores in 1995-96, we would have spent a total of Rs.186.51 crores on this programme as against the originally envisaged outlay of Rs.150 crores. Up to the current year, 13,132 KMs of roads have been repaired. This programme will be completed in 1995-96.

74. We have a strong commitment to providing good road facilities in rural areas. The Rural Roads Programme was launched to provide connectivity through all weather roads to all villages with a population of more than 1000 as per the 1981 census. All such villages will be covered in the year 1995-96. The outlay for this programme in 1995-96

77. We had formulated a project for significant improvements to high density traffic corridors of the State with an outlay of Rs.950 crores to be taken up with assistance from the World Bank. The World Bank has shown keen interest in funding this project and on its advice we have engaged a consultant to determine the actual roads to be taken up for improvement. The improvement works will involve double laning of 528 KMs of roads and strengthening of 1293 KMs of existing two lane roads along with reconstruction of weak and distressed bridges. The project will completely upgrade the highest density routes in our road system. This project is expected to be fully operational by the end of 1995-96.

78. Tamil Nadu is a highly urbanised state. We have taken special measures to ease the traffic congestion problems in our urban centres. Under the TRAMP component of the Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project, we have taken up 37 works with a total outlay of Rs.148.66 crores in 10 important towns of the State. The outlay in 1995-96 for this scheme will be Rs.35 crores. Similarly, to give a fillip to industrial development in the State, we are launching a Special Programme for Improvements to Roads in Industrial Areas. The 1995-96 budget has an outlay of Rs.2.59 crores for this programme. This scheme will be in addition to the ongoing programme of special repairs to industrial area roads which will be completed by March 1996 with an outlay of Rs.5 crores in 1995-96.

79. The various technical, environmental and contractual problems in the implementation of East Coast Road Project have been sorted out and the project has shown good progress in 1994-95. The outlay for the next year on this project is Rs.20 crores.

80. We are also taking up major new initiatives to build expressways and beltways to urban centres with the participation of private promoters. In the first phase, high speed expressways between Madras and Kaniyakkumari and Madras and Bangalore as also beltways in Madras and Madurai will be taken up.

81. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the critical situation which various State Transport Corporations are facing following the diesel price increase from 2nd February, 1994 and subsequent increase in the prices of various other inputs. With the bus fares remaining constant

since December 1993, the Transport Corporations have not been able to absorb the input price increase and are likely to show a total loss of Rs.130 crores in the year 1995-96. It is becoming increasingly difficult to handle the repeated increases in the price of diesel and other major inputs. Hon'ble Members of the House may like to consider whether an efficiency based normative cost index can be developed based on which annual revision of bus fares linked to costs can be undertaken.

PORTS

82. We have identified ports as a major infrastructure facility essential for promoting industrial development in Tamil Nadu. We plan to take up the expansion and modernisation of various ports in the State in a big way in the coming financial year.

83. We have been impressing upon the Government of India to take up the development of Ennore Satellite Port on a priority basis. It is because of these efforts that this project has been commissioned with a total outlay of Rs.590 crores with assistance of Rs.450 crores from the Asian Development Bank. Detailed engineering studies are now underway and the construction work on the Ennore port is expected to commence in early 1996. This port will be a major facility for handling the coal supplies to North Madras Thermal Power Project, Ennore Power Station and Mettur Power Station.

84. With a view to accelerate the development of intermediate and minor ports in the State and also to ensure better autonomy in their functioning, we have decided to set up a Maritime Board in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu Maritime Board Bill will be presented before the State Legislature after getting clearance from Government of India. The Maritime Board will provide a major impetus to the growth of intermediate and minor ports in the State. We are actively considering the various options for taking up the development of Cuddalore and Nagapattinam ports on a large scale. Cuddalore port development is envisaged as part of Cuddalore Power Project. The total investment required is estimated to be Rs.600 crores and it will be mobilised through private sector participation. We plan to develop Cuddalore port into an all weather multi-cargo port. Similarly we have identified in Nagapattinam

89. The Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project will be implemented during 1995-96 with a stepped up outlay of Rs.202 crores including budgetary support of Rs.112 crores. We have approached the World Bank to extend this project by a further period of two years.

MADRAS CITY DEVELOPMENT

90. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the Madras Vision 2000 programme which has been launched. This programme has been drawn up with the vision of making Madras a premier metro city by the year 2000.

91. In my last budget speech I had indicated that the total outlay on this programme would be Rs.4000 crores. We have launched this programme in 1994-95 and very good progress is being made. We are now confident that this investment outlay of Rs.4000 crores can be ensured in the next 5 years. The water supply and sewerage component in this programme costing Rs.1600 crores has been tied up with the World Bank and will be taken up in 1995-96. The electricity transmission and distribution improvement as also the provision of a peaking capacity of 120 MW at a total cost of Rs.650 crores is under execution with assistance from the Asian Development Bank and the OECF (Japan). The outlay on upgrading and debottlenecking of the road system and traffic management system has been estimated at Rs.300 crores. Rs.55 crores has been incurred in 1994-95 and the outlay in 1995-96 will be Rs.65 crores. The environment sanitation component and the City Water Ways Improvement Project involve an outlay of Rs.400 crores. We have impressed upon the EEC to fund the City Waterways Project and we hope to obtain their approval in the coming year. The storm water drainage component has already been taken up and the outlay in 1995-96 will be Rs.12 crores. Under housing development, the outlay will be Rs.175 crores. As part of the city transportation plan, we are hoping to make a start on the MRTS Phase II in 1995-96. It may thus be seen that good progress has been made under all components of the Madras Vision 2000 programme.

92. The investment needs of a metro city like Madras are very high. This requires a special organisation. We are now in the process of forming a Metropolitan Infrastructure Development Corporation. The

port the potential to grow into a specialised oil handling facility and will undertake the development of this port in association with Madras Refineries Limited.

85. We have carefully analysed the locational and natural advantages and also the excellent hinterland characteristics of Tuticorin port. We would impress upon the Centre to immediately take up the expansion of this port and to develop it into a major trans-shipment terminal with port storage facilities to international standards, capable of handling various types of cargo using "state of the art" infrastructure.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

86. Hon'ble Members are aware that Tamil Nadu is a rapidly urbanizing State which requires major investments to tackle problems of urban congestion and improved living standards for the rural poor. This requires mobilisation of resources not only from the public sector but also from the private sector. Mobilisation of resources for infrastructure projects from the private sector and capital markets is a function which will require a specialised agency. The Government proposes to create a new urban infrastructure financing institution to take care of infrastructure financing. Initially this institution will commence with a corpus of Rs.175 crores based on the transfer of assets from the ongoing Municipal Urban Development Fund. The new institution will also mobilise resources by the issue of bonds from All India financial institutions. These funds will be utilized for infrastructure projects in municipal areas.

87. The State will also take up schemes under the new USAID sponsored Financial Institution Reform and Expansion (FIRE) project. This project aims at providing funds for viable infrastructure projects through development of the debt market in the country.

88. During 1994-95, the Government of India approved 39 projects with an investment of Rs.8.39 crores in the towns of Adiramapattinam, Ponneri, Manamadurai, Usilampatti, Avinashi, Sathvacheri, Palladam, Kothagiri, Sular and Thiruvallur. We have approached the Government of India to take up 49 more projects with an investment of Rs.8.30 crores in the towns of Poovirundavalli, Kangeyam, Veerappanchatram, Kasipalayam, Kulithalai, Vandavasi, Inam Karur, Tiruchendur, Sholingar, Vaniyambadi and Kootanallur.

Budget includes Rs.20 crores as the State's share towards the equity support to this Corporation. The Centre has promised a matching share of Rs.20 crores. This Corporation will thus be in a position to take up key investments in the Madras Metropolitan Area. The capital budget of the Madras City Corporation has been stepped up from Rs.22 crores in 1991 to Rs.118 crores in 1994-95.

HOUSING

93. As Hon'ble Members are aware, this Government accords very high priority to Housing. Housing as an economic activity, holds a very important place as it provides considerable employment and spurs overall economic activity. I had informed the House during my last Budget speech, that a survey had been commissioned to ascertain the exact demand for housing. The survey has been completed and its results are currently under examination. Based on preliminary data, it is estimated that we should create at least 1.40 lakh housing units. Both State agencies and the private sector will be encouraged to quickly tackle the balance requirement.

94. The Tamil Nadu Housing Board will develop 8,000 house sites under TNHDP at a cost of Rs.50.50 crores during 1995-96. In addition, 12,100 housing units will be built at a cost of Rs.191.50 crores. Urban Housing Co-operatives will support the construction of 10,000 houses in 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.80 crores.

95. The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board will construct 4,000 tenements and houses at a cost of Rs.8 crores during 1995-96. In addition, 2,000 families will be covered during 1995-96 under the pavement dwellers' scheme. A project report for Rs.100 crores seeking financial assistance from the World Bank has been sent to Government of India for rehabilitation of 55,000 families living in vulnerable areas like river banks, public utility areas and road and rail alignments.

96. During 1995-96, 40,000 houses will be provided under the Rural Housing Scheme through the Taluk Housing Co-operatives. The Budget provides Rs.6.40 crores for this scheme. The scheme for Shelter Upgradation in Rural Areas (SHUPRA) will be extended to cover a further 10,000 families during 1995-96. The Budget provides Rs.1.50 crores for this scheme.

97. A new scheme, as part of the JVV, to provide free houses with concrete roofs to the non-Scheduled Caste rural poor has been launched. The total cost of this scheme will be Rs.13.81 crores of which Rs.4.60 crores will be the outlay under the housing sector. 6,577 houses will be given free of cost to the rural poor in 1995-96.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

98. This Government places the greatest emphasis on ensuring adequate supply of drinking water. The outlay on water supply and sewerage has been substantially stepped up to Rs.419.97 crores in 1995-96 from Rs.387.72 crores in 1994-95.

99. The Governor's address has detailed the various projects to be taken up for improving the water supply and sewerage situation in Madras city. The New Veeranam Project will be taken up in 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.1638 crores to bring 180 million litres of water per day to the city. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.159.74 crores for this project.

100. Hon'ble Members of the House are also aware that thanks to the efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha, Andhra Pradesh has finally agreed to supply 3 TMC of water for Madras in the first stage under the Telugu Ganga Project by December 1995. According to the revised tentative cost of Rs.2190 crores for the Telugu Ganga Project as furnished by Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu's share works out to Rs.521 crores. So far Tamil Nadu has provided Rs.367 crores. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.75 crores as further payment to Andhra Pradesh. We shall enhance this suitably as may be needed, based on the pace of implementation by the Andhra Pradesh Government and also the finalisation of the scheme estimates. The Budget also includes Rs.14.55 crores for works associated with this project implemented by the Public Works Department within Tamil Nadu. Once the 3 TMC of water is received in December 1995, the city should be ready to receive and distribute the water. For this purpose a Rs.177 crore programme has been launched and will be completed in 1995-96. The Budget provides Rs.10 crores for this project.

101. We have taken up with the World Bank the funding of a

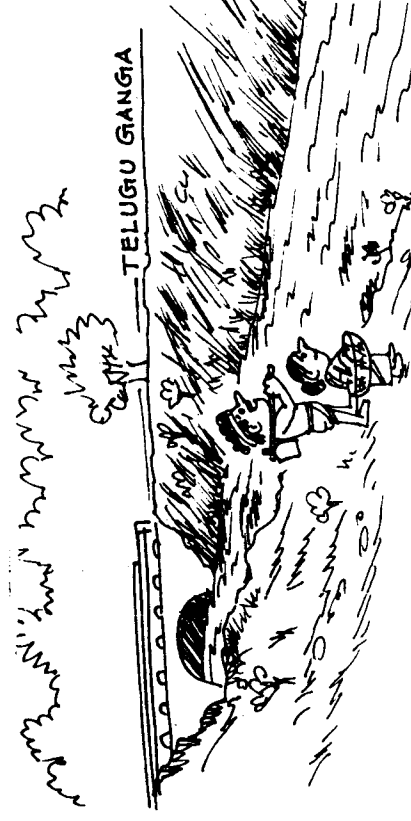
town panchayats. Protected water supply has been given to 307 urban town panchayats and 157 rural town panchayats by the end of 1994-95. In 1995-96, 10 urban town panchayats and 33 rural town panchayats will be provided protected water supply.

107. The funding arrangements to meet improved water supply conditions in urban areas including town panchayats are not adequate. At present we get some funds from the Life Insurance Corporation for these schemes but the demand is much more. Further, municipalities cannot take up by themselves even small schemes costing more than Rs.5 lakhs as this is the limit fixed in the TWAD Board Act. We shall bring in comprehensive measures including amendments to the TWAD Board Act to enable better funding for water supply schemes. Our target is to provide at least Rs.25 crores additionally in 1995-96 by tapping institutional finance for water supply schemes.

108. Members of the House are aware that a detailed resurvey was carried out during 1992 to ascertain the status of rural habitations in relation to the availability of water. Based on this resurvey, we have 12,40,400 of the habitations which have not been covered by any one of the sources of water supply and those partially covered habitations with an average availability of less than 20 litres per capita per day. So far, 1,02,102 including targeted coverage during 1994-95, totally 9,300 habitations have been covered. As on 1.4.95, there will be 1,037 habitations still not covered by any protected source of water supply. All these remaining 1037 habitations will be provided with protected water supply by December 1995.

109. Adequate supply of drinking water to the rural areas has been accorded the highest priority by this Government. The Tamil Nadu Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, at a cost of Rs.894 crores covering 40 rural town panchayats and 9,938 rural habitations has been posed to World Bank for assistance. We shall pursue this further with the Government of India and with the World Bank so that this project can be taken up for implementation at the earliest.

110. The total outlay on rural water supply has been enhanced to Rs.186.41 crores. This represents a significant step up over the outlay of Rs.127.60 crores in the current year. Members of the



Rs.1231 crore project to handle the 12 TMC of water ultimately expected under the Krishna Water Supply Scheme.

102. We shall make a start in 1995-96 to implement the OECF (Japan) supported Sewage Renovation Project which is to be implemented at a cost of Rs.572 crores. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.5 crores for this project.

103. The ongoing Rs.252 crore Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sanitation Project will be continued to be implemented in 1995-96. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.40 crores for this project.

104. The Tamil Nadu Water Supply Project implemented with World Bank assistance has come to an end on 31st December 1994. Members will be happy to note that the work on the schemes for augmenting water supply in Coimbatore, Madurai and Salem has been completed.

105. Full fledged protected water supply schemes to 96 municipalities in the State will be completed in 1995-96. Augmentation schemes for 8 municipalities will be completed in 1994-95. During 1995-96 augmentation schemes will be completed in 5 municipalities namely, Karur, Hosur, Edappadi, Udagamandalam and Dindigul. Work will be taken up in two other municipalities in 1995-96.

106. Tamil Nadu has 355 urban town panchayats and 265 rural

House are aware that for the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme we had sought Central assistance to the tune of Rs.50 crores during 1994-95. We are likely to receive Rs.38.84 crores for the current year. During 1995-96, we expect an allocation of Rs.40 crores under this scheme.

111. At the specific intervention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, an assessment was made of the lack of basic water supply facilities to Adi-Dravidar habitations. Based on this assessment, the Government of India has agreed to our request for a special allocation under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Project to cover Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe habitations. Members of the House will be very happy to know that 570 Adi-Dravidar/Tribal habitations are being covered at a cost of Rs.10.42 crores in 1994-95. In 1995-96, 613 habitations at a cost of Rs.11.58 crores will be covered. With this, every Adi Dravidar habitation in the State will be given protected water supply by December 1995.

112. A new comprehensive programme of piped water supply in areas affected by excess fluoride has been taken up. This scheme will cover the affected areas in Dharmapuri, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore and Periyar districts. This scheme will cover 458 habitations at a cost of Rs.42.27 crores in 2 phases. The Budget for 1995-96 provides Rs.33.60 crores for this scheme.

113. A new scheme to provide safe drinking water supply to habitations affected by high salinity has been launched. This scheme will cover 160 coastal fishermen habitations at a cost of Rs.6.40 crores.

ENVIRONMENT

114. This Government accords the highest priority to safeguard the environment and to ensure sustainable development. Apart from the regulatory role played by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, there is a need to have an organisation to carry out developmental activities in the field of environment. To achieve this objective, a new Department of Environment will be established during 1995-96. This new Department will take up the State Action Plan under Agenda 21, a programme which was drawn up by the UNCED at Rio-de-Janeiro in June 1992.

115. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has been effectively carrying out the responsibility of monitoring the levels of pollution caused by 17 highly polluting industry groups. Out of the 119 industrial units identified for pollution control monitoring, 59 units have already provided for adequate facilities in compliance with the standards. The remaining units are also quickly falling in line to comply with the standards.

116. We have taken effective action to control the problem of tannery effluents. **TNPB has put up a Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), at Pammal at a cost of Rs.7.03 crores. TALCO is establishing Common Effluent Treatment Plants at Vaniyambadi, Ambur, Pernambattu, Ranipettai, Tiruchirappalli and Dindigul at a revised cost of Rs.27.08 Crores.** This Government will provide Rs.2.68 crores additionally as its share in the revised cost. We would urge the Centre to provide Rs.3.08 crores as its additional share in the revised cost. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board will be **establishing 23 Common Effluent Treatment Plants to cater to the textile dyeing industry.** These plants will cover a total number of 1847 units in Chengalpattu- MGR, Periyar, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore districts.

117. Under the National River Action Plan, the assistance of Government of India has been sought for taking up pollution abatement activity in 5 selected stretches of the Cauvery river at a total cost of Rs.38.20 crores. These 5 stretches are at Erode, Tiruchirappalli, Kumarapalayam, Pallipalayam and Bhavani. **The Budget for 1995-96 provides Rs.2 crores for this purpose.**

118. In addition, the OECF(Japan) has been approached with a revised project report at a cost of Rs.421.75 crores to take up the environmental improvement and pollution prevention in the Cauvery river. We expect this project to be included in the pipeline of assistance during 1995-96.

119. A revised project report at a cost of **Rs.355.30 crores for Pollution Abatement in the City Waterways of Madras has been posed to the European Economic Community for assistance.** This project has been prepared on the basis of detailed studies on sludge removal and disposal and related aspects in Madras City. We would urge the

124. We shall now attend to qualitative aspects. It is with this purpose that the syllabi and text books for Class I, VI and XI are being redesigned. Teachers are to be trained in the concept of Minimum Levels of Learning (MLL) and the Class I textbooks have been redesigned keeping this in mind. The World Bank assisted District Primary Education Project has been launched in the 4 educationally backward districts of Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai Sambuvayar, South Arcot Vallalar and Villupuram Ramasamy Padayatchiar districts at a total cost of Rs 120 crores. **The Budget makes a total provision of Rs.1.50 crores for this project in 1995-96.**

125. **The Educational Infrastructure Programme (EIP) has been launched by this Government in 1994-95.** Under this programme adequate infrastructure will be created for all Higher Secondary schools, High schools, Middle schools and Primary schools throughout the State in a 3 year period commencing from 1994-95. As per a detailed survey, 7202 Primary schools and Middle schools have to be provided with additional pucca buildings. 1600 buildings have been taken up in 1994-95. **2802 additional buildings will be constructed in 1995-96. In 1995-96, all the 3073 Middle schools for girls will be provided with toilet facilities at a cost of Rs 3.42 crores.**

126. The Educated Volunteer Service Scheme (EVSS) has been implemented in the State to cover non-starter and drop out children in the 6 - 14 age group and put them back in the formal education stream. 3.5 lakh children have been covered in the first year. **It is planned to cover 10 lakh children in 1995-96.**

127. With the proper coverage of primary schools in the State and the special emphes for non-formal education, Tamil Nadu is in a position the support schemes for non-formal education, Tamil Nadu is in a position to make compulsory education a reality. Hon'ble Members of the House may recall the path breaking legislation enacted by this Assembly in April 1994. The Bill is awaiting the assent of the President. **We would urge the Centre to accord early approval as we have the necessary strengths to implement this legislation.**

128. **In the coming year, 25 Primary schools will be upgraded as Middle schools and 40 Middle schools will be upgraded as High Schools and 30 High schools will be upgraded as Higher Secondary schools.**

Government of India to ensure that this project is taken up for external assistance in the coming year.

120. A project to **tackle sea erosion in certain badly affected coastal areas at a total cost of Rs.50 crores has been sent to the Government of India to be posed for external assistance.** The Dutch Government has shown interest in this project. Under this project, certain innovative permanent protection works will be taken up for coastal areas prone to erosion. **The Budget includes a provision of Rs.1.31 crores for prevention of sea erosion.**

121. A new programme to monitor the pollution caused by motor vehicles was launched during 1994-95. This programme will be continued during 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.5 lakhs. A new scheme for monitoring ozone depletion will be launched at a cost of Rs.2.75 lakhs. Under this scheme industrial units producing or using ozone depleting substances will be monitored.

EDUCATION

122. Education continues to be the single largest sector with an outlay of Rs. 2233.17 crores in 1995-96.

123. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha has set the goal of "Education for All" by 1998. This involves several complementary steps to be taken up in a coordinated manner. The Budget provides for these programmes. The pride of place has now been given to elementary education, with a special focus on primary education. We have undertaken detailed demographic calculations and spatial distribution exercises to determine the adequacy of schooling facilities. With the dramatic fall in the birth rate, Tamil Nadu is in the happy position of witnessing a real decline in the number of children due to enter school from 1995 onwards. This means that in future we do not have to invest more on new facilities but can concentrate on improving the quality in the existing facilities. The Budget provides funds to open 100 new primary schools in 1995-96. This will enable tackling remote and difficult locations. This will also ensure complete satisfaction of the norm of one primary school within a distance of 1 kilometre for every habitation with 500 population.

Under the Educational Infrastructure Programme 797 additional buildings for High/Higher Secondary schools will be taken up in 1995-96. 1967 High and Higher Secondary schools will be provided with girls' toilets. **The Budget includes a provision of Rs 2 crores for this purpose:** Drinking water will be provided for 840 High and Higher Secondary schools under this programme. The Government's plan is to provide complete infrastructure including play grounds, play materials, live fencing, science laboratories and libraries. **The three year Educational Infrastructure Programme will be implemented in 1995-96 with a total outlay of Rs 160.24 crores including resources from the public, Parent Teachers Associations and others.**

129. Under the Arivoli Iyakkam, the total literacy programme will be extended to Madras and Villupuram Ramasamy Padayatchiar districts in 1995-96. About 4.8 lakh illiterate persons will be covered in these two districts. **So far 82.60 lakh persons have been covered under the Arivoli Iyakkam in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu's performance has been highly commended by UNESCO. The Budget makes a provision of Rs 5 crores for this programme.**

130. A new non-formal education scheme to cover 6 blocks and Madras city will be launched in 1995-96. This scheme will be specifically targeted at those areas where child labour is prevalent.

131. Our whole emphasis in collegiate education hereafter will mainly be on qualitative aspects. **The Budget provides Rs.42.75 lakhs for improvements to Government colleges.** The State Council for Higher Education and the respective Universities are well organised to launch a qualitative improvement plan for the existing colleges. The question of financing higher education has been under examination. The Budget provides a total amount of Rs. 213.28 crores for all types of higher education. The actual cost being recovered is only Rs.2.93 crores. Nearly 40% of the students are fully exempted from tuition fees. Nearly two-thirds are supported by some form of fee concession. We have recently launched a loan scholarship scheme at a cost of Rs.25 lakhs. **This scheme will be expanded gradually to go along with the improvement in cost recovery from higher education.**

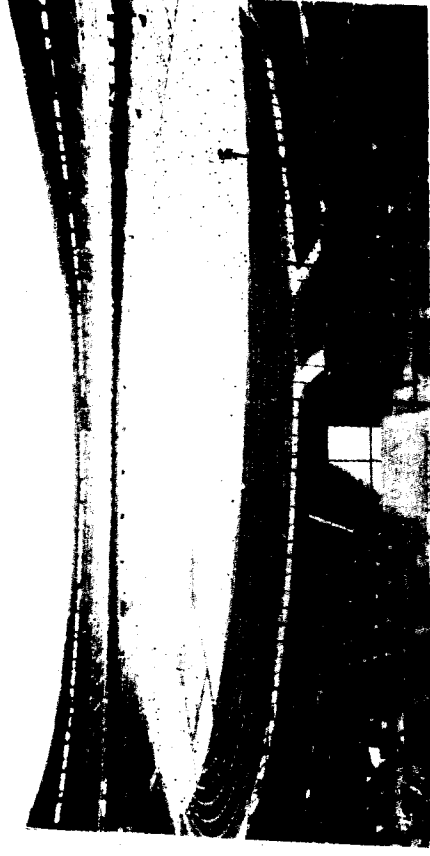
132. We have given technical education the highest

importance. We have the second highest enrolment in technician education in the country. The percentage of this enrolment to total population is nearly double the all India level. The World Bank supported Technician Education Project is being implemented at a total cost of Rs.76 crores. 24 new diploma and 2 post-diploma courses have been introduced in emerging areas of technology. Aided polytechnics will also be given loan assistance to undertake building construction to support their teaching programmes. **The Budget provides Rs.11 crores for this project.**

133. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the great interest taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha in the development of sports in Tamil Nadu. The splendid Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium was built in a record time of 7-1/2 months under her guidance. A rural sports development programme is under implementation in all blocks of the State. Sportspersons have been given tremendous incentives to seek excellence. The sports hostels programme has been revamped. Madras will have the proud privilege of hosting the next mega-event namely, the VII South Asian Federation Games in December 1995. **This games project will be implemented at a total cost of Rs 125 crores. This project includes the games village at a cost of Rs 70 crores at Koyambedu being built with institutional finance, stadia facilities for tennis, hockey, gymnastics, aquatics and a shooting range of international standards at a cost of Rs 45.46 crores.** In view of the large financial requirements, this Government would urge the Centre to provide special support of at least Rs 25 crores for holding these games.

