



C O N T E N T S

Tamil Arasu

MAGAZINE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
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*Beautiful
mag*

2

Chief Minister's assurance

We are committed to transparent policies towards the Industry

Addressing a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Chennai on 21.6.96 the Chief Minister asks the Industry to bear in mind their social responsibilities also.

4

Science Update

A regular programme that continues its accent on "health".

6

Handful of Beach Sand

Wonderful thoughts of Kahlil Gibran that are certain to enrich you.

8

Urban Basic Services

We present a valuable document that will be of use to planners and social workers in their efforts to uplift the urban poor.

13

Cover Story

Tamil Nadu to create a stable investor friendly atmosphere

Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi presented the Budget for 1996-97 to the Legislative Assembly on 17.7.96. The text of the Budget.

35

Avoid extravagance

The Chief Minister in a set of 10 point guidelines directs that Government meetings have to be simple.

38

Start a Small Industry

We take up the ways to prepare a project report, on which depends on the success of any Small Industry project.

45

Zen Short Story

A short story from Japan based on the Philosophy of Zen.

47

Stories from the Far East

Fine insights into human behaviour and on how one should behave.

48

Protect Your Family

We continue with our efforts on Consumer Education. The focus is on the abuse of vitamins and their side effects.

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"WE ARE COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENT POLICIES TOWARDS THE INDUSTRY"



Address by
Kalaingar M. KARUNANIDHI
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
at the Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
on 21-06-1996

I have to thank you, for the warm reception given to me on my arrival here and for your kind felicitations and greetings, on our very convincing election victory. Yes, it is true that the discerning electorate in Tamil Nadu have given us a decisive mandate. The overwhelmingly expathic nature of the mandate shows the heights of expectations in the peoples' minds about our Government. This makes us also more responsible and our Government is very clear in its mind that we should not disappoint our people; we are determined to strive our best and rise to the occasion and present to the Citizens of Tamil Nadu a very honest, sincere, responsive, transparent and effective administration.

NEED FOR NEW POWER PROJECTS

Unfortunately, in our State, no new major power projects has been taken up during the last 5 years. The projects completed in the last 5 years like the Tuticorin Thermal Station expansion and the North Madras Thermal Station were really launched during the DMK's earlier stint. After that, except for signing a few MOUs (Memorandum of Understanding) with parties with little or no experience in the Power Sector, and that too, after selecting the parties arbitrarily, without following any transparent selection process, no further progress has been made. Nothing tangible has been done so far, for exploiting the lignite reserves available in Javakondacholapuram. Now the only

new projects which the TNEB has in hand are some small mini-hydel projects. Though the generation of power will stand still during the next 2 or 3 years, the demand will go up at least at the rate of 10 to 12% every year. So, the inaction during the recent past will land us in trouble after 2 or 3 years, except if we realise the danger and immediately take up new projects.

I can assure the industry that the Govt. of Tamil Nadu will immediately examine the possibilities of taking up new projects, either directly under TNEB, or by the Govt. of India's National Thermal Power Corporation, or under a joint partnership of the Industry and the Government or even directly by foreign or local businessmen. The financial outlays required are very large and perhaps foreign investment will become necessary if new projects of the order of 2000 or 3000 MWs are to be taken up without delay. We are also exploring the possibilities of setting a LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) terminal near one of our minor ports and arrange for setting up of at least 2000 MW of power generation capacity there. We will ensure that Tamil Nadu continues to be comfortable on the power front. Though currently the power position in Tamil Nadu is satisfactory, there is no denying the fact that unless large number of new power projects are formulated and implemented it would not be possible to ensure sustained industrial growth in future. While the

State Government is fully aware of the role the Government and the public sector undertakings play in developing infrastructural facilities such as power, communication, etc. which are the foundation on which the whole edifice of development will have to be built upon, we are also equally aware of the key role the private sector can play in developing important sectors like power.

This Government will follow an Investor Friendly policy and encourage private sector to invest in power and other important fields. I request the help and participation of Industry in this venture to keep our flag flying, as far as power is concerned.

ACCENT ON SHIPPING AND PORT FACILITY

Another infrastructural facility as important as power is Shipping and Port facility. Many of our industries depend on the very inadequate Port facilities available in the country for exporting their products and importing essential requirements. Due to the limited capacities of handling, loading and unloading in the Port, they are put to difficulties. Tamil Nadu with a long coastline, has great potential to develop more ports. In this context, on the one hand, we are requesting the Central Govt. to improve the existing facilities like speeding up of the satellite port at Ennore, deepening of the Tuticorin Port and simultaneously pressing for new facilities to be created like the Sethusamudram Channel. We are also welcoming foreign investment in this sector.

Regarding Highway facilities, our aim is to link Madras to centres like Trichy, Madurai, Coimbatore and Hosur by at least fourlane express highways. I am sure, trade and industry would benefit a lot in these facilities could be commissioned early. Here again, we look forward to private sector investments. Thanks to be unprecedented developments in the fields of Electronics and Telecommunications, satellite linked world-class telecom facilities can very easily be made available at every point in this State. We shall strive hard to make this also a reality soon.

Railways constitute yet another important infrastructural facility. We will press hard for the early conversion into Broad-gauge of the

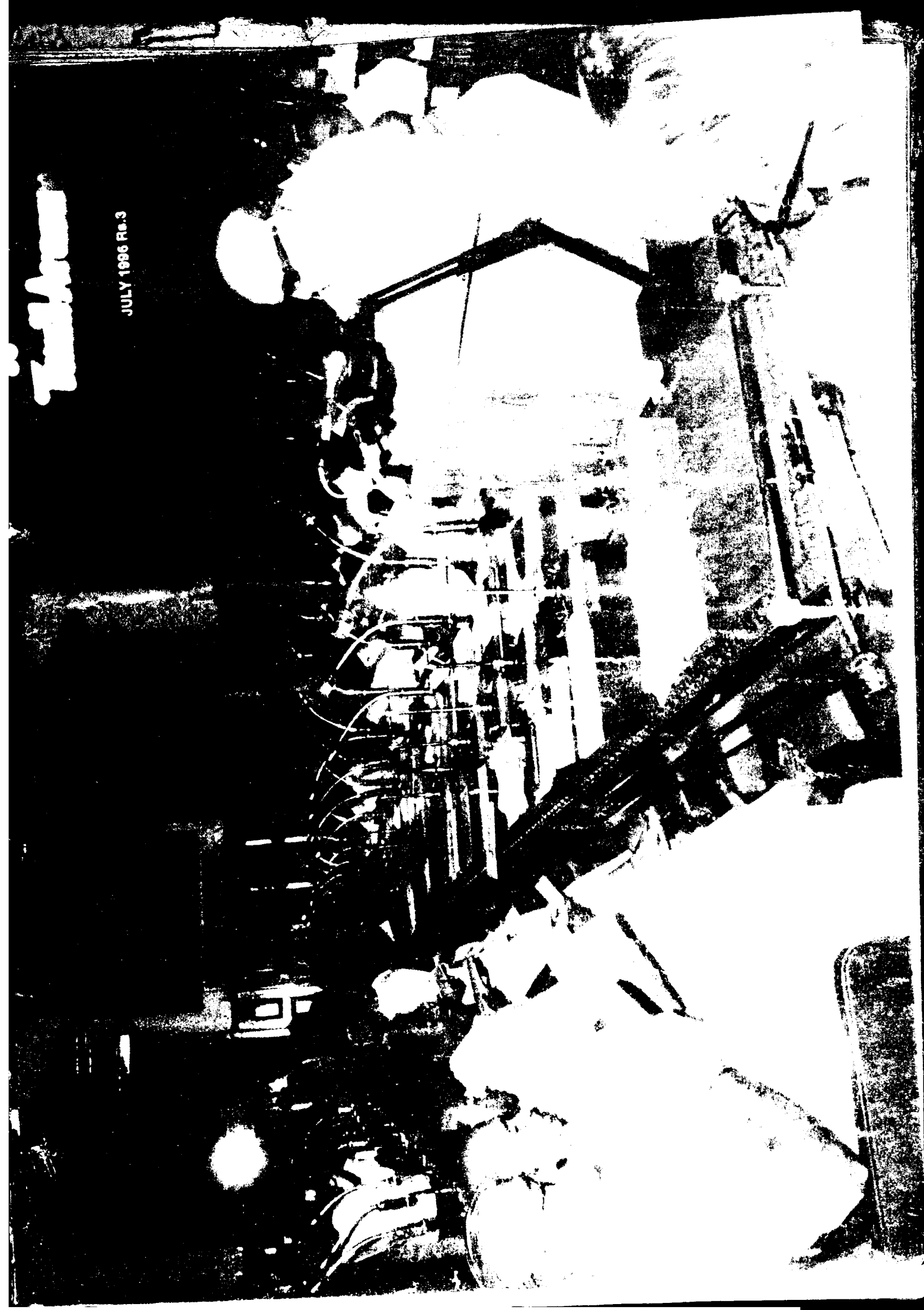
Tambaram-Trichy-Dindigul sector and also the Madurai-Shengottai sector.

PRIVATE SECTOR'S IMPORTANT ROLE

Till recently, the major investment in the industrial fields were used to be made by the Public-sector, especially in the core-sector and infrastructure sector. But now, it has come to be recognised that the private sector also has to play an equally important role. While successful companies in the public-sector should be given more autonomy and enabled to develop into world-class companies, we wish to encourage the private-sector companies also to the maximum extent to launch new projects and manufacture new products. I am confident that once the infrastructure is upgraded, Indian as well as the private-sector investments will flow into our State. We have got a very intelligent and competent industrial worker community who work in a very disciplined fashion, at the same time picking up very fast the skills involved in most intricate of technologies. No wonder, the High-tech industries like Computer Software consider Madras now as their first destination. I request the cooperation of all sectors of the industry in working together for assuring a new era of development and prosperity.

On our part, I can reiterate again our commitment for transparent policies and decision-making on the basis of rules which are already laid down. We also promise decisions without any delay at all levels. On your part, I appeal to the industry not to consider profit alone as the motive. No doubt, profit is important and is one of the reasons for the existence of the business. Kindly bear in mind the social responsibilities of the industry as well. Of late, in many parts of the country, the industries and the local community tend to develop frictions and tension, one finds. In our State, we have had some examples, where local communities have protested against the implementation of certain projects. We must realise that our people are not fools. They do not want to take undue advantage from the industry but they expect a just and fair deal from the industry. I agree that many of these frictions are caused for want of proper communications. Once the concerned parties sit down across the table and discuss the issues, solutions will flow easily, provided there is a will to make compromises.

(Excerpts from the text of the speech)



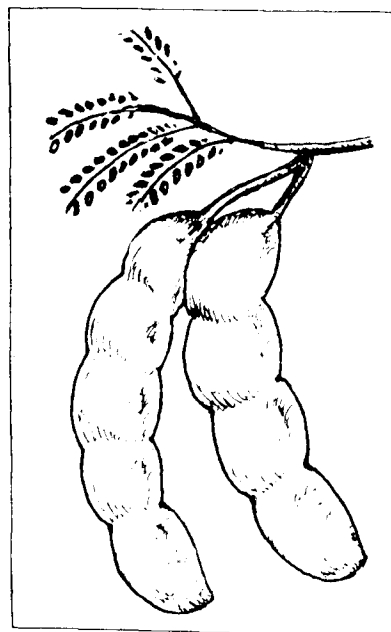
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JULY 1996 R0.3

SCIENCE UPDATE

Tamarind's Therapeutic Uses

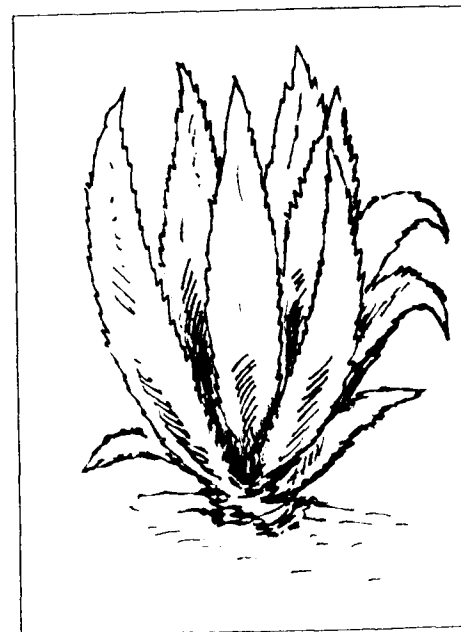
Widely cultivated in Asia for use in candy, bevarages and soup stock, the tamarind fruit also has important medicinal properties. Its high Vitamin-C content fights bacterial infections, fortifies bones and teeth, and helps prevent scurvy. When mixed with ghee (clarified butter) and black-pepper powder, tamarind juice flushes the upper respiratory system and drains nose and sinus blockages, reports Sri Lanka's Express magazine. Applied to sore joints, tamarind puree will reduce swelling and pain. The raw fruit also relieves digestive complaints such as flatulence and constipation. Applied to a burn, adds Express, powdered tamarind leaves suspended in sesame oil will hasten healing and prevent infection. And for those with sore throats, boiling a tamarind pod in water and drinking the solution provides natural, inexpensive relief.



An Agent That Unblocks the Blood

A stroke can lead to paralysis and speech problems, with rehabilitation a lengthy process. Now, doctors in Hong Kong have discovered a treatment that boosts patients chances for full recovery while minimizing complications. Stroke victims are injected with a blood-thinning agent called heparin, which occurs naturally in platelets, the cells that enable blood to clot. The team at the Prince of Wales Hospital found that injections within 48 hours of collapse fostered an exceptional recovery rate. Strokes are triggered by the clotting of blood vessels in the brain, which reduces flow to the organ and kills tissues there. In Hong Kong alone, hospitals admit more than 15,000 victims a year, with 2,000 fatalities. The researchers reported their findings in the New England Journal of Medicine. They believe that heparin, administered in proper amounts, could limit or even prevent brain damage in stroke victims.

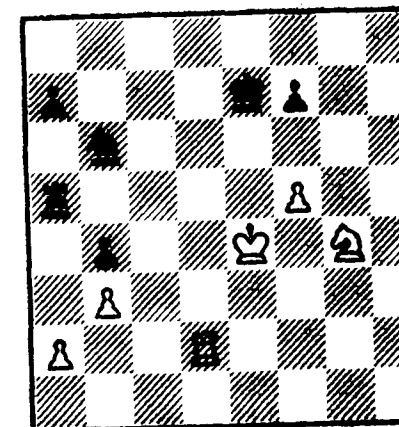
NEW USES FOR AN OLD PLANT



Long used to salve burns, the aloe vera plant has become a key ingredient in South Asian Ayurveda medicine, a herbal healing system. Dr. Upali Pilapitiya a veteran practitioner, says that juice from the succulent plant has a diuretic effect and can flush the kidneys of harmful toxins. Incorporated into an elixir called Kumari Asawa, the fluid apparently alleviates menstrual discomfort as well. The pulpy flesh scooped from the leaf can relieve eye irritations. And when made into a sherbet with sugar and water, the flesh supposedly even regenerates liver cells - which, says Dr. Pilapitiya, is "extremely beneficial for alcoholics". The plant also has cosmetic properties: an aloe vera masque reinvigorates tired skin and, claims the doctor, prevents hair loss by cooling the scalp. But he warns that those who suffer from asthma or sinus infections should avoid the plant, as it may make their afflictions worse. An inexpensive alternative to conventional drug therapy, aloe vera looks good in living rooms and has a long shelf-life.

First Mate

Anyone Can Play Chess. Few play well. Now beginners can advance from just moving pieces to real strategy with an excellent new CD-ROM called "Maurice Ashley Teaches Chess". Ashley, ESPN's vivacious chess commentator who treats the game like a contact sport, is your "Coach". He walks you through basic strategy, narrates re-creations of master games through history and administers a variety of drills. When you finally challenge the computer to a game, the program - which has a smooth, intuitive interface - offers help if you get stuck for a move.