TAMIL DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE

134. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha spared no effort in making the Eighth World Tamil Conference at Thanjavur held in January 1995 a resounding success. **The Hon'ble Chief Minister has highlighted at the conference that the future belongs to "Scientific Tamil" and declared "Indrum Tamil Endrum Tamil", "Tamil Today, Forever Tamil", as the slogan of the conference.** Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha also announced a well defined 9 point plan of action to promote Tamil language and culture. **The Budget includes an initial provision of Rs 25 lakhs for the revival of the World Tamil Sangam at Madurai.** A provision has been made for the



preparation of a Comprehensive Tamil Encyclopaedia and the completion of the Tamil Etymological Dictionary. A grant of Rs 75 lakhs has been given to the Karanthai Tamil Sangam for setting up a youth hostel and for other activities. **We shall establish a Chair for Tamil studies in the Mauritius University.** Rs 10 lakhs has been given to Dharmapuram Gnanambikai Government College for Women at Mayiladuthurai.

135. Special efforts will be taken in 1995-96 to popularise the use of "Scientific Tamil". The Tamil University will be strengthened to undertake work on popularising computer use in Tamil. A committee of experts to review the use of Tamil software and to standardise the Tamil computer key-board will be established.

136. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that we have taken up the restoration work of the Thirumalai Naicker Mahal at Madurai at a cost of Rs 78.30 lakhs. This will be completed by March 1996. In the coming year, **the Government Oriental Manuscript Library in the Madras University campus will be airconditioned, renovated and refurbished at a cost of Rs.23.62 lakhs.** A new Museum for Dindigul-Anna district at Palani will be started. **The Bronze Gallery at the Madras Museum will be air-conditioned at a cost of Rs.22 lakhs,** in order to preserve the priceless treasures. We have formulated a detailed proposal for the establishment of a new Buddhist Centre to house the precious Amaravathi Sculptures. The Coimbatore Music College will have a new building in the coming year at a cost of Rs 10 lakhs.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

137. The outlay on Health and Family Welfare in 1995-96 will be increased to **Rs 688.85 crores as against Rs.643.14 crores in 1994-95.**

138. We have placed the greatest emphasis on the development of a good primary health care system. Tamil Nadu has 8681 health subcentres and 1446 primary health centres. **Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that 70 new Primary Health Centre buildings will be built in 1995-96. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.1.75 crores for this scheme.**

139. The Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha School Health Programme has been extremely successful. **62 lakh children have been examined so far and necessary treatment has been given.** These school health camps have been commended by international agencies as a very cost effective way of reducing the burden of disease in society.

140. This Government has taken special steps for the provision of adequate facilities at taluk hospitals. **It will be ensured that every taluk hospital is provided with minimum specialities like gynaecology, paediatrics and ophthalmology.** Taluk hospitals having more than 50 beds will have certain additional specialities like orthopaedics, dentistry etc. **Telephone facilities will be provided to all the remaining 40 taluk hospitals which do not have telephones.**

141. It has been estimated that 38 taluk hospitals do not as yet have X-ray facilities. **In the coming year, the Budget provides Rs.1 crore for a special scheme to provide X-ray facilities to 20 taluk hospitals.**

142. The facilities in District Headquarters Hospitals will be improved. **8 District Headquarters Hospitals will be provided with cold storage facilities for their mortuary blocks at a cost of Rs 76 lakhs.** With this, all the District Headquarters Hospitals will be covered with this facility. **Patient waiting rooms with toilet facilities will be provided in 15 District Headquarters Hospitals at a total cost of Rs.22.50 lakhs.**

143. Accident Trauma Wards will be established in Ulundurpettai, Hosur and Sriperumbudur taluk hospitals at a total cost of Rs 45 lakhs.

144. Tamil Nadu continues to be in the forefront in implementing various externally aided projects in the health sector. Under the India Population Project V, it is proposed to utilise the savings for upgrading referral services in taluk and district hospitals with particular reference to maternal and child health care.

145. **The World Bank supported AIDS Prevention Programme is being implemented through the Tamil Nadu AIDS Society.** The outlay on this project in 1995-96 will be Rs 2.50 crores. We hope that DANIDA will support a new health care project to cover Dharmapuri, Thanjavur and Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Millath districts at a revised cost of Rs 50 crores.

146. The National Project for Control of Blindness is being implemented in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs 64 crores. Under this project, 24 additional opthalmic wards with a total of 1470 beds will be added to various hospitals. 5 operation theatres will be taken up for construction. The objective is to clear the backlog of cataract cases in 3 years and reduce the prevalence of cataract from 1.6% to 0.3% by 2000 AD.

147. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the special efforts which have been taken to streamline the supply of drugs and medicines. **The Budget includes a provision of Rs 96 crores for supply of drugs and medicines in 1995-96.** This will ensure that better quality drugs with proper packing are supplied. The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation will undertake the supply of drugs.

(WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT, CHILD WELFARE AND NUTRITION)

148. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the well thought out comprehensive policy for women announced by the Chief Minister in the Women's Summit held on 9th March 1994. This Government's policy on women includes as an essential feature the empowerment of women through provision of self-employment opportunities and improved training. It is with this objective in mind, that we have significantly stepped up the outlay for the Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to Rs.10 crores in 1995-96. This project is being currently implemented in Dharmapuri, Salem, South Arcot Vallalar, Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts and it is proposed to

extend the project to three more districts, viz. North Arcot, Ambedkar, Tirunelveli-Kattabomman and Kamarajar. This project will benefit 16,100 women in 1995-96. We have also launched a new self-employment scheme for women belonging to economically weaker sections in urban areas at a cost of Rs.35 lakhs. This scheme will benefit 3,500 women in 1995-96. The Integrated Rural Development Programme will also be focussed to cover a larger number of women. Our target is to cover in all 1.5 lakh more women in 1995-96 in various avenues of self employment.

149. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the importance attached by this Government to the implementation of the Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme for Child Welfare launched by the Chief Minister on 14th November 1993. We have made sustained progress in implementing each of the points laid out in the 15 Point Programme. All the goals set out in the programme will be achieved by the targeted dates. The Child Welfare Sub-Plan launched during the current year will continue to be implemented during 1995-96 with a stepped up outlay of Rs.768.62 crores. The components of the sub-plan are detailed below:

	Outlay (Rs. in crores)
*Provide for safe birth and enhance birthweight of a child to 3kg.	79.00
*Elimination of Vaccine preventable diseases	4.84
*Reduction of infant mortality to less than 30 per 1000	6.67
*Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among children	328.84
*Elimination of micro nutrient deficiencies	5.35
*To make all hospitals and maternity centres "Baby Friendly"	8.52
*To liberate women from the shackles of early and frequent child bearing	90.21

150. The Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha Girl Child Welfare Scheme launched with the objective of preventing female infanticide, providing continued support to the girl child and promoting the small family norm has been a tremendous success. So far, 14,781 children have been enrolled under this project. The Budget for 1995-96 provides a sum of Rs.4 crores for this scheme.

151. The overall outlay on the Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.MGR Nutritious Meal Programme and the Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project has been enhanced to Rs.367.97 crores during 1995-96 from Rs.345.36 crores in 1994-95. Members of the House will be extremely glad to know that all the Panchayat Unions in the State have been covered under the Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Programme and the Integrated

Child Development Services Project (ICDS) during 1994-95. Tamil Nadu thus has the proud record of offering complete growth monitoring and supplementary nutrition cover to the children in the age group of 6 to 60 months.

152. Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in implementing nutrition programmes particularly the Mid-day Meal Programme. This programme in Tamil Nadu covers 60.97 lakh children in schools and 11.56 lakh children in pre-schools. The outlay on implementing the school component in 1995-96 will be Rs.233.10 crores. The Central Budget indicates that the Central Government would be willing to participate in phased expansion of these schemes. Tamil Nadu has been implementing an expanded school nutritious meal programme from 1982-83 and Tamil Nadu is the leading State in the country in this regard. It will be most tragic if the Centre extends support only to those States newly undertaking this scheme. We wish to caution the Centre against any such partisan approach. We would urge the Centre to give full support to Tamil Nadu's existing programme.

WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

153. Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront of ensuring the welfare of the handicapped. We are the first State in the country to formulate a comprehensive policy for the welfare of the handicapped. This comprehensive policy launched on 3rd December, 1994 aims at early detection and provision of comprehensive service in the medical, vocational, economic and social spheres, to ensure that all handicapped persons become self-supporting citizens and an integral part of the society. Programmes for the visually challenged, hearing challenged, locomotor challenged, mentally challenged and mentally ill are included in the Budget. This Government will actively support non-governmental organisations (NGO's) to undertake programmes for the physically handicapped.

154. 37,121 physically handicapped persons are being covered under the pension scheme. The total provision for this scheme in 1995-96 is Rs.3.35 crores. This Government will continue to attach the highest importance to ensure that the handicapped are provided the best care and facilities so that they can live a life of dignity.

*Universalisation of compulsory primary education	90.17
*Raising women's literacy and status	40.41
*Safe drinking water supply and better access to sanitary facilities to child welfare centres	96.98
*Elimination of child labour	0.13
	Outlay (Rs. in crores)
*Implementation of Girl Child protection scheme	10.00
*Eradication of social evil of female infanticide	0.45
*Prevention of childhood disability and early detection for rehabilitation	6.80
*Early identification of congenital heart diseases	0.25
Total Child Welfare Sub Plan	768.62

WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

155. The total outlay for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been stepped up from Rs 151.28 crores in 1994-95 to Rs 193.75 crores in 1995-96.

156. This Government places the highest emphasis on the all round development of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. A High Power Committee including Cabinet Ministers has been continuously monitoring the implementation of the special programme of providing basic needs. It is the intention of this Government to complete this programme by March 1996. I wish to highlight the physical targets for each component under this programme as also the outlays:

Scheme	Target by 1995-96	Total outlay (Rs. in crores)
Acquisition of land for house-sites	5 lakhs	24.19
Acquisition of land for burial grounds	2123 habitations	9.00
Pathways to burial grounds	3076 habitations	24.64
Link Roads	2309 habitations	35.52
Street lights	2085 habitations	3.34
One hut-one light	2 lakh huts	25.50
Drinking water	2754 habitations	10.35
Dais training	5000 women	0.70
First aid training to Adi-Dravidar Girls	30000 girls	3.00

157. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha has launched in December 1994, a comprehensive programme for the benefit of Scheduled Castes. Accordingly, the Budget includes

various provisions for implementing this programme. The Adi Dravidar Girl Child Support Scheme will be extended to Chengalpattu M.G.R., North Arcot Ambedkar, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth districts at an annual cost of Rs.1.50 crores. A provision of Rs.25 lakhs has been made for the new special scholarship scheme to cover those with an annual income limit of Rs.50,000, the existing scheme being limited to those families whose income is below Rs.24,000 per annum. A provision of Rs.36 lakhs has been made for the new merit reward scheme to benefit 1000 girl students and 1000 boy students. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.10 lakhs for the creation of a new endowment in the name of Mayor Shivaraj. Rs.15 crores has been included in the Budget for the house upgradation scheme to benefit 30,000 Adi-Dravidar families. A provision of Rs.10.50 crores has been made in 1995-96 to complete the target of distribution of house-sites to 5 lakh Adi-Dravidar families. A provision of Rs.3 crores has been made to supply television sets to 2000 Adi-Dravidar habitations. Construction of community halls in 1000 Adi-Dravidar habitations will be taken up under the Jawahar Velai Vaipu Thittam (JVVT). Sanction for the provision of 1000 lorries to Adi-Dravidar youth with loan and subsidy support has already been issued. This will cost Rs.25 crores. Rs.5 crores will be spent on creating self-employment opportunities to benefit 10,000 Adi-Dravidar women. A new Dr. Ambedkar Award for selfless service for the benefit of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be given in the coming year. This prestigious award which will carry a prize amount of Rs.1 lakh will be given to one person for the most outstanding service to the cause of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

158. In the coming year 20 new hostels will be established. A provision of Rs.4 crores for construction of hostel buildings has been made. All hostels will be provided with wet grinders. Under this scheme 268 hostels will thus be covered in the coming year, at a cost of Rs.16.08 lakhs.

159. 50,000 houses will be built with concrete roofs for Scheduled Castes in 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.105 crores.

WELFARE OF BACKWARD CLASSES

160. The year 1994 will be remembered for the extraordinary efforts undertaken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.

improvements to schools and hostel buildings for Denotified Communities will be taken up at a total cost of Rs.80 lakhs.

162. The Budget includes a provision of Rs.1 crore for provision of free house site pattas to Backward Classes. 6577 houses will be given free of cost in 1995-96 for the rural poor at a cost of Rs.13.81 crores.

163. The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes and Minorities Economic Development Corporation has been revitalised. The Corporation has effectively channelised loans worth Rs.4.26 crores to 28,918 beneficiaries. It is expected that this lending programme will be further stepped upto Rs.20 crores in 1995-96, assisting about 15,000 beneficiaries belonging to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and 5,000 persons belonging to minorities including Christians.

WELFARE OF WEAVERS

164. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the special efforts taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to alleviate the sufferings of the handloom weavers in the State who have been badly affected by the shortage and high prices of cotton yarn. At the instance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Union Minister for Textiles has agreed to enhance the subsidy on hank yarn from Rs.15 to Rs.20 per kg. The Government of India has also agreed to consider banning the export of cotton and low counts of yarn.

165. This Government, as another measure to ensure the availability of good yarn at reasonable prices to handloom weavers in the State, has set up TANSPIN, a new Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation. This Federation will procure good quality cotton for the 18 co-operative spinning mills in the State. Rs.25 crores has been provided as share capital assistance to this Federation.

166. So far 8 lakh weavers, nearly 75 % of the total number of weavers in the State, have been brought under the cooperative fold. 1,12,899 weavers have been enlisted under the weavers savings and security scheme. The family pension scheme to provide Rs.250 per month has been made operational. The scheme for providing workshops-cum-houses



“It was due to the untiring efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha that the Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 was included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution by the Constitution (Seventy Sixth Amendment) Act 1994 enacted by the Parliament. The President of India gave his assent to the Constitution Amendment Bill on 31st August 1994.”



J. Jayalalitha to secure social justice in the State. Hon'ble Members of the House may recall that this House enacted a historic legislation on 31st December, 1993 providing for a total reservation of 69 percent for the Backward, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in State Government services and in educational institutions. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha led an all party delegation to New Delhi on 25th June, 1994 to secure the President's assent for this Bill. The President of India gave his assent on 19th July, 1994 and the Bill became an Act. It was due to the untiring efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha that the Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 was included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution by the Constitution (Seventy Sixth Amendment) Act 1994 enacted by the Parliament. The President of India gave his assent to the Constitution Amendment Bill on 31st August 1994. More than anything else, this historic achievement has paved the way to secure the all round development of the Backward Classes in Tamil Nadu.

161. The State continues to provide educational opportunities for Backward and Most Backward Class students through a widespread hostel network. With a view to encouraging girls' education, 15 new girls hostels will be opened during 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs.31 lakhs. A phased programme of construction of hostel buildings is also under way. During 1995-96, 12 new hostel buildings will be taken up for construction at a cost of Rs.69.94 lakhs, bringing the total number of constructed buildings to 155. A major programme of

to handloom weavers will be continued during 1995-96. A total number of 1,000 houses will be constructed during 1995-96 and the budget provides a outlay of Rs.1.90 crores for this purpose. The scheme for free supply of sarrees and dhoities to 60 lakh women and 60 lakh men who are below poverty line will be continued in 1995-96. The Budget provides Rs.60 crores for this scheme.

167. A scheme to set up 111 Handloom Development Centres and 18 quality dyeing units at a total cost of Rs.4.02 crores has just been started. The Powerloom Registration Fund has been set up to provide better support and service to the powerloom centres. A sum of Rs.4.43 crores is available in this fund as on 31.12.94 which will be used to establish new powerloom service centres and to take up other programmes.

LABOUR WELFARE

168. I had mentioned in my last Budget Speech that the problem of restructuring and reorganisation of industry had arisen as a result of the new economic policy. I had also mentioned that this Government had sent proposals for assistance from the National Renewal Fund for implementing Voluntary Retirement Schemes in the State Public Sector. It is rather unfortunate that even though a year has elapsed, the Government of India has not sanctioned this scheme. Proposals for assistance worth Rs.33.72 crore are pending with the Centre. In fact it is understood that the National Renewal Fund has so far been used exclusively for workers in certain Central Undertakings, and has virtually become a Voluntary Retirement Scheme Fund for Central Public Sector Undertakings. This goes against the purpose of the National Renewal Fund. We call upon the Centre to sanction at least now the assistance sought from this fund, without which the whole concept lacks meaning.

169. The industrial relations situation in the State continues to be good. The number of man-days lost due to strikes and lockouts was further brought down from 24.22 lakh man-days in 1993 to 14.72 lakh man-days in 1994. This reduction is a testimony to the pragmatic approach of this Government in efficiently integrating the needs of industrial promotion and the rights of labour.

170. The drive to fix minimum wages for various categories of employment has been intensified. In 1994, minimum wages were fixed for the first time for the sea-food industry. The minimum wages were revised upwards in tailoring, handloom silk weaving, hospitals and nursing homes, handloom cotton weaving, tobacco (snuff) manufacturing, vessels manufacturing, autorickshaws and taxis, dhal and rice flour production and brick and tile manufacturing.

171. The Tamil Nadu Manual Workers (Construction Workers) Welfare Scheme benefitting thousands of workers, mainly women in the construction industry, was brought into effect during 1994-95. This scheme covers health care, accident relief and running of creches. A scheme for extending pensionary benefits and accident insurance to employees in the film industry will be implemented during 1995-96.

172. This Government has taken quick decisions to deal with the problem of child labour particularly in hazardous occupations. Elimination of child labour figures prominently in the Chief Minister's 15 Point Programme for Welfare of Children. A State Level Advisory Board and a State Level Authority have been created to give proper direction to this important programme. A detailed project for eliminating child labour in hazardous occupations in seven districts in the State has been formulated and forwarded to Government of India for financial assistance.

EMPLOYMENT

173. As Members are aware, the Government has been embarking on various innovative measures to enhance the growth of employment in the State. The Jawahar Velay Vaippu Thittam (JVVT) will be implemented during 1995-96 with an outlay of Rs.311.64 crores. This marks an increase of more than 40% over the outlay for 1994-95 which was Rs.220.59 crores. The intensified JVVT will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.32.55 crores. The Employment Assurance Scheme will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.45.80 crores during 1995-96. These programmes will together generate 10.20 crore mandays of employment in 1995-96 which is a new record.

174. The Rural Industries Sub-Plan continues to act as a powerful tool for provision of employment in rural areas. During

textile printing, garment manufacture and desk top publishing have been introduced to benefit women.

BENEFITS TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

181. This Government has always kept the welfare of Government employees in mind while undertaking several schemes to improve their conditions of service. The Government Employees' Health Fund Scheme which was introduced in June 1992 by this Government has been well received. There have been requests to increase the benefits under this scheme and also give special assistance for certain other types of surgeries. Government has decided to increase the maximum amount of benefit from Rs. 50,000 to Rs.1 lakh or 75% of the cost of treatment whichever is less. An additional loan assistance of Rs. 1 lakh will be given when the treatment has to be taken abroad. The Health Fund Scheme has been expanded to include brain surgery, hip replacement, spinal cord surgery etc.

182. At present Government employees with a basic pay of Rs.950/- and above per month alone are eligible to obtain conveyance advance for the purchase of mopeds. We have decided to do away with this pay limit and make all regular Government employees in time scales with a minimum service of 6 years eligible to draw conveyance advance.

183. We have decided to step up the marriage advance for the

1994-95, 1.25 lakh persons were assisted. In 1995-96, 1.35 lakh persons will be covered under this scheme.

175. The scheme of distress relief to those families who lose their breadwinner will be continued in 1995-96. 50,000 families will be benefited under this scheme with a provision of Rs.5,000 per family.

176. Under the Educated Volunteer Service Scheme, 1.5 lakh youth are being successfully mobilised and usefully deployed in non-formal education and prohibition propaganda. This novel initiative combines employment for educated youth with social mobilisation.

177. The Government's efforts on the employment front are bearing fruit. The total number of registered unemployed persons declined by 1.79 lakh persons between December 1993 and December 1994. In the same period, the number of educated unemployed was reduced by 0.92 lakhs.

178. The programme of computerising Employment Exchanges to provide error-free and efficient services to job-seekers and employers is being systematically implemented in this State. 16 Employment Exchanges have been computerised upto 1994-95 and 3 more will be computerized in 1995-96 viz. Erode, Salem and Tuticorin. Employment exchanges are being increasingly utilised to provide purposeful career guidance to the youth of the State, particularly in rural areas. A pilot scheme under which in each district one Higher Secondary School with 200 students will be adopted for career guidance by the District Employment Offices has been started in 1994-95.

179. The World Bank aided Skill Development Project at a cost of Rs.21.74 crores is under implementation and will be completed during 1995-96. 31 ITIs are being modernised with replacement of old and obsolete machinery. Equipment maintenance cells have been established in six ITIs under the control of a State level equipment maintenance workshop at Ambattur. 38 ITIs have been provided with audio visual aids to improve training. New trades have been introduced in 16 ITIs to keep pace with the progress of technology and the diversification of industry.

180. 5 new women's ITIs have been started to provide greater employment opportunities to the rural women. New short term courses in

daughter of a Government employee from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 and in the case of the marriage of a son from Rs.3,000 to Rs.6,000.

184. The provision for House Building Advance has been stepped up from Rs.39.05 crores in 1994-95 to Rs.50.20 crores in 1995-96. The maximum limit for the House Building Advance which has been Rs.2.50 lakhs since 1989 will be increased to Rs.4 lakhs. Government has entered into agreements with Housing Development Finance Corporation, CANFIN HOMES and INDBANK HOUSING to make available an amount of Rs.25 crores to Government employees as House Building Advance. This amount will be fully disbursed in 1995-96.

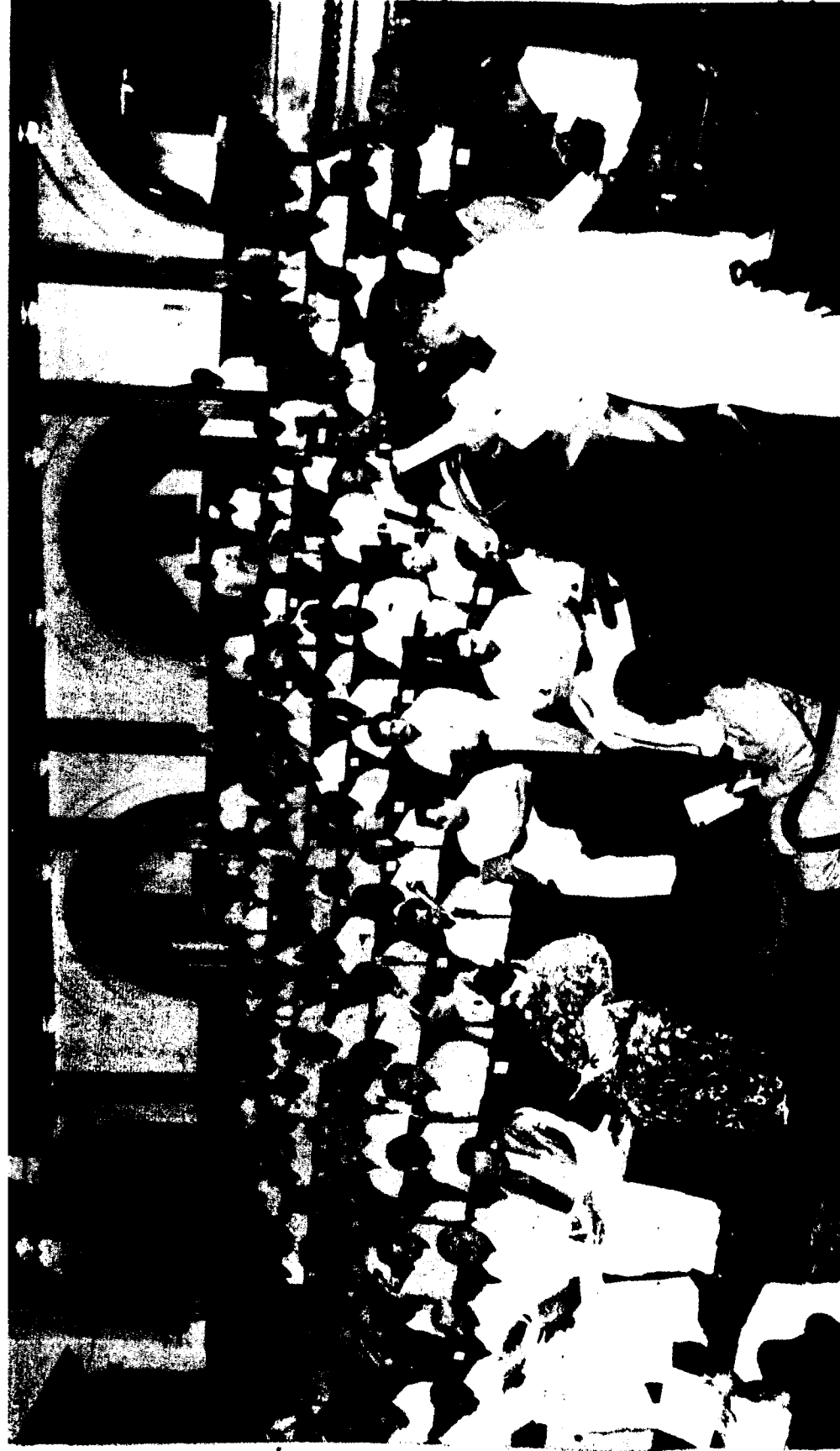
185. Pensioners will also be brought under the Health Fund Scheme. The maximum grant in the case of pensioners will be Rs. 50,000 or 75% of the cost of the specified surgery whichever is lower. An annual voluntary subscription of Rs.5 will be collected from the pensioners. The Government will make a matching contribution to this fund. This will cover 1.6 lakh pensioners. A Family Benefit Fund Scheme for pensioners is also being actively considered.

Madras,
22nd March 1995,
Panguni 8, Thiruvalluvar Era 2026.

VR. NEDUNCHEZHIVAN,
MINISTER FOR FINANCE

The Crown Prince of Belgium, Prince Philip called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. J. Jayalalitha at Secretariat on 29.3.'95





**ADDRESS BY
DR. M. CHANNA REDDY
GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU**

**TO
THE TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
13 - 3 - 1995**

Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I have great pleasure in addressing you, at this, the first session of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly for the year 1995. I extend my greetings to all of you.