Swimming Could Help Asthmatics

For many asthmatics, swimming in a heated, indoor pool is an ideal form of exercise - Warm, humidified air does not irritate the respiratory tract and conditions remain static. Australian champion swimmers suffering from asthma have attributed significant improvements in their health to time spent in the pool. Samantha Riley, the world record holder in the 100 meter breast



stroke, began serious training at age 14. She found that by age 23, the number of times she required hospitalization for her asthma had decreased over 80%. Conversely, outdoor exercise in cold, dry air can aggravate airway linings, causing inflammation in the bronchial tubes and excess mucous production, health conditions which often lead to an attack.

HANDFUL OF BEACH SAND

Kahlil Gibran

When you tell your trouble to your neighbour you present him with a part of your heart. If he possesses a great soul, he thanks you; if he possesses a small one, he belittles you.

Progress is not merely improving the past; it is moving forward toward the future.

A hungry savage picks fruit from a tree and eats it; a hungry civilized man buys it from a man who, in turn, buys it from the man who picks it.

Art is one step from the visibly known toward the unknown.

When the earth breathes, we live; it pauses in its breath, we die.

A man's eye is a magnifier; it shows him the earth much larger than it is.

Abstain from the people who consider insolence, bravery and

tenderness cowardice. And I abstain from those who consider chatter wisdom and silence ignorance.

They tell me : If you see a slave sleeping, do not wake him lest he be dreaming of freedom.

I tell them; If you see a slave sleeping, wake him and explain to him freedom.

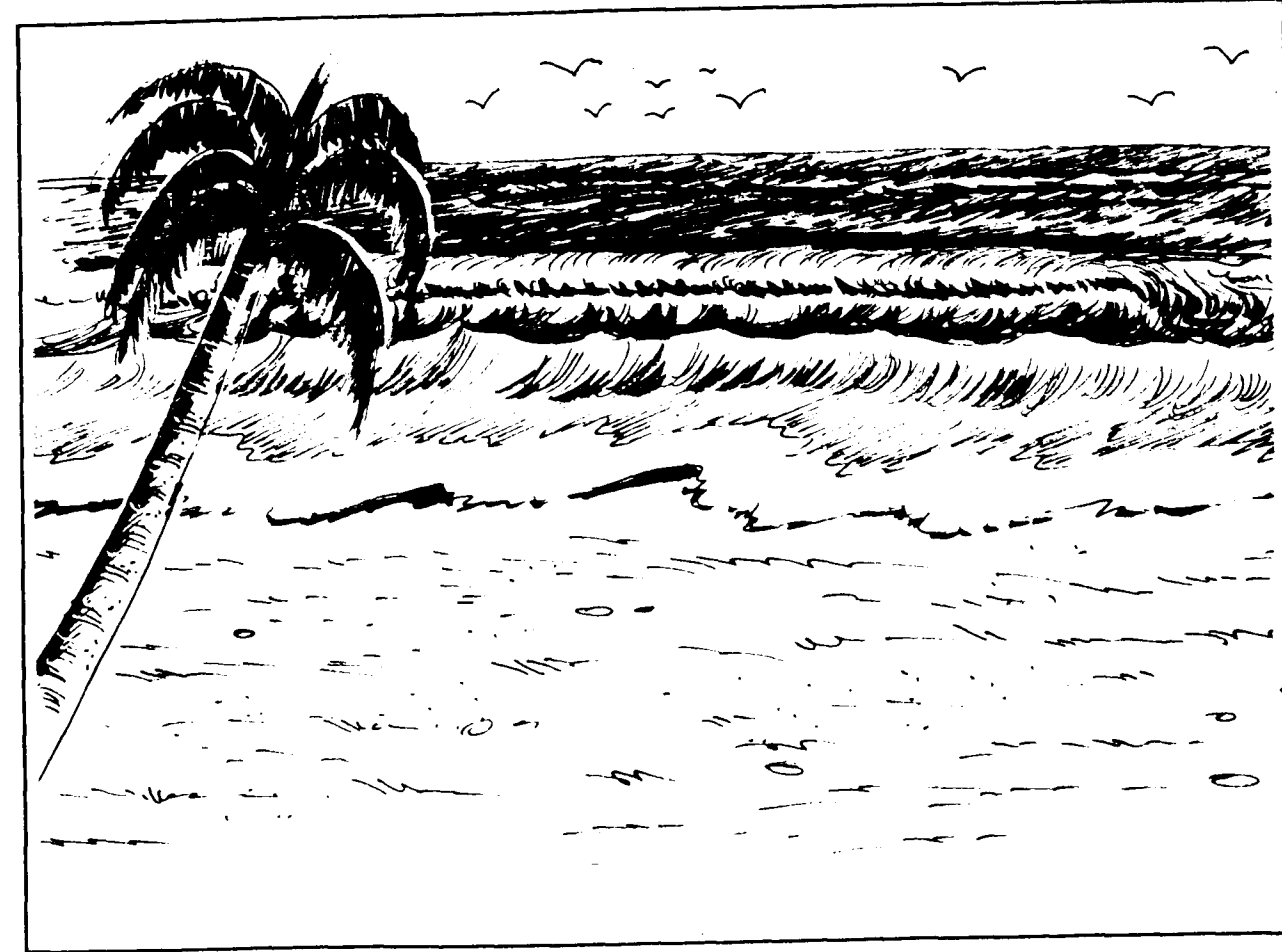
Contradiction is a lower degree of intelligence.

Bravery is a volcano; the seed of wavering does not grow on its crater.

The river continues on its way to the sea, broken the wheel of the mill or not.

The greater your joy or your sorrow, the smaller the World in your eyes.

Learning nourishes the seed but it gives you no seed of its own.



I use hate as a weapon to defend myself; had I been strong, I would never have needed that kind of weapon.

There are among the people murderers who have never committed murder, thieves who have never stolen and liars who have spoken nothing but the truth.

Keep me away from the wisdom

which does not cry, the Philosophy which does not laugh and the greatness which does not bow before children.

O Great intelligent Being! hidden and existing in and for the Universe, you can hear me because you are all-seeing; please drop within my soul a seed of your wisdom to grow a sapling in Your forest and to give of Your fruit. Amen!

Urban Basic Services for the Poor (U.B.S.P.)

We present here a document that, we believe, would be of immense help to planners and social workers to upgrade living conditions in urban areas.

We would appreciate your response to such efforts at Tamil Arasu.

GOAL

To improve the quality of life of the urban poor, especially the unreached and marginalised.

WHO ARE THE URBAN POOR?

All those living below the poverty line :

- + in authorized slums
- + in unauthorised slums, both on government and private land.
- + at construction worksites
- + on streets and pavements
- + in peri-urban areas now part of the municipality
- + marginalised and deprived population, viz. SC/ST's, OBC's women-headed households, families with working children, and others in especially difficult circumstances.

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE POOREST OF THE POOR AMONG THE URBAN POOR ?

In addition to the annual household income being less than Rs.11,850/-, the following non economic parameters have been drawn up to identify the poorest of the poor:

- + Living conditions
 - Roof
 - Floor
 - Access to Water
 - Access to Sanitation
- + Level of Education
- + Type of Employment
- + Status of children in the household
 - Child below 14 years who is forced to work
 - family with two or more girl children
- + Prevalence of alcoholism / other abuse resulting in depleting income for the family

The UBSP Guidelines give details on how the above parameters should be used to ascertain eligibility. The city UPE Cell, in consultation with the NHC/CDS, can develop their own parameters to identify the poorest of the poor, based on local conditions.

OBJECTIVES

To facilitate achievement of social sector goals (maternal and child health, nutrition, primary education, women's literacy, safe water and environmental sanitation, and protection of children in especially difficult circumstances, with focus on street/working children) outlined in the State Plan of Action for Children (SPAC) through:

- targetting the poorest of the poor
- inter sectoral convergence
- community-based participatory processes

Note : The SPAC Goals cannot be achieved unless there is appropriate targetting of the urban poor across all sectoral programmes.

- + To make urban poor communities, especially women's groups, self-reliant and train/empower them to actively participate in planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes for their own development.
- + To ensure all sectoral schemes and programmes are adequately targetting and reaching the urban poorest. (i.e. convergence), with establishment of linkages with UBSP or other women's groups to ensure that this happens on a systematic basis.

PRINCIPLES

- + Coverage of all poor in the city, with focus on targetting the poorest of the poor, especially children and women.

- + Active participation of communities
- + Targeting of all sectoral programmes and schemes to reach the poorest of the urban poor, including linkages with UBSP and other women's groups
- + Focus on cost-effective, innovative and sustainable activities

COVERAGE AND PHASING

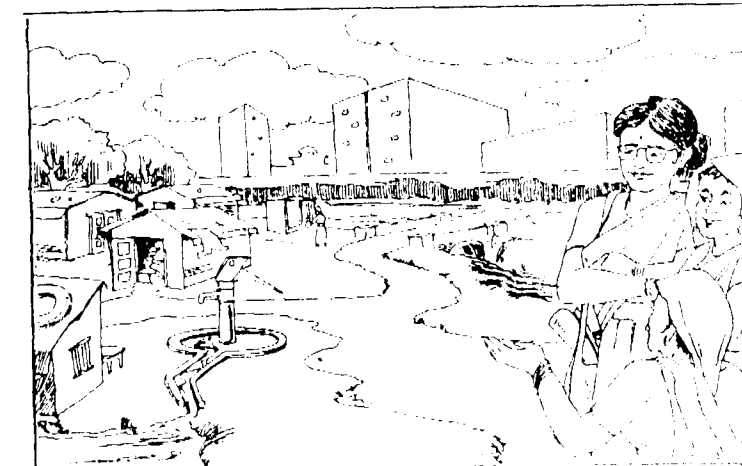
- + 500 cities/towns (700 million urban poor) to be covered during Eighth Plan, in a phased manner
- + From 1996, doubling of coverage in all current UBSP cities, except for those being taken up for universal coverage (i.e. two cities per State). Focus will be on Class I cities and metropolitan cities.

HOW WILL THIS BE DONE?

- + The objective is to make women's groups (NHCs/CDS) in the bold areas self-reliant and capable of taking over responsibility to sustain the programme, so that UBSP project staff on move can to new areas.
- + The existing active women's groups could also assist by mobilizing communities in the new areas.
- + The town-level UPA Cell would facilitate linkages between the community groups and the sectoral departments even after UBSP funds are phased out.

ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK

- Community-level**
 - + Neighbourhood group (NHG) (10-40 families) represented by one Resident Community Volunteer (RCV)
- The NHG is the critical unit which is the basis of all community work. Each and every woman in the area must feel that she is a member of the neighbourhood group and can make a positive contribution.**
- + Neighbourhood Development Committee (NHC) (10-12 NHGs)
- + Community Development Society (CDS):



- Ward-level unit of all NHCs in that ward
- + One Assistant Project Officer/Community Organiser for every 2,000 urban poor households
- + Recommended that all NHCs and CDS be registered so that they are eligible to apply for grants/assistance.

CITY-LEVEL

- + City UPA cell within the urban local body, headed by a Project Officer
- + City-level UPA Co-ordination Committee

DISTRICT-LEVEL

- + District Urban Development Agency (DUDA)
- + District-level UPA Co-ordination Committee

STATE-LEVEL

- + State Urban Development Agency (SUDA)
- + State-level UPA Co-ordination Committee

NATIONAL-LEVEL

- + UPA division, Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment
- + National-level Monitoring Committee
- + National Poverty Eradication Council
- + Inter-Ministerial Convergence Forum

PARTICIPATORY PLANNING PROCESS

UBSP is not be seen as a government scheme which focusses on delivery of basic services to urban low-income communities. Instead, it is

strategy which facilitates needs based participatory planning by communities, supported by effective convergence of existing government sectoral programmes and schemes to reach the poorest of the urban poor.

Hence, there is no pre-determined formula for action, i.e. no shelf of activities as outlined in the earlier guidelines. Instead, all activities should be needs-based and should relate to achievement of the goals specified in the State Plan of Action for Children (SPAC).

The steps to be followed to achieve this are as follows:

AT COMMUNITY-LEVEL:

The NHC/CDS, with support from the APO/CO, to undertake:

- + Community-level mapping, using participatory processes, to identify:
 - Location of the poorest households
 - Availability of services (health centres/ services, primary schools, public distribution system outlets, ICDS, etc.)
- + Community self-survey/Needs assessment to identify and prioritise felt needs of the community, taking into account the needs of the poorest of the poor, with focus on achievement of SPAC Goals

The above steps would lead into the development of a Community Action Plan (CAP) which is to be prepared by the NHC/CDS, facilitated by the APO/CO.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE CAP:

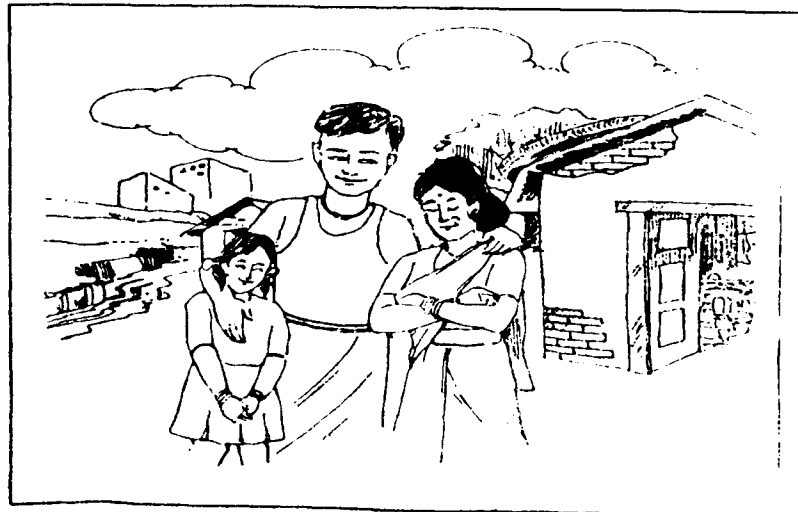
- + to be based on felt needs and problems of the community and not on any pre-determined shelf of activities
- + to specifically target the achievement of goals outlined in the SPAC
- + to directly involve and benefit the poorest of the poor
- + to include community-level action alternatives to meet the prioritised needs which are:
 - Simple
 - locally relevant
 - low-cost
 - sustainable

- + to identify:
 - how community needs can be met from existing resources (government programme/schemes, private sector, community's own resources, etc.)
 - additional resources required and from where these can be made available.
 - gap-filling activities for which UBSP funds would be used
- + Needs-linked Credit Plans to be developed to explore possibilities of NHCs/CDS obtaining credit from external finance institutions such as banks, HUDCO, etc.

AT CITY-LEVEL :

The project officer/City UPA Cell to undertake/prepare:

- + Rapid appraisal of all low-income settlements in the city
- + Mapping of all urban poor localities (Whether registered or unregistered) in the city, with availability of services (health centres/ services, primary schools, public distribution system outlets, ICDS, etc.)
- + City Action Plan which is a compilation of the Community Action Plans
- + City Convergence Plain to include:
 - specific commitment (physical coverage and financial allocation) by each sectoral department/NGO/others for convergence possibilities at city level
 - resource mobilization/flow of funds
 - training needs
 - utilization of UBSP funds to meet critical gaps
- + Coverage Expansion Plan to include strategy



and financial implications for covering new areas so as to meet the objective of universal city coverage

AT STATE-LEVEL

SUDA to prepare:

- + State Action Plan detailing overall strategy to address urban poverty and reaching the poorest of the urban poor through UPA programmes
- + State Training Plan giving assessment of training needs, course content, budget, etc. (in consultation with identified training institutes)

AT NATIONAL-LEVEL:

The UPA Division, MOUA & E to prepare:

- + National Action Plan outlining national efforts for technical support, research, advocacy, information exchange, linkages with donors, etc.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

- + Specific monitoring committees to be established at all levels
- + Detailed MIS at all levels to support planning, convergence and monitoring
- + Concurrent participatory evaluation, viz. involvement of urban poor in feedback, impact assessment and monitoring which would assist future planning

FINANCIAL PATTERN

Govt. of India to State Governments:

- + allocations based on incidence of urban poverty (NSS estimates)
- + deductions : 2% for administrative expenses and 1.5% for direct NGO assistance
- + minimum floor amount : Rs. 10 Lakhs

At SUDA-LEVEL

- + 80% of total funds available, including State share of 40% to be allocated to cities/towns on basis of urban population covered and past performance
- + 15% to be retained SUDA for administrative expenses and training activities
- + 5% to be retained by SUDA for incentive to well-performing cities/towns and CDS

AT CITY/TOWN-LEVEL:

- + up to 20% for administrative expenses of city UPA Cell
 - + up to 1% as imprest for APOs/COs for community-level contingency activities
 - + up to 35% for support to convergence activities (gap-filling) innovation, technical support to NHC/CDS for SPAC goals achievement
- Note : the percentage allocation will be reduced over time since it is expected that these activities will take place through inter-sectoral convergence
- + minimum 24% for community action plans to be allocated to NHC/CDS on the basis of total target population, year of operation and performance
 - + minimum 15% as matching grant to NHC/CDS on the basis of loans generated by them
- Note : allocations to the NHC/CDS are expected to increase once the community groups become more self-reliant
- + 5% for local level training

CITY-LEVEL UPA FUND

- + local body to contribute 10% of the total allocation for UBSP (to be increased to 25% by the year 2000)
- + pooling together of resources available under UBS, UBSP, NRY, LCS, EIUS, PMIUPEP and other development schemes including the Special Component Plan

NGO INVOLVEMENT

Involvement of NGOs to be in conformity with UBSP principles and strategy, with focus on :

- + community self-reliance
- + potential for wider replicability and sustainability

AREAS FOR NGO INVOLVEMENT:

- + cost-effective and innovative service delivery (without duplicating government programmes)
 - + research, documentation, communications
 - + training and support in technical areas such as thrift/credit
 - + outreach activities (reaching unserved groups)
- Important :** registered community-based

organizations (NHCs, CDS, etc.) to be considered as NGOs and , based on performance, to be given priority over other NGOs.

DEMONSTRATION ACTIVITIES

- + To be in conformity with UBSP principles and strategy
- + Support to innovative creative and approaches to meet felt-needs of communities (subject to availability of resources from UNICEF/other donor agencies)

TRAINING

- + Training under UBSP to be:
 - in conformity with UBSP principles and strategy
 - needs-based and locally relevant
 - action - oriented
 - participatory
- + Training Advisory Committees to be step up at all levels to:
 - formulate comprehensive training strategy to address all UPA programmes
 - develop course contents for different categories of functionaries (RCVs women's groups, community leaders elected representatives, municipal functionaries, Inter Departmental Functionaries, NGO's UBSP project staff, etc.)
 - Monitor implementation of training
 - assess impact
- + Training funds are available under UBSP and PMIUPEP to support training at state and city levels

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION/ADVOCACY

- + development of database inter/intra-urban differences) to identify status, needs and resources
- + documentation of existing schemes and programmes for information-sharing at all levels (community, city and district) to promote coverage
- + process documentation of case studies, innovations, etc. to promote replicability and sustainability
- + development of appropriate local language communication material (handbooks, leaflets,

videos, case studies, etc.) for use at different levels to promote the principles of UBSP, viz. community participation, convergence and targeting the poorest of the poor.

SOCIAL SECTOR GOALS OUTLINED IN THE STATE PLAN OF ACTION FOR CHILDREN (SPAC)

Maternal and child health

- + immunization of all eligible infants and pregnant women
- + eradication of poliomyelitis
- + elimination of neonatal tetanus
- + reduction in under-5 mortality due to measles
- + control of diarrhoeal diseases and use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT)
- + reduction in under-mortality due to acute respiratory infections

NUTRITION

- + reduction in incidence of malnutrition in children under 5
- + universal access to and use of iodised salt
- + elimination of Vitamin A deficiency

PRIMARY EDUCATION

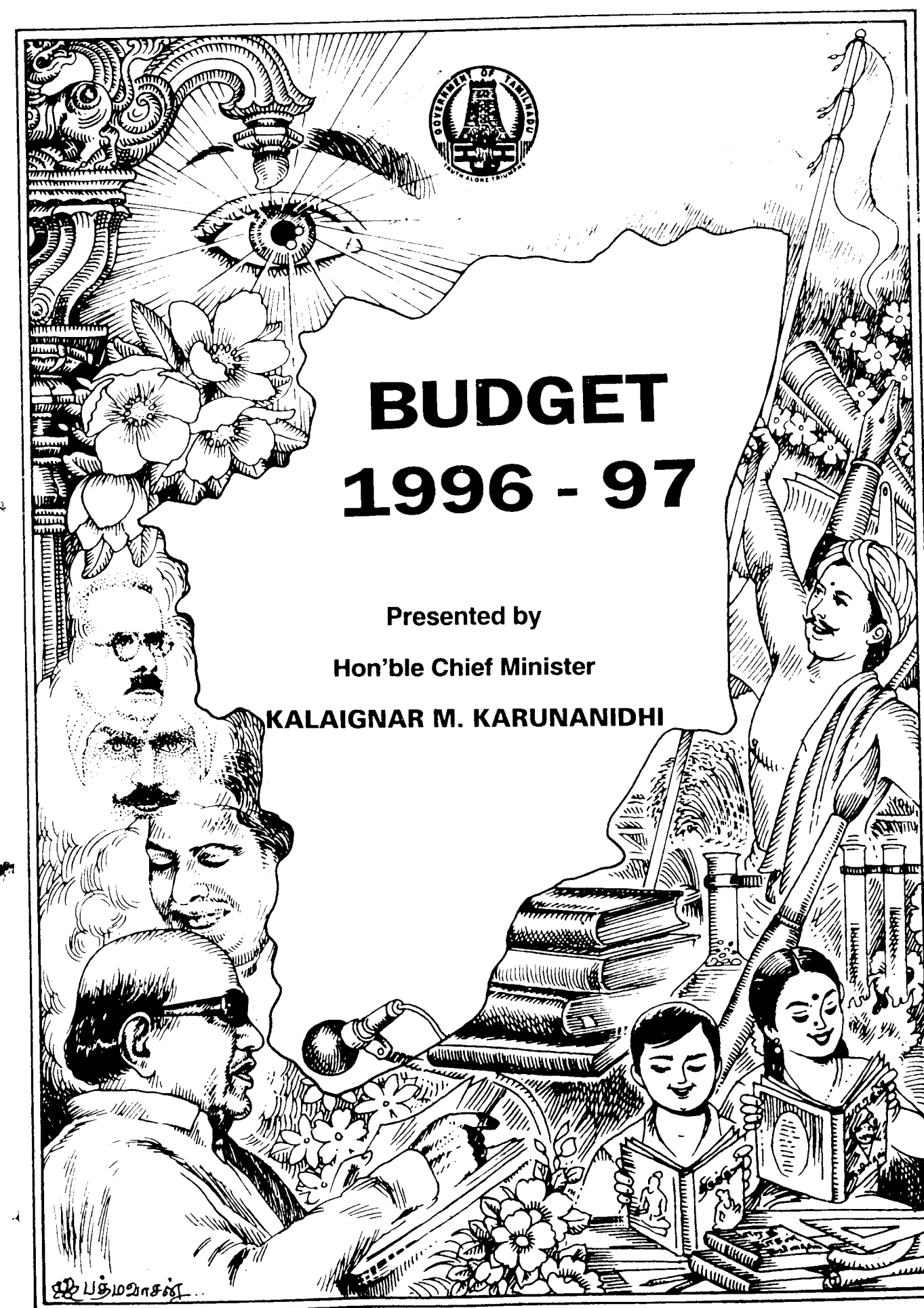
- + Universal enrolment of all 6-year old children (especially girls) in primary school, and ensure their retention and achievement of minimum levels of learning
- + increase in female literacy

WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

- + Universal access to safe water
- + Universal access to safe means of excreta disposal, combined with adoption of personal hygiene practices, primary environmental care, etc.

CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES

- + Prevention and phased elimination of child labour
 - + Mainstreaming of street children, juvenile delinquents, abandoned children, etc.
- In addition, to the SPAC Goals, other areas of attention could include:
- + Women's rights
 - + Prevention/rehabilitation relating to alcoholism, drug abuse, and other social problems
 - + Strengthening of skills of women for better interaction with elected representatives, government functionaries, teachers, doctors, bankers, etc.



“OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO PROVIDE A CLEAN CORRUPTION FREE ADMINISTRATION, AND TO CREATE A STABLE INVESTOR FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE”

At the outset I would like to express my profound sense of gratitude to the people of Tamil Nadu, friendly organisations, large-hearted friends, members of the media and leaders of opposition who have offered us their constructive criticism, for bringing back our party to power. This enables us to continue the immortal legacy and the unfinished task left behind by our beloved Anna who still lives as the lifeblood and heart beat in all our hearts and minds.

“என்னுந் தமிழ்நாட்டின் கண்
எல்லோரும் கல்வி கற்றுப்
பன்னிருங் கலைஞர் ளத்தால்,
பரக்கிரமத்தால், அன்பால்
உன்னத இம் மலை போல்
ஒங்கிடும் கீர்த்தி எய்தி
இன்புற்றார் என்று மற்றோர்
இயம்பக் கேட்டிடல் எந்தாளோ?
கைத்திறச் சித்தி ரங்கள்
கணிதங்கள் வான நூற்கள்,
மெய்த்திற நூற்கள், சிற்பம்,
விஞ்ஞானம் காவியங்கள்
வைத்துள தமிழர் நூற்கள்
வையத்தின் புதுமை என்னப்
புத்தக சாலை எங்கும்
புதுக்கு நாள் எந்த நாளோ?
கண்களும் ஒளியும் போலக்
கவின்கலர் வாசம் போலப்
பெண்களும் ஆண்கள் தாமும்
பெருந்தமிழ் நாடு தன்வீல்,
தன்கடல் நிகர்த்த அன்பால்
சமாதந்தர் ஆனார் என்ற
பன்வந்து காதிற் பாயப்
பருகுநாள் எந்த நாளோ?”

A verse by Poet Bharathi Dasan

I humbly place before this august House the Budget for 1996-97, in the hope that the measures we propose to undertake and the schemes we have formulated will be at least a small effort towards ushering in the day that the Revolutionary Poet Bharathidasan dreamt of.

—Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, presenting the Budget for 1996-97 to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 17th July 1996.

PHILOSOPHY OF FEDERALISM

As I present this Budget to you, the Indian political scene is undergoing a sea change! A federal revolution sweeping the entire world. Forty percent of the world's population lives in countries with a genuinely federal structure. Of the remaining, one third lives in countries which have some semblance of federalism. *It is in this changed context, that I welcome the Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government at the Centre under the leadership of Hon'ble H.D. Deve Gowda.*



While the Common Minimum Programme does not include all the elements which are dear to our hearts, it still richly deserves to be supported and whole-heartedly welcomed as it has replaced the anti-poor policies which were militating against the interests of the country, and has as its objective the provision of a clean, responsible and secular Government.

So far, five documents of Centre-State relations have been brought out :

☆ The Administrative Reforms Committee Report, 1969.

- ☆ The Rajamannar Committee Report of 1969, the first of its kind in India, prepared under the direction of the DMK Government under my leadership.
- ☆ The White Paper and the Resolution on State Autonomy passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislature in 1974.
- ☆ The Memorandum on Centre-State Relations prepared by the West Bengal Government in 1977 under the leadership of Hon'ble Jyoti Basu in which the need for a federal polity with a view to enshrine the “full majesty of federal principles” was emphasised, and
- ☆ The Report of the Sarkaria Commission, which was the first of its kind appointed by the Government of India in 1983, to examine Centre-State relations.

However, this Commission was not set up by the Government of India on its own initiative with a view to usher in a genuine federal system.

As far as the D.M.K. is concerned, the Commission's report was highly disappointing. No constructive suggestions on making India a truly federal State have been made in the report. While a few recommendations may have been made, the report does not contain any concrete ideas to transform India into a federal structure. I would call it an advocacy of status quoism with small changes.

The Sarkaria Commission report had been gathering dust. We thought that it had been put to eternal rest. The report only recommends a few changes to Article 356. Further, a large-hearted suggestion that the Government of India should share the proceeds of the Corporation Tax with the States had been made. Apart from this no mention has been made about true federalism.

For instance, in 1985, the Government of Canada had appointed the Macdonald Commission which gave its report “Canadian Federalism Past, Present and Future”. This has brought about certain major changes. However, the Sarkaria Commission had

not suggested any changes. In spite of this, the then Central Government did not bring about even the minimal changes recommended by the Sarkaria Commission.

At present, the Common Minimum Programme envisages a two track policy. On the one hand, to provide State autonomy, more powers will be allocated to the States. On the other hand, it has been mentioned that a report will be obtained within three months from a High Level Committee by updating the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission necessitated by the passage of time. It has been assured that the report would be obtained within three months and made public. This is a milestone in the history of federalism.

“
This Government would hold steady to its position, on the need for applying the principles of autonomy to the rights of States in order to strengthen the integrity of a multi-ethnic country like ours.
”

I have discussed the issue of Centre-State relations and the devolution of powers with the Union Home Minister, Thiru Indrajit Gupta during his recent visit to Madras.

The announcement of the Prime Minister that a meeting of Chief Ministers will be convened to discuss Centre-State relations is highly refreshing.

It should not be forgotten that India is a garden where several cultures have blossomed. This is usually realised only during the tourism week. However, in this context the change brought about by the Common Minimum Programme needs to be welcomed. *This programme contains within itself continuity, change and pragmatism.*

As far as the economic policy is concerned, while we welcome the inflow of foreign investment, it should not be permitted to enter areas where it is not required. *We would prefer foreign investment to be a garland around the neck and not a tightening noose.* Nationalised public sector units have not been privatised blindly. This also deserves to be welcomed. There will be no secrecy attached to disinvestment in public sector undertakings. Decisions regarding disinvestment of shares will be taken through a Disinvestment Commission to be appointed. The

funds so generated will not be used to bridge the budget deficit but will be used for poverty alleviation programmes and provision of basic services.

As far as social justice is concerned, reservation is assured only in Central Government employment. The Common Minimum Programme does not refer to the extension of this reservation to Central educational institutions. While this is a shortcoming, I am hopeful that this would be rectified shortly.

None of the constituent parties of the United Front have sacrificed any of their policies through this Programme, which is the reason why it is known as the Common Minimum Programme.

I would be emphatic in stating that this Government would hold steady to its position, on the need for applying the principles of autonomy to the rights of States in order to strengthen the integrity of a multi-ethnic country like ours; in not yielding to Hindi imperialism; on making all the official languages of the States, official languages of the Union, and as a first step, making Tamil an official language of the Union.

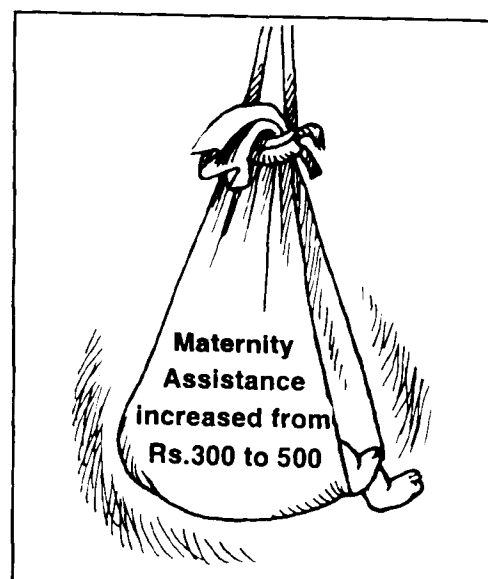
This budget has been prepared against the backdrop of these policies, principles and objectives.