2. Tamil Nadu has registered all round progress in 1994. The continued emphasis on the implementation of development programmes has been well appreciated. The provision of a comprehensive safety net has protected the poor and the downtrodden. Special programmes have helped to improve the quality of life of the poor. Securing social justice by obtaining Presidential assent for the Tamil Nadu Act providing for 69% reservation for Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Tribes in education and employment and obtaining Constitutional protection for this Act was a landmark achievement in 1994. Another major achievement was the successful conduct of the Eighth World Tamil Conference in January 1995.

3. The perfect maintenance of law and order was given the highest priority. The law and order situation that prevailed before this Government assumed office is well known. The threat posed by foreign militants and extremists is being effectively tackled by constant vigil, concerted and coordinated action involving a number of agencies. Minor situations whenever they arose were effectively handled by the State Police. No situation was allowed to go out of control. Following incidents of dacoities and robberies, the Hon'ble Chief Minister appointed a Special Investigation Team to investigate the cases of undetected highway robberies and dacoities. A total number of 47 cases have

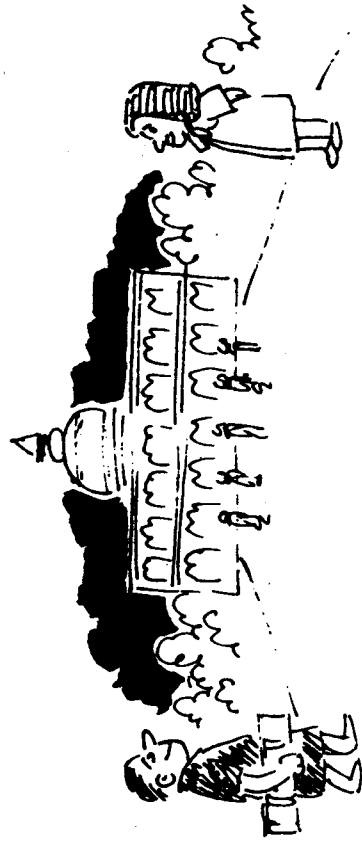
been detected leading to the recovery of property worth Rs. 31.70 lakhs. These detections have had a salutary preventive effect. It shall be the constant endeavour of the Government to preserve and protect Tamil Nadu's record of being a State of peace and tranquillity.

4. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the comprehensive and far reaching steps taken to modernise the State Police Force to make it an effective force with a humane and sympathetic approach. The State scheme for Modernisation of the Police Force has been greatly welcomed. I am glad to announce that by the end of March 1995, every police station in Tamil Nadu will be provided with a jeep. The Coastal Security Group has been constituted at a cost of Rs.3.37 crores. The Highway Patrol Scheme has been implemented at a cost of Rs.6.29 crores. The Police Housing Scheme has been revitalised and 2002 houses will be completed by March 1995 at a cost of Rs.28.50 crores. The first phase of the Police Computerisation Scheme covering all district headquarters has been implemented at a cost of Rs.54 lakhs. Several new schemes for strengthening the Police Force have been implemented. 31 All Women Police Stations have so far been established. The example set by Tamil Nadu in opening All Women Police Stations has been emulated by other States and even by other developing countries. It may be recalled that when this Government assumed office a proposal to modernise the State Police Force at a cost of Rs.80.45 crores was forwarded to the Centre to provide financial assistance. Although the Centre released Rs.10 crores in 1991-92, further special assistance was not received. This Government has sanctioned Rs.43.08 crores so far for various schemes to modernise the State Police Force. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know that we have not allowed

resource constraints to stand in the way of implementing several schemes from State funds to comprehensively modernise the Police Force.

5. The administration of justice has been accorded the highest priority. A new scheme under the Plan, with an outlay of Rs.5.82 crores in 1994-95, has been launched to provide essential court buildings and residential quarters for judicial officers. Sanctions totalling Rs.17.23 crores have been extended recently to provide for construction of court buildings at Ramanathapuram, Vellore, Gobichettipalayam, Dharapuram and other places and also 35 residential quarters. On the request of the High Court, the Government has launched a new scheme for speedy disposal of cases. Under this scheme, 43 Judicial Magistrate courts will be converted into District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate courts. 3 new Family Courts have been established during 1994-95, including an additional court at Madras and new Courts at Madurai and Coimbatore, taking the total number of Family Courts in the State to 5. The State Law Commission, which has been established in 1994, has taken up the comprehensive overhaul of existing laws.

6. This Government has been greatly concerned by the repeated attacks on Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy off the Tamil Nadu coast. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on this issue on 3rd November 1994 requesting him to take up this issue with the Government of Sri Lanka. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has again written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th February 1995 requesting him to intervene in securing the release of 20 fishermen kidnapped by the Sri Lankan Navy. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also repeatedly requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to obtain assurances from the Sri Lankan



Government that they would desist from such attacks in future. So far since 1990, there have been 165 such incidents resulting in the death of 34 fishermen and injuries to 127 fishermen. This Government has sanctioned Rs 40.37 lakhs as relief and compensation to the affected families. The entire burden of extending relief has been assumed by this Government. This Government has claimed compensation to the families of the affected fishermen from the Sri Lankan Government through the Government of India. As this is a national issue, this Government would urge the Government of India to intervene effectively and also shoulder the burden of providing compensation to the affected families.

7. The year 1994 will be remembered for the extraordinary efforts taken by this Government for the furtherance of social justice in the State, in providing for Constitutional protection for the scheme of reservation in employment and education for the Backward Classes. Hon'ble Members of the House may recall that this House enacted a historic legislation on 31st December 1993 providing for a total reservation of 69 percent for the Backward, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, Scheduled Castes and Tribes in State Government Services and in

educational institutions. This Bill was forwarded to the Government of India on 19th January 1994, for obtaining the assent of the President of India. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha led an all party delegation to New Delhi on 25th June 1994 and presented a Memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister stressing the need for urgently according Presidential assent for the Tamil Nadu Reservation Bill. The President of India gave his assent to the Bill on 19th July 1994 and the Bill became an Act. To accord permanence to this far reaching measure of affirmative action, this Government took up the issue of Constitutional protection for the Tamil Nadu Reservation Act. I am happy that the untiring efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha have resulted in the Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 being included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution by the Constitution (Seventy Sixth Amendment) Act 1994 enacted by the Parliament. The President of India gave his assent to the Constitution Amendment Bill on 31st August 1994. This historic achievement has paved the way for affirmative action to secure the all round development of Tamil Nadu, keeping its social fabric free from rancour and malice. It is indeed a proud achievement that such a well thought out and amicable solution to a potentially contentious and vexatious issue has been found. Tamil Nadu has truly forged ahead as a pathfinder in securing social justice for the Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

8. This Government has always espoused secularism as a positive concept to promote peace and harmony among the communities. When this Government assumed office it was only in some temples that at least one daily pooja could be held. This Government has initiated a new scheme of ensuring one daily pooja in all temples, however small or not so well endowed. More than 5,500 temples have so far been covered

and all temples will be covered in the year 1995-96. This Government has provided a record grant of Rs.1 crore to the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board for its activities. The Ulema pension has been stepped up from Rs.250 per month to Rs.400 per month from December 1994 to cover 1,700 Ulemas at an extra cost of Rs.30.60 lakhs per annum. The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes and Minorities Economic Development Corporation has been strengthened to extend loans to minorities including Christians. On the request of Mother Teresa, who has blessed the Cradle Baby Scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has gifted to the Missionaries of Charity a building at Madras belonging to the Tamil Nadu Housing Board. As a gesture to fully support the noble activities of the Missionaries of Charity, all water taxes, water charges, entry taxes and motor vehicle taxes for the institution have been waived.

9. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the special efforts taken by this Government to ensure that the Eighth World Tamil Conference held at Thanjavur in January 1995 was a resounding success. Attended by 1101 scholars from all parts of the globe and lakhs of Tamils from every nook and corner of the State, it was truly an international event symbolising the grandeur and pristine purity of Tamil language and culture. Thanjavur town, the seat of ancient Tamil culture, shone like a resplendent centre piece in the bejewelled crown of Tamil language and culture. The well thought out investments in roads, road bridges, bus stand, housing, water supply and urban infrastructure have served well to transform Thanjavur into a modern town fully reflective of the enthusiasm and spirit of the Tamils today. The Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted at the Conference that the future belonged to "Scientific Tamil" which should be recognized as the fourth division of the Tamil language in addition to the three

traditional divisions of Prose and Poetry, Music and Drama. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha announced a well defined nine point plan of action to promote Tamil language and culture. The resounding "Indrum Tamil Endrum Tamil", "Tamil Today, Forever Tamil", the slogan of the Conference announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha, is fully reflective of the ebullient and resurgent spirit of the modern Tamil.

10. The film industry in Tamil Nadu is one of the largest in the country and provides employment to a large number of people. The Dr.J.Jayalalitha Film City established over an extent of 87 acres at a cost of Rs.24.67 crores was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 31st August, 1994. The Film City offers production facilities of international standards, such as air-conditioned studios, sophisticated cameras, a re-recording theatre, attractive permanent sets and outdoor locations. The establishment of the Film City has fulfilled a long-felt need of Indian film producers. Hailed as a great boon to Indian film-makers, it has established Madras as the premier film production centre in the country.

11. Honourable Members of the House are aware of the special efforts taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to secure a record plan outlay of Rs.2750 crores for 1994-95 and the State is now poised to achieve this approved outlay. With this, our per capita plan outlay will be above the national average. Tamil Nadu has also established an enviable record of consistently exceeding the approved plan outlay in the last 3 years. This has been achieved in a situation where many States have been unable to achieve their approved plan outlays. Tamil Nadu thus has the proven record of exceeding the approved plan outlay every year since 1991-92, protecting

in real terms the outlays meant for the poor and the downtrodden and at the same time keeping its financial position in good order. The Deputy Chairman of the Union Planning Commission congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha on this perfect record of performance matching promise in their meeting on 20th January, 1995. The State's successful track record has enabled the determination of the State's plan outlay for 1995-96 at Rs.3200 crores. With this approval, we can be confident that the Eighth Plan Outlay of Rs.10,200 crores will not only be achieved in nominal terms but in real terms as well. This spectacular achievement has been made possible thanks to the unflinching stress on prudent financial management and the continuous monitoring of the implementation of development programmes.

12. Although the State was affected by cyclones and heavy rains in November and December 1994, the farmers of the State have responded very well to set new records in crop production. A well coordinated plan of action to provide quality agricultural inputs and irrigation in time, soil and seed technologies, backed by a well organised extension service has been implemented. Farmers of the State deserve our full appreciation as they are set to cross a total food grains production of 100 lakh tonnes. Rice production is expected to be 85 lakh tonnes. Sugarcane production will reach an all time high of 265 lakh tonnes. Oilseeds production is estimated at 14.75 lakh metric tonnes, pulses production at 4 lakh tonnes and cotton production at 6.60 lakh bales. Agricultural price policies and procurement policies have been implemented to provide maximum benefit to the farmers. Procurement prices for all varieties of paddy were increased, with effect from 1st September 1994, by Rs.30 per

quintal. The State advised price for sugarcane was determined at an all time high of Rs.525 per tonne. Despite a very difficult financial situation, this Government has unwaveringly continued to provide free electricity to the great benefit of the farming community. It is a measure of great satisfaction that there is all round prosperity in the farm sector which continues to be the engine of growth for our economy. It will be the endeavour of this Government to continue this pragmatic policy frame together with adequate support services to record higher growth in the farm sector in the coming year. Adequate flow of water in the Cauvery river is vital for the farm sector of Tamil Nadu. We expect that the provisions of the Interim Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal will be implemented by the Government of Karnataka during the coming season. We would also urge that the Government of India ensures compliance of the Interim Order in the coming season.

13. The Index of Industrial Production for Tamil Nadu has shown a strong revival in 1994-95, and shown a growth of 5.1% in the half year ending September 1994. The Report on Development Banking 1993-94, brought out by the Industrial Development Bank of India, indicates that in respect of sanctions and disbursements of loans for new industries, Tamil Nadu continues to occupy the third position all India. The Report also notes the fact that the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC) recorded a 54.8% increase in sanctions during 1993-94, which is the highest amongst all States, in a year when 12 out of 18 State Financial Corporations saw a decline in assistance sanctioned. With this performance, TIIC has moved up from the 4th position to the 2nd position all India. In the competitive situation following liberalisation of the economy, State level

reforms have assumed importance. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J.Jayalalitha has initiated a State specific plan of action which includes provision of efficient and quality infrastructure, development of a mechanism for speedy clearances, easy access to land, water and power, fostering of specific industry groups where the State has a comparative advantage, a conducive industrial relations climate, development of technical manpower, a stable fiscal policy and provision of urban infrastructure and housing. The Government has initiated a continuous dialogue with representative industry groups to enhance the position of the State in the competitive situation which is now developing.

14. As a major step to speed up clearances for establishing new industries, a one-stop High Level Committee to function as a single window has been constituted in January 1995. This Committee, headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, will accord all the necessary clearances for new mega-projects with an investment of more than Rs.50 crores. District Coordination Committees have also been established to speed up clearances for small scale and tiny industries.

15. This Government intends to restore to Madras its pride of place of being the automobile capital of the country and will spare no efforts in securing for the State new investments in the sector. A few new car projects have been announced recently by the promoters. This Government is in constant touch with the car manufacturers to establish their manufacturing plants in the State.

16. The Madras Industrial Park, conceptualised as an industrial town to attract foreign direct investment into the State, will be established on an extent of 1500 acres at

Sholinganallur near Madras. M/s. SPIC and the Balaji Group have been selected as local co-promoters for this project. A short list of foreign co-promoters has been drawn up and they have made site visits in January 1995. It is our intention to establish a facility comparable to the best industrial parks in South East Asia. As part of the State's promotive role, a new Export Promotion Industrial Park at a cost of Rs.20 crores over an extent of 211 acres is being established at Gummidipoondi. SPCOT has undertaken the establishment of a new industrial estate at Cheyyar in Tiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar district at a total cost of Rs.17.80 crores over an extent of 600 acres. TACID has moved ahead with establishing new growth centres at Perundurai in Periyar district and Gangaikondan in Tirunelveli Kattabomman district, although the promised assistance from the Centre has not been fully received. TACID is also establishing new growth centres at Nilakottai in Dindigul Anna District, Bargur in Dharmapuri District and Uthukottai in Chengai MGR district. These large industrial parks will provide fully developed sites for new investments.

17. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has taken up the question of establishment of the Southern Gas Grid with Thiru Satish Sharma, the Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, in a recent meeting at Madras on 8th February 1995. The Union Minister of State has assured that early action would be taken for the realisation of the Southern Gas Grid.

18. The energy sector is of crucial importance. Tamil Nadu has been free from power cuts since October 1992. This happy position has inspired confidence among industrialists to go in for new ventures in the State. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to ensure that this happy

plant at Cuddalore, a 1000 MW coal-based thermal plant at North Madras Stage II, a 500 MW coal-based thermal plant at North Madras Stage III, a 500 MW coal-based thermal plant at Tuticorin and a 250 MW lignite-based plant at Srimushnam have been drawn up. These thermal projects involve a total investment of Rs.16,065 crores. Memoranda of Understanding to establish a 1000 MW gas-based station at Gummidipoondi, a 2000 MW gas-based station at Vembar near Tuticorin and a 300 MW gas-based station at Pillaiperumalnallur have also been drawn up. The investment in gas-based stations is anticipated to be Rs.12,540 crores. Thus new projects totalling a capacity of 7120 MW and involving an outlay of Rs.29,925 crores have been initiated. In addition, Memoranda of Understanding have been signed to establish a 200 MW diesel plant at Basin Bridge, a 100 MW diesel plant at Samayanallur and another 100 MW diesel plant at Samalpatti.

19. This Government has also placed the highest emphasis on the development of non-conventional sources of energy. A Memorandum of Understanding to develop an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Plant with an ultimate capacity of 100 MW has been drawn up. With its progressive policy for establishing wind mills, Tamil Nadu already has a capacity of 132 MW. Tamil Nadu's achievement has led to a national award for wind mill development to be given to the State. It is a matter of some concern that no new Central investments in the energy sector have been initiated in Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has raised this issue with the Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission and requested an early decision on the 2000 MW Koodangulam Nuclear Power Plant and the Third Mine Cut at Neyveli. The Government of Tamil Nadu has already expressed its willingness



position continues in the future. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that the first unit of 210 MW capacity of the North Madras Thermal Power Project was commissioned by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 15th February, 1995. This is a landmark achievement. Even more significant is the fact that the second and third units of 210 MW each of the North Madras Thermal Power Project will also be commissioned in May and October 1995, respectively. The Basin Bridge gas based power project with 4 units each of 30 MW totalling 120 MW will be fully commissioned in 1995-96. Started in 1992-93, the early completion of this project is yet another significant milestone. This Government is aware that a long term plan for energy development has to be implemented to prevent any chronic shortages from creeping in. Several new projects in the private sector have been initiated with this objective. An immediate start can be made on the 250 MW lignite-based unit to be established by M/s.ST-CMS, if the Government of India extends quickly the counter guarantee required for this project. The detailed final financial feasibility of the Jayamkondam integrated lignite mining power project in the associate sector is to be evaluated shortly. Memoranda of Understanding to establish a 1320 MW coal-based thermal

to participate in the equity to finance the Koodangulam Power Project. The Centre would need to take an early decision on the commencement of these two crucial projects.

20. Apart from the energy sector, other key infrastructure sectors have also been identified for accelerated development. We would urge the Centre to take up urgently the development of the Satellite Port at Ennore for which a detailed feasibility report has already been commissioned. This Government would urge the Centre to take up the expansion of the Tuticorin Port and to develop it into a deep water multi-cargo port. The development of Cuddalore port at a cost of Rs.600 crores will be taken up as part of the Cuddalore Thermal Project. This Government will associate with the Madras Refineries Limited in developing the Nagapattinam port. In the roads sector, the World Bank has promised support for a major State Roads Project with an outlay of Rs. 950 crores. A consultant has been appointed to help in the identification of the roads to be taken up in this project. In addition, Government has also taken up discussions with private sector promoters for the development of expressways and vital urban beltways.

21. The industrial relations atmosphere in Tamil Nadu improved significantly in 1994. The total mandays lost has come down appreciably by 39.2% in 1994. Simultaneously this Government has launched new initiatives to improve the skills of technical manpower in the State. The Technician Education Project at a cost of Rs 76 crores and the vocational training programme to improve the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the State, at a cost of Rs.21.74 crores are being implemented with World Bank assistance. Continuous

interaction with industry will be ensured so that technician training courses incorporate the latest technologies.

22. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the chronic water shortage confronting the city of Madras. This has been the result of lack of proper investments in the past. This Government has given utmost priority to finding long term solutions to the water supply problem of the city. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware that the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha discussed the implementation of the Telugu Ganga Project to bring Krishna water to Madras city with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in a meeting at Hyderabad on 27th January, 1995. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has assured that at least 3 TMC of water will be made available to Madras city by December 1995. It is indeed a matter of great satisfaction that at last the results of the efforts taken on this project are likely to be seen. Major investments for the treatment and distribution of water are needed to handle the additional quantity of water expected by December 1995. A total investment of Rs.177 crores, to be completed by December 1995, has been undertaken to treat and distribute 3 TMC of water when received. The Government is also pursuing with the World Bank the sanction of the Third Madras Water Supply and Sanitation Project, with a total outlay of Rs.1231 crores, to handle the 12 TMC of Krishna water ultimately expected under this project. As part of the long term effort to stabilise the Madras water supply position and insulate it from the vagaries of one monsoon, the Government has already requested the World Bank to finance the New Veeranam Project. The World Bank has finally appraised the project in February, 1995. This project at a total cost of Rs.1638 crores will, besides bringing in the extra water in steel pipes, also

provide for complete improvements to the Veeranam tank, and the revamping of the Madras city distribution system. On the Hon'ble Chief Minister's insistence, an important new feature of this project is the provision of adequate funds for giving alternative water supply facilities to wayside villages. Realising the importance of reusing all the available water, the Government has recently negotiated with the O.E.C.F. (Japan), a credit for Rs.509 crores to undertake a project costing Rs.572 crores for treatment of sewage water in the city. The emphasis in this project will be on treatment of sewage water and its reuse. Hon'ble Members of the House will be glad to know of the comprehensive investment plan that has been drawn up to tackle the Madras city water supply and sewerage problem.

23. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the national debate on the new economic policy initiated by the Central Government. While welcoming liberalisation, deregulation and macro economic stability with particular reference to the control of inflation as key features of the new economic policy, this Government has consistently taken the stand that the new policies and programmes should under no circumstances affect the poor and the downtrodden. It is with this firm belief, that the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha has repeatedly stressed at various meetings of the National Development Council, that the Centre should refrain from increasing the prices of foodgrains in the public distribution system. While it is imperative that the economy grows at a faster rate, this cannot be at the cost of the well being of the poor. This Government urges the Centre to refrain from any further increase in the price of rice in the public distribution system. This Government is already shouldering a rice subsidy outlay of Rs.440 crores to keep the prices much below the Central issue prices. In this context

any further increase by the Centre would pose an unbearable financial burden on the State. This Government would also urge an early meeting of the National Development Council to consider, in the national context, the determination of rice prices in the public distribution system so as to benefit the poor.

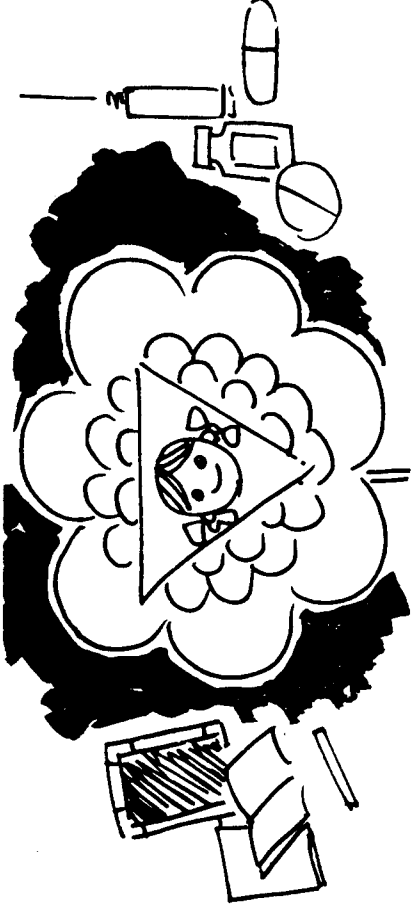
24. It is important that the role of the States, particularly in social sectors, is recognised by the Central Government. In the wake of the severe stabilisation and structural adjustment process in the Indian Economy, many States have found it difficult to protect, even in nominal terms, the outlays meant for the social sectors. Tamil Nadu has the proud record of ensuring that the outlays for the social sectors have in fact increased. There has been complete protection in real terms of the benefits offered to the poor and the downtrodden. Although this has imposed considerable financial strain, the State has shown the willingness to undertake increased loan liabilities in the short term to protect the interests of the poor. It is the firm belief of this Government that this conscious policy choice has enabled this Government to insulate the people of Tamil Nadu from the rigours of the economic adjustment process. Tamil Nadu can take pride in having provided a comprehensive safety net for the poor and the down trodden. This safety net includes food security, nutrition, primary health care, universal primary education, social security measures to cover all destitutes and the disabled, employment generation schemes for the poor, basic amenities consisting of drinking water supply, housing and clothing for the poor and special support programmes for identified weaker sections. This Government has not been deterred by the financial risks in providing this extensive social safety cover for the poor and

under privileged.

25. This Government has set for itself the target of achieving the goal of "Education for All" by 1998, which is well in advance of the national goal. The District Primary Education Project, with support from the World Bank, has been launched in 1994-95 at a total cost of Rs.125.8 crores. This important project will cover Thiruvannamalai, Sambuvarayar, Villupuram, Ramasamy Padayatchiar, South Arcot, Vallalar and Dharmapuri districts and it seeks to not only secure the full enrolment and retention of children upto 14 years of age but also places a special focus on the quality of education to achieve minimum levels of learning. This Government has also taken the initiative to introduce legislation providing for compulsory education. The bill has been sent for the assent of the President in July 1994. This Government would urge that the assent for this path breaking legislation be given without any further delay. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the need for additional teachers to strengthen the primary education system in the State. The Teachers Recruitment Board is currently in the middle of the process of recruiting candidates to fill up the vacancies that exist.

26. The new Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium at Madras, built at a cost of Rs.40 crores, was the first step in making Madras a centre for international sports events. Madras will have the signal honour of hosting the VII South Asian Federation Games, a mega-event in which 2500 athletes from the 7 SAARC countries will participate in December 1995. Sophisticated sports infrastructure facilities to the finest international standards, including a multi-purpose indoor stadium, an aquatic sports complex, a tennis stadium and a hockey stadium with astro-turf are being developed at a cost

of Rs.45.56 crores. A Modern Games Village at a cost of Rs.70 crores is also under construction. Encouragement to sports and world class sportspersons will continue to be a high priority for this Government. This Government will soon announce a comprehensive policy for sports.



27. Tamil Nadu is the first State in the country to extend complete supplementary nutrition coverage to all children in the age group of 6 months to 5 years. All the blocks in the State have been covered under the World Bank supported Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project (TINP) and Integrated Child Development Services Project (ICDS). The complete coverage of all blocks has ensured that growth monitoring and supplementary nutrition are available to every child in the State. This is indeed a landmark achievement of which we can be proud. Tamil Nadu has taken the lead in initiating a well thought out policy for women's development, providing for the empowerment of women and aiming at their allround development. As against the target of 1 lakh women to be benefited, 1.50 lakh women have been assisted to successfully establish themselves in self employment vocations. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also initiated in December 1994, the State policy for the physically handicapped. Tamil Nadu is the first State in the country to initiate such a policy. This policy frame has been widely acclaimed as a blueprint for caring support to the physically handicapped and is now being adopted by other States.

28. Tamil Nadu is well on the way to achieving the goal of "Health for All" by 2000 AD. The national goal to be achieved by 2010 AD in respect of the birth rate is 21 per thousand. Tamil Nadu has the tremendous record of bringing down the birth rate to 19.2 per thousand even in 1993, that is,

hospital equipment availability has also been considerably upgraded. The Government has also launched a special programme for the control of AIDS. The National Blindness Control Project has also been undertaken with support from the World Bank at a cost of Rs.64 crores. 2.5 lakh cataract operations will be conducted before March 1995. With the launching of a new Integrated Eye Care Programme, 3.5 lakh cataract operations will be conducted in 1995-96. With this accelerated pace, the entire backlog of cataract cases will be cleared in 3 years. It is proposed to pass a resolution under Article 252(1) of the Constitution of India, to adopt the Transplantation of Human Organs Act 1994 (Central Act 42 of 1994), which provides for the regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes and for the prevention of commercial dealings in human organs.

30. The social and economic improvement of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been uppermost in the policy agenda set by this Government. A High-level Coordination Committee consisting of the concerned Cabinet Ministers is overseeing the implementation of the programme to provide basic needs for Adi Dravidars, to be completed in a time bound manner before March 1996. This programme includes the provision of roads to habitations, house sites, burial grounds and pathways to burial grounds, street lights, water supply and free lights to huts under the "one light one hut" scheme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha announced in December, 1994, a new package of schemes for the benefit of Scheduled Castes. This special programme includes the extension of the Adi-Dravidar Girl Child Support Scheme in addition to the five existing districts to five more districts, introduction of a

17 years in advance of the national goal. Likewise, the death rate has been lowered to 8 per thousand even in 1993 as against the national goal of 9 per thousand to be achieved by 2010 AD. The Infant Mortality Rate has also come down to 56 per thousand live births as against the All India average of 74 per thousand live births. The Government can legitimately be proud of its performance record in family welfare, brought about by comprehensive intervention programmes including the Dr.J.Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme for Child Welfare. It shall be the endeavour of the Government to push forward aggressively to bring about a further dramatic fall in the Infant Mortality Rate.

29. The Dr.J.Jayalalitha School Health Programme which was launched in 1994, has been a tremendous success. 62 lakh children have been examined and treatment given wherever required. Tamil Nadu can truly be proud of its Primary Health Care System consisting of 8681 Health Sub Centres and 1417 Primary Health Centres. The management of drug supplies has been completely streamlined following the formation of the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation. Adequate drug supplies have been ensured, with proper packing, enhancing confidence among the patients. The

new special scholarship scheme with an annual income limit of Rs.50,000, a merit reward scheme benefiting 1000 girl students and 1000 boy students, an endowment of Rs.10 lakhs in the name of the late Mayor Shivaraj, enhancement of the subsidy under the Entrepreneur Development Scheme from Rs.15,000 to Rs.25,000 and margin money from Rs.85,000 to Rs.1,25,000, provision of 1000 lorries to Adi Dravidar youth with loan and subsidy support, a new self employment scheme to benefit 10,000 Adi Dravidar women, a house upgradation scheme to benefit 30,000 Adi Dravidar families, a house-site scheme to provide house sites to 5 lakh Adi Dravidar families, provision of T.V.sets to 2000 Adi Dravidar habitations and construction of community halls in 1000 Adi Dravidar habitations. In addition, an annual award of Rs.1 lakh in the name of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar will be given to a person who devotes himself/herself to the cause of the betterment of Scheduled Castes. This package of schemes announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha has been greatly welcomed.

31. This Government has initiated several new programmes for the benefit of the Backward and Most Backward Classes. The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes and Minorities Economic Development Corporation has undertaken new lending operations to support self-employment. The Government has also launched a programme for construction of houses for the rural poor including Narikuravars at a cost of Rs.13.81 crores.

32. Provision of basic services for the poor including drinking water, shelter and clothing have constituted the priority programme of the State. A massive programme for provision of house sites has been launched so that the goal of

providing shelter to every family can be achieved. According to the latest survey, 1162 habitations do not have protected water supply. It shall be this Government's effort to ensure that all these habitations are covered by December 1995. As part of the effort to support the poor in the middle of the economic adjustment process, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha has initiated a programme to provide free sarees and dhotis to the poor. This programme has the dual objective of providing basic clothing to the poor while at the same time ensuring a means of living to handloom weavers. Under this programme 62.26 lakh women have been given sarees and 61.72 lakh men have been given dhotis at a total cost of Rs.57 Crores.

33. The Government has always placed highest emphasis on special support programmes for unorganised labour. A new programme of handloom development centres and quality dyeing units is being implemented. A special allotment of Rs.25 crores has been made to revive Cooperative Spinning Mills to serve handloom weavers better. 2000 houses-cum-worksheds for weavers will be constructed. The Hon'ble Chief Minister in her meeting with the Union Minister for Textiles at Delhi on 20th January 1995 insisted that effective steps to bring down yarn prices should be taken by the Centre. Accepting the Hon'ble Chief Minister's suggestion, the Government of India agreed to increase the subsidy for hank yarn from Rs.15 per Kg. to Rs.20 per Kg. The Union Minister also agreed to take immediate action, on the Hon'ble Chief Minister's suggestions, on de-hoarding operations, adherence to specified yarn production obligations by spinning mills and banning exports of cotton and low counts of yarn. Following this intervention there has been considerable improvement in the situation.

46 visits to the various districts. In 1994 itself, Hon'ble Chief Minister has made 16 visits. This programme has benefited 7.74 lakh beneficiaries and benefits worth Rs.518.76 crores have been provided. In 1994 itself, Hon'ble Chief Minister has personally distributed benefits to 6.59 lakh beneficiaries involving a total amount of Rs.397.37 crores. This direct contact programme initiated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha has ensured that public grievances are redressed promptly by the Government and the benefits of development programmes actually reach the poor and the under privileged.

35. Top priority has been accorded by this Government to ensure that a high quality of administrative performance is maintained. The performance of several Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings has been recognised through national level awards. The Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd. has been awarded the Special Export Award for the export of granite blocks for the fifth year in succession in 1993-94. Similarly, the State Transport Corporations have also maintained a high level of performance winning six National level Awards for various performance indicators. The Department of Agriculture has been awarded Certificates of Merit, by both the Government of India and the National Productivity Council, for their excellent performance in the field of Rainfed Agriculture and Water-shed Development. The Tamil Nadu State Land Development Bank was awarded the trophy for the best all-India performance in lending during 1993-94. The Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) has been recognised as the best nodal agency for its outstanding contributions to the development of wind energy. Tuticorin and Mettur Thermal Power Stations of the Tamil Nadu Electricity

Hon'ble Members of the House will also be glad to know that on the Hon'ble Chief Minister's insistence, the Union Minister of Textiles has agreed that a National Institute of Fashion Technology will be established at Madras. This Government has also undertaken new initiatives to extend support to fishermen. Under the Fishermen's Housing Scheme, 1853 houses with an outlay of Rs.4.82 crores have been taken up. 1.35 lakh fishermen have been covered under the savings-cum-relief scheme. An Integrated Marine Fisheries Project has been launched at a cost of Rs.15.88 crores. This Government has launched a new welfare scheme for construction workers on 1st November 1994. A housing scheme to cover 1000 beedi workers has been undertaken by the Government. Based on the report of the Expert Committee, Government intends to bring forward legislation to regulate the establishment and management of coastal aquaculture in the State.

34. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha has initiated direct action, cutting through multiple layers of administration to ensure that the genuine needs and grievances of the people are addressed with the utmost urgency. The Chief Minister's Special Cell has been fully computerised to act with utmost urgency and ensure prompt follow up action. In the first stage commencing from March 1992, the Hon'ble Chief Minister received petitions from the public at Madras and distributed benefits to a large number of people, according to a programme covering all the districts on specified dates. In the second stage, starting from July 1992, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited all the districts, to personally hear grievances and distribute benefits to the poor and needy persons. This programme of district visits has been successfully completed in September 1994. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has made, in all,

Board have repeatedly won all-India awards for the achievement of a high Plant Load Factor. The Directorate of Handlooms and Textiles and the Kancheepuram Arignar Anna Silk Weavers' Cooperative Society were awarded the all-India first prize in the low-cost housing competition under the Weavers' House-cum-Workshed Scheme. The Tamil Nadu Police has proved its mettle in the field of modern scientific investigation, by winning the overall championship for Scientific Aids to Investigation in the All India Police Duty Meet held in January, 1995. Tamil Nadu has stood first among all states in the implementation of the Mahila Samridhi Yojana, which is a scheme to encourage thrift amongst women. This Government will remain committed to providing an effective and sensitive administration.

36. With the bountiful harvest and the provision of adequate basic services through the self sufficiency scheme, rural Tamil Nadu has been blessed with unsurpassed prosperity. Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the enactment of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. A State Election Commission and a State Finance Commission as visualized under this Act have been constituted. This Government intends to hold elections to the local bodies by June 1995. The State Election Commission has been requested to draw up a detailed election schedule.

37. Elections to the co-operatives were notified by this Government in June 1992. Cases are pending before the Supreme Court. The conduct of the elections was stayed by the High Court in August 1992. The Division Bench of the High Court has to examine the various issues involved. This Government is taking positive steps to get the stay vacated. This Government will take appropriate action to conduct the

elections to co-operatives after the judgement of the Madras High Court is received.

38. Tamil Nadu has successfully demonstrated that it can combine growth with stability. The perfect maintenance of law and order has provided the foundation for implementing accelerated development plans. The new action plan for securing accelerated industrial growth in the State will no doubt be widely welcomed. This Government shall always ensure that under no circumstances is the condition of the poor and the down trodden affected adversely. At the same time through meaningful and innovative programmes it shall be the endeavour of the Government to improve the quality of life of the poor and the down trodden.

39. This Government has amply demonstrated that despite the severest challenges, it can take Tamil Nadu forward on the path of sustained development. In a period of nearly four years, this Government has emphatically established that peace and tranquillity in the State will be protected. This Government has also consistently exceeded the approved plan outlay and also taken Tamil Nadu above the national average in per capita plan outlay, despite severe financial constraints. The Government has successfully tackled every one of the difficult issues that it has faced, be it on the law and order front, the critical financial position, the challenges to social cohesion or the rights of the State. Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront in fostering the spirit of national integration and safeguarding communal harmony. Tamil Nadu is now well recognized among international agencies for its ability to put together innovative new projects and implement them successfully. Several delegations from foreign countries have visited the State to undertake new investments and further trade relations.

In our mission to achieve full employment, we have to give pride of place to small industries and business, particularly in the rural non farm sector. The reforms in the financial sector should not lead to any adverse change in the credit flows to priority sectors. An analysis of the sectoral changes in the State Domestic Product clearly indicates the vital importance of this sector.

— Dr. J. Jayalalitha

40. Hon'ble Members of this House will appreciate the several imaginative and courageous steps taken by this Government to take Tamil Nadu on an accelerated growth path. This Government will take all steps to ensure that Tamil Nadu's outstanding record as a model of all round economic development is sustained. Growth and prosperity for all shall be the watchword of this Government. Betterment of the lives of the poor and the down trodden shall always remain the unshakeable commitment of this Government. I have no doubt that the deliberations in this House will be meaningful in securing continued prosperity for the State in the future. I have every confidence that the discussions will be objective, balanced and purposive.

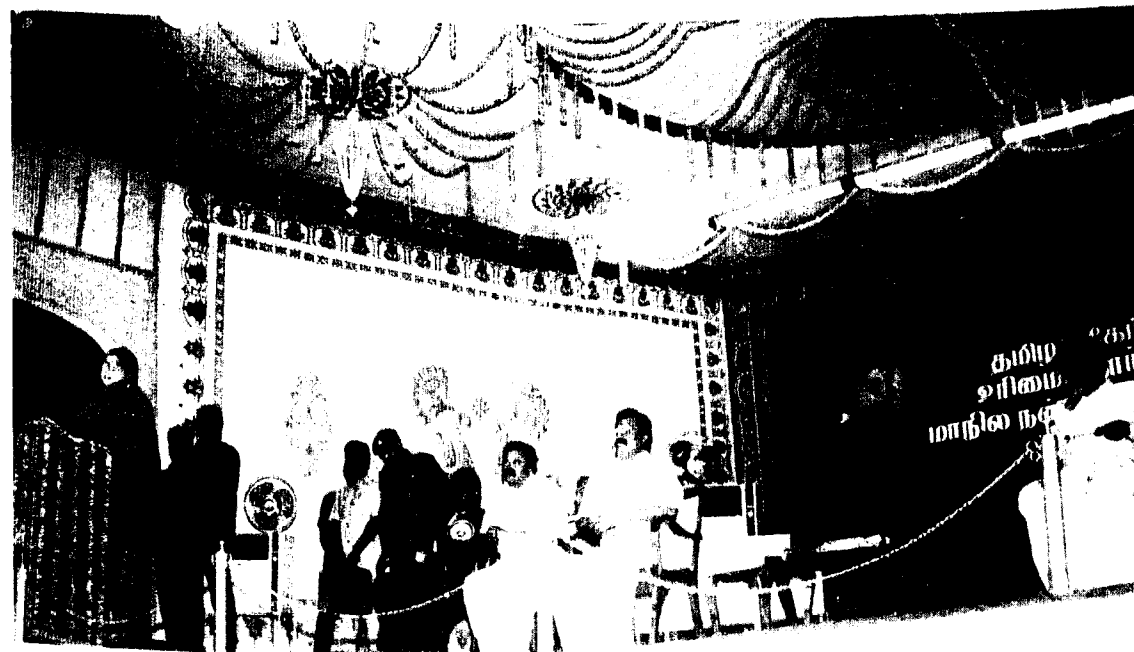
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Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the "Thanks Giving" Conference of the Tamil Nadu Cable TV Operators' Association on 18.4.95.



Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha laying the foundation stone for the Film Employees' Housing Project on 20.4.95.



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Chithirai - Vaikasi**

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CABLE TV OPERATORS SHOULD ACT AS SOCIAL WORKERS TO ENSURE ALL ROUND DEVELOPMENT

—Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha on 18.4.95 at the Cable T.V. Operators' Association Conference

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha participated in the conference of Tamil Nadu Cable T.V. Operators' Association organised as a gesture of 'thanksgiving' to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, on 18th April, 1995 held at Film City, Tharamani, Madras.

Speaking on the occasion the Chief Minister expressed her happiness in participating in the function. She described Cable TV and

Satellite Broadcasting as a remarkable scientific achievement and she considered the Cable TV Operators as social workers who had responsibility in ensuring development.

She said she knew that some sections of the public view satellite TV as commercial enterprise which only served to waste away the precious time of the people. If this view was to be dispelled, the satellite TV Channels should aim at

development of society and their programmes should stimulate the intellect as well as provide a feast to the eyes. She said Cable TV Operators should act as bridges between the channels and the people. They have the responsibility of providing feedback to the channels on the expectations of the public.

The Chief Minister promised support of her Government to the Cable TV Operators. She said a new

dawn awaited them. Though she did not generally participate in 'thanksgiving' meetings, she did attend this meeting because of their genuine interest and involvement.

She said she had a firm belief that people's welfare should be the sole motivation in public life, but the recent happenings in Tamil Nadu had shaken the very foundation of the philosophy. She charged that there was a planned attempt by some people to dislodge her elected government, against the wishes of the people and people were well aware of some persons with authority were misusing their office to besmirch her image for narrow political games.

The Chief Minister thanked Thiru N.T.Rama Rao, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Thiru Deva Gowda, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Thiru Lallu Prasad Yadav, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Thiru Venkiah, BJP Leader, Thiru A.B. Vajpayee, Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, Thiru Biju Patnaik, the former Orissa Chief Minister, Thiru K. Veeramani, General Secretary of Dravida Kazhagam for supporting her and boldly expressing their thoughts and asserting that she had moral authority

on her side.

She also thanked the film industry people who had extended their support and reposed confidence in her.

"The Democracy that Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar wanted to flow in the states is being buried today. The Democracy itself is at stake by the people masquerading as democrats. The holy war against these evil people would be won with the support of the people," the Chief Minister said. She felt that the Cable TV Operators would lend their support in this holy war, by spreading the spirit of democracy among the viewers.

The Chief Minister announced that the Government accepted in principle, the demand of Cable TV Operators for different classification as A,B,C,D on the basis of numbers of connections, they had, for purposes of taxation. This demand would be discussed in detail and decisions taken soon, she added.

Noting that one of the speakers, Thiru Venkatesh, had compared the operators with various demands to a child looking for toffees from an indulgent mother, the Chief Minister said that she wanted to give not just



toffees but 'Five Star Chocolate Bars' to the operators. But as the Assembly sessions were going on, she could not do so as the law does not permit. She would first let know the members first, in the Assembly, what chocolates she would give to the operators, and then she would give it to them, the Chief Minister said. She said she would give them Five Star Bar.

She thanked the operators for their affection and wished them well.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly presided over the function.

Thiru M. Thennavan, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity and Thiru V. Sathimoorthy, Hon'ble Minister for Commercial Taxes spoke on the occasion.

Thiru A. Ghulam Husain welcomed the gathering and Thiru Kayal Ilavarasu proposed a vote of thanks.



Kodambakkam High Road to be renamed M.G. Ramachandran Salai

85 ACRES OF LAND FOR FILM EMPLOYEES' HOUSING PROJECT ALLOTTED

—Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi
Dr. J. Jayalalitha on 20.4.95

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha laid the foundation stone for film employees' housing project at a function held at University Centenary Hall on the 20th April, 1995.

At this function the Chief Minister announced that the government would donate 85 acres of land at Pallikaranai in the city outskirts for the above project. The beneficiaries of the housing project need not pay any

charges in connection with this project, she added. She also said that the Co-operation and Housing depart-



ments would arrange for the grant of loans and construction of houses.

Orders had already been issued allocating 2.5 grounds to the Film Employees' Federation of South India in Kodambakkam for the construction of a building, the Chief Minister said.

On a request by the president of the federation, Thiru.Mohan Gandhiraman, the Chief Minister announced that the Kodambakkam High Road and the Kodambakkam bridge would be named after the late Chief Minister Thiru M.G.Ramachandran.

The Chief Minister said that Cinema entertained all sections of society and provided a diversion from the humdrum of life. Every suc-

cess of every film was behind the screen, the efforts of the film industry workers which brought it to life, although the producers, directors, artistes, distributors and exhibitors all had a role to play in it, she added.

The Chief Minister recalled that when she was acting in films, the plight of workers often made her ponder on the problems in the film industry, but she was unable to think of a solution at that time, and after assuming office, she has sorted out all the problems of the industry as a debt of gratitude.

In response to a pleas from the President of the South Indian Artistes Association, Thiru Radha Ravi, the Chief Minister kindly consented to take part in a "Star Nite" programme,

which would help raise funds and clear the Association debts. She, also distributed pension papers to 25 persons under a new scheme for aged indigent film industry employees.

Earlier, Thiru C.H.Chinnaiya, treasurer of the federation welcomed the gathering. The Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru Sedapatti R.Muthiah and the Hon'ble Ministers Thiru M.Thennavan, Thiru C.P. Pattabiraman and Thiru S.Raghu pathy outlined the measures taken by the Government for the growth of the film industry. Thiru S.Balraj, vice-president presented a report on the federation's activities. Thiru J.George Prasad, general secretary of the federation proposed a vote of thanks.



and Literature. They included actors Kamal Hasan, Mammothy, Chiranjeevi, Dev Anand, Akkineni Nageswara Rao, Nagesh, V.K. Ramasamy, Madhu, Arjun, Karthik, Vijayakanth, Sarathkumar and Bhagyaraj. Actresses Saroja Devi, Manorama, Radhika and Sridevi also felicitated Thiru Ganesan. Film Directors Bharathiraja, Maniratnam and R.V.Udaya

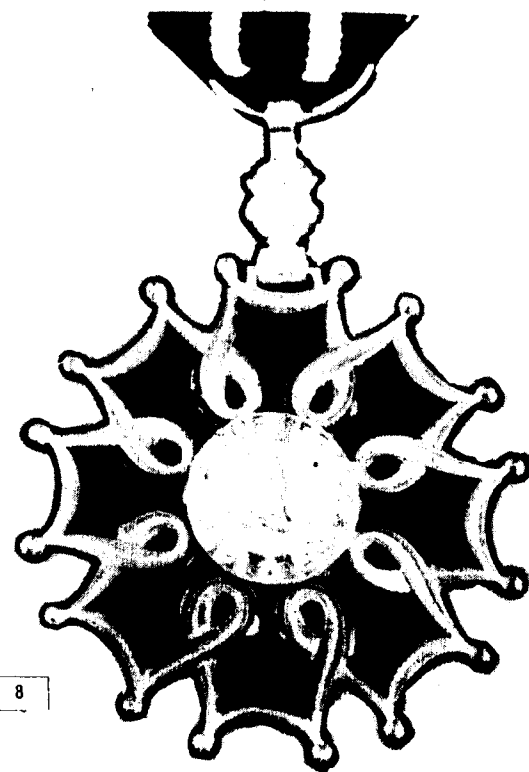
kumar, Music Directors Ilayaraja and Viswanathan-Ramamurthy, Film Producers D. Rama Naidu and Dasari Narayana Rao spoke on the occasion.

In his acceptance speech, Thiru Sivaji Ganesan said he dedicated the honour he has received to all those in the film world and in the political sphere - from Thanthai

Periyar to all film technicians. He expressed his gratitude to the French Government in presenting him the award and thanked all those who felicitated him.

A special souvenir was released on the occasion by the Chief Minister and the first copy was received by Thiru Krishnan, who directed Thiru Ganesan's first film "Parasakthi" four decades ago. Music Director Thiru Ilayaraja presented a 30 Kg Silver memento of mounted Chatrapati Shivaji to Thiru Ganesan. A special album prepared by the Film Fraternity was also presented to him.

Thiru K.Balachander, film director earlier welcomed the gathering. Thiru Rajnikant proposed a vote of thanks. Tmt.Suhasini compered the show held at the sprawling M.A.Chidambaram stadium at Chepauk.



Tamil Nadu Preparing to Host

SAF GAMES



regional games in our part of the Continent.

The South Asian Federation Games is being hosted by SAARC Countries at various venues. So far, six SAF Games were conducted. Srilanka was privileged to host the Fifth South Asian Federation Games in Colombo in 1991 and the Sixth South Asian Federation Games was conducted in Bangladesh in 1993 for the second time. The second South Asian Federation Games was also held at Bangladesh in 1985.

In 1993, Bangladesh conducted competitions in eleven disciplines, which was the highest number of disciplines so far conducted in any of the South Asian Federation Games held.

The South Asian Federation Games is the largest bonanza for more than one billion SAARC people and it upholds the spirit of SAARC and consolidates South Asian Co-operation and fraternity.

The South Asian Federation Games, which is just a decade old, has come a long way and is one of the major

prestige for India that Tamil Nadu is hosting the VII South Asian Federation Games at Madras and the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu has been entrusted with the task of conducting the VII South Asian Federation Games under the auspice of the Indian Olympic Association.

It is assured that the best possible efforts will be put into making the VII South Asian Federation Games a memorable extravaganza under the presidentship of Dr. J. Jayalalitha, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu, whose love and enthusiasm for sports accounts mostly for the initiative taken in this respect.

It is proposed to conduct maximum number of sports disciplines in the VII South Asian Federation Games for which International standard infrastructure facilities are available & will be created. All member countries will send their best sportspersons to make it the biggest sporting event in South Asia.

It is a matter of pride and

This International event will be the first of its kind in this part of the Country and will enable thousands of young people of South India to witness International sports talents of various disciplines, in action.

It is proposed to provide International standard infrastructure facilities for all games.

The existing infrastructure facilities of International standard available at present are:

Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium for Athletics and Football.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha Basketball Complex for Basketball.

Student Activities Centre, I.I.T. Guindy, for Judo and Weightlifting.

Santhome Higher Secondary School, Indoor Stadium for Table Tennis.

Police Commissioner's Office Shooting Range for Shooting.

Nehru Park Sports Complex for Kabaddi.

These venues will be renovated and suitable face-lift will be given in and around the venues to cater to the needs of International participants and spectators.



Model of the SAF Games Village

The new infrastructure facilities proposed for the VII South Asian Federation Games at Madras are:

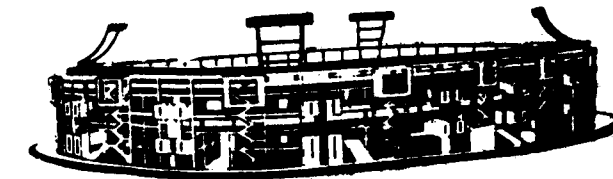
Multi-purpose Indoor Stadium with all modern facilities and amenities with a capacity to accommodate 10,000 spectators. The playing area will be 50 x 38 Mts.

Nungambakkam Recreation Centre will be used for Tennis with one centre court

and 6 practice courts of International standard with the capacity to accommodate 5000 spectators.

The site located at Velachery Road has been identified for the **Aquatic Complex** with one Main Pool, one Diving Pool and one Warm-up Pool. Other requisites including a seating capacity of 4000 spectators will also be provided.

Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium has been identified for Hockey. It is proposed to lay the Astro Turf with floodlight facilities and other amenities and seating arrangements for 20,000 spectators.



It is also proposed to set up a **Games Village** to accommodate 2400 participants by constructing 500 flats in Koyambedu village. Accommodation will also be provided at various Star Hotels.

The VII South Asian Federation Games will be held in various locations in the city. Accommodation of the participants would require to fulfil the necessary conditions of comfort and accessibility. The Tamil Nadu Housing Board is in the process of constructing a SAF Village at Koyambedu on a 35 acre site. It is located on

the Inner Ring Road and is at a distance of 9 Kms from the main Railway Station and 15 Kms. from the Airport.

A sprawling residential centre with 304 three bedroom and 256 two bedroom apartments is now being constructed. Apartments have been designed with the facility of drawing rooms, kitchens, modern tile floored toilets, ornamental lights, lifts and so on. Extensive landscaping is planned and the entire layout will be complete with water supply,

sewerage, streetlights, road, etc. in time for the VII SAF Games.