It is also my duty to draw the attention of the Members of the House to the fact that since the detailed Demands for Grants for various Departments have to be presented and debated in this House, the Budget Speech only seeks to highlight certain significant schemes to be implemented by different departments.

ELECTION PROMISES

In our election manifesto, we had made several promises. As you are aware, within a period of two months of assuming office, we have taken all the necessary steps to implement the following promises.

- ☆ Abolition of ground rent;
- ☆ Abolition of visitors' fee in hospitals;
- ☆ Elections to all local bodies before the end of September 1996;
- ☆ Elections to all primary cooperative societies before 30th September 1996;
- ☆ Conversion of crop loans to the tune of Rs. 112.33 crores due from drought affected farmers into medium term loans;
- ☆ Provision of Rs. 2.40 crores for the Patta Pass Book Scheme;
- ☆ Specific Government Order for an assured supply of quality power at specified timings to farmers;
- ☆ Adequate financial allocation to ensure that there is not a single habitation without drinking water supply.



- ☆ Intensive efforts to bring Krishna water to Madras city before end of this year.
- ☆ Besides the 169 Industrial Training Institutes (I.T.Is) in the State, I.T.Is in the remaining 218 Panchayat Unions will be opened in a phased manner over the next three years.
- ☆ Financial assistance under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme increased from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000.
- ☆ Financial assistance under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyar Memorial Maternity Assistance Scheme increased from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500.

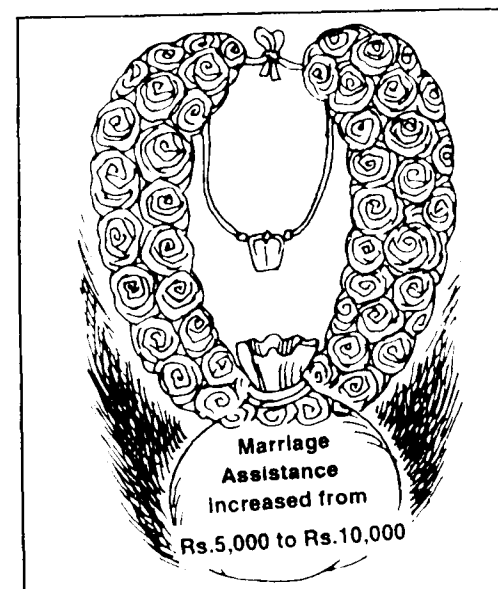
- ☆ Financial assistance under the Family Distress Relief Scheme payable on the death of the family bread winner increased from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 7500.
- ☆ Financial assistance under the Accident Relief Scheme to the families of accident victims increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000.
- ☆ Irregular concessions granted by the previous Government resulted in private buses not serving rural areas. New legislation enacted to rectify this situation.
- ☆ Large scale corruption in the award of tenders eliminated
- ☆ Vend fee has been enhanced to fetch the exchequer

an additional revenue of Rs. 75 crores per year which had earlier been diverted elsewhere, ensuring that the retail prices do not increase.

- ✕ *Service fee levied to prevent the corruption that took place in the annual export of molasses leading to receipt of Rs. 6 crores to the Government.*
- ✕ *The extent of dis-repair of the tenements of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board to be assessed and repairs to be carried out on the basis of priority. A provision of Rs. 5 crores made for this purpose.*

ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION

The people have voted this Government to power mainly to eradicate corruption, take severe action against those who indulged in corrupt practices and bring them to book. At the same time, we have not forgotten that it is necessary to take appropriate measures to prevent corruption in the future as well. In this context, certain changes need to be made in Government procedures and administrative practices. I had announced before the elections, that necessary means to achieve this end would be explored. Therefore, to study this problem in an integrated manner and to make recommendations on the required reforms, a high level committee would be constituted immediately.



CENTRE STATE ECONOMIC RELATIONS

While we welcome the alternative scheme of devolution recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission that the major tax receipts of the Government of India should be pooled and the States given a specified share out of the overall pool as opposed to the present system of giving shares in specified taxes alone, the States' share of 29% recommended by the Commission falls short of our expectations. We are of the firm view that at least one-third of the gross tax revenue of the Centre should be shared with the States.

In 1970, out of the Centre's total investment of

Rs. 3885 crores, Tamil Nadu's share stood at Rs. 312 crores, i.e., 8.03%. After 1980, even as Central investment rose substantially to Rs. 1,73,501 crores in 1993, Tamil Nadu's share did not increase proportionately and was less than 5% of the all India investment. We would urge the Government of India to step up investment in key infrastructure projects with a view to bring about a total change in this area. As a first step, we have requested that the expansion of the Tuticorin Port should be accelerated and we are hopeful that this request will be fulfilled. We have also requested the Government of India to take up at the earliest the execution of the Sethu Samudhram Project which is closely linked to the expansion of Tuticorin Port.

The Mass Rapid Transport System Phase-II being implemented in Madras city by the Ministry of Railways has to be extended from Luz to Velachery. Based on the commitment given by the previous Government to meet two-thirds of the cost of the project, a provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made in the Budget to expedite its implementation. Thiru Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister for Railways, in his speech presenting the Railway Budget for 1996-97 in the Parliament yesterday has assured that the project would not be starved of funds. I have to point out

that fulfilling this assurance is the responsibility of the Government of India.

ANNUAL PLAN

This is the last year of the Eighth Plan period. In the Revised Estimates for 1995-96, the previous Government had provided for a plan outlay of Rs. 3,316 crores. However, the actual expenditure during 1995-96 was only Rs. 3,281 crores. Nevertheless, we are confident that there would not be any difficulty in fully achieving the approved outlay of Rs. 10,200 crores for the Eighth Plan period.

The plan size for the current year is yet to be finalised in consultation with the Union Planning

Commission. In the Interim Budget for 1996-97, a provision of Rs. 3,550 crores has been made for the Annual Plan. The plan outlay for 1996-97 will now go to up to Rs. 3,700 crores due to the revival of a number of schemes started when our party was in office during 1989-91 but subsequently given up, as well as due to the introduction of several new schemes in the Budget. We have deliberately restricted the over all plan size to Rs. 3,700 crores since only 8 months are left in the current financial year. Had the full financial year been available, the plan size would have crossed Rs. 4,000 crores. Even then, the current year's plan outlay is 15.63% higher than the approved outlay for 1995-96.

FOOD SITUATION

The 'Kuruvai' and 'Samba' harvests in the Cauvery delta were substantially lower last year. The cultivated area in the Kuruvai season has declined considerably this year as well. Rice production has declined from 76.86 lakh tonnes in 1994-95 to 52.06 lakh tonnes in 1995-96. This phenomenon is mainly due to the non-receipt of the due quantum of water in the Cauvery river as well as the failure of the monsoon in the State.

Since the public distribution system has to fully cater to the needs of the people, we have requested the Government of India to increase Tamil Nadu's allotment of rice from the Central pool to 2.25 lakh tonnes per month. Apart from this, to build up the buffer stocks of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, measures have been taken to purchase additional quantity of rice from the Food Corporation of India and from neighbouring States following due procedures. *A provision of Rs. 1000 crores has been made towards subsidy for the supply of 20 kgs. of rice per family card.*

To further improve the functioning of the Public Distribution System, a committee consisting of Government officials, representatives of consumer forums and Members of the Legislative Assembly will be deputed to study the functioning of the

system in neighbouring States, and necessary action will be taken based on the recommendations of this Committee.

DROUGHT AND FLOOD RELIEF

In many parts of the State affected by drought, drought relief works were implemented expeditiously after this Government assumed office with a budgetary provision of Rs. 36 crores and *debt relief provided to farmers. Remission of Rs.22.30 crores of land revenue has been ordered for the Fasli year 1405.*

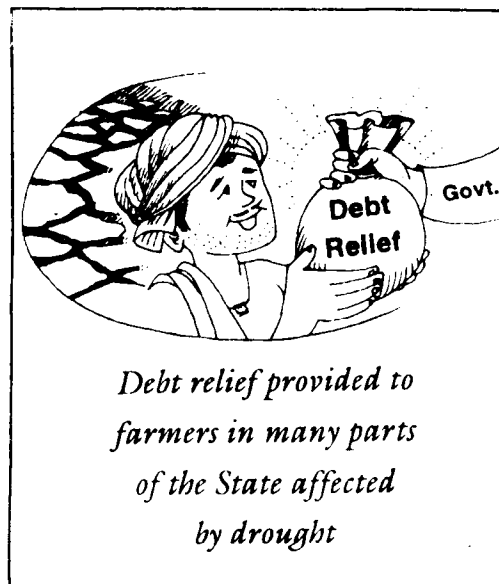
Further following the severe cyclonic storm which affected the northern coastal districts of the State, *the quantum of relief available for fully damaged*

houses has been enhanced from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 and from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500 for partially damaged huts, uniformly in all parts of the State without any differentiation. For the first time relief has been sanctioned for the loss of livestock, at the rate of Rs. 5000 per adult head of cattle, Rs. 3000 for calves and Rs. 1000 for sheep and goats. Such relief will continue towards the occurrence of similar calamities in the future. This will also apply to fire accidents besides floods and cyclones.

AGRICULTURE

Against the total foodgrain production of 97.52 lakh tonnes during 1994-95, the production in 1995-96 declined to 72.60 lakh tonnes.

An Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. V.C. Kulandaiswamy has been appointed to formulate plans and to make recommendations on appropriate technologies for waste land development, improvement of irrigation facilities, poverty alleviation and the ungradation of the standards of living of the farmers, thereby ushering in a Second Green Revolution in the State. This Expert Committee will include Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Thiru S. Guhan, Dr. A. Vaidyanathan, Dr. Sambandamurthy, Dr. Rani Perumal, Thiru Mohanakrishnan, Dr. T. Natarajan



and Dr. C.A. Pundarikanthan. The Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department will be the Member Secretary of this Committee.

Despite low rainfall, agriculture in Israel has been made high yielding and profitable, thanks to the adoption of superior technology. Therefore, we shall establish contact with that country and with their technical assistance, improve farming technologies and thereby increase yields in areas of the State, which receive low rainfall.

The Tamil Nadu Agriculture Development Project will be implemented during the current year with an outlay of Rs. 96.87 crore. The Agricultural Human Resources Development Project will be implemented during the current year with an outlay of Rs. 23.80 crore.

This Government will enunciate a commercial floriculture policy to provide the necessary thrust for the development of floriculture. A Flower Auction Centre is proposed to be set up in the vicinity of Madras airport to cater to the needs of both domestic and export markets at a total cost of Rs. 20 crores. The Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation Limited will set up an integrated coconut processing unit in Kanyakumari district in the associate sector with an equity participation of Rs. 1 crore.

IRRIGATION

There are nearly 40,000 tanks in Tamil Nadu. Out of these 20,000 tanks with an ayacut of less than 100 acres under the control of Panchayat Unions and 10,000 Ex-zamin tanks have traditionally been repaired and maintained under the "Kudimaramathu" system. These tanks have not been covered under any project and have been ignored for the past several years.

The Government has appointed a high level committee to study in depth, the alternatives for

repairing and modernising these 30,000 tanks. Based on the recommendations of this Committee, these tanks will be upgraded with assistance from international financial institutions within the next 3 or 4 years.

The Water Resources Consolidation Project will be implemented over 5 years with World Bank assistance, at a total cost of Rs. 1140 crores. The outlay for the current financial year will be Rs. 164.22 crores. This project will provide for the rehabilitation of all major and medium irrigation schemes in the State except the Cauvery system. The project would enhance agricultural production in 17.30 lakh acres, which is 50% of the total surface water irrigated area of the State and will benefit 40 lakh persons including farmers and

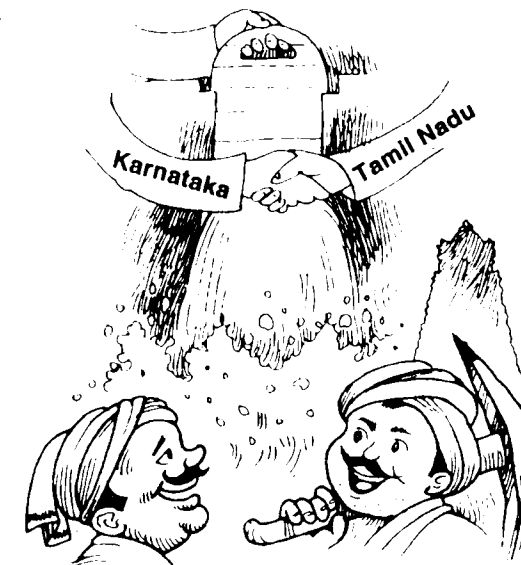
agricultural labourers. The details of the schemes will be mentioned in the Demands for Grants of the Public Works Department.

The Periyar dam has been strengthened at a cost of about Rs. 18.50 crores so that the storage could be increased by an additional 16 feet. *Consequently it has been decided to make the increased water available to 58 villages in Usilampati Taluk of Madurai District by excavating a canal from the Vaigai Dam and thereby fulfilling a long standing request of the people of the area. This scheme will be implemented over a period of 4 years at a total cost of Rs. 33.81 crores.*

A new reservoir across the Andiyappanoor Odai in Vaniyambadi Taluk of North Arcot Ambedkar District will be constructed over the next 3 years at a cost of Rs. 18.28 crores.

A reservoir will also be formed across the Varattar and Kuppathu odai in Tenkasi and V.K. Pudur taluks in Tirunelveli Kattabomman district at a total cost of Rs. 8.78 crores over a period of 3 years.

The Shenbagathope reservoir scheme in Polur taluk of Thiruvannamalai Sambavarayar District



will be undertaken at a cost of Rs. 21.33 crores. This scheme will be implemented in 4 years.

CAUVERY DISPUTE

The Cauvery dispute has been eluding a solution for almost 30 years now. With a view to prevent the politicisation of what is basically an issue between the farmers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and to obtain an impartial verdict, the Government of Tamil Nadu had impleaded itself in the case filed by the Thanjavur Delta farmers and thereby ensured the constitution of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in 1990, when the National Front Government held office at the Centre. Our established position is that we are always in readiness to extend our hand for cordial relations while at the same time would not be hesitant to raise our voice for our genuine rights. Accordingly, we are determined to take every possible legal action to protect Tamil Nadu's rights to Cauvery water within the overall framework of the Tribunal and in accordance with its orders, and in a politically non-partisan manner. It will be appropriate that this matter is viewed not as a dispute between two nations, but as an issue between two States of India, with the spirit of integration and a humane outlook.

EDUCATION

During this financial year 85 new primary schools will be started in the very few areas which do not have primary schools at present. To avoid malpractices and irregularities, the recruitment of teachers will only be through the employment exchanges based on the seniority of registration. The syllabus for the primary classes will be revised based on the Minimum Levels of Learning. A massive Teachers' Training programme will also be launched during this year at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs.

The District Primary Education Project at a cost of Rs. 125.80 crores is being implemented in four district viz. South Arcot Vallalar, Villupuram, Ramasamy Padayatchiyar, Thiruvannamalai

Sambuvarayar and Dharmapuri. The project is to be extended to cover three more districts at an additional cost of Rs. 120 crores. The outlay under the project in the current year will be Rs. 25.51 crores and the Budget provided Rs. 4 crores as the State's share.