Apart from this, a modern Reception Centre-cum-Administrative Block, Bank premises, Post & Telegraph office, Shops, Central kitchen & Dining facilities are those which have been planned to make the stay a memorable one for the sports persons of the VII SAF Games.

Tamil Nadu Housing Board will sell these apartments, to the public after the SAF Games.

Rs.120 Crore for 1995 SAF Games

The Tamil Nadu Government has set apart Rs.120 crore for the conduct of the 7th South Asian Federation Games here in December, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha informed the State Assembly.

Replying to the discussion on the motion of thanks to the Governor for his address, she said this was the first time that the SAF Games, in which nine South Asian countries participated, was being

held in a state capital.

She said about 2,000 sportsmen and women and 1500 officials were expected for the Games and the Government was taking all steps for providing the infrastructural facilities.

A sports village was being readied at Koyambedu in the outskirts of the city to accommodate the athletes.

The Games would comprise 14 events.

Strides in Sports in Tamil Nadu

Amudha presented Sports bicycle

- ✦ Selvi Amudha who won a medal at the Triathlon Championship (an overall contest in swimming, cycling and running) held at Beijing in China in 1994 was presented with a sports bicycle worth Rs.60,000 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha.

Natarajan to train in Sweden

- ✦ Thiru Natarajan, Indias fastest man, has been provided financial support by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha. The money is to be used for advanced training in Sweden.

Rs.2 lakh for Solaimathi

- ✦ Selvi Solaimathi, India's fastest woman has been provided a fixed deposit of Rs.2 lakh by the Government. The interest accruing from the Fixed Deposit can be used for training expenses by her.

Cash Awards for Tamil Nadu Athletes

- ✦ 15 athletes from Tamil Nadu who won medals at the 1995 National Athletic Meet held at Bangalore have been presented cash awards totalling Rs.65,000.

380 Rural Sports Centres coming up

- ✦ Rural Sports Centres are being established in 380 places in the State at a cost of Rs.38 lakh.

World Class Stadium in 7 months

- ✦ A sports stadium of International standards, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium was completed in a period of 7 months at a cost of Rs.40 crore.

Reservation for Sportspersons

- ✦ 3 per cent at graduate level studies and 2 per cent at post graduate level have been reserved for sportspersons in Tamil Nadu.

Kutraleeswaran adopted

- ✦ The young swimmer, Kutraleeswaran has been adopted by the Government. He has been provided financial support for his endeavours.

Sports Hostels in all Districts

- ✦ Sports hostels are being set up in all the districts of the State to provide an impetus to sports and games in Tamil Nadu.



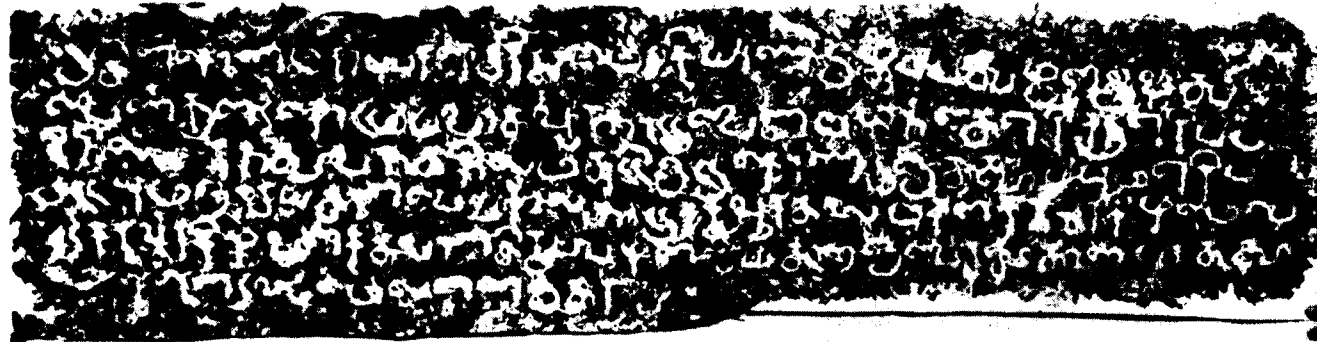
Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. V.R. Nedunchezhiyan and other Hon'ble Ministers garlanded the statue of Pavendar Bharathidasan on 29.4.95, as a mark of respect to the memory of the Poet on his 105th Birthday.



Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. V.R. Nedunchezhiyan and other Hon'ble Ministers garlanded the statue of Sir Potti Theagarayar at the Ripon Building campus on 24.4.95, the occasion of his Birthday.

TWO RARE INSCRIPTIONS LOCATED

Tamil Nadu Government has located two rare inscriptions. Of them one is found on a rock in a lake of Venmanthai Village of Vandavasi Taluk in Tiruvannamalai- Sambuvarayar District. This was brought to the notice of Archaeology Department by Thiru M. Rajamanickam, a student of the Institute of Epigraphy of the Department of Archaeology. The inscription is engraved in the 33rd



reginal year of Madhuraikonda Kop-parakasari' who is identified with Parantaka I of Chola Dynasty. This 33rd reginal year corresponds to 940 A.D. The epigraph records the endowment of land as 'Eripatti' for digging out a lake in a village known as Venpalanthai of Vadavuruadu a sub division of Venkundrakottam, made by an individual Kaauvaran Tiruppazhan who was the Chief of Karur of Venkalanadu. It is further said that he also established a sluiceway in this lake. The significant point in this inscription is the mention of Venpazhanthai as the old name for Venmenthai. According to history, of Chola Adithachola is said to have brought under his control the Cheranadu and Kongunadu. His son Parantaka had also ruled this part of Tamil Nadu and is said to have brought Gold from Kongu country

to top the Vimana of the Natarajar temple at Chidambaram.

Another significant inscription has been brought to the notice by Thiru K.Sridharan, Trichy based Registering officer at the instance of Thiru Murugasan, Executive Officer of Rock Fort Temple. This inscription is found written on a rock on the northern side

of the rock temple, Trichy. On the basis of the palaeography this inscription is assignable to 14th-15th Century A.D. It appears to mention an interesting event that took place in 14th-15th Century. One sage seems to have gone into a sub chamber in order to attain siddhi i.e. eternal bliss. While he entered the chamber it is understood that he had declared to his disciples that they should not open the chamber on any account and announced that he entered into the chamber not for obtaining land or gold but for attaining Siddhi. This inscription is engraved just below the carvings of "two feet". A portrait of a seated sage is also found in bas-relief on the right side of the inscription. Since no inscription of this kind has been found so far from Tamil Nadu, it becomes unique and most interesting.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MAY DAY

May Day (May 1) is celebrated as a spring festival in many countries. It marks the revival of life in early spring after winter. Some people believe that the celebrations on May Day began with the tree worship of the Druids. Others believe they go back to the spring festivals of ancient Egypt and India.

The English and other people whom the Romans conquered developed their May Day festivals from the Floralia. In their April Festival of Floria, the Romans gathered spring flowers to honor the goddess of springtime, Flora.

In medieval times, May Day became the favorite holiday of many English villages. People gathered spring flowers to decorate their homes and churches. They sang spring carols and received gifts in return. They chose a King and Queen of May. Villagers danced around a Maypole, holding the ends of ribbons that streamed

from its top. They wove the ribbons back and forth around the Maypole until it was covered with bright colors.

Other European Countries had their own May Day customs. In some, the day became a time for courting. In Italy, boys serenaded their sweethearts. In Switzerland, a May pine tree was placed under a girl's window. German boys secretly planted May trees in front of the windows of their sweethearts. In Czechoslovakia, boys at night placed Maypoles before their sweethearts windows. But in France, May Day had religious importance. The French considered the month of May sacred to the Virgin Mary. They enshrined young girls as May queens in their churches. The May queens led processions in honor of the Virgin Mary.

The Puritans frowned on May Day. For some reasons, the day has never been celebrated with the same enthusiasm in the United States as in Great Brit-

ain. But in many American towns and cities, children celebrate the return of spring with dancing and singing. Children often gather spring flowers, place them on the doorknobs of the homes of friends and neighbors on May Day morning. At May Day parties, children select May Queens, dance around the Maypole and sing May Day songs. These festivals often take place in parks or in schools.

In 1889, a congress of world Socialist parties held in Paris voted to support the United States labour movements, demands for an eight-hour day. It chose May 1, 1890, as a day of demonstrations in favour of the eight hour day. Afterwards, May 1 became a day for Socialist labour demonstrations in Europe. In many parts of the world today, members of Communist-dominated political parties and others celebrate May Day with demonstrations. Communist leaders celebrate it by making speeches and holding military parades.

AUTORICKSHAWS FOR WOMEN

Ten Women belonging to weaker sections were handed over the keys of new autorickshaws as part of a self-employment programme (31.3.95)

TAMIL NADU TO BECOME POLIOFREE

The Tamil Nadu state would be declared polio-free by the end of this year, the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Tmt. Indira Kumari announced at Coimbatore (1.4.95).

NEWS FROM THE TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



TAMIL NADU POLICE BEST IN THE COUNTRY

The Hon'ble Chief Minister said in the Assembly that the Tamil Nadu Police Force is the best in the country and that the state police had set an example to others in many fields (6.4.95).

EFFORTS ON TO BRING DOWN PRICES OF FOOD ITEMS IN HOTELS

The Hon'ble Minister for Food Thiru R.M.Veerappan said in the Assembly that the Tamil Nadu Government would make efforts to bring down the prices of Food items in hotels and it would also monitor the price structure in hotels and restaurants (6.4.95).

ASSISTANCE FUND FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

The Hon'ble Chief Minister an-

nounced in the assembly that an assistance fund would be set up to help the victims of violence.

30 PER CENT RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN POLICE

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced in the assembly that 30 per cent reservation for women would be implemented in the Police Department.

AN ANTI-DACOITY CELL ESTABLISHED

An "Anti Dacoity Cell" scheme has been introduced. The cell would function under a DIG of police. Rs.22 lakh recurring expenditure and Rs.11 lakh non-recurring expenditure would be made available to the cell. This was announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the assembly.

TAMIL TO BE MADE COMPULSORY

Study of Tamil is to be made compulsory in the State, the Hon'ble Minister for Education Thiru K.Ponnusamy announced in the Assembly on 27th April, 1995.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS IN REMOTE AREAS

The Hon'ble Social Welfare Minister Tmt. R. Indira Kumari announced in the Assembly that the fair price shops were to be started in the remote areas under a proposal of Government and they would be entrusted to the women's Development Corporation in 6 districts.

Rs.60 CRORES FOR WATER RESOURCES PROJECT

The Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Thiru S. Kannappan announced in the Assembly that the Tamil Nadu Government had allocated Rs.60 crores for the first phase of the ambitious Water Resources Consolidation Project planned with World Bank assistance.

400 NEW BUSES

Because of the prompt repayment of loans, the World Bank had come forward to assist the government to purchase 400 new buses in 1995; by June, at least 200 of those buses would be on the roads, the Hon'ble Transport Minister Thiru K.A.Sengottaiyan announced in the Assembly on 17.4.95.

HOUSES FOR TRANSPORT WORKERS

The Hon'ble Transport Minister announced in the Assembly that the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha had sanctioned Rs.2 Crores to construct houses for transport workers.

CONSERVATION OF ECOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

A project plan, with an outlay of Rs.463 crores, had been sent to the Centre for external financial assistance for the conservation of the ecological diversity of forests in the State, the Hon'ble Transport Minister Thiru K.A.Sengottaiyan announced in the Assembly on 17.4.95.

EXCLUSIVE BANK FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS

The Hon'ble Social Welfare Minister Tmt.Indira Kumari announced in the Assembly that the Tamil Nadu Government would establish a bank to cater to the needs of handloom weavers, on 17.4.95.

NEW COMMERCIAL TAX BILL TO PROVIDE TAX RELIEF

The Hon'ble Minister for Commercial Taxes Thiru V.Sathiamoorthy introduced a bill in the Assembly to amend the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Act, 1959, and thereby extend tax concessions to certain items and give tax exemption for some other items, on 17.4.95.

Announcements
at the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly
by Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity

Thiru M. THENNAVAN

Exhibitions at Vellore and Cuddalore

✦ Exhibitions are being conducted in the major cities of Madurai, Salem, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli every year. In addition, Exhibitions were conducted at Vellore and Thanjavur during the last financial year. In order to amplify the benefits of these Exhibitions, mini exhibitions were conducted at Karaikudi and Dharmapuri also, last year. During 1995-96 major Exhibitions are proposed to be conducted at Vellore and Cuddalore, additionally.

Freedom Fighters honoured

✦ During the Policy discussions at last year's Assembly Session, it was announced that District level functions would be organised in honour of the following freedom fighters:

1. Pulithever
2. 'Rebel' Muthuramalinga Sethupathi
3. 'Dheeran' Chinnamalai
4. Alaghu Muthukone

As announced, the functions were

organised in a befitting manner.

Pathini Kottam at Thiruchengode

✦ The Hon'ble Chief Minister had announced that Kannagi Kottam in honour of Pathini Deivam Kannagi would be set up at Thiruchengode.

Jeevanandam Memorial at Kanniyakumari

✦ The Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement that a mandapam would be built in memory of Comrade Jeevanandam is being followed up. The choice of site is on. Besides, efforts are on to acquire the house of Comrade Jeevanandam at Boothapandi in Kanniyakumari District and convert it as a Memorial.

Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variar-Memorial at Kangayanallur

✦ The Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement that a Memorial in honour of Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variar would be set up at Kangayanallur is being followed up. Efforts are on to chose the venue of the Memorial.

Colour Negative Plant at Tamil Nadu Film Institute

✦ In order to cope up with advancement of science and technology in this field, the academic syllabus have been updated recently and efforts are being made to acquire modern equipments. A sum of Rs.11.00 lakhs have been sanctioned under Part-II Scheme for the year 1994-95 in this regard. The Colour Negative Plant will start functioning in this institution from the year 1995-96 onwards. This is a big boon to the students as they would receive practical knowledge in developing the colour negative film.

Tamil Nadu Films Division being modernised

✦ The Government have accorded sanction for Rs.56,27,000 towards the purchase of sophisticated Video equipments. These equipments will enhance the quality of productions especially by providing special effects, and will also help speeden up productions by the Films Division.

Jayalalitha Award

✦ Hon'ble Chief Minister has been contributing to the development of Art and Culture, Literature and Cinema. In recognition of the contribution made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to the Film Industry, the Government have insti-

tuted a prestigious special award on the name of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, namely 'Jayalalitha Award' to be given away to outstanding veterans in the Film World for the year 1993. During 1992, three film personalities were honoured with Jayalalitha Award.

Sivaji Ganesan Award

✦ Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced that an Award in the name of Sivaji Ganesan would be instituted. This Award will be presented to outstanding film personalities. The award will be presented from this year onwards.

Award for best costumer and tailor in Film Industry

✦ In pursuance of the announcement made by Hon'ble Chief Minister at the inauguration of J. Jayalalitha Film City, the Government have ordered the grant of awards from this year onwards for one outstanding Costumer and one outstanding Tailor in Film Industry.

Film employees housing scheme

✦ The State receives considerable revenue from Film Industry. The Film Industry also provides entertainment to millions of people and employment to thousands of persons. In recognition of these factors, Hon'ble Chief Minister

has granted various benefits and concessions to the Film World especially to film employees. Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the allotment of 85 acres of land costing about Rs.10 crores at Velachery-Pallikaranai area near Madras free of cost to the Film Employees Federation of South India on 20.4.1995 as requested by them for the construction of Housing Colony for Film Employees.

Pension scheme for employees working in the Film Industry

❖ In pursuance of the orders of Hon'ble Chief Minister the Government have introduced a scheme for providing pension of Rs.300 per month to film employees affiliated to the Film Employees Federation of South India, Madras who have completed the age of 60. This scheme is effective from 1.4.1995. 1,000 employees will be benefited immediately by this scheme. Rs.9 lakh has been sanctioned for this scheme for the first three months.

Accident Insurance scheme for film employees

❖ By the order of Hon'ble Chief Minister the Government have also introduced from 14.4.1995, an 'Accident Insurance Scheme' to provide benefits to film employees. Under this scheme each film employee will be insured for a sum of Rs.50,000 and given benefits in the event of death. Also the disablement is graded and the benefit in cash is given. Rs.5 lakh has been sanctioned towards the payment of the premium for this scheme for the current year.

Creation of welfare fund for film employees

❖ Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered to constitute a welfare fund for the film employees. Accordingly the Government have constituted a welfare Fund to which each employees will pay Rs.25 per month or Rs.300 per annum, as subscription. The benefit of Pension Scheme and Insurance Scheme will be extended to the employees who have no arrears of subscription.

My Government is vitally interested in the development of sports and games in Tamil Nadu. I want our young men and women to rise to heights of glory in the sports and games arena, not only at the national level but also at the international level. I want to give our budding talents all the necessary facilities and opportunities, so that they can blossom as the finest flowers in the field of sports and games.

—Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha

Translation: Tamil Tirumurais

—Sekkizhaar Adi-p-podi
T.N. Ramachandran
Thanjavur.

Excerpts from the VIII World Tamil Conference Souvenir

Each language is endowed with a peculiar genius, native to that language. In this sense, no two languages are equal. Classical Greek or celestial Sanskrit cannot mirror the shades of Swahili. The language of the Kuravas (nomadic gypsies) must have idioms unknown to French or German. It is good to remember this basic truth. In a translation therefore, what can be achieved is only approximation. Any one who hyper-enthusiastically overdoes, will meet with his quince who will greet him thus:

"Bless thee, Bottom! Bless thee! thou art translated!"

In a translation as Dr.K.R.Srinivasa Iyengar says: "Much of the witchery of music and phrasing (of the original) will doubtless go. True. Yet the felt need for translation cannot be ignored. It cannot be supplanted by any number of commentaries or critical explanations. Even a bad but literal translation, in my

view, may be superior to an intelligent paraphrasing or a learned commentary. For, the translator leans on the original wholly, solely and exclusively.

When all is said and done, what is possible is a translated whole which is not at all tantamount to a 'total translation'. The difficulty is one of inherence and will persist to the bitter end.

Nearness, semblance, approximation: these alone can be achieved even by a competent and earnest translator.

A good drilling in the language of the original as well as the language that receives the original is a must for any translator. He must have a well-strung bow and a quiver of many arrows. However he need not draw to his full strength, lest his arrow should over-shoot. A certain amount of sobriety should inform his judgement. To these must be added a healthy self-confidence. Even then, the

wished-for 'transfer' may not take place. But, the translation, I dare say, is bound to provide the reader with a sure foothold for comprehension.

No wonder, Goethe wrote to Carlyle to say: "Say what one will of its inadequacy, translation remains one of the most important worthwhile concerns in the totality of world affairs".

In my view the original is **Moolavar** and translation is the **Utsavar**. **Moolavar** as every one knows is the main deity enshrined in the adytum. It is there installed irremovably. The **Utsavar** is taken in and around the temple and even into the streets, in a procession. In form and content they vary much; but they stand as the identical symbol of Godhead. Valmiki's Ramayana, the **Moolavar**, can be adored only by pundits proficient in Sanskrit. R.T.H. Griffith's translation, the **Utsavar**, has gone round the five continents and is everywhere

hailed by loving devotees.

Before I deal with the translation of the **Tirukkovaiyaar**, I desire to say a word or two about the work's wondrous message. From 'eros' which is the hot and unendurable desire to 'storge' which is family affection, and from storge to 'philia' which is physical and more than physical love and from philia to 'agape' which is 'unconquerable benevolence, invincible goodwill," the Tirukkovaiyaar is the recordation of the odyssey of love. None can miss its message, as poetry after all, its is said, "can communicate before it is undertood".

The Tirukkovaiyaar like the Periya Puranam is a treasure-house of eternal truths. When we attempt to translate works as these, it is better that we remember the dicta of F.T.Wood, a grammarian of great eminence. "In the Use of English" (London, 1965) at page 23, he says: "Eternal truths (or what are conceived to be eternal truths) are perhaps best expressed in a language a little removed from that of our own day; it lifts them above the commonplace and invests them with a timelessness in a way that a modern translation does not; or at least, so it would

seem to some of us". F.T.Wood's main objection to a modernised translation of an old classic is full or significance. He says: "Again, twentieth century idiom induces twentieth-century attitudes" So the translation has to be done in a language which should bring with it the fragrance of the past.

Now, a word about Indian works in general and Tamil works in particular, may not be out of place.

"The life and surroundings" says Sri Aurobindo, "in which Indian poetry moves, cannot be rendered in the terms of English poetry. Yet to give up the problems and content oneself with tumbling out of the warm, throbbing Indian world to shiver and starve in the inclement atmosphere of the English Language seems to be not an act of literary inhumanity and a poor spirited confession of failure but a piece of laziness likely to defeat its own object".

Truer words were perhaps never spoken. Translators are not to be daunted by difficulties. "Difficulties are after all given us in order that we may brace our sinews by surmounting them".

Commenting on Gaspare

Gorresio, the Italian translator of Valmiki Ramayana, Irma Piovana says that Gorresio is of the view that the difficulties of translation "must be faced in order to achieve an ideally perfect and complete translation". (Valmiki Ramayana: Prefaces to the Text, Indian Heritage Trust Madras, 1986, page xvii)

As a translator my vote is cast in favour of literalness. However in case of religious classics like the Tamil Tirumurais I do know that the letter, more often than not, kills. The rendering therefore need not be strictly literal. At the same time literalness is not to be sacrificed for the sake of convenience. The goal should be communicableness coupled with more than substantial fidelity to the spirit of the original. As a translator, I feel inspired by the great adage "Pleon hemisu pantos" (Half is more than all).

The word-order of the original may defy reproduction in a uninflected language. Yet the original can be followed closely as far as practicable. Even the coloratura descriptions of the original can be mirrored in the translation. The translation can be in vers libre, as much wrestling for accomo-

dation may have to be undertaken by the translators. A precise rendering will account for a greater readability.

Richard Scheirmann, the translator of Martin Buber's 'Konigtum Gottes' (Kingship of God), says "He himself (Martin Buber) asked that I translate as literally as possible. This I have done even when it makes the English rather clumsy".

At the risk of sounding quaint and even grotesque sometimes, I usually render almost all the ideas and expressions peculiar to the genius of the Tamil tongue. The reader has a right to know of the vagarious nature of the language of the original. A crisp and neatly-rounded off rendering that conceals the twists and knots, the curls of culcues as well as the coils and spirals of the original, may cause the structuring of an erroneous perception in the reader's mind. The reader, circumstanced as he is, looks up to the translator for true and proper guidance. He should not be betrayed. The translator may think that the omission of a description or a detail may not result in any loss of meaning. This view is not correct. A description or a detail in a classic, is never a superfluity. It

has close nexus with the theme, character or situation. An omission, in this context is therefore a butchery and treachery.

The elephant and the peacock play a rich role in our nature poetry. These have, according to Sri Aurobindo, "become almost impossible in English poetry, because the one is associated with lumbering heaviness and the other with absurd strutting. The tendency of the Hindu mind, on the other hand, is to seize on what is pleasing and beautiful in all things and turn to see a charm where the English mind sees a deformity, and extract poetry and grace out of the ugly. The classical instances are the immortal verses in which Valmiki by a storm of beautiful and costly images and epithets has immortalised the hump of Manthara and the still more immortal passage in which he has made the tail of a monkey, epic".

In Tamil as well as Sanskrit the reader will do well to remember that the eyes of a woman are as large as the sea; they roll like fish; they are so long that they touch the ears. Again, the woman's waist is thin to the point of invisibility; it does not even exist; her shoulders are bamboo-like, her

hair is plaited with honey-laden flowers buzzed by bees and beetles; her face is moon-like or it is mistaken for a lotus by a bee. The hero is a tusker, a bull, a lion, he is ever decorated with dangling garland sought by bees; he is armed with a sharp spear the hefty head of which is tipped with gory flesh. Tamil poetry abounds in stock comparisons. When the poet use them they somehow import a touch of their own. Thus in hoary Tamil Nadu, "what was actually a mode of life later became a custom and finally crystallised into a hallowed poetic convention which was followed in poetry even when the custom became obsolete".

Now let us take a few stanzas from the Tirukkovaiyaar and see how best we may turn it to. The work opens thus:

திருவளர் தாமரைசீர்வளர்
காவிகள் ஈசந்தில்லைக்
குருவளர் பூங்குமிழ்
கோங்குபைங் காந்தள்கொண்
டோங்கு தெய்வ மருவளர்
மாலை ஓர் வல்லியின்
ஒல்கி அனநடை
வாய்ந்துருவளர் காமன்றன்
வென்றிக் கொடிபோ
றொளிர்கின்றதே!

My translation of this stanza is as follows: Lotus of ever-increasing pulchritude Nelumboes of ever- increasing glory Colourful Kumizh bright that blooms In the eden of Lord's Tillai Konku and goodly Kaantal: With these is wrought her frame, as a garland Of ever-increasing fragrance divine; She is a lithe liana endowed with The Swan's own gait Behold her, blazing beauteously Like Kaama's victorious pennant! In the Tamil verse the word 'valar' is used five times and 'Valar' is a vinai-th-thokai which is unknown to English Grammar. Neither is it easy for us to coin Vinai-th-thokais in English. The nearest equivalent of 'Valar' is ever-increasing. Taamarai is lotus and it presents no difficulty for the translator. Kaavi is blue lily; it is nelumbo. The word nelumbo enjoys a dictionary status. Nelumbo is also called nelumbium. For Kumizh, Konku and Kaantal we can get only their botanical equivalents. Kumizh is gruelina parviflora; konku is hopea wightiana, also called Bombay Malabarium; Kaantal is gloriosa superba. Now,	the lady love is described as one wrought of flowers. This hyperbole is peculiar to Tamil and Sanskrit. To convey something of this to the English reader, we will have to furnish foot-notes which can carry the following equations. Lotus-face; Nelumboes-Eyes; Kumizh-Nose; Konku-Breasts; Kaantal-Hands. The Tamil heroine is a riot of flowers. She is not a mere "proserpin gathering flowers Herself a fairer flower" or Tennyson's "Rose in roses". Her very person is damasked with flowers. She flutters like the flag of Kaama. Kaama is the Indian God of Love. He cannot be substituted by Cupid, the dinky little blind mannikin. Now let us take up the second stanza: போதோ! லிசும்போ! புனலோ! பணிக ளது பதியோ! யாதோ அறிகுவ தேதும் அரிதி யமன்விடுத்த தூதோ! அனங்கன் துணையோ! இணையிலி தொல்லைத் தில்லை மாதோ! மடமயி லோ? என நின்றவர் வாழ்பதியே! With a slight alteration in the word-order I have rendered this stanza thus: Is she a messenger of Yama?	An accomplice of Kaama? Or a damsel of hoary Tillai peerless? Again, What may her abode be? Flower? Sky? Water? Or Nagaloka? Who can ever guess? The mayil of the original is translated as "a peafowl" following Dr. G. U. Pope. In venturing to substitute this for 'peacock', as in English, to call a woman a peacock suggests, not beauty but vanity. Again the comparison of a male with a female of the species is also not permitted in English. Now, we find here the heroine described as a messenger of Yama. Yama is the God of Death. The next line speaks of Kaama with whom we have already familiarised the reader. What now remains to be explicated is the second half of the stanza. The hero, in the first instance, is so jostled out of his sense on his beholding the heroine, that he is tempted to conclude that she is not one that belongs to this dim spot which men call earth. She must hail from the celestial region, he thinks. "What may her abode be? Flower?"
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Flower, in the context means lotus. The reference ultimately takes us to Lakshmi, the Goddess of Wealth and Beauty, enthroned on the lotus.