21 primary schools will be upgraded as middle schools, 99 middle schools as high schools and 80 high schools as higher secondary schools in the current year. A programme to provide additional class rooms and basic amenities in high schools will be undertaken. For this purpose a budget provision Rs. 6 crores has been made. The Government has taken up a programme to construct laboratory buildings in all higher secondary schools in the State within the next three years.

A new scheme to encourage meritorious students



This Government has announced a new scheme to encourage students who display keenness in their studies. Under this scheme, for the students who have secured the first three ranks at the State level in SSLC, the entire educational cost in pursuing studies upto the plus 2 stage will be borne by the Government. Similarly, for students who have secured the first three ranks at the State level in plus 2, the entire cost of their education in medical, engineering or any other degree course that they wish to pursue will be borne by the

Government. This scheme is being implemented from the current year onwards. The scheme will be extended to the districts as well from next year onwards to encourage students.

When this party was in power in 1989-90, orders were issued to add 5 marks to the marks secured by the students who were from families without any graduates and who wanted to pursue professional courses. This greatly benefited students belonging to all communities. However, due to a High Court Stay order, this scheme could not be continued. This Government will now introduce a new scheme to encourage students from families who do not have any graduates and are interested in pursuing professional courses. Under this scheme, the

Government will bear the full cost of education in professional courses including medicine, dentistry, engineering, agriculture and veterinary sciences for those who secure the first 10 places, amongst students from such families without any graduates based on the marks obtained out of the total of 300 marks.

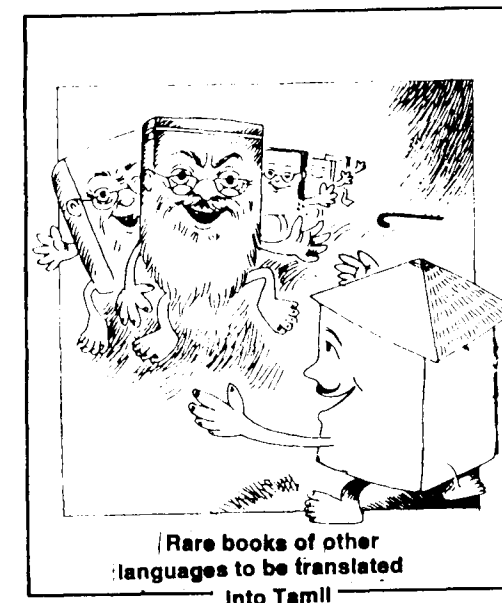
This Government has lifted the ban imposed by the previous Government on admitting Sri Lankan Tamil students to higher education courses and has created opportunities for such students to pursue all courses including professional courses.

LAW UNIVERSITY

A site has been selected for locating the bench of the Madras High Court at Madurai. The High Court will be requested to give its approval for temporarily locating the bench of the High Court in the Madurai District Court complex.

A bill will be introduced to form the Dr. Ambedkar Law University in the current session of the Legislative Assembly and all action taken so that the University can start functioning from the current year itself.

Fulfilling a long standing request, a new Law College will be set up at Tirunelveli in the current year itself.



Rare books of other languages to be translated into Tamil

TAMIL OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND TAMIL CULTURE

This Government is committed to the growth of Tamil in various fields. Therefore, with specific focus on Tamil development, a separate Ministry has been created. Very soon, it will be ensured that Tamil becomes the full official language. Even after the enactment of the Official Language Act in 1956 and the issue of several Government orders, the use of Tamil as the official language is yet to be fully accomplished. In order to rectify the situation this Government had decided to provide 500 Tamil typewriters in the Secretariat as a first step.

The Tamil Etymological Dictionary project was

started in 1974 when this party was in power. The project has suffered a severe set back in the intervening period. Special attention has been given to revive and expedite the project during this financial year with a view to complete the remaining volumes within the next five years.

The Government has decided to nationalise the invaluable works of the great scholar of Tamil, the late Devaneya Pavanar who is revered in the hearts of the Tamils as "Mozhi Gnyayiru", a leading advocate of the usage of chaste Tamil, who helped start the Tamil Etymological Dictionary Project when this party was in power. A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs will be provided for payment to his family.

We are firm believers in Anna's pearls of wisdom that "the jasmine blossoming in the enemy's garden also has its fragrance". Accordingly we continue to honour and respect late leaders of all hues without any expectation of reciprocity. Accordingly, this Government has written to the Government of India to release a commemorative stamp to coincide with the centenary celebration of one of the gems of the resplendent necklace of Tamil culture, Sardar Vedarathinam (Pillai) also known as "Patel of Tamil Nadu", which falls on 25th February 1997.

The monthly pension paid to 1,935 Tamil stalwarts, 441 aged Tamil scholars and 4,267 indigent artists will be increased from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. Likewise the monthly pension paid to 1,778 ulemas will be increased from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. The monthly pension paid to 100 odhuvans, 100 vedhaparayanars who have recited Vedas or Dhivyaprabhandam and those who have performed Aryar Sevai and 500 Archagas will be enhanced from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500. The scheme will be extended further to cover 1,500 village priests who will also be paid Rs. 500 per month.

We have released Rs. 50 lakhs as a first instalment of our share for setting up the

Dravidian University at Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh.

A provision of Rs. 5 lakhs has been made this year for the scheme to translate rare old books into Tamil from other languages.

The name "Madras" traces its origin to some other language. I am happy to inform this House that this Government has decided that Madras will hereafter be known in all languages by only one name, "Chennai", and we would take appropriate action to give effect to this new measure.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

136 Primary Health Centre buildings were constructed in just 2 years from 1989 to 1991. Thereafter, in the 5 years from 1991 to 1996 only 93 primary Health Centre buildings were constructed. At present in Tamil Nadu 600 Primary Health Centres are without buildings. In the current year provision has been made for the construction of 300 Primary Health Centre buildings at a total cost of Rs. 18 crores as against the provision for the construction of only 70 Primary Health Centre buildings during 1995-96. Thus, buildings will be constructed for all the remaining 600 Primary Health Centres within a period of 2 years.

We are approaching the Government of India for setting up a National Institute of Siddha Research at Madras at a cost of Rs. 10 crores.

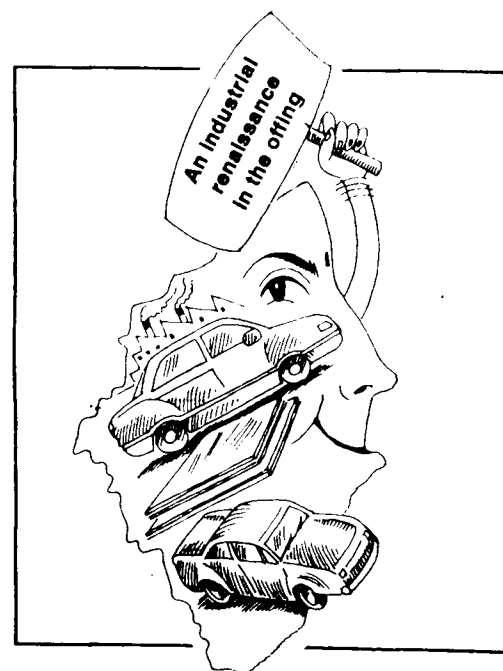
The third phase of the Danida Health Care Project at a cost of Rs. 57.51 crores will be implemented from September 1996 to cover Dharmapuri, Thanjavur and Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Millath Districts.

RENAISSANCE IN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Several large industries will be set up in the

State generating substantial employment opportunities. Ford Mahindra Ltd will set up a plant to manufacture 1 lakh cars per year at Maraimalai Nagar, which will generate direct employment opportunities for 2000 persons and indirect employment for 20,000 persons.

I am happy to announce that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in my presence yesterday, the 16th July 1996, with Pilkington of England to set up a plant to manufacture the best quality float glass in the world with an investment of Rs. 550 crores generating direct employment for 500 persons and indirect employment for 5000 persons, at Redhills in Chengalpattu District.



Hyundai Motor Company of Korea will set up a plant to manufacture 2 lakh cars per year at a total cost of Rs. 2450 crores near Sriperumbudur. I am happy to announce that the memorandum of understanding for this will be signed tomorrow on 18-7-96. This will generate direct employment for 3000 persons and indirect employment for 30,000 persons.

Thapar Du Pont Limited are setting up a Rs. 600 crore Nylon 6.6. project, currently under construction at the SIPCOT Complex at Gummidipoondi. To dispel fears of the local people, the

Government has insisted on the strict observance of all pollution control norms and the setting up of an effluent treatment plant which have been complied with.

A fully export oriented modern abattoir near Pollachi at a total cost of Rs. 168 crores will be set up by TIDCO in the associate sector with Enkay Group of Abu Dhabi.

TIDCO will also set up an integrated coconut processing project at a cost of Rs. 38.40 crores in association with Rai Surana Ltd.

We will revitalise the proposal to set up a permanent Trade Fair Centre in the State. TACID in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Export

organisations will set up a Trade Fair Centre near Madras at a total cost of Rs. 120 crores.

The new Tiruppur Area Development Corporation Ltd., with the equity participation of TACID, the Tiruppur Exporters' Association, (IL & FS) and the Central Government will implement the Tiruppur Area Development Project with an outlay of Rs. 1313.20 crores.

A regular forum for industrialists to represent their grievances and requests at the highest level will be formed. An Apex level Standing Committee on Industrial Development will be constituted with the Chief Minister as the Chairman, and it will consist of 12 nominees of various Chambers of Commerce and Industry, 6 prominent industrialists nominated by the Government and officials representing different departments.

The B & C Mill labour problem has been resolved amicably through negotiations held in the presence of our Labour Minister, which is one more instance that reveals the concern that this Government has for relieving the distress and securing the rights of the working class, who assist in industrial development.

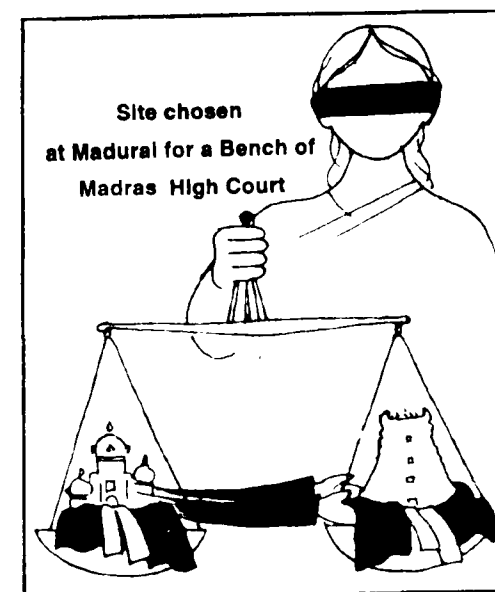
MINING AND MINERALS

This Government has consistently followed a Granite Policy which ensures both the proper exploitation of the mineral wealth of Tamil Nadu and increased revenue to the exchequer. When our party was in office in 1989-90, it had been laid down that only the sealed tender system should be adopted for the lease of granite quarries and that the lease holder should start quarrying and set up a granite polishing unit within two years of the receipt of the lease deed.

Based on this policy, during 1989-90, tenders were called for in two stages and quarrying leases were granted for an area of 262 hectares, and in a period of just two years, the Government received Rs. 20 crores as revenue.

However, the successor Government changed this system by introducing a new Rule-39 in the Tamil Nadu Minor Minerals (Concession) Rules and did away with the tender system. As a result, in the three year period from 1993-1996, for an area of 160 hectares, the revenue realised was only Rs. 5.12 crores. As against this, the revenue received in the two years when our party was in office was four times higher.

The new Granite Policy of this Government will permit leases for 20 years instead of 10 years. Quarrying will have to be commenced and polishing units set up within a period of 3 years. This new policy will not only fetch more revenue to the Government but will also ensure industrial development.



POWER DEVELOPMENT

The 630 MW North Madras Thermal Power Project-I and the 120 MW Basin Bridge Gas Turbine Project which had been conceptualised and commenced when this Government held office during 1989-91 have only recently been commissioned. The 7.5 MW Sathanur Hydro Electric Project and the 8 MW Lower Bhavani Hydro Electric Project will be commissioned during 1996-97.

Further development of generation capacity in Tamil Nadu will be mainly in the private sector. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has identified 16 private promoters to establish a generating capacity of 10,878 MW in the next 10 years. The power purchases agreements for the 500 MW North Madras Thermal Power Project - Stage III, the 330.5 MW gas-based power project at Pillaipermanallur, the North Madras-State-II and Cuddalore Thermal Power Projects and the diesel based projects at Basin Bridge and Samayanallur are under examination.

With a view to reduce the dependence on the private sector for setting up new power projects, a 2000 MW South Madras Thermal Power Project will be set up at Cheyyur as a joint venture with the

National Thermal Power Corporation. As a short term measure to tackle the immediate shortage of power, the Government is examining proposals to set up liquid fuel based power plants.

Co-generation plants will be set up in all the sugar mills in Tamil Nadu. 83.32 of additional capacity will be created in co-generation plants in 5 Sugar Mill during the current financial year and a further capacity of 87 MW is likely to be commissioned during 1997-98.

ROADS

Provision of good roads in rural areas will be accorded very high priority. Under the Rural Roads Programme, villages with a population of more than 1000 as per 1991 census will be covered. **The outlay for this programme in the current year has been stepped up to Rs. 28 crores as against the outlay of Rs. 18.50 crores during 1995-96.** The outlay this year on the Bus Route Roads Improvement Programme will be Rs. 14 crores. The component for providing roads to rural marketing centres under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Programme will be implemented this year with an outlay of Rs. 30 crores. In addition, a provision of Rs. 10 crores has been made for improving the roads and bridges damaged by cyclones and floods under the Tamil Nadu Agriculture Development Project.

A provision of Rs. 35 crores has been made in the current year for the roads component of the Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project. A provision of Rs. 20 crores has been made for the implementation of the East Coast Road Project with the assistance from the Asian Development Bank.

TRANSPORT

Hon'ble Members of the House are aware of the critical financial situation faced by several transport corporations in the State. All the transport corporations put together are likely to incur a total

loss of Rs. 300 crores during the current year. The loss is likely to increase further due to the recent diesel price hike announced by the Government of India. All attempts will be made to improve the physical and financial performance of the transport corporations by enhancing efficiency and reducing waste.

When our party was in office during 1989-91, free travel concession was introduced for students upto class-VIII in State owned buses. I am very happy to announce that this concession will now be extended to students studying upto Class-X.

PORT DEVELOPMENT

Tamil Nadu has a very long coast line with tremendous potential for developing international trade, coastal shipping, marine fisheries and related activities. This Government will accord high priority to ensure that this potential is utilised and minor ports are developed. **Accordingly, the Government has constituted a statutory Maritime Board** which will chalk out a strategy for the development of ports and attract investment from the private sector and financial institutions. Based on the recommendations of the Transport Minister who had studied the functioning of the Maritime Board in Gujarat, this board will prepare a "Port Expansion Policy", which will cover the expansion of minor ports like Rameswaram, Pamban, Valinokkam, Colachel, Kanyakumari, Ennore and Punnakayal, besides examining the possibility of establishing new ports at places like Thondi, Korkai and Mamallapuram. The expansion of existing minor ports and the establishment of new ports will be based on these recommendations. The Government will take all necessary action to revive the ship breaking yard at Valinokkam.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Jawahar Vela Vaippu Thittam will be implemented with an outlay of Rs. 157.05 crores in the current year, of which the State's share will be



Rs. 31.41 crores. When this party was in power in 1972, the D.M.K. Government introduced for the first time in India, a scheme for constructing free concrete houses for Scheduled Castes which today goes in the name of the Indira Awas Yojana. **Under this scheme, Rs. 100.24 crores will be available for the construction of 71,597 tiled houses. The State Government will make a further allocation of Rs. 50.81 crores to ensure that free concrete houses are provided to all categories of beneficiaries. As part of this, 60,000 free houses with concrete roofs will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 126 crores for Adi Dravidars. The "Million Wells Scheme" will be implemented at a cost of Rs. 39.25 crores.**

HOUSING

At present the Tamil Nadu Housing Board caters to the requirements of Government servants and the middle class only. It does not undertake construction of houses for people living in rural areas. **To correct this situation, this Government will set up a Rural Housing Board.**

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

We have sought an extension of three years for the Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project since a substantial unutilised amount is still available. The project will be implemented during the current year with an outlay of Rs. 260.50 crores including a budgetary support of Rs. 146.25 crores. A Tamil Nadu Urban Development Fund with contribution from the State Government and financial institutions is to be set up to finance infrastructure schemes in municipal areas in the State.