If she is not Lakshmi, she must at least be an inhabitant of paradise. The hero asks: "Is Visumpu her dwelling place?" Visumpu is here simply rendered as sky. If not from visumpu she must be from the realm of Varuna, that is, the sea. Water is supposed to be the habitat of nymphs. The hero again asks: "Or is she from Panikalathu pathi?" Pani is snake; Panikalathu Pathi is Naga-loka, the nether world of untold wealth.

We will now turn to the Periya Puranam. There is much meaning in the belief that is to the effect that the Periya Puranam opens its treasure only to a devotee of Saiva Siddhanta. One must have a clear perception of the three eternal categories namely, pati the Lord, pasu the soul and paasam the fettering rope or shackle.

Now the question arises whether we should translate every time all the descriptions, repeated times without number, in the work. Many may consider these to be tedious and tiresome

repetitions. But, I for one, am tempted to think otherwise. My eye-opener is none other than John Milton whom I always hail as a Maha-Muni. In this De Doctrina Christiana, Maha-Muni Milton says: "Our safest way is to form in our minds such a conception of God, as shall correspond with his delineation and representation of Himself in the sacred writings. For granting that both in the literal and figurative descriptions of God, He is, exhibited not really as He is, but in such a manner as may be within the scope of our comprehension; yet we ought to entertain such a conception of Him, as He in condescending to accommodate Himself to our capacities, has shown that He desires we should conceive. For it is on this very account that He has lowered Himself to our level, lest in our flights above the reach of human understanding and beyond the word of scripture we should be tempted to indulge in vague cogitation and subtleties." So when you meet with a scriptural description of the Lord in a religious classic, bow before it, invoke its grace and translate it as it is.

I have translated the opening verse of the Puranam as follows:

"Omneity is He who is rare to be comprehended

And expressed in words by all the worlds;

In his crest rest the crescent and the flood;

Limitless is His effulgence;

He dances in the Ambalam

Blessed are they His flower-feet ankleted

Them we adore".

Though God is all, all is not God. Though the pati comprehends all, all the worlds, according to St. Sekkizhaar, can seldom comprehend Him and even if anyone does comprehend Him one cannot express Him in words. The Lord is truly ineffable.

He dances in Tillai Ambalam. Ambalam according to the famous commentator Nacchinaarkiniyar is the place where one witnesses a dance. Arangam is the place where one witnesses a drama.

Mystically speaking Ambalam is the human soul. "Hallowed be the feet of Him who parts not from my heart for even such little time, an eye takes to twinkle" are words of St. Maanickavaachakar.

The ether of ens is Chitrabalam; the ether of Ens Enitium is perambalam. The phala-sruti of the Periya Puranam is contained in the very next stanza. This is rendered by me as follows: "Life abiding in the tabernacle of flesh Can sure attain its goal,	the end of embodiment, If it adores the golden feet of the Dancer who enacts the dance great and grant, In Tillai dight with flowery gardens melliferous". Varadar is not merely the one who grants boons; He is truly Bharatar the Lord Dancer (Nataraja) hailed as the supreme God	by the Rig Veda. It is heartening to note that scholars are more and more emboldened to embark on the holy task of translating the Tamil Tirumurais. The translations may not be as great as the originals. Yet they will, without doubt, amply mirror the greatness of the originals.
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ON THE WRAPPER

I Wrapper - (Anti clockwise from top)

- * Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Thiru N.T. Ramarao called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Secretariat on 30.4.95.
- * Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Thiru Deve Gowda called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Secretariat on 10.5.95.
- * Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra Thiru Manohar Joshi called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Secretariat on 28.5.95.

II Wrapper (Top)

- * Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the thanks giving conference organised by Tamil Nadu Cable TV operators Association on 18.4.95.

(Bottom)

- * Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha laying the foundation to the Film Employees Housing Project at Madras on 20.4.95.

IV Wrapper

- * Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the function held on 22.4.95 to present the "Chevalier Award" to Thiru Sivaji Ganesan. The French Ambassador Thiru Philippe Petid is also seen.

MORARJI DESAI-A TRUE GANDHIAN TILL HIS LAST BREADTH



MORARJI DESAI, A COLOSSUS IN INDIAN POLITICAL SCENE

- Hon'ble Chief Minister
Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha

Morarji Desai "strode the Indian Political scene like a colossus for many a decade", the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha said in her condolence message.

"Shri Morarji Desai who remained a true Gandhian till he breathed his last, was not only a towering political personality of the post independent of India, but also a great leader who guided the destiny of our nation with a great deal of maturity and dedication during troubled times. In his death our country has lost a great patriot and a selfless leader", she said.

Thiru. Morarji Ranchhodji Desai, whose political career began in 1930 had remained till his last breath an ardent Gandhian, a staunch prohibitionist.

Through his hundred eventful years, Thiru Desai was an integral part of Congress in the struggle for independence and at the age of 81, headed the first non-Congress Government at the Centre.

The last destination of his political career - Prime Ministership during the Janata Party regime between 1977 and 1979 - came his way after he lost the bid to become the Premier twice. In 1964 after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru and later in 1969, when he was expelled from Congress. However, the premiership did not last long as Thiru. Desai had to resign from the post due to internal squabbling and later retired from active politics. In the prime of his youth Mr. Desai came under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi. He entered public life with a rare courage of conviction and possessed an abiding faith in the purity of means and ends.

Truth to him was an art.

cle of faith and not an expediency. Mr. Desai had once defined his credo "I am a rightist in the sense I believe in doing right".

Born on February 29, 1896 at Bhadell near Bulsar in Gujarat, Mr. Desai was the eldest in the family of eight children. He belonged to the Anavil Brahmin community who traditionally were farmers and known to be outspoken and industrious.

Three days before his marriage to Gujrabai when Mr. Desai was just 15 years old his father committed suicide, leaving him to assume responsibility of his young bride, grandmother, mother, three brothers and four sisters.

After passing matriculation, he came to Bombay for higher studies on a scholarship from the Maharaja of Bhavanagar. He joined the science faculty in Wilson College living in a free boarding house.

After graduating with a first class in 1917 Mr. Morarji Desai was recruited in the Bombay Provincial Civil Services the next year and was posted as Deputy Collector in Ahmedabad.

The national emancipation Mr. Desai cherished did not conform to working under an alien Government

and he resigned in May 1930.

He openly expressed later that every Indian who served the British Government was in fact doing harm to the cause of his country as to work for the British honestly was to popularise their administration and perpetuate it.

Mr. Desai joined the Congress in 1930 and was elected General Secretary of Local Unit. It was during this period that the civil disobedience movement was getting tremendous response from people.

Active participation in the freedom struggle saw him in and out of jail several times between 1930 and 1934. He was imprisoned in the 1940's for almost a year in Sabarmati and Yerwada prisons.

In 1946, Mr. Desai was elected to the Bombay Legislative Assembly and appointed Home and Revenue Minister—a post, he retained till General Elections, held in Independent India in 1952.

He became the Chief Minister of Bombay and continued in that capacity till the end of 1956 when he joined the Union Government as Minister for Commerce and Industry.

On March 22, 1958 Mr. Desai assumed Finance portfolio following the resignation of T.T. Krishnamachari. However, in July 1969, he was relieved of the portfolio by Indira Gandhi, which led to his resignation.

After the 1967 General Election he became the Deputy Premier. However, serious differences developed between him and Indira Gandhi over the bank nationalisation issue, which was one of the 10 Points adopted by the AICC session in June 1967 despite his opposition.

Indira Gandhi first agreed to Mr. Desai's concept of "Social Control" but later at the AICC session in June 1969 at Bangalore, held that she had nationalisation of banks on the top of her agenda.

The differences took a turn for the worse when he voted for Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi as the Congress candidate for Presidentship.

Indira Gandhi divested him of the Finance portfolio contending that his views on economic matters were incompatible with radical policies. Answering the oft-repeated charge that he was obstinate, Desai said in his autobiography, "If I

don't accept your view point I am considered obstinate and rigid. Would you also not consider yourself rigid when you do not accept my views?"

After the split in the Congress Mr. Desai was instrumental in forming the Congress (O) under his leadership.

He wrote in his book the story of my life, "it is possible that if I had made some bargains with some members, I could have won the election".

"Some colleagues even told me that it did not pay to be quite straight in politics and that one must resort to manoeuvres and intrigues. But I do not believe in such methods. It was not my intention to be the Prime Minister".

In 1971, Mr. Desai was reelected to the Lok Sabha from Surat Constituency. Later in 1975, he undertook a fast to protest against the delay in holding Assembly Elections in Gujarat and forced Indira Gandhi to concede early elections to the State. Mr. Desai had undertaken his first fast in August 1956 to protest against violence in Ahmedabad during the agitation to form Maharashtra.

Mr. Desai had also fasted for 10 days in 1969 to "clear his conscience" and to revive feelings of harmony after Ahmedabad City was rocked by communal riots.

He was among those Opposition Leaders who were arrested during the Emergency Rule, which he vehemently opposed. However, he was released on the dissolution of the Fifth Lok Sabha on January 18, 1977.

The Janata Party, which was a conglomerate of Congress (O), Jan Sangh, Bharatiya Lok Dal and Socialist Party - thanks to Jayaprakash Narayan's effort, swept to power in the General Elections that followed and eventually Mr. Morarji Desai donned the mantle of premiership.

However, the Janata Government lasted for just two years. After Congress returned to power in 1980 Mr. Desai retired from active politics.

His official position took him to various countries in connection with foreign aid, finance ministers meet and annual World Bank and IMF Meetings.

Mr. Desai also held the office of Chairman of the Administrative Reforms Commission from 1956 till 1967 when he became the Deputy Prime Minister.

During his chairmanship of the Administrative

Reforms Commission. Mr. Desai did full justice to the task of suggesting reforms with a view to restructuring the administrative system of the Government. His long and varied experience as a civil servant, Chief Minister and Union Minister stood him in good stead in this task.

As the Finance Minister to meet the needs of defence and development he raised large revenues and reduced wasteful expenditure to promote austerity in Government administration and kept deficit financing very low by enforcing financial discipline.

It was during his term as the Home Minister in the post-war Kher Government of Bombay that Mr. Desai first came to national focus.

He imposed total prohibition, banned kissing in films, closed restaurants by midnight, campaigned against use of cosmetics and made an unsuccessful attempt to clean up Bombay's brothels. This quest for morality in public life he pursued throughout his life.

During his premiership, Mr. Desai abolished all official titles. However later he accepted Nishan-E-Pakistan from General Zia-ul-Haq and Bharat Ratna.

News Courtesy: PTI and UNI

Bharathidasan (1891-1964)

This article on Pavendar Bharathidasan is published in commemoration of his
105th Birthday being celebrated this month.



Popularly known as Bharathidasan, K. Kanaka Subburathnam was born on 29 April 1891 at Pondicherry. His father was Kanakasabhai Mudaliyar, a merchant. Kanaka Subburathnam has his formal education in Pondicherry. He chose the career of a school teacher as this afforded him the much needed leisure to pursue writing. He had begun composing poetry even in his teens. The simple and powerful poetry of Subramania Bharati had a great impact upon his make-up as a poet. He absorbed the revolutionary zeal of Bharati and chose the pseudonym 'Bharathidasan' to underline his affinity with the great poet. He kept an open house and helped many Indian revolutionaries in Pondicherry during the years prior to Indian Independence. This meant many hungry days for his family. However, his home life was happy and he had the support of his wife Palaniammal. Bharathidasan also wrote film scripts for some Tamil motion pictures. Towards the evening of his life had had planned to film the career of Subramania Bharati and his own novel, Pandiyan Parisu. But he died of a heart attack in Madras on 21 April 1964. He was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Prize for 1969 posthumously.

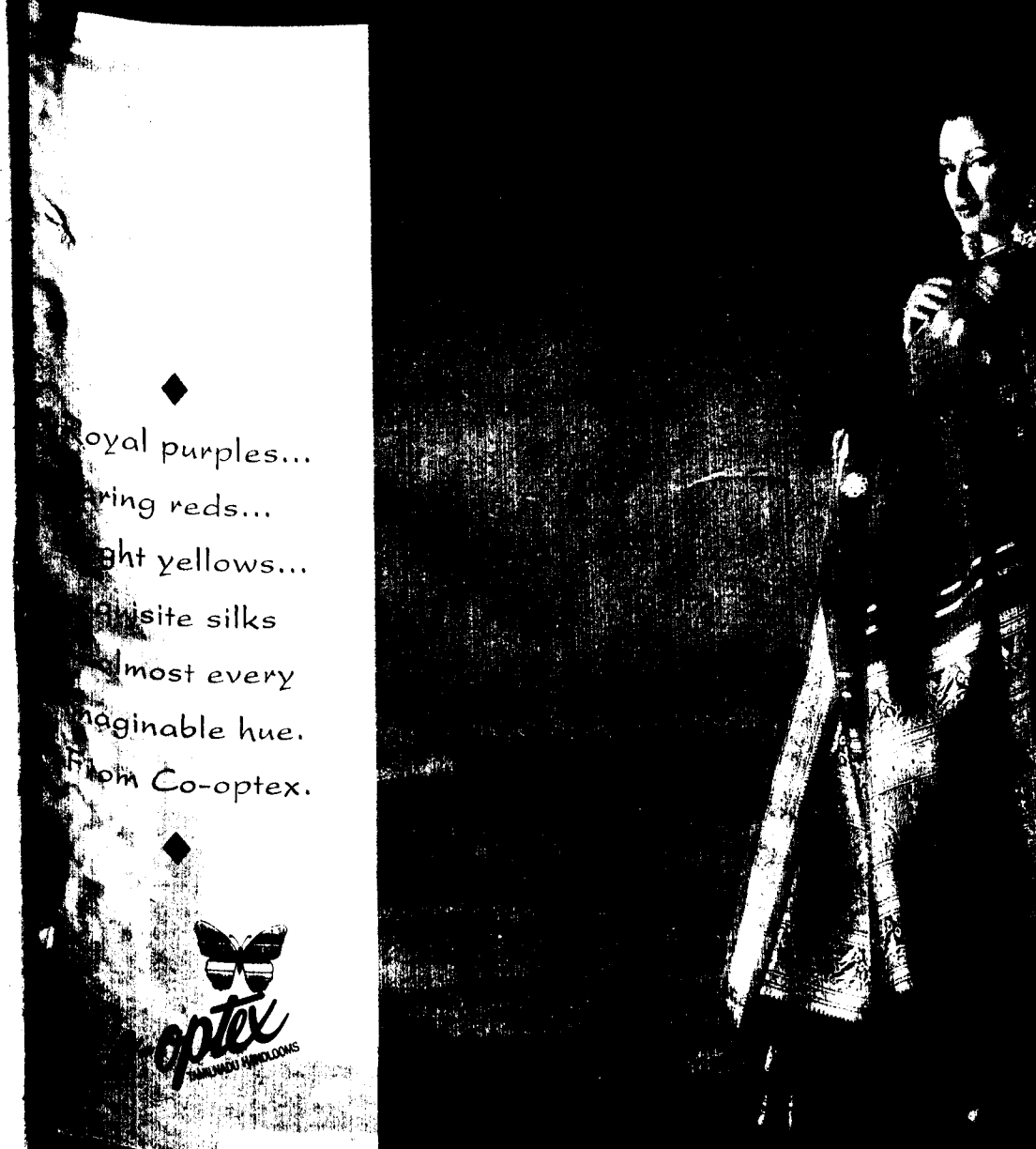
Bharathidasan was a prolific writer. He wrote lyrics, dramas, novels and long poems. He spent much of his time in the company of the lowest strata of the society in Pondicherry. Bharathidasan, as one of the victims in the caste ladder, became a violent critic. His writings are strewn with satirical asides against existing caste distinctions. This built-in hatred is no doubt one of the reasons why his writing lacks the power of a prophetic voice. Among his writings, the epic poem 'Sanjivi Parvathathin Saaral' is the most significant. It gives us Bharathidasan's conclusions on the existing political, literary and social scene in India. Inspired by Subramania Bharati's 'Kuyil Pattu' Bharathidasan unfolds here the story of Kuppan and Vanji, lovers who have come to a hill-tract for dalliance. They eat some herbs from Sanjivi Hill and gain an insight into the thought-currents of fellow human beings. They are able to overhear what others speak and think. There is a rugged beauty about his poetic style. The atheism of Bharathidasan is obvious throughout the poem and he refers to the Ramayana as the emaciating tale.

His emotional style gains the upper hand in Bilhaneeyam and Veeraththai. However, it is as a lyricist that he will be long remembered. Poems like Maanthoppil Manam and Engal Oor show a happy blend of nature imagery and the goodness of man. And he has intuitively caught the right spirit behind the publication of newspaper in Newsmagazine.

You are the dawning light
After the night is past
You are the opening gleam
Of the world's sleepy-eye'd
O Newsmagazine maid,
You were born in the heart
Of the great intellectuals
To unify the country and the world!

Courtesy: Prema Nandakumar

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TAMIL ARASU

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Thiruvalluvar Year 2026

Vaikasi - Aani

June - 1995

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CHIEF MINISTER INAUGURATES 100 th FLOWER FESTIVAL AT UDHAGAI

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha inaugurated the 100th Annual Flower Festival at Udhagamandalam at a colourful function on 20th May, 1995. As the Chief Minister pressed the button, two tastefully decorated ornamental doors opened leading to a breathtaking display of a large variety of flowers.

Rose garden inaugurated

Earlier, the Chief Minister went up to the flower

bedecked dais and unveiled the commemorative centenary flower carnival pillar, by pressing a button. She also unveiled a plaque to mark the inauguration of the commemorative rose garden at the Vijayanagaram horticultural farm.

Chief Minister releases Books

The Chief Minister released an illustrated book on roses, the first copy of which was received by the Hon'ble

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah.

An informative book on the 125 year old Government Botanical Garden was also released by the Chief Minister. The first copy was received by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister, Thiru S.D. Somasundaram.

The Chief Minister also released the centenary flower festival souvenir. The first copy of the souvenir



was received by Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Thiru K.A. Sengottaiyan.

New Variety of Strawberry released

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released a new variety of strawberry christened "chandler" and handed over a small basket containing the fruits to Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Thiru S. Kannappan.

A new variety of rose developed by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University was also released by the Chief Minister. Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Thiru K.P. Krishnan received the new variety of rose from the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

After a quick look at some of the flowers displayed in the galleries, the Hon'ble Chief Minister drove

to the Vijayanagaram farm to see the rose garden.

All roads lead to Botanical Garden

With the major portion including the entrance richly illuminated and all the flowers in full bloom creating a spectacular scenery, all roads led to Botanical Gardens.

In the galleries, cut flowers such as anthuriums, orchids, carnations, chrysanthemums, geranium, asiatic lilies, etc attracted a large audience. The figure "100" to mark the 100th flower festival was shaped with marigolds. The flower trophies displayed on roads leading to the garden and inside the garden amplified the mood of the festival. In short, with the weather being ideal, the 100th flower festival got off to a perfect start.

About 20 Government and private stalls have been put up at this year's festival. The Bonsais', exquisite vegetable carvings, "Ikebana" flower arrangements, a medicinal plant exhibition formed part of the display at the centenary flower festival at Udhagamandalam.

Chief Minister at Rose Garden

At the Rose Garden in Vijayanagaram farm, the Chief Minister was explained of the salient features of the Garden by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Thiru K.P. Krishnan and Agriculture Secretary, Thiru R.C. Panda.

The Chief Minister directed that the unique rose garden with 1919 rose varieties be well maintained so that it becomes a star tourist attraction. She also gave instructions on maintaining the farm.



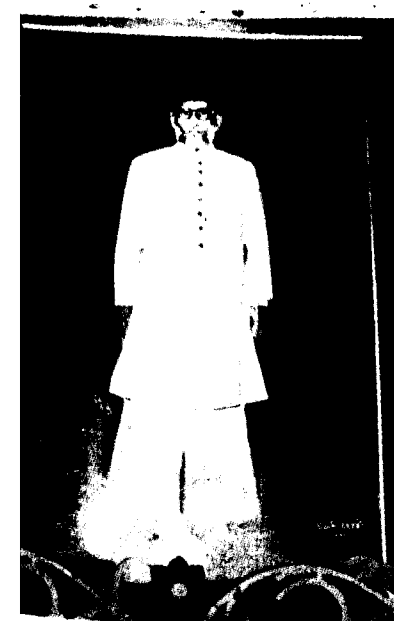
"JAYALALITHA"

A new rose belonging to the Florifonda variety, was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Centenary Flower Festival at Udhagai in 20.5.95. Later, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture planted a sapling of the "Jayalalitha" rose at Vijayagaram rose garden now renamed as "Jayalalitha Rose Garden".

The "Jayalalitha" rose is of rich red colour. The petals are neat, well formed and thick.

Each rose is of 9 cm diameter. Every plant of "Jayalalitha" rose will yield 153 flowers every year. And left in the plant without being plucked, they would remain for 12 days without losing its beauty and richness.

This rose was evolved at the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University after a five year research. The scientists involved in the research were: Dr. K. Rajamani, Dr. P. Arangasamy, Thiru. K. Suriyanathasundaram, Dr. S. Thamburasu and Dr. S. Sambandamurthi.



QUAID-E-MILLETH SAHEB - A GREAT NATIONALIST

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha on 5.6.95 at the Birth Centenary Celebrations Of Quaid-e-Milleth Mohammed Ismail Saheb

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha inaugurated the Birth Centenary Celebrations of Quaid-e-Milleth Mohammed Ismail Saheb at a function held at Kalaivanar

Arangam, Madras on 5th June, 1995. The Chief Minister unveiled a portrait of Quaid-e-Milleth and declared open a photo exhibition on Quaid-e-Milleth to mark the occasion.

The Chief Minister in her address said that she had written a letter to the Prime Minister on 3.6.95 urging him to release a special postal stamp to commemorate the birth centenary of Quaid-e-Milleth.



She said the State Government have increased the Wakf Board maintenance allowance from just a few lakh rupees to Rupees one crore. She said only 1300 Ulemas were eligible for pension in the year 1991. In the past four years this has been increased by 400 to enable 1,700 Ulemas receive pension. The pension amount has also been raised from Rs.250 to Rs.400 with effect from 1.12.1994.

All deserving applicants who had applied till 5.6.1995 for Ulema pension would be given the pension within three months, the Chief Minister announced.

The Chief Minister also announced that a suitable piece of land on a prime location in the City would be allotted for the construction of a 'Manimandapam' in the name of Quaid-e-Milleth.

She hailed Quaid-e-Milleth as one who laid the rules for the conduct of people engaged in public life. Even though born in the southern most part of Tamil Nadu, the fact that he commanded the respect and love of the entire Muslim community in the country showed the great qualities he had adopted in life. She expressed happiness in announcing that she had arranged for the conduct of commemorative



functions in all the districts of the State.

The Chief Minister said Quaid-e-Milleth considered the development of both country and the minority community as equally important. He discontinued his college education to participate in the freedom movement, when Gandhiji started his Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920. He toiled for the unity of the people, she said.

By his deeds and thoughts he showed that the interests of the nation was superior to that of one's own community. The way he led the Indian Muslim League Party after Independence, safeguarding the integrity and sovereignty of the country deserved appreciation, she added.

Quaid-e-Milleth was attracted to the Dravidian parties as he followed the policies of equality, patriotism and love for mother tongue. He demanded in Parliament that Tamil language be recognised as a national language. He was elected to Parliament thrice from Kerala though he was born in Tamil Nadu. By this, one could gauge his nationalist sentiments and broadmindedness, the Chief Minister said.

She said Puratchi Thalaivar MGR ordered that the birth day of Quaid-e-Milleth should be celebrated as Government function, in 1977. In 1983 by the orders of MGR, Quaid-e-Milleth's life history was included in the text books. Quaid-e-Milleth portrait was unveiled in the Legislative Assembly in

1980. During the past four years, she said, she had named a district in the name of Quaid-e-Milleth, to honour him. Acceding to the request of Thiru A.K.A. Abdus Samad, General Secretary of the IUML, she said arrangements would be made to take copies of the portrait of Quaid-e-Milleth, and distribute them to the Muslim Community.

She complimented the IUML president Thiru G.M. Banatwala and the IUML General Secretary Thiru Abdus Samad for treading the path of Quaid-e-Milleth. She assured them that her Government would devote itself to the welfare of the Country and the welfare of the minority.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly presided over the function. He hailed the Chief Minister as the saviour of minorities.

Thiru Mohammed Asif, Chairman of the Wakf Board said Tamil Nadu was being a model to other states and a haven of peace under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister. He asked his community members to take a pledge to strengthen the hands of the Chief Minister, the guardian of the minority. He said Quaid-e-Milleth was one of the true leaders

of India, who was cultured and full of humanism.