An allocation of Rs. 9.15 crores has been made in the Budget for providing basic amenities for the newly added areas in various municipalities in the State. **In the Governor's address, it has been announced that Rs. 100 crores will be provided for the development of the Corporations of Coimbatore, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirapalli and Salem. A provision of Rs. 25 crores has been made this year for this purpose.**

A special allocation of Rs. 25 crores has been made in the current year for providing basic services including street lights, improvements to roads, better conservancy services and drinking water supply in town panchayats.

The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board will utilise a special grant of Rs. 60 crores, recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission for upgradation of Slum areas. A provision of Rs. 12 crores has been made for this purpose this year.

The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board was established in 1970 when our party was in office. The tenements constructed by the Board will be transferred to the residents at their option on payment of a fair price in easy instalments.

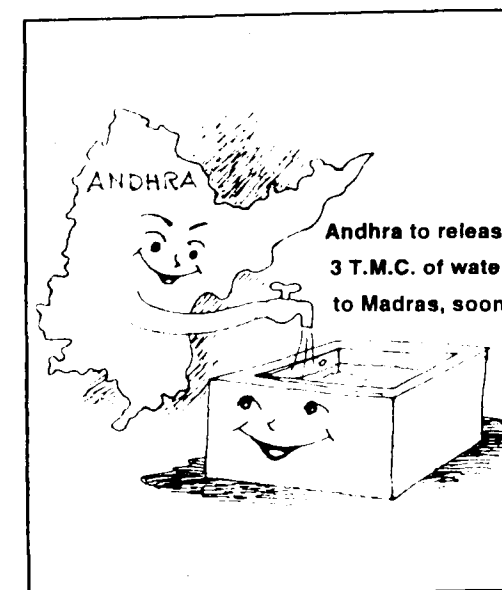
MADRAS CITY DEVELOPMENT

An investment of Rs. 200 crores will be made for upgradation of infrastructure in Madras city. Accordingly, Rs. 50 crores have been provided for the Metropolitan Infrastructure Development Corporation in the current year. This corporation will utilise this amount and raise funds from financial institutions for investment in infrastructure development and provision of basic services.

The budget includes a provision of Rs. 9.80 crores for land acquisition for forming the Outer Ring Road.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY TO MADRAS AND OTHER AREAS

Recently, after I had spoken to the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, our Minister for Public Works visited Hyderabad and concluded an agreement with him, according to which, we have been assured that as per the original agreement in 1983, 12 tmc of water will be provided to Madras city. **As a first step, both States are taking all measures on a war footing to ensure that 3 tmc ft of water is delivered to Madras city before the end of this year. Through**



this agreement, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has undertaken to supply 4 tmc ft of water in the second phase and 5 tmc ft of water in the third phase. To expedite these works, the budgetary provision for the payment to Andhra Pradesh has been enhanced to Rs. 50 crores and Rs. 25 crores has already been released.

A Pumped Storage Scheme at Manali for recharging the well fields around the area will be taken up at a cost of Rs. 26 crores. In the current year a provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made in the Budget.

A provision of Rs. 5 crores has also been made for the extension of sewerage facilities to unsewered streets in Madras city, subject to the house owners paying the usual charges for the new connections.

An allocation of Rs. 5 crores has been made for providing sewerage facilities free of cost to Adi Andhra colonies in Madras city.

A special provision of Rs. 30 crores has been made in the budget to upgrade 2770 power pump schemes in rural areas. A provision of Rs. 12.50 crores has also been made for upgrading 289 Combined Water Supply Schemes. In addition, for the first time, a budget provision of Rs. 15 crores has been made for the maintenance of Combined Water Supply Schemes by TWAD Board. To maintain these Combined Water Supply Schemes, TWAD will appoint 2000 persons.

ENVIRONMENT

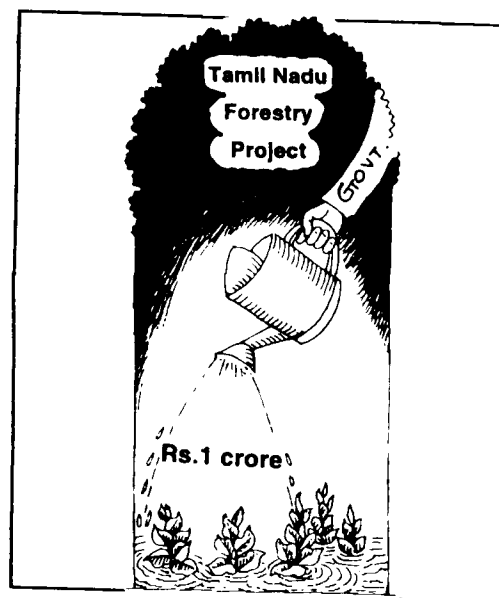
Protection of the environment will be accorded the highest priority by this Government. It is proposed to construct a total number of 57 Common Effluent Treatment Plants to cover 3130 units including tanneries, textile dyeing units, sago units, hotels, hospitals and chemical units. In the budget a provision of Rs. 2.50 crores has been made towards the State's share of subsidy for setting up Common Effluent Treatment Plants.

The Budget provides for the establishment of two continuous air quality monitoring systems at Tuticorin and Cuddalore at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs each.

A detailed strategy for the prevention and management of pollution by different sources will be developed. A provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made in the Budget for this purpose.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

During this financial year 10 veterinary dispensaries will be upgraded to veterinary hospitals, while 10 new veterinary dispensaries will be opened. Ladies hostels will be constructed at the Fisheries College at Tuticorin and the Veterinary College at Namakkal under Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.



FORESTS

A comprehensive Tamil Nadu Forestry Project at a cost of Rs. 496 crores has been prepared and the approval of the OECF (Japan) for this project will be received during the current year itself. The Budget provides Rs. 1 crore to commence implementation of this project.

SCHEME FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FREE HOUSES AND BASIC SERVICES FOR

UPGRADING FISHERMEN

I am delighted to inform the House that a special scheme will be launched to construct 20,000 houses with one electric light connection each over a period of 5 years, for fisherman families living in thatched huts in 442 fishing villages in the State. The outlay on this scheme to provide basic services like the construction of 4000 free houses per year, making improvements to houses which are in a state of disrepair, provision of link roads and street lights, will be Rs. 75 crores over a period of 5 years. An initial provision of Rs. 6.73 crores has been made in the budget for this purpose.

EMPLOYMENT

The number of youth registered in employment exchanges has increased from 26,07,092 in 1988 to 34,79,202 in 1995. However, the number of those provided employment has progressively declined from 54,388 in 1988 to 16,592 in 1995. This Government will accord high priority to ensure that this situation is improved and unemployed persons both in rural and urban areas are provided with employment.

The "Makkal Nala Paniyalargal" scheme will be revived to provide employment to educated youth in rural areas who have completed 10th standard and are in search of employment. Those employed under this scheme will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 500 per month and will be engaged in activities such as adult literacy, continuing education, running of libraries to promote awareness, helping to protect village common property resources and to encourage small savings. Two persons will be appointed as Makkal Nala Paniyalargals in each panchayat, giving employment to 25,000 persons in all. Similarly, 10,000 persons who have passed "Plus-2" will be employed in municipalities and town panchayats.

EMPLOYMENT AND WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT

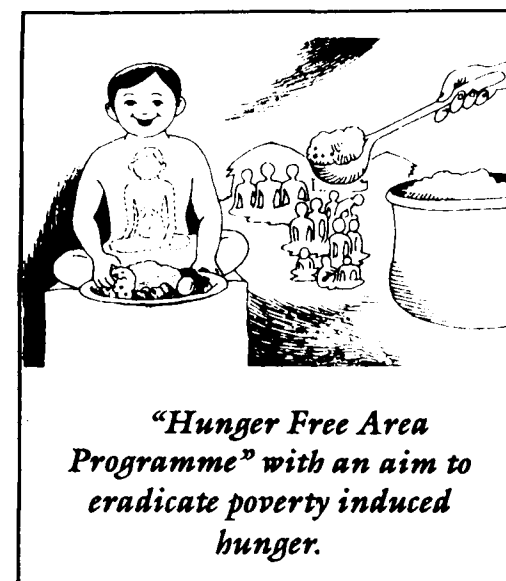
The Government will replicate the efforts of a few private individuals involved in propagating the evils of drinking through women groups. A provision of Rs. 5 crores will be made for this scheme which will involve 25,000 women and provide them employment.

When our party was in power in 1989, a major scheme called the Tamil Nadu Women Development Project was launched in Dharmapuri District. This scheme is currently under implementation in some parts of six districts benefiting 55,000 poor women. This Government had decided to extend this scheme to the whole State, at a total cost of Rs. 1420 crores

including the contribution of financial institutions, banks and the Government's share, so that more income generating activities and employment opportunities are available to rural women below the poverty line. This year, the scheme will be implemented in 10 districts to benefit 3 lakh women. The implementation of this scheme will be integrated with several other schemes like the Integrated Rural Development Programme, Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Entrepreneur Development programme for women, Indira Mahila Yojana, Special Component Plan, Waste Land Development programme and the Watershed Development Programme. By the phased extension of the scheme to other districts in the next five years, 10 lakh women will be benefitted.

NUTRITION

The total outlay on the nutrition scheme introduced by the former Chief Minister MGR has been enhanced from Rs 360 crores in 1995-96 to Rs. 401 crores during 1996-97.



"வயிற்றுக்குத் கோரிட வேண்டும் - இவ்வுலகம் மனிதருக்கெல்லாம், பயிற்சிப்பல கல்விதந்து - இந்தப் பாதை உயர்த்திட வேண்டும்"

To fulfil this dream of Mahakavi Bharatiyar, this Government will launch a new

"Hunger Free Area Programme" with an aim to eradicate poverty induced hunger. A number of schemes are already under implementation to alleviate poverty and to cater to the nutrition requirements of different groups of the population. Gaps in this coverage will be identified which can then be specifically targetted under the Hunger Free Area Programme. Provision has been made in the Budget for preparing a detailed strategy to implement this programme in association with Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

This Government will pay special attention to

the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. *The outlay on the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been stepped up substantially from Rs. 208.10 crores in 1995-96 to Rs. 267.39 crores in the current year.*

- ☆ A post graduate student's hostel will be opened for the first time during 1996-97.
- ☆ A three year programme to construct hostel buildings for all Adi Dravidar girl's hostels will be implemented. The Budget for 1996-97 provides Rs. 8.50 crores for this purpose.
- ☆ 40 new hostels for Adi-Dravidar students will be opened during this year.
- ☆ All Adi-Dravidar higher secondary schools will be provided with laboratory buildings and equipment in the current year at a total cost of Rs. 72 lakhs.
- ☆ 25 high schools will also be provided with laboratory facilities in the current year.
- ☆ Computer courses will be started in 10 Adi-Dravidar welfare higher secondary schools.

WELFARE OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND MOST BACKWARD CLASSES

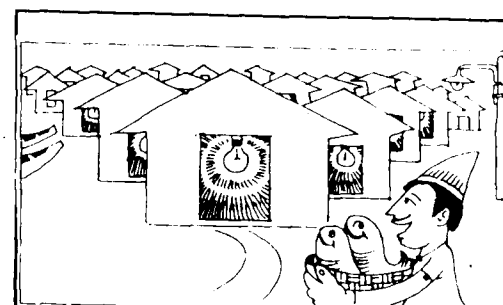
Before 1969, only a few lakhs of rupees were provided every year for the welfare of the Backward Classes. Only when this party was in office in 1969, was a separate Ministry created for the welfare on the Backward Classes. The outlay for the welfare of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities has been stepped up from Rs. 47.27 crores in 1995-96 to Rs. 54.31 crores this year. Special importance will be accorded for promoting the welfare of the Backward and Most Backward Classes in education and employment. *In continuation of the sustained services rendered by Thanthai Periyar, Perarinar Anna and Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, this Government is fully committed to ensure that the Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes realise the full benefit of the 69% reservation.* A total number

of 45 new hostels will be opened for the benefit of students of Backward and Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities this year, 9 Hostel buildings will also be constructed at a total cost of Rs. 58.32 lakhs in the current year.

A new scheme for the supply of all text books free of charge of Class X students belonging to Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes will be implemented from the current year onwards at an annual cost of Rs. 45 lakhs.

WELFARE OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS

When this Government held office earlier, it had introduced the scheme of free supply of sarees and dhoties to the families living below the poverty line for the benefit of handloom weavers. However a number of irregularities crept into the implementation of this scheme in the recent past. *The scheme of free distribution of sarees and dhoties to all those below the poverty line will be implemented in a manner that will promote the welfare of handloom weavers in Tamil Nadu. The Budget provides Rs. 65 crores for implementation of the scheme.*



20,000 houses with power connections to be built for fishermen, at a cost of Rs. 6.73 crores

The Cooperative Spinning Mills which were making profits during 1989-91 have incurred heavy losses during the last five years. Due to several managerial irregularities, the total cumulative loss of the 18 Cooperative Spinning Mills has increased to Rs. 181.43 crores at the end of 1995-96. Before this Government took office, *it had been promised in the election manifesto that speedy action would be taken to re-open the closed spinning mills, revive the sick mills and thereby rehabilitate the workers.* Based on this, this Government has taken action to re-open the closed Cooperative Spinning Mills and to revive the sick mills.

A savings cum insurance scheme for handloom weavers who are members of cooperative societies has been implemented since 1975-76. Under this scheme, the amount paid to the heirs of member

weavers who died before the age of 58 by the Life Insurance Corporation of India was Rs. 3,000 upto 1989-90. In the Budget for 1990-91 this amount was increased from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 10,000. At present the insurance amount is Rs. 15,000. *Based on the requests of associations of weavers to increase the amount, the insurance amount will be now enhanced to Rs. 25,000/- This will benefit 1.10 lakh handloom weavers who are enrolled under this scheme.*

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FILM INDUSTRY

All of you are aware that soon after this Government assumed office, the Information Minister and I amicably settled the problems that has arisen between the film producers and workers in the film industry. The Government has received several representations that the film industry in Tamil Nadu is in the doldrums. The Government has decided to extend some concessions to ensure that this industry which employs lakhs of people does not suffer.

At present the charges for film shooting in buildings under the control of the Department of Archeology, ancient monuments, Government offices, etc. is Rs. 5,000 per day, and in reserved forest areas, coastal roads, highways, dams and other public places, Rs. 2,500 per day. *Since these charges are considered to be very high, they will be reduced from Rs. 5,000 per day to Rs. 1,000 per day and from Rs. 2,500 per day to Rs. 500 per day respectively.*

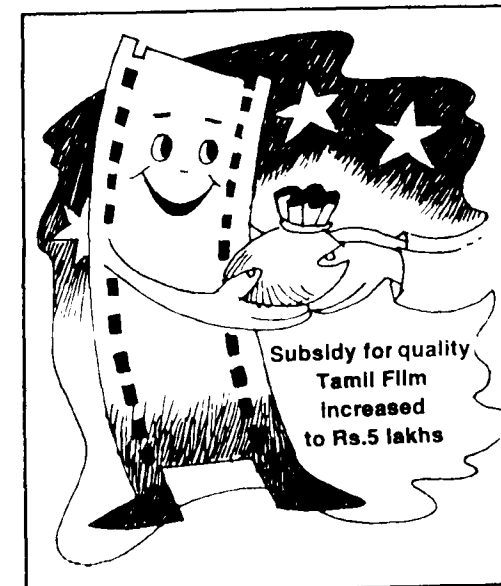
Under the scheme for providing financial assistance to quality, small budget Tamil films with less than 25 prints, introduced to 1989 when this party was in office, the assistance will now be increased from Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs. Such films will also be exempted from Entertainment Tax for the first four weeks after their first release.

WELFARE OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

As assured in our election manifesto, the

Government Employees' Family Security fund will be enhanced from Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. The additional commitment to Government on this account will be Rs. 3.20 crores per annum.

This Government has decided to introduce a Health Fund Scheme for the employees of Town Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, Municipalities and Corporations in Tamil Nadu as is available to Government employees. A separate fund will be set up for this purpose. The Government will contribute Rs. 20 lakhs every year as its share to this fund. Rs. 5 per annum will be recovered from these employees as is done in the case of Government employees. Under this scheme assistance of Rs. 1 lakh or 75% of the cost whichever is lower will be given for special surgeries and for medical treatment.



Subsidy for quality Tamil Film increased to Rs.5 lakhs

The bicycle advance, largely availed of by low paid employees will be enhanced from Rs. 1000 at present to Rs. 1500. Similarly, taking into account the present cost, the advance for the purchase of a new car will be enhanced from Rs. 1.4 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs and the advance for the purchase of motor cycles will be enhanced from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 35,000. The advance for the purchase of second-hand vehicles will be accordingly enhanced.

The present restriction on the drawal of a second marriage advance by a Government employee who already has an outstanding marriage advance drawn for the marriage of his son or daughter, will be removed and he will be made eligible for a second advance. At present, Independence Day and Republic Day are not included in the list of festivals eligible for the drawal of festival advance. Hereafter, these two days will be added to the list.

Employees retiring from services are presently entitled to surrender a maximum of 240 days of earned leave and draw leave salary in lieu. *This Government has decided to accept the long pending demand of Government employees to surrender "Half Pay leave on Private Affairs". At the time of retirement Government employees will be permitted*

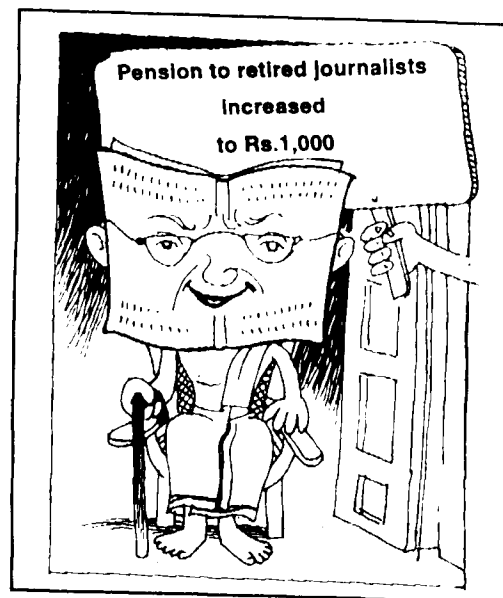
to surrender 50 percent of the leave on private affairs standing to their credit, at the time of retirement up to a maximum of 90 days, in lieu of leave salary. Further, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and Other Allowances will be paid along with the leave salary hereafter, on the surrender of earned leave exceeding 180 days at the time of retirement. The above mentioned benefits will enable the drawal of a maximum of 8 months of full leave salary on surrender of earned leave and a maximum of 3 months full leave salary on surrender of leave on private affairs. This benefit will also apply to All India Services Officers serving under the State Government. This concession will cost the Government Rs. 17 crores per annum.

As per the rules in force, employees should render 33 years of qualifying service to get full pension. With the age limit for entry into Government service raised to 28 years, an employee entering service at the age of 28 is not eligible for full pension. Taking into account the representation of association of Government employees, this Government has decided to reduce the qualifying service to get full pension from 33 years to 30 years and to make certain changes in the methodology for calculating of pensions. For example, 50 percent of the pay last drawn will be fixed as pension instead of the present system of fixing pension based on the 10 months average basic pay. At the same time, taking into consideration the fact that in certain departments, employees are likely to face reversion just before retirement, the Government have decided to grant pension either at 50 percent of 10 months average pay drawn or 50 percent of the pay last drawn whichever is higher. This will be implemented with effect from 1.7.1996.

I am proud and happy to point out that the above two schemes announced for the benefit of retiring employees are not in existence either in the Central Government or in other State Government and that these are pioneering schemes introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

WELFARE OF PENSIONERS

As regards pensioners and family pensioners, the interim relief granted to them with effect from 1.10.1995 will now be given with retrospective effect from 1.4.1995 as in the case of Central Government pensioners. The merger of dearness allowance at 97 percent of pay for the calculation of the Delhi-cum-Retirement Gratuity and the enhanced maximum limit of Gratuity at Rs.2.50 lakhs which was given effect to only from 1.10.1995 by the previous Government, will now be given effect to retrospectively from 1.4.1995 on par with the employees of Central Government. Similarly, the enhanced medical allowance of Rs. 50 per month given to Government employees from 1.12.1995 will be extended to pensioners. These concessions will cost the Government Rs. 7 crores as recurring expenditure and Rs. 57.50 crores as non-recurring expenditure.



There are about 2 lakh pensioners in Tamil Nadu. A separate fund will be created deducting Rs. 20/- per month from their pension uniformly. In case the pensioner dies after making such deductions for one year, financial assistance of Rs. 25,000/- will be paid to his family. Final shape will be given to the scheme discussions with representatives of pensioners.

JOURNALIST'S PENSION

When this party was in power in 1989, the monthly pension paid to journalists was enhanced from Rs. 250 to Rs. 400. This was raised to Rs. 500 in 1992. Now, accepting their request, it has been decided to pay a monthly pension of Rs. 1000.

PROBLEMS OF FORMER VILLAGE OFFICERS

In addition to the scheme to provide employment to former village officers, payment of pension to them was also under consideration of this Government when it held office earlier. The Government was dismissed before this scheme could be implemented. The Tribunal had ordered the

payment of pension to former village officers. But the previous Government did not initiate any action on the order of the Tribunal and when the Village Officers filed an application for contempt of court, the Government went on appeal to the Supreme Court.

This Government will take necessary steps to withdraw the appeal petition filed by the previous Government in the Supreme Court and extend the payment of pension to Village Officers benefiting 8,500 persons.

FINANCIAL POSITION

In the Interim Budget for 1996-97, presented by the previous Government, the total revenue receipts had been estimated at Rs. 10,543.52 crores and the total expenditure at Rs. 11,505.61 crores resulting in a revenue deficit of Rs. 962.09 crores. In this Budget while the total revenue receipts are estimated to be Rs. 11,068.07 crores higher by Rs.524.55 crores, the total expenditure has increased by Rs. 601.09 crores to Rs. 12,106.70 crores. The revenue deficit has thus widened to Rs. 1038.63 crores. The main reasons for this include, the provision of payment of an additional sum of Rs. 90 Crores over and above the Interim Budget provision for payment of dearness allowance, the increase in the provision for food subsidy by Rs. 150 crores over the Interim Budget Estimate, the inclusion of new Part-II schemes and the increase in the plan outlay.

In the Interim Budget for 1996-97, it had been estimated that the net effect of all transactions will be a deficit of Rs. 270.66 crores. The deficit incurred during the year has widened to Rs. 334.89 crores in the Revised Budget Estimates for 1996-97. Along with the closing balance in the Revised Estimates for 1995-96 estimated at (-) Rs. 410.16 crores. The closing balance at the end of 1996-97 is now estimated at (-) Rs. 745.05 crores.

The size of the revenue deficit and the overall deficit is a matter of serious concern. Therefore, it is essential to undertake suitable taxation and expenditure management measures to bridge the deficit to some extent.

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX

In pursuance of the High Court's observation made in 1990, that it would be reasonable to levy a

tax of Rs. 1500 per seat per quarter on omni buses, the Government have decided to levy Rs. 1500 per seat per quarter on all omni buses.

We propose to make certain changes in the tax on light motor vehicles. It has been decided to enhance the tax on only imported luxury vehicles, the details of which are as follows.

Unladen weight	Imported Vehicles	
	Present Rate	Revised Rate (in Rs per annum)
Not more than 700 kgs	1500	1800
701 kgs to 1500 kgs	1950	2350
1501 kgs to 2000 kgs	2250	2700
2001 kgs to 3,000 kgs	2400	2900
More than 3000 kgs	2700	3300

COMMERCIAL TAX POLICY

When this party was in office earlier, most of the commodities were removed from multi-point taxation and brought to single point taxation. However, the previous Government re-imposed multi point sales tax on several commodities. I am happy to inform the House that in response to the representation from traders' associations, it has been decided to remove all such items from multi point taxation and bring them back to single point taxation.

LONG TERM TAXATION POLICY

It is our primary objective to provide a clean and corruption free administration to the people of Tamil Nadu. In order to achieve this and at the same time stimulate industrial growth and commerce, it is necessary that there should be a stable, investor-friendly atmosphere devoid of any uncertainty. It is with a view to achieve this noble objective that I wish to place before you a Long Term Taxation Policy. I am sure that both the trading community and industrial houses will whole-heartedly welcome this major step.

In order to avoid frequent changes in taxation, both in policy and in rates, this Government has decided to adopt a stable policy on commercial taxes with a long term objective. As a first step I would like to announce the following measures:

The minimum turnover limit for sales tax is being raised from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.3 lakhs per annum.

For assessee whose turnover is Rs.3 lakhs or more but is less than Rs.10 lakhs an optional compounding system for payment of sales tax will be introduced:- Rs.3 lakhs and above, but less than Rs.5 lakhs = 3 % Rs.5 lakhs and above, but less than Rs.10 lakhs = 5%

It would be enough if such assessee maintain accounts for the total turnover. Detailed accounts need not be maintained.

SELF-ASSESSMENT

At present the scheme of Self - Assessment is applicable only to those assessee whose turnover is less than Rs.5 lakhs. This ceiling is being raised to include industries and traders with a turnover of upto Rs.10 lakhs. Under this scheme 25% of the accounts will be selected through the computer by the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes on a random sample basis and will be subject to detailed review. The local commercial tax officials would not have any individual discretion to inspect the accounts of remaining of the 75 % of the assessee. Under this scheme more than 70,000 assessee would stand to benefit and various obstacles faced by the small traders would totally vanish. Based on the response of the business community to this new scheme., The question of upward revision of this ceiling would be examined subsequently.

TAX CONCESSIONS

Although the state Government is not responsible for the increase in prices, realising its responsibilities, this Government unmindful of the revenue loss of Rs.55 crores, has decided to totally exempt from Sales Tax basic food commodities which are used by people in their daily life including pulses, chilli, coriander (dhaniya), turmeric, tamarind, jeera, asafoetida, jaggery and soapnut (Seekkai).

Apart from this, silver toe-rings (Metti), anklets, waist cords, handmade matches, paddy husk, broken rice and coconut husk will also be totally exempted from tax.

The tax on cooking gas (LPG) will be reduced from the effective rate of 11.6 % to 8%.

The purchase tax on sugarcane is at the basic rate

of 11% the total incidence of which, along with other taxes, is 14.7%. Sugar factories cannot avail of the concessional tax available to other manufacturers using raw materials under section 3(3). Therefore, as a measure to encourage the sugar industries, in the new tax structure, the tax on sugarcane will be reduced to 8%. Although, the loss of revenue to the Government as a result of this measure is Rs. 57 crores, this concession is being extended in the hope of encouraging the sugar industry.

The earlier Government had effected a steep increase in the tree tax levied on 2(C) patta trees. Considering the people's opposition to this measure the tree tax will be reduced to the rates levied prior to the revision.

MERGER OF SALES TAXES

Of the four elements of Sales Tax viz., Sales Tax, Surcharge on Sales Tax, Additional Surcharge on Sales Tax and Additional Sales Tax *the Surcharge on Sales Tax and Additional Surcharge on Sales Tax will be totally abolished throughout the State. Additional Sales Tax will be totally abolished for all firms with a taxable turnover of less than Rs. 100 crores per year.* As a result of this, more than 70,000 dealers will benefit from the substantial reduction in workload and reduction in the number of tax assessment forms.

The existing levies will be merged and the following changes effected:

Current Rate of Tax	The actual incidence of tax including Surcharge, Additional Surcharge and Additional Sales Tax	New Rate of tax
1	3	2
3	5.6	4
5	8	8
8	11.6	12
12	16.4	16
16	21.2	20

There will be no change in the rate of tax for petrol and liquor. The rate of tax on diesel is being reduced from 19.2% to 18%

VALUE ADDED TAX

We have examined certain tax reform measures within this short period of two months of assuming office and have decided to introduce the system of Value Added Tax in Tamil Nadu, on the lines of the system obtaining in States like Maharashtra.

Though manufacturing inputs are subject to only 3% sales tax, the actual tax incidence on inputs due to the levy of surcharge and additional sales tax works out to 5.6 %. *With the merger of all the sales taxes into one composite tax as already indicated, we have also decided to actually reduce the sales tax on manufacturing inputs to 3%.* This measure will benefit the manufacturers in the State to the extent of 1Rs. 200 crores per annum. Further, this will lead to reduction in prices of products which would greatly facilitate the removal of obstacles in competing with other States and thus lead to better opportunities for industrial development.

The tax on capital goods for power generation purchased from within the State for Government approved power generation projects will be reduced from 12 percent to 3 percent.

The concessional 3 % rate of tax for manufacturing inputs would also be extended to various types of machinery, power pumps, power factors and shunt capacitors, oil engines, furnaces and boilers, generator sets and all the associated accessories and spare parts. Government will lose revenue of Rs. 55 crores due to these measures. However, this would facilitate industrial growth and create better opportunities for employment and thus strengthen the State's economy.

With a view to encourage exports from Tamil Nadu, all raw materials purchased within the

State by registered 100% Export Oriented Units and units located in the Madras Export Processing Zone (MEPZ) will be fully exempted from payment of sales tax.

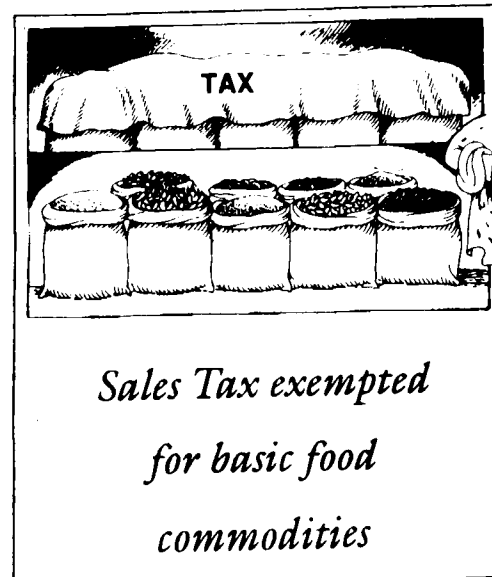
This Government, which has provided so many tax concessions with a view to promote industrial development, also intends introducing Value Added Tax on resellers. In the first stage, this system will be made applicable to all dealers with a total turnover of more than Rs. 75 lakhs. This system will apply to only 8000 of the total of approximately 3 lakh registered dealers in the State. The dealers who come under this system will be required to pay Value Added Tax at the

same rate as the sales tax on the goods. The sales tax payable at the time of resale will be levied only on the value addition at the reseller's stage. Further, it would be sufficient if the Value Added Tax is paid after deducting the tax already paid on the purchases made.

The detailed revised Schedules with the new rates which will take effect from 17th July 1996 are being notified separately today. Copies of the notifications are placed on the Table of the House. Certain amendments to existing Acts are also necessary to give

effect to some of the changes proposed. These amendments will be brought forward in the current Session itself.