Thiru G.M. Banatwala, President IUML said the Chief Minister had won the hearts of the minority community by giving official capacity (status) to the centenary celebrations of Quaid-e-Milleth. Parallel development of all religions and all sections of community were the teachings of Quaid-e-Milleth. Amidst a jubilant crowd, he said that, he envied the Chief Minister for having received the love of all the people.

Thiru Abdus Samad, General Secretary of IUML assured the Chief Minister of the community's support to her as she had taken good care of the minority community well. He said, his community had founded many colleges on the advice of Quaid-e-Milleth except a Medical College. He sought the Chief Minister's help for establishing a Medical College.

Thiru Mohammed Abdul Ali, Prince of Arcot said the Chief Minister commanded respect not only in Tamil Nadu but also in other countries. He said her name continuously appeared in Arabian Papers. He said Quaid-e-Milleth Saheb was a sincere and pious gentle man

who was dedicated to the nation and its people. He was respected by all as a leader in the true sense of the word, he added. The Prince stressed the need for unity and cautioned against the forces of pseudo-nationalism which, he said were out to destroy communal harmony and national unity.

Thiru S. Nagoor Meeran, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Tmt. Jeenath Sherfudin, Tmt. Mariam Ul Azia, Members of the Legislative Assembly and Tmt. Badas Sayeed, Chairperson of the State Minorities Commission offered felicitations.

On behalf of the IUML, Thiru G.M. Banatwala and Thiru Abdus Samad presented a memento to the Chief Minister. The memento was the model of the recently built mosque at Kuala Lumpur.

Thiru M. Thennavan, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity welcomed the gathering. Thiru T. Shanmuga Rajeswaran, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations later proposed a vote of thanks.

Kalaivanar Arangam, the venue of the function was packed to its capacity and close circuit Television sets were placed in various

places which enabled a large mass, seated outside the auditorium to watch the programme.

Earlier around 3.30 p.m., a symposium on Quaid-e-Millath was organised in which Poets Thiru Pulamaipithan, Thiru Ilандeven, Thiru Mu. Metha, Thiru K.M. Kader Moideen and Thiru Jaburullah took part.



The USA Ambassador in India Mr. Frank G. Wisner called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Secretariat on 21.6.95

The people of Tamil Nadu had truly unique traditions with regard to learning and education. For them the values of education were intimately associated with the values of life. Education that did not make a man live properly, was not considered to be useful education.

— Dr. J. Jayalalitha

CENTENARY FLOWER FESTIVAL 1995

R.C. Panda, I.A.S.,
Secretary,
Agriculture Department

Early in 1847 at the instance of MARQUIS OF TWEEDALE, the then Governor of Madras, a Horticultural Society was started to develop a Botanical Garden in Udhagamandalam. The garden layout was started in the year 1848 and completed in 1867. The first ever flower show in Udhagamandalam was organised in the year 1896 by the Nilgiri Agri and Horticulture Society under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.H. Tremehere, the then Collector of Nilgiris. His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu was the patron in Chief of the Society. The Collector of Nilgiris was the ex-officio President of the Society, and the highest official of the Horticulture Department of this district was the Vice-President of the Society, and the officer in-charge of Raj Bhavan gardens was Honorary Secretary of the Society.



in Udhagamandalam. The garden layout was started in the year 1848 and completed in 1867. The first ever flower show in Udhagamandalam was organised in the year 1896 by the Nilgiri Agri and Horticulture Society under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.H. Tremehere, the then Collector of Nilgiris. His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu was the patron in Chief of the Society. The Collector of Nilgiris was the ex-officio President of the Society, and the highest official of the Horticulture Department of this district was the Vice-President of the Society, and the officer in-charge of Raj Bhavan gardens was Honorary Secretary of the Society.

Every year the famous Ooty Flower Show is conducted in the Government Botanical Gardens during the third week of May. The Flower Show 1995 marks the 100th Flower Show and elaborate arrangements are being made to celebrate it as Flower Festival in a fitting manner.

Until 1979, the Flower Show was conducted by the Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society. The Government has taken over the conduct of the Flower Show from 1980 onwards by forming a Committee called the Nilgiris

Flower and Fruit Show Committee. The Flower Show was improved year after year and in the year 1994 the Flower Show was conducted for seven days for the first time. Hitherto it was conducted only for two days.

As the response was overwhelming, the Centenary Flower Festival will be conducted for seven days.

In connection with the Centenary Flower Festival, a garden competition will be conducted by dividing the gardens under various categories like Estate Garden, Private Garden, Public Garden, Garden attached to Schools, New Gardens, Rose Garden and various other items like lawn, roof garden, bonsai collection etc. The entry forms are issued from first to 25th April and the Garden Inspection will be done by the competent judges during the second week of May when the Gardens are in full bloom. The gardens of the Udhagamandalam area and Coonoor Kottagiri areas are compared and outstanding gardens are selected for the award of Rolling Trophies during the Flower Festival days. A Rolling Trophy will be awarded for the Best Garden of the Year. Besides Rolling Trophies, first prize, second

prize and special prize cups are also awarded for the competitions.

Registration of the exhibits for the Flower Show Day competition will also be done from two days in advance. The first two days will be the major show days. During that time 15,000 potted plants raised specially for the Centenary Flower Festival will be arranged in a artistic manner by grouping contrast colours. More than 200 varieties of flowers such as roses, chrysanthemums, carnations, tuberous begonias, cyclamen, delphinium, salvias, dahlias, gladioli, anthuriums, orchids, primulas pansies, antirrhinums etc., will be displayed. This display will be continued for all the seven days.

The competitors will participate in various sections like the pot plants, cut flowers, vegetables, fruits, floral arrangements, spices, condiments, cutflower stalls etc., during the first two days.

The judging of exhibits for the award of prizes will be conducted at 9.00 a.m. on the inauguration day. The prizes will be awarded either on the first or on the second day along with the garden competitions prizes in a function. Cash prizes for the

winners will also be awarded. At the end of the second day, the competitors in the CUT-FLOWER section, fruit and vegetable sections and cut-flower stalls will be allowed to remove their exhibits to make room for the next day's function.

The third day function is dominated by dahlias and is celebrated as Dahlia Day, where all the types of dahlias, such as decorative, caeti, pompon dwarf etc., will be displayed in almost all the colours. The prizes will be awarded on the same day.

The fourth day will be the Rose Day, where all types and varieties of roses will be displayed. The roses in pots, hybrid teas, floribundas, miniatures, climbers ramblers, banksian etc., will be on display. The cups will be awarded for the same.

The fifth day will in Bonsai Day. On that day all the types and varieties of plants in Bonsai can be seen. The prizes will be awarded on the end of the show on the same day.

The sixth day will be an important day, on that day the Indian and Japanese Flower Arrangements and Vegetable Carving will be on display. This year experts

from Bangalore will arrange the shows and it will be a rare occasion for Udhagamandalam visitors.

The seventh and final day will be foliage plants, cacti and Succulents Day. The prizes will be awarded on the same day.

On all the days, the best flowers will be imported and will be displayed in an artistic manner as a special case for the Centenary Flower Festival.

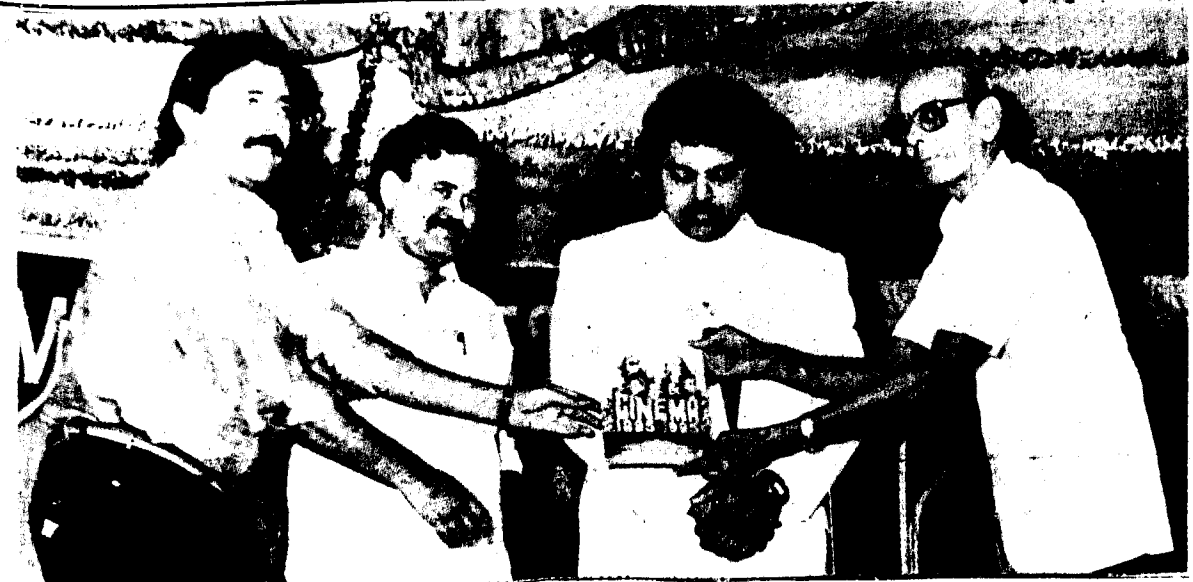
Other horticulturally important states, private companies engaged in floriculture will be participating in the Flower Festival. All the latest flower varieties and high technology adopted in gardening will be on display during the seven days.

In connection with the Flower Show, many cultural programmes will be organised as a part of summer festival. The special decorations, illuminations wher-

ever possible will be arranged at Udhagamandalam.

The celebration will reach its peak with the inauguration of Vijayanagaram Rose Garden, release of Books on Rose Garden and Botanical Garden, and release of new rose variety evolved by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

In short, the Udhagamandalam Town will be lit-up and the whole of Nilgiris will be in Festive Mood.



The 31st College Day Celebration of the Film and Television Institute of Tamil Nadu was held at J. Jayalalitha Film City Campus on 23.5.95. Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru. M. Thennavan was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He distributed prizes to meritorious students.



Early in 1847, at the instance of Marquis of Tweeddale, the then Governor of Madras, the Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society was formed in order to establish a Botanic Garden and also appointed Mr. W.C.MC Iyer, who was trained at Kew Garden, London as Superintendent of Government Botanic Garden in 1848. Mr. MC Iyer completed the layout in 1867. He adopted Lindley's Natural System in laying out this Garden. Many improvements were carried out by successive Curators.

It covers an area of 22.0 ha. ascending the slopes on the hills at an elevation of 2400 - 2500 Metre M.S.L. The Garden enjoys a warm temperate climate. With an average rainfall of 140 cm and with temperature variation of 0 - 28C.

The Present Position

The lower Garden comprising, the entrance, lower

den. The entrance Arch recently built gives an aesthetic look to the Garden. The recently developed Japanese Garden near the entrance with ponds, lanterns, Bow bridges lends charm to the lower garden. The round pond, the mango pond and the ponds at new Garden gives varieties to the landscape. The undulating lawn in the lower Garden with the largest open space is the attractive part of the Garden. Many varieties of trees, shrubs and flower beds present a glittering and gorgeous look. The Rose Garden in this part of the Garden attracts the eyes of the visitors. The Fernhouse and the newly constructed Glass House are a feast to the eyes of the visitors. The Band

stand, the heartline of the Garden, is a formal Garden laidout in an Italian Parterre, the crescent pond, with Aquatic plants and animals, the gorgeous, colourful presentation of flower beds spell-bound the visitors.

The conservatory was built in 1912 with an object of grouping various gorgeous coloured flowering plants round the year. The Bog Garden located towards the east of this conservatory is a good site for march loving plants. The rock and Alpine Garden is also an attractive spot housing more than 200 varieties of Cacti Succulents and other Alpine plants. The sunken Garden also lends beauty to this area.

Just above the conservatory lies the fountain terrace and picnic grounds. This terrace was once with a fountain bed now laidout with symmetrical flower beds designed in the shape of flower bouquet. The summer houses, the winding footpaths, the rich varieties of birds and a Toda Statue are the speciality of this area. This is the quiet place in the Garden and attracts the peace loving people and lovers.

The new bandstand and its surrounding are laidout with symmetrical flower beds edged with boxwood which serves as resting place for the visitors.

The nurseries with seven glass houses and a series of



The hundred year old Fern House at the Botanic Gardens, Ooty - a hot house of exotic plants.

Government Botanic Garden Udhagamandalam

History

In 1845, European residents of the Nilgiris agreed to have co-operative arrangements to raise temper-

K. Shanmugam
Deputy Director (Horticulture)
Udhagamandalam

ate vegetables on the site of the present Garden.

lawns and the new Garden is the living area of the Gar-

terraces is the production centre for the Garden. Many different species of plants are reared and multiplied here for Garden use and for sales.

Plants- Wealth of the Garden

More than 2000 plant species representing 117 families are grown in this Garden. Nearly 150 different kinds of trees both exotic and indigenous are grown in this Garden. The Giant Eucalyptus, Cupressus and Araucarias are among the largest trees. The cedrus Deodara, Cupressus species, Eucalyptus sp, Michelia sp, Pinus sp, Rhododendran sp, Jacranda Mimosifolia, Prunus pudam, Quercus sp, Arbutus unedo, Quilaja saponaria are among the graceful exotic trees. The indigenous trees like Michelia Mialgirica, Glucheadeon Neilgherriensis, Fagaria obovata, Photinia lindleyana are worth mentioning. The tree ferns like Alsophila Australia, Cyathea sp are among the graceful trees. The palms and palm like plants Draecena, Cardyline, Raphalostylis, Chamaerops, Phoenix etc lends beauty to the landscape.

More than 200 kinds of shrubs both flowering and foliage are grown in this

Garden. Its presence in the mixed borders and also as solitary specimens gives variety and beauty to the Garden. The Dombeya, Camellea, Choisis, Abutilon, Tibonchina, Callisteman etc. are among the best shrubs.

Herebaceous perennials and annuals are the common man's favourite and attracts large gathering during the prime flowering time. The Marigold, Pansy, Petunia, Ranunculus, Antirrhinum, Delphenium, Salvia, Daisy, Dahlia, Aster, etc, are among the attractive flowers.

The Glass house plants like Cineraria, Schizanthus, Impatiens, Primulas, Coleus, Begonia, Calceolaria etc. are among the best varieties for round the year display at the Glass houses.

The Bulbous plants like Clivia, Hemerocalis, Hippeastrum, Amaryllis, Crinum, Watsonia, Agapanthus, Narsissus etc, are also present in this Garden.

The 20 million year old fossil tree trunk installed on a Pedestal, the Indian Union Map, Tamilnadu Emblem and Government of India Emblem laidout with plants as carpet beds are among the attractive things in the garden. The Horticulture de-

velopment in the Nilgiris was started in this Garden. The potato, temperate vegetables, fruits, plantation crops like Cinchona, Eucalyptus, wattle etc. were introduced through this Garden and in short, it is the prime centre of Horticulture Development in the Nilgiris. There are two distinctive seasons to visit this hill station; the main season from April - June and Second season from August - October.

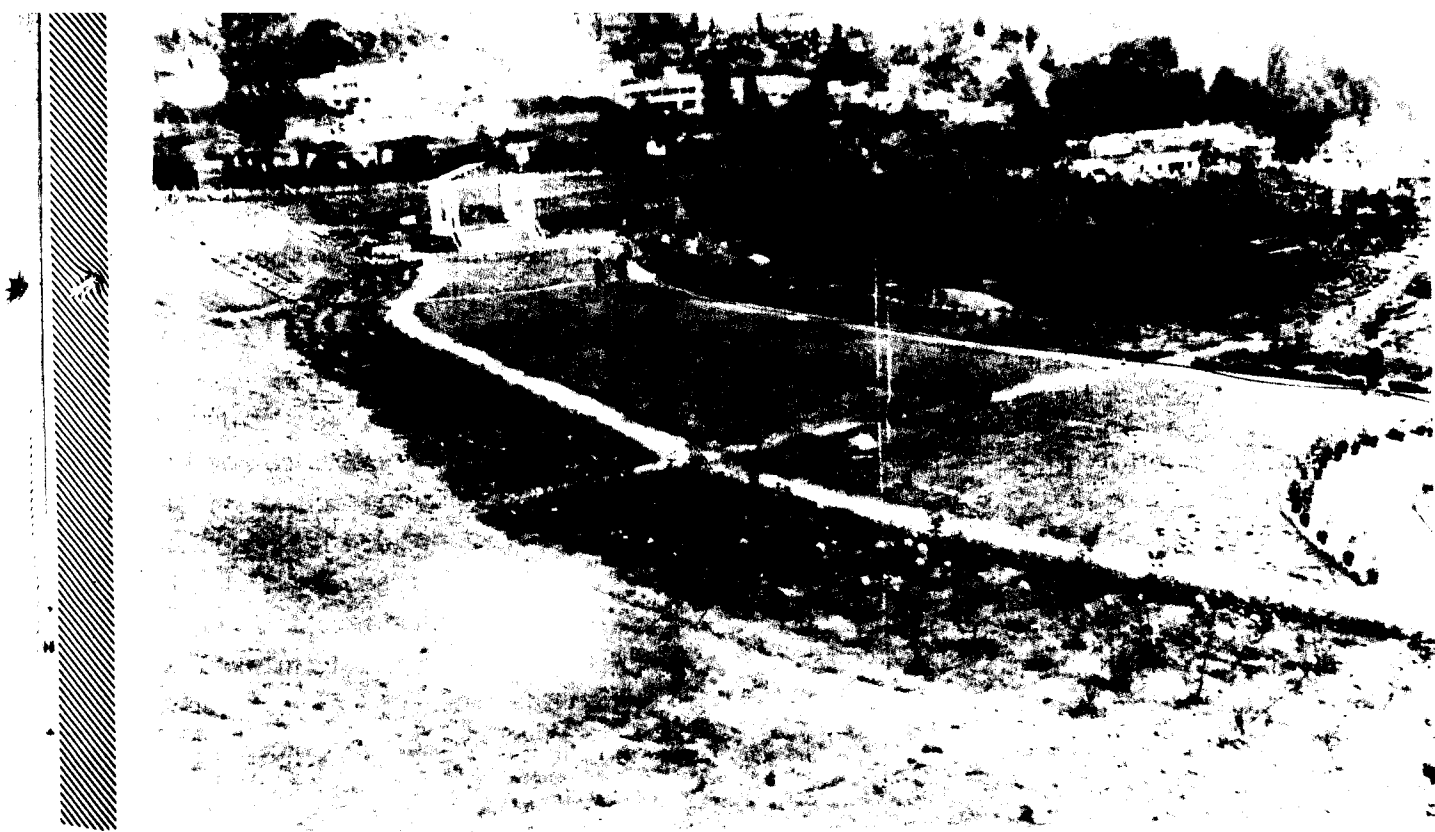
The Future Plans

So far the ornamental Gardening was given importance in this Garden and in an effort to give special impetus to the Commercial floriculture, a Tissue culture lab will be established at this Garden and special training programmes will be organised for the farmers in this regard.

Special emphasis will be given for the introduction of new species suitable for this tract by exchanges with other Botanic Gardens worldwide.

The library will be equipped with latest books and a mini-auditorium will be constructed and installed with computers and slide projectors etc.

The Herbarium will be up-dated and the herbarium of entire Tamil Nadu will be collected and preserved.



CENTENARY ROSE GARDEN

The establishment of Centenary Rose Garden at Vijayanagaram Farm, Udhaigai owes its genesis to the Centenary Flower Festival. Annual flower show is the famous event in the Nilgiris, generally celebrated during the month of May at Government Botanic Gardens. The first Flower Show was organised during the year 1896 under the aegis of Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society. From 1980 onwards, Government of Tamil Nadu has been conducting the Flower Show. The Centenary of this great event was celebrated for a week as a Festival from May 20, 1995. To

commemorate the Centenary Flower Festival, the Rose Garden at State Horticulture Farm, Vijayanagaram in Udhagamandalam covering an area of 6 ha. is coming up in five terraces. Honourable Chief Minister, Government of Tamil Nadu accorded sanction for the establishment of this Rose Garden at a cost of Rs.30 lakh. The Rose Garden is situated in the lower slopes of the Elk Hill in Vijayanagaram Farm on the north-western side, facing the Udhagamandalam Town. It is about a kilometre from Udhagamandalam Railway Station and Bus stand and

has easy access with motorable roads from two sides.

The rose varieties planted in this garden were assembled from different sources based on the recommendations of the Committee headed by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Tamil Nadu. 17,526 rose plants from 1919 varieties have been planted at the initial stage. The collection includes Haribundas, Palyanthas, Miniatures, Hybrid Teas and Creepers. Gradually it is proposed to increase the number of varieties to 5000 by introducing new varieties from different centres in In-

dia and abroad. Presently, the garden is the largest exclusive Rose Garden in India. The garden include major attractions such as arches, bowers, tunnels, umbrellas, green houses, fountains and Nila Maadam.

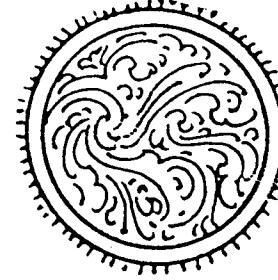
The land levelling and landscaping of the Garden was started during the third week of August 1994 by dismantling 21 small bench terraces by utilising bulldozers of the Horticulture and Agricultural Engineering Departments. The entire Rose Garden is on a steep slope. The level difference between the lowest and the highest point is about 100 metres. Therefore, there is very little possibility to have the entire view of the garden from any one spot of the garden. However, best view can be had from the house terraces in the town opposite to the Rose Garden. The landscape has been developed in such a way that the entire rose garden will be visible when one stands in the four vantage points where structures like garden arch, rose houses, rose bowers and rose tunnels are situated. At present the garden consists of five broad terraces besides a service road.

The first terrace is situated just below the approach

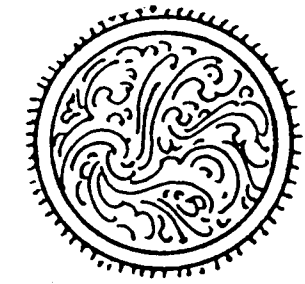
road from the Bombay Castle Gate. This terrace has a Miniature Rose Gallery. The second terrace is the main part of the Garden. This is the heartline of the garden. The main entrance leads to this terrace. This is the biggest terrace in the rose garden. The slopes on the upperside is beautifully landscaped with green kikiyu grass. This terrace accomodates large varieties of rose plants. The latest varieties were planted here by grouping those based on colour shades like Vermillion, White, Yellow, Blue, Red, Pink, Blend, Mixed, Bicolour, etc. Roses were planted on either side of the terrace leaving centre part for the lawn which is the living area of the garden. The lawns are laid out with Kikiyu and blue grass. The Nila Maadam is located in a spot from where viewers can see the entire rose garden, and Udhagamandalam town. Garden structures like arches, bowers, benches, summer houses, rose umbrellas, rose tunnel are placed in this terrace in vantage points in such a way that they blend well with the landscape. When the roses are in bloom, tourists can spend hours in this terrace admiring the diversity and beauty of rose cultivated in different colours, shapes and sizes. The

third terrace is a small and elegantly designed terrace. This looks like a bow and accommodates about 170 rose plants of floribunda varieties. This terrace is called the Rainbow. The visitors can enter this terrace through the service road at northern end and also from the second terrace. The fourth Terrace is a wide terrace almost rectangular in shape. This terrace is also planted with beautiful varieties of roses on either side leaving a footpath in the middle and on the northern end of the terrace a lawn has been laid out with Kikiyu grass. There is a fountain in this terrace. From the fourth terrace the visitors can enter the fifth terrace by connecting road and by foot steps. The slope between these two terraces is the largest, steepest and looks like a majestic green wall. The footpath on the slopes, structures, plants and si-touts give real thrill and adventure to the visitors. After visiting this terrace, one can have the satisfaction of having seen almost all the varieties of roses available in India in one place.

The Government Botanic Garden, Udhagamandalam is the centre of attraction in the whole of the Nilgiris almost throughout the year.



The Centenary Rose Garden at Vijayanagaram in Udhagamandalam has now been renamed as "Jayalalitha Rose Garden" in honour of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.



Often the tourists feel that the Botanic Garden is overcrowded with visitors and a comfortable walk through this garden to admire the plant wealth and enjoy the plants display in beds and in conservatory gets limited during the peak tourist seasons. An alternative attraction with more features to divert the ever increasing tourists to Udhagaman-

dalam has been keenly felt to reduce the pressure on Botanic Garden. This Centenary Rose Garden which has come up within the town on the slopes of the Elk Hills, just a Kilometre away from the Botanic Garden overlooking the northern side of the City, will definitely serve as another beautiful niche in Udhagamandalam from where the visiting public not

only can enjoy the surrounding rich collections and display of roses, but can recollect what Stein wrote in "Sacred Emily":

"Rose is a rose, is a rose, is a rose".

(Courtesy: Book on "Roses" Published by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Tamil Nadu.)

Today, fortunately, the trend is changing. There is now a greater recognition that science must be used to bring people together to solve common problems of mankind. Here, the richer and poorer nations have to combine. The richer nations have to show a spirit of give and take. The poorer nations must learn to develop their essential human resources through education, so that more people can develop the scientific sense, and use science to solve their own problems. If you look at science from this angle, you will see that it can play a great role in bringing people together.

~ Dr. J. Jayalalitha



Rs. 625 crore Nylon Project near Madras

A Rs. 625 crore project for the manufacture of Nylon will come up at Gummidipoondi, the Industrial complex of, SIPCOT.

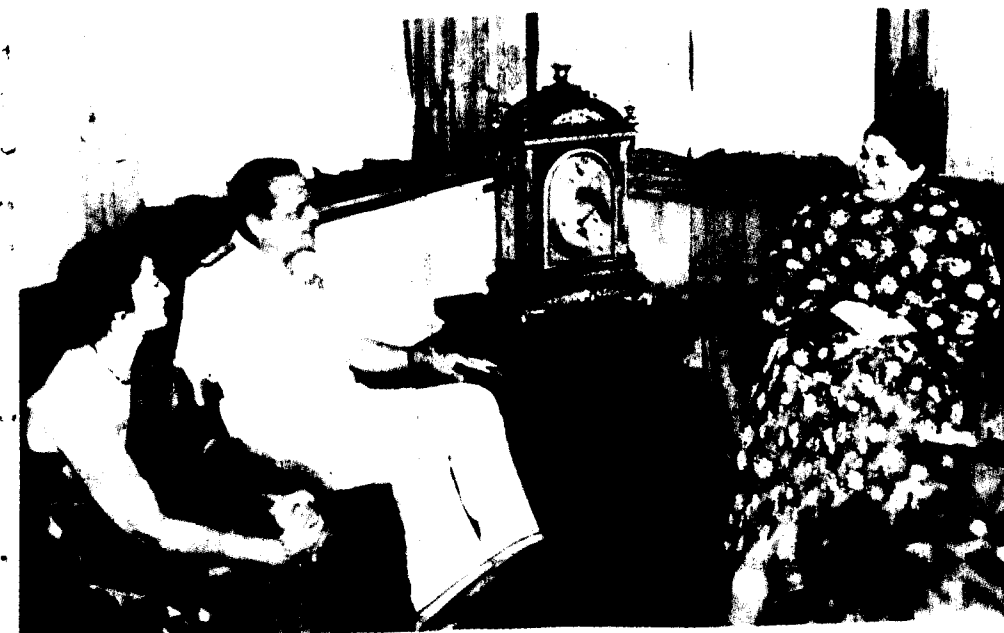
A memorandum of understanding for the establishment of the factory was signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha, in the Secretariat on 8.6.95.

The project will be established by Thapar-Dupont Limited, a joint venture between the Thapar and Dupont groups.

The Chief Minister stressed that the project should be clean and safe and should not pose any environmental problem to the State.

While our performance on the industrial front has been impressive, we are keen to adopt all the necessary steps, not only to maintain our current position, but also to accelerate the pace of industrialisation, to make Tamil Nadu a premier industrial State in the Country. I do hope industrialists will reciprocate our efforts, with matching initiative and enthusiasm, as this is an endeavour in which all of us have our own designated roles to play. In the ultimate analysis, it is this synergy that will help us to scale new heights.

— Dr. J. Jayalalitha



Chief Minister impresses need for constant vigil off Tamil Nadu Coast

Vice Admiral P.S. Das, Flag Officer, Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, Vishakapatnam called on Hon'ble Chief Minister at Secretariat on 5-6-1995. The Hon'ble Chief Minister impressed upon the visiting Vice Admiral the need for constant vigil on the Tamil Nadu coast and for the safeguarding of the fishermen who were being mercilessly attacked and fired upon by the Sri Lankan

Navy, LTTE. etc. The Vice Admiral assured her that the Navy will render all the necessary assistance and see that the fishermen are protected and that the coast line is guarded against not only terrorists but also against contraband activity.

He also assured her that he will give the full support of the Navy to prevent all illegal activities along the coast.

It is necessary for the Government of India to appreciate this situation, and provide financial assistance to needy State Governments with a view to modernising the police force, particularly in States which have very difficult problems to face due to the activities of militants and terrorists.

— Dr. J. Jayalalitha

VISION 2000

POLICY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN TAMIL NADU

POLICY FRAME

- ★ The women of Tamil Nadu have revealed their strength in the leadership of the State in the economic, political and social spheres.
- ★ They have proved their capacity in the provision of basic needs such as food, its production and distribution and in the expression of organized strength through local women's organizations, as well as in responding to the demands of modern society in fields as varied as health and skill-formation.
- ★ However, inspite of all these, not enough exists to provide them with an enabling environment to achieve their full potential in the building

up of the State and the Nation. Women, in most communities, are still looked upon as a liability from the cradle, to the grave. It is no wonder that the sex ratio which was 1044 in 1901 has come down steadily to 972 in 1991.

- ★ As against the total population of nearly 55.63 million in Tamil Nadu, the number of women is 27.5 million, that is roughly half. It would be normal, then, to expect at least fifty percent of the benefits and opportunities to go to women. In reality, this has not happened. This trend of discrimination must be ar-

The Tamil Nadu Government led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha completes four years of glorious rule on 24th June '95. In an effort to document the farsighted policies of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, we present some of the policy documents that have been hailed by national and international organisations. We believe that these policy documents will be use to administrators in other states and in other countries, and useful as well for posterity. We begin with VISION 2000, the policy document for women in Tamil Nadu.



rested. Efforts of Government and non-Governmental agencies must be orchestrated to focus on the needs of women in order to facilitate their progress in Society.

- ★ Although the Indian Constitution guarantees equality before the law regardless of sex and Article 15(3) allows for discrimination in favour of women, the de-facto position has been determined by society's expectation of the roles that men and women should play and the domains they must stay in. Centuries of stereotyping and conditioning have eroded the self-esteem of women. If some have escaped this destiny-despite being born female - it has been more by chance than by choice. The Government of Tamil Nadu, believes that this must be reversed, to make 'choice' and not 'chance', determine what a woman wishes to do with herself and her life.
- ★ Several steps have been initiated by Tamil Nadu in the last decade for addressing the strategic concerns of women. These include assignment of surplus lands to woman only; amendment of the Hindu Succession Act (1956), in its application to the State of Tamil Nadu, to confer equal rights to daughter in Coparcenary Property and reservation in all services. Yet we have a long way to go in several areas.
- ★ Our vision is a state and a world where women participate in and reap the benefits of self development, the development of family, community, state and the nation, in

a bigger way than every before; a world where they walk shoulder to shoulder with men, where they have equal access as men to all the opportunities for improving the quality of their lives as well as those around them and where people are governed by a Uniform Justice. Men and women must be equal partners both within and outside the home and in all they do. Their social and economic situation of dependence has to be transformed into one of equal partnership, interdependence and confidence. Decision making at all levels, that is within the family and in public life in different situations, must not be the prerogative of one sex only.

- ★ Facilitating women to participate in shaping public policy will promote a more balanced approach in nation building, reflecting male and female view points. It would be a national waste not to harness every able-bodied and suitable adult in the nation's service, be it man or woman, when a million tasks need to be performed and this, in minimal time. We cannot afford to wait until the nation's poverty is totally eradicated, to converge our focus on the development needs of women, for the world's poorest person is the woman. From a political, social and economic point of view, she is the hardest hit in any crisis - war, communal trouble, poverty, inflation - or even during normal development such as industrialisation, structural reforms and technological progress. Indeed, she has very little place for any manoeuvre



and it is this sad state that we need to correct, in order that development is total and balanced.

- ★ The goal of the government is to strengthen the full and equal participation of women in the development of our society and State.
- ★ The progress of women is inextricably interwoven with that of children. This policy statement must therefore be considered a twin to the Dr. J. Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme - a policy frame for Child Welfare that the government of Tamil Nadu has enunciated recently.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR POLICY FRAME

- ★ Gender issues are to be treated as issues of the society, to be tackled by both men and women as in the case of other societal issues.
- ★ All policies of the Government must reflect the full recognition of the

equal partnership of men and women and work for realising the goal of 50 percent of representation of women at all levels and in all spheres.

- ★ In policy planning, special consideration must be given to women's multiple responsibilities and also to compensate for historic and current disadvantages experienced by them. Such consideration is also to be given to women from amongst Adi Dravida and Scheduled Tribes as well as to women in extreme poverty, particularly in the rural areas.
- ★ Institutions fostering development, whether they be governmental or non-governmental, need to review their goals, structures and policies with a view to ensuring sustained improvement in the well being of women.

Immediate Objectives

Specifically, the objectives to be pursued for realisation before the turn of the

century are:

- ★ Supporting and expanding the role of women as decision makers in public and private domains, so that they are better able to control their lives.
- ★ Ensuring equitable participation of women in the sociopolitical and economic processes and structures.
- ★ Facilitating equitable participation of women in development planning, development processes and development programmes.
- ★ Identifying areas of exploitation, oppression and violence and framing suitable legislation along with evolving pragmatic solutions, involving voluntary effort wherever possible.
- ★ Promoting the elimination of discriminatory practices and barriers against women by undertaking programmes and campaigns which promote self awareness among women.
- ★ Improving access to literacy and educational opportunities and to work for compulsory primary education, ensuring atleast five years of schooling for every girl child.
- ★ Ensuring equality of access to resources such as land, capital, and institutional support for men and women.
- ★ Helping women to improve income levels through training and development and better employment opportunities and helping in the designing of labour saving devices that will reduce the drudgery of

daily chores of women.

- ★ Improving access to basic health and family welfare services.
- ★ Promoting MAHAM, the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, as part of the institutional framework to strengthen the existing machinery involved in the advancement of women, and to ensure convergence of services by suitably coordinating with programmes of all agencies.

Strategies for Implementation

- ★ Every project to identify gender issues as an objective and provide for effective response. For this, necessary data must be disaggregated by gender. The monitoring and evaluation system must also measure the project's impact on women.
- ★ Review of all legislations & policies to be undertaken to identify gaps, and for the incorporation of progressive 'clauses' in them. In addition, voluntary organisations and professional bodies to be involved in social campaigns against violence towards women; to promote counselling and legal aid and encourage groups of trained personnel in these areas; to promote family courts at local levels.
- ★ New policies & legislations to be developed to implement the ten Immediate Objectives.
- ★ All new policies, to be guided by the principles expressed in the Guiding Principles and the Immediate Objectives.

- ★ To maximize participation and benefits in the political and social processes; to utilize network and channels of information to publicize available opportunities; to incorporate training that will enable women to take effective part by having programmes for imparting skills, to improve leadership, self esteem, assertiveness and decision making.
- ★ Affirmative action to be pursued for placement of women staff at all stages in the planning and development processess and also including them as technical experts and advisors.
- ★ All agencies to incorporate training that responds to women's needs and situations, for all categories of professionals (both men and women) and for this purpose, to prepare module and materials for use.

- ★ Role expectations and intra-familial inequalities to be tackled with a sustained campaign to break sex stereotyping and prejudices that are deeply entrenched. To enable women to take on roles outside the home, to provide support services in the form of day-care centres for children; transport services for mobility and suitable technologies for reducing the burden of their chores. Private initiative to be encouraged.
- ★ To provide compulsory schooling for atleast five years for every child so that in future the number of adults to be made literate decreases; to persuade schools to open day care facilities&creches so that girl-children (who, because of the reponsibilities of looking after the siblings are not able to continue their schooling) can come to school. This will also provide vocational opportunities for boys and girls in the schools to be trained in looking



after children, to train both girls and boys in the techniques for construction of simple structures for toilets - a much needed requirement for females; to prepare distance training materials for those who do not have opportunities for formal education and tie up with institutions that provide distance education.

- ★ To promote self help initiatives for savings and credit; financial institutions to review their structures to increase representation of women in their policy making bodies.
- ★ To activise labour inspectorates and voluntary organisations to monitor "Equal Remuneration for Equal Work" provisions; to devise special training programmes for women at different skill levels and experience, to prepare them to eventually enter into general programmes open to both men and women.
- ★ MAHAM to be the nodal point for bringing women into the mainstream in all programmes and project; to ensure that existing projects and programmes that have relevance to the advancement of women are also made use of, so as to reap the maximum benefits from a variety of sources.
- ★ To organise a state level conference on women every year with a specific theme and to develop a framework for action arising therefrom.
- ★ To commission a report on the status of women in Tamil Nadu, to facilitate designing of projects by taking into account the disparities

between women and men, as well as women and women in different communities and in different parts of the state.

- ★ To disseminate through all avenues this policy, to all organisations, governmental and non-governmental, which work for the cause of women.

Example of Plan of Action

To counter violence against women

- ★ Recognizing that evidence of physical and sexual abuse within families and society is increasing, the Government of Tamil Nadu will pursue all means of providing adequate protection to women and children who are victims of family violence, incest, rape and sexual harassment.

Suggested Measures

Education Department

- ★ To develop materials for use in schools and centres of advanced learning to change attitudes relating to violence against women in the family.

- ★ To design and implement programmes such as starting creches in schools to enable girl children to attend schools. This would also provide vocational training for both boys and girls to take care of children, and so would develop in children, equality in thought.

Law Department

- ★ To review existing provisions relating to Family Courts with a view to seeing whether they are adequate for fulfilling the objective.

Labour Department

- ☆ To develop legislation on sexual harassment in the workplace.
- ☆ Non-governmental organisations to create awareness about these issues and seek justice wherever needed.

Social Welfare Department

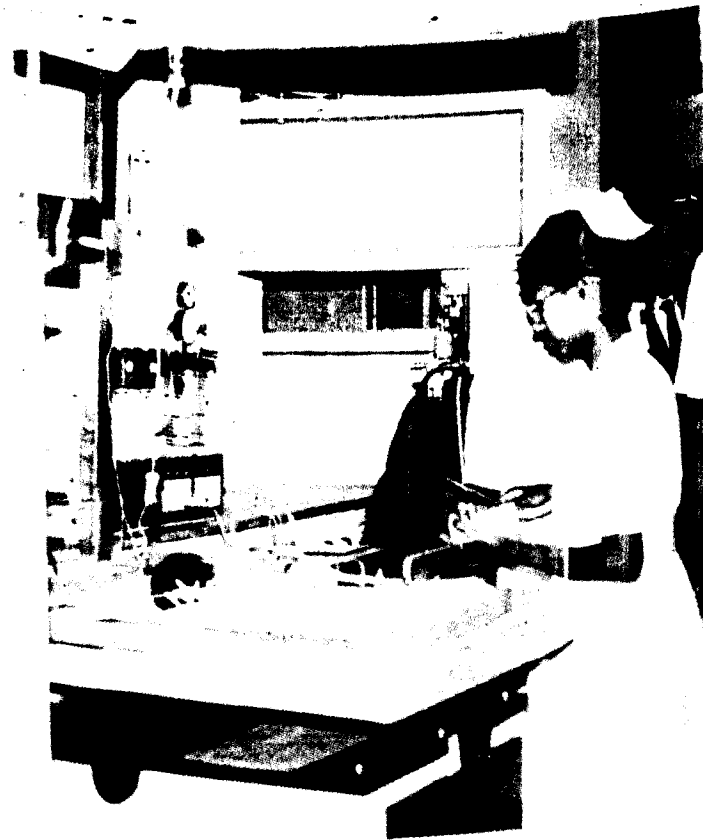
- ☆ To expand boarding facilities for working women.
- ☆ To raise awareness of how to counteract physical and sexual abuse within the family by directing an information and education campaign of men and women in the community.
- ☆ To expand facilities for child care in work place.

Home Department

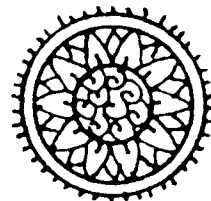
- ☆ To establish and train a special squad in the police force to deal with family matters, as well as enhance the role of the Police in helping the community.

Steps

- ☆ Departments, agencies and other with related responsibilities will assess proposed measures and develop action plans, for these or alternate measures, to implement goals relating to family violence, particularly, addressed to the problems identified such as:
- ☆ Sexual abuse of children, especially girls;
- ☆ sexually transmitted diseases among younger children;



- ☆ social attitudes condoning violence against women in the family;
- ☆ economic dependence of women on men as a barrier to reporting violence;
- ☆ the relationship between economic difficulties and increased domestic violence and
- ☆ sexual harassment in the work place.
- ☆ An update will be prepared by all departments within a year on the current status of legislative protection of women and children.



Dr. J. Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme for Child Welfare



1. Increase average birth weight of children to 3 kg. ..

2. Elimination of vaccine preventable diseases:

- ☆ Polio, Measles and Neo-Natal Tetanus.

3. Reduction of infant mortality to less than 30 per 1000 live births and Pre-natal mortality by 50 percent.

- ☆ Elimination of diarrhoea and ARI deaths.

4. Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among children.

5. Elimination of micronutrient deficiencies.

- ☆ Vitamin A and iodine deficiencies
- ☆ Reduction of Anaemia.

6. Make all hospitals and maternity centres "Baby-Friendly"

7. To liberate women from the shackles of early and frequent child bearing by

raising age of marriage to 21 and spacing birth intervals to 3 years.

8. Universalisation of primary education ensuring 5 years of primary education for every child by legislation and campaign.

9. Raising women's literacy and status.

10. Safe drinking water supply and better access to sanitary facilities at all children's centres and habitations.

11. Elimination of child labour in a phased manner.

12. Popularising of girl child protection scheme and improve the status of the girl child.

13. Eradication of the social evil of female infanticide.

14. Prevention of childhood disability and early detection for rehabilitation.

15. Early identification of congenital heart disease and free open heart surgeries for children.

QUAID-E-MILLETH MOHAMMED ISMAIL SAHEB - A PASSIONATE BUILDER OF FREE INDIA

M. Mohammed Ismail Saheb, popularly known as **Quaid-e-Milleth**, was a most respected citizen of free India. The services rendered by him in general to his motherland and in particular to his community and to his mother tongue, Tamil are memorable. He was born in a family of eminent businessmen on 5.6.1896 at Pettai in Tirunelveli District, situated in the southern part of Tamil Nadu. After completing his school education in the missionary school at Tirunelveli, he joined the Madras Christian College.

RESPONDS TO GANDHIJI'S CALL

When he was studying for his B.A. Degree, a call came from Gandhiji that college students should quit their colleges and jump into the freedom struggle. Ismail Saheb spontaneously responded to the Gandhiji's call and left the college, though only a few months had been left for the B.A. Degree examinations. Such was his thirst for freedom.

He participated in the Black flag agitation conducted at China Bazar in Madras against the Simon Commission.

SUPPORTS - SWARAJYA RESOLUTION

Those were the days when Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar,



Mr. Krishnamoorthy and Shriman Rajagopalachari dominated the scene of political activities. The Resolution of Shriman Rajagopalachari demanding Swarajya for India was moved at Tirunelveli Town in the Congress Political Conference in 1920. Ismail Saheb was instrumental in getting it passed.

LEADS KHILAFATH MOVEMENT

Ismail Saheb took a leading part in the Khilafath Movement in Tamil Nadu and he had close contact with the top leaders of the Movement at the national level, including the famous Ali Brothers and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchelieu.

BUSINESS MAN CUM PHILANTHROPIST

He joined the business concern of Jamal Mohammed Saheb who was one of the important Congress leaders in those days. Within a few years, he rose to be the Manager of this concern engaged in leather tanning and

export business. He gave generous financial support to political sufferers, servants of religion and social institutions.

FUNDS FOR JAMIA MILLIA

Dr. Zakir Hussain once arrived at Madras to raise funds for the Jamia Millia. It happened to be a dull season for the leather trade. So when Dr. Zakir Hussain approached the leather trade of Jamal Mohammed Saheb for assistance to Jamia Millia, the financial position of his business during the year did not permit him to offer any donation. However, Ismail Saheb, as its Manager, came out with the strange suggestion that the donation may be immediately given and that the sum may be debited to the profit which the concern was expected to make subsequent in the year. Though the suggestion seems to be strange, it brings out the great philanthropist in him. The result was, without approaching others with begging bowl, a Cheque for a handsome amount was issued as contribution for the Jamia Millia. Dr. Zakir Hussain gratefully recalled this incident during the World Tamil Conference held in 1968.

PRESIDENT OF MUSLIM LEAGUE

He was elected as the President of the Madras State Muslim League in 1945. After India gained independence, he became the President of the Indian Union Muslim League in 1948 and continued in the post till his demise.

Through his yeoman services and incomparable sacrifices, he secured for the Indian Muslims their place of dignity and honour in the national pedestal. He was successful in his own life time in getting the Indian Union Muslim League, over which he presided, recognized as the secular movement which strengthened the democratic, secular and natural forces of free India.

One of the noble qualities of Ismail Saheb was that, while firmly sticking on to the views on various political issues which he held to be correct, he never wounded, either by words or deeds, the feelings of other political leaders who did not agree with him. It is because of this that he endeared himself to all, even though they did not always support his views. These leaders included Rajaji, Kamaraj, Periyar, Anna, Rama moorthy (of the CPM) and Kalyanasundram (of the CPI).

CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

He moved several amendments to the draft Constitution placed before the Constituent Assembly by the great Constitutional expert, Dr. Ambedkar. Thus he played a prominent role in the shaping of the Indian Constitution.

CHAMPION OF TAMIL LANGUAGE

When the question arose in the Constituent Assembly regarding the necessity for adopting a common language for the whole of India, he enthusiastically asserted as follows: "If we are to discard English on the ground that it is a foreign language and want to choose, in its place, an Indian language as its common language and if we desire that the language to be so chosen should be an ancient language, that it should have been already used as an official language and that it should also have a rich cultural history, then the only Indian Language which satisfies all these requirements is Tamil - and it is my mother tongue".

BRILLIANT LEGISLATOR

Having been elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly, he was the Leader

of Opposition from 1946 to 1952. Referring to the days when Ismail Saheb was the Leader of the Opposition in the Madras Legislative Assembly. Mr. Bakthavatchalam, who was then a Minister and later become the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, had praised Ismail Saheb as a model for all Leaders of Opposition.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

When the Rajya Sabha was first constituted in 1952, he was elected as its Member, having polled the largest number of votes, and he continued to be a Member of the Rajya Saba till 1958.

Thereafter, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Manjeri Constituency in Kerala in 1962. Again re-elected in 1967 and in 1971 from the same constituency. The significant feature of his elections was that he never visited the constituency even once to solicit votes. He is the only leader in our Country who was thus elected not once but thrice from the very same constituency without visiting the constituency even once for canvassing during election.

The speeches made by him both in the Rajya Sabha and in the Lok Sabha in Delhi reveal his patriotic passion,

his immense faith in national unity, his deep concern to safeguard the dignity of the nation and his unflinching loyalty to the cause of communal harmony.

Further, he was the first Member of Parliament to request that a part of his emoluments as a Member of Parliament may be retained for the National Defence Fund.

His very presence in the Parliament as a Senior Member added to its lusture and dignity.

STAUNCH NATIONALIST

Whenever Pakistan invaded India, he echoed the patriotic feelings of the Indian Muslim citizens by his categorical declarations made against Pakistan.

When China invaded India, he declared that though he may not be qualified due to his advanced age to enlist himself in the army to defend the motherland, he is prepared to send to the battlefield his only son for the defence of the motherland.

TORCH BEARER OF COMMUNAL HARMONY

When the various parts of the country were afflicted with communal clashes, communal harmony was prevailing in an admirable

manner in the whole of Madras Presidency. "Ismail Saheb was of immense help in maintaining the Peace," declared Sir Archibald Nye, the then Governor of Madras. In the same way, Dr. Prakasam, who was then the Premier of the Madras Presidency also praised him.

TRIBUTES

When he passed away on the 5th April 1972, touching references were made to his lovable personality and untiring activities for the various causes of the Nation. The President, Thiru V.V. Giri, declared that the Country had lost a real patriot. The Legislative bodies in Tamil Nadu and Kerala honoured him by adjourning their activities.

Ismail Saheb was not only the leader of the Indian Muslims but also the recipient of love and affection from all, without any distinction of caste and creed. Further, he commanded the spontaneous respect of the Muslim World due to his very high standard of morality and ethics which he meticulously maintained.

The unveiling of his portrait in the Madras Legislative Assembly during the period when M.G.R. was the Chief Minister was a recognition of the laudable serv-

ices rendered by Ismail Saheb as an MLA.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha, the present Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, has honoured him by naming the East Thanjavur District as Quaid-e-Milleth District.

QUAID-E-MILLETH

It is due to such enviable qualities of leadership, sin-

cerity of purpose and lofty ideals that the Muslim Community calls him the QUAID-E-MILLETH (meaning, the Guide of the Muslim Community).

CENTENARY

Intensely devoted to his mother tongue, deeply attached to his community, passionately patriotic and,

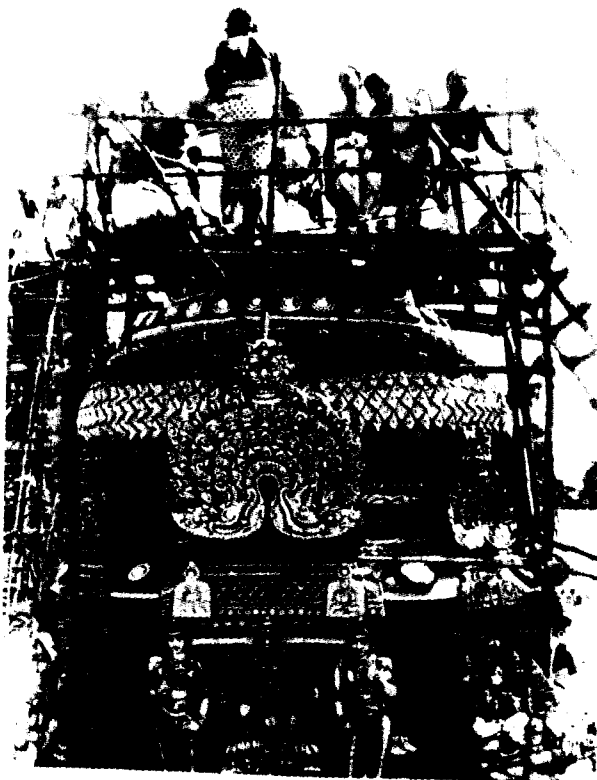
above all, dominated by a humane attitude towards all, Quaid-e-Milleth Mohamad Ismail Sahib has left behind him a noble heritage. The birth centenary of this national stalwart falls on 5.6.1995.

Courtesy:

A brochure published by TN State Muslim League, Madras-6.



Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru. V.R. Nedunchezian administered a pledge to fight terrorism and anti-national forces to the officers and employees of the Secretariat on 19.5.95. The ceremony was held as a mark of respect to late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi whose death anniversary falls on 20.5.95.



The Mahasamprokshanam of Arulmigu Rajagopalaswamy temple at Mannargudi in Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth

Mahasamprokshanam **at** **Mannargudi**

District was performed on 8.6.95. The Mahasamprokshanam was performed in the presence of the Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.

Consecration of the Vimanas including the Thayar and Perumal Sannadhis was held in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha. She witnessed the pouring of the holy water on the gold plated kalasams of Thayar and Perumal Sannadhis.



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