We have decided to implement various tax reforms that I have outlined above, even though it would result in a very substantial loss in sales tax revenue amounting to Rs. 306 crores, keeping in view the development of industry and commerce in the State. At the same time, such a large loss of revenue is likely to adversely affect development works and welfare schemes taken up by this Government. Therefore, it is very essential to compensate this revenue loss by levying new taxes, our only request to the



The minimum turnover limit for sales tax is being raised from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.3 lakhs per annum.

For assessee whose turnover is Rs.3 lakhs or more but is less than Rs.10 lakhs an optional compounding system for payment of sales tax will be introduced:-
Rs.3 lakhs and above, but less than Rs.5 lakhs = 3 %
Rs.5 lakhs and above, but less than Rs.10 lakhs = 5 %

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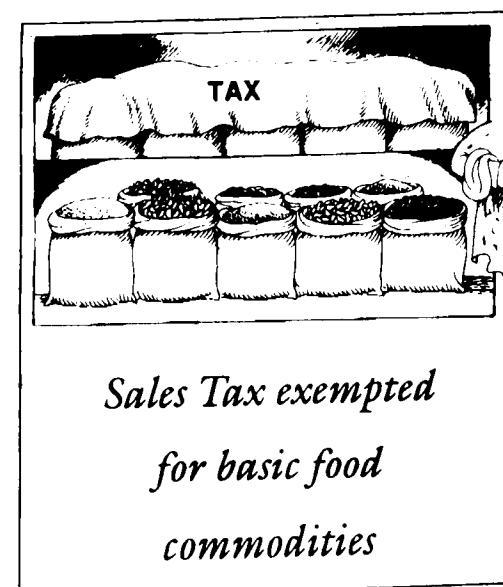
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Government of India now is that suitable enabling legislation should be enacted to give the States the power to levy Service Tax. Just as Services Tax is levied in several foreign countries, we have introduced Value Added Tax which is also levied in a number of foreign countries, unmindful of the revenue loss. Therefore, in our view it is very essential that the states are given the power to levy Service Tax.

To bridge the deficit to some extent, this Government has undertaken measures to drastically reduce the ostentatious expenditure incurred by the previous Government. I assured the House that this Government will not be extravagant in the manner in which Rs. 27 crores were spent in five years on the functions in which the Chief Minister participated, excluding the World Tamil Conference and the South Asian Federation Games held recently; Rs. 21 crores were incurred over five years on providing excessive security arrangements for the Chief Minister and the way in which crores of rupees of Government money was squandered on a variety of advertisements.

CONCLUSION

Earlier in my speech, I had indicated that the closing deficit for 1996-97 would be Rs. 745.05 crores. There are very few proposals for additional taxation, while several concessions to promote the growth of industries in the State and to secure the well being of the poor and middle classes have been given. The net effect of all the measures announced in this budget would be a revenue loss of Rs. 306 crores. By ensuring economy in expenditure and with a better tax compliance and consequent on the major tax reforms undertaken, I am hopeful of neutralising the anticipated loss of revenue substantially. Even then, the loss is not likely to be bridged fully and the closing deficit for 1996-97 is likely to increase further by Rs.106 crores and go up to Rs. 851.05 crores.

The Budget that I have presented before you is like a palmleaf fan with which the poor, fan themselves; a clay lamp lit in the house of the working classes; a towel which wipes the sweat of farmers and agricultural labourers; industrial development which is the elixir for the welfare of workers and the alleviation of the unemployment problem; a little relief to weavers and fishermen who toil every day for their living; a brief flash of lighting for placed at the feet of Mother Tamil

who is dearer to us than our lives. On the whole, I am aware that it has not been possible to provide liberal bounties, but a little relief has been given to all. In any case, the Tamil people should not be angered by our inability to fulfil all their needs, and I would assure them that, as we still have in our hearts a number of schemes to be implemented for them in the future, they should not lose hope.

The Dravidian movement is the incomparable movement which shines with the spirit of being Tamil by language, Dravidian by race, Indian by nationality, and in the world, human. The movement had made innumerable sacrifices, offered up so many lives, overcame opposition, defeated treachery and passed through sufferings and agony, in order to protect the Tamil language; bring peace to the life of the Tamil people living in various parts of the world; prevent language imperialism from reducing Tamils to second grade citizens; safeguard democracy, which is like a lamp in a house, from being extinguished by the forest fire of autocracy; establish social justice with equity, equality before the law and fraternity; and to adhere to secularism, guarding the interests of the minorities like Muslims, Christians and people belonging to different religions coming to any harm whatsoever. The D.M.K. is the socio-political vanguard of this movement. I would request all of you who are present in this House and the people of Tamil Nadu who have sent you as their representatives while fully realising that the services of the D.M.K. are still required for Tamil Nadu for a number of years, to render advice as teachers; stand by us as comrades; be a mother bestowing affection and a disciplinarian father.

“மடுத்தவா யெல்லாம் பகடகனாண் உற்ற
இடுக்கண் இடர்ப்பா டுடைத்து”

In keeping with the above words of Thiruvalluvar, that like an ox pulling its burden over an uneven path full of obstacles, unstinted efforts will result in an end to difficulties and ultimately in success, this Government has prepared this Budget with the same determination. I would like to place on record my heartfelt gratitude, to the Finance Secretary Thiru. S. Gurumurthi who has untiringly toiled day and night, and to the Secretaries of other departments for assisting me in preparing this Budget. With this I humbly request the acceptance of the Budget for 1996-97. □

Government functions shall be austere

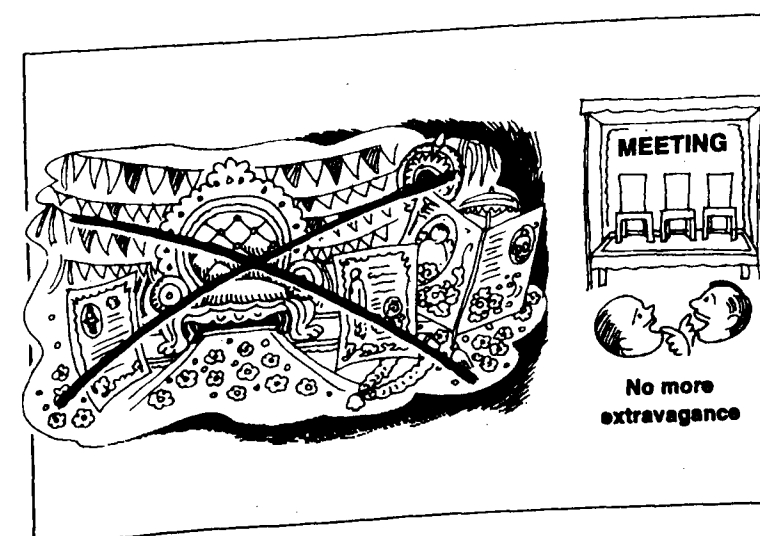
Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi has issued a set of 10 guidelines on organising Government functions / celebrations and meetings in a simple manner without any extravagance and unnecessary expenditure.

According to the direction the officials have been asked to organise functions within the budget. Invitations should be simple and preference should be given to sketches and photographs pertaining to the function. Invitations for important functions in the Districts should be printed only at 'Tamil Arasu' press after getting permission from the Director of Information and Public Relations.

The other guidelines and conditions are :

☆ Lavish wall-posters, electric illumination, cut-outs and wall graffiti should be avoided.

☆ Festoons, illuminated arches and welcome arches would not be allowed; particularly the digging of roads for arches would be never be allowed.



☆ The dais should be simple with minimum spending. Construction of thatched pandals should be avoided as also ornamental chairs. 'Shamiana' could be provided, where ever necessary.

☆ Flower decorations and welcoming VIPs and guests by showering flower petals would not be allowed.

☆ Garlanding and presenting shawls by too many persons on the dais should be avoided.

☆ Government programmes like Manu Needhi Scheme (where people's grievances are heard in public), IRDP and awareness camp should not be organised like a celebration.

☆ No one should receive donations or assistance in any form from individuals/ private firms for organising functions.

☆ Big advertisements should not be released to the press.

PHOTO



The Union Minister for Finance, Thiru. P. Chidambaram called on the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi at the Secretariat on 6.6.96.

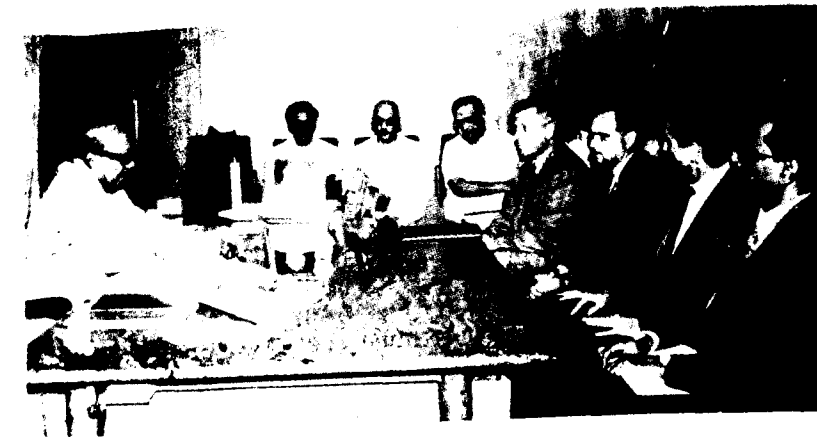
The Former Prime Minister of India Thiru A.B. Vajpayee called on the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi on 8.6.96. The Union Minister for Industries, Thiru Murali Manohar was also present.



The High Commissioner for Canada in India Thiru. Stanley E. Gooch called on the Chief Minister Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi at his residence (21.6.96)

FEATURE

A Delegation of American Industrialists called on the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi on 25.6.96.



The French Ambassador to India Thiru Petit called on the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi at his residence on 22.6.96.

The Minister for Revenue, Thiru Nanjil K. Manoharan, distributed food grains, sponsored by Sri Maheswari Food Bank, Chennai to the people affected by the recent heavy rains. The Minister for Housing Thiru K. Pichandi also participated in the function (24.6.1996)



HOW TO START A SMALL INDUSTRY?

Preparation of Project Report

Last month, we had published an article on How to start a Small Industry. We continue the same spirit with another useful article.

The importance of and imperative need for a clear cut project Report before setting the project on the anvil hardly needs any over emphasis. The Project Report must spell out in unequivocal terms the requirements of various inputs for the Project viz.

Land and Factory Space

Raw Materials

Labour (Skilled and Unskilled)

Capital

Organisation

The capital investment needed, expected return thereon, market situation etc. all these and more should be clearly indicated and discussed in the Project Report. These details well incorporated there will enable the entrepreneur to gain an insight into the various input requirements, cost and profitability of the venture. Besides, the exercise will also give him or her sufficient self confidence in the new venture to steer through successfully.

Today, without financial aid from the Banks and other financial institutions, it is difficult to start new industries. The project report should, besides details of the project, contain details of financial assistance required with reference to the quantum, mode and period of repayment, number of instalments, etc. It is only natural that the banks, the financial institutions would like to know about the techno-economic viability of the project. It is in the interest of the entrepreneur himself or herself to give a perfect, self explanatory, Blue print containing all essential details of the project to the banks and financial institutions. The need for the Project Report arises not only for getting financial aid for banks etc. but also for getting other assistance like Registration Certificates.

allotment of scarce raw materials etc. from other agencies like the District Industries Centres.

PROJECT REPORT - AT A GLANCE

The Project Report should be a self explanatory document capable of evoking positive response. It should contain the following items of information about the Project each of which should be delineated further.

- ◆ Name of the industry to be started
- ◆ Address of the unit
- ◆ Product to be manufactured
- ◆ Target of production-monthly-quarterly etc. (in terms of quantity and value)
- ◆ Principal raw materials required
- ◆ Covered area of workshed-sq. metre
- ◆ Power requirement - HP
- ◆ Employment
- ◆ Cost of Project
 - Fixed capital
 - ★ Land and building
 - ★ Plant & Machinery
 - ★ Furniture, Product Development cost
 - Working Capital
 - Carry on trade - 3 months requirements (or as suitable to the line of manufacture)
- Total Cost in Rs.
- ◆ Sources for financing the project.
- ◆ Turnover - Sales Expected per year in Rs.
- ◆ Expected Profit
- ◆ Expected profit as percentage of expected sales
- ◆ Expected profit as percentage of capital invested
- ◆ Breakeven point

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT

□ Market Potential / Outlook:

What is the basis for selecting the product for manufacture?

Obviously because the product is very vendible and the demand outlook is bright. Hence, the Project Report should throw light on the following aspects:

- ★ The demand in the local markets.
- ★ The demand in the national markets.
- ★ The demand in the international markets.

It is necessary to give sufficient quantitative data covering the above aspects, to evoke easy response from the banks. In this section, the report should bring out the gap between the present demand for the product in the market and its present production and the expected future demand, say 5 years hence. It should spell out the extent of competition and its nature, marketing strategy proposed (whether direct sales or through selling agents/intermediaries) etc. It should also discuss the export prospects for the products giving the names of the countries to which these could be exported and the estimates of requirements therein.

ENTREPRENEUR'S DETAILS

The Project Report should indicate the organisational pattern proposed for the unit viz. proprietary/partnership/private limited etc. The biodata of the proprietor/partner Directors giving their names, age, qualifications and experience (technical and business) including previous experience in the line of manufacture proposed should also be given to substantiate the technical and managerial competence of the men behind the project. The project report should also give the Registration Certificate Number (if it is registered by DIC) and enclose an attested copy of the Registration Certificate.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT

PRODUCT DETAIL

Detailed description of the product proposed to be manufactured, standard specifications, usefulness or utility of the product, end user and their approximate numbers etc. should be given.

MANUFACTURING PROCESS/METHODS/ FLOW PROCESS CHART

It is necessary to give a brief description of the manufacturing methods/processes, right from the stage of raw materials to that of the finished product, production envisaged in the first year, and in the next 5 years or so whether any phased increase is planned-these and other relevant details should be discussed, quality control and inspection methods, procedure proposed to be adopted viz. whether Indian Standards Institution (ISI) Standard proposed etc. should be presented clearly.

OTHER DETAILS

The Project Report should also contain the following details:

- ★ The parts/components to be manufactured in the unit itself.
- ★ The parts/components to be farmed out or sub-contracted to outside units for assembling later.
- ★ Maintenance methods to be followed to ensure continuity and regularity in production.
- ★ The layout of the machinery taking into consideration the statutory regulations regarding safety, public health, sanitation etc.
- ★ 'Modus Operandi' for effluent disposal, etc.

LOCATION

A brief description of the proposed location of the factory, the location advantages inherent viz. cheap rent, good infrastructural facilities, like electrical power, affable climate, good network of communication facilities, quick transport of raw materials and finished products, availability of skilled labour nearby, availability of government

subsidy etc. is to be given. The location advantages that had weighed with the entrepreneur in the site location should also be indicated.

PLANT AND MACHINERY

It is necessary to give a brief description in the Project Report about the plant and machinery required for the manufacturing activity with detailed specifications, quality, cost and availability, whether indigenous or imported, names and address of supplier, whether it is envisaged to acquire the machinery in a phased manner etc. Since it may not be necessary to acquire all the machinery at one point of time, in the beginning itself, some machines need not be purchased by the entrepreneur but can be hired on rental basis from others. The entrepreneur may like to get machines on hire purchase basis, in easy instalments from organisations like National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) some machines may have to be imported from other countries. All these facts and the details thereof should be mentioned in the Project Report.

TESTING EQUIPMENTS

A list of testing equipments with detailed specifications, purpose, usefulness, cost, name and address of suppliers is to be given. It is also necessary to state clearly why those equipments are considered necessary for the unit.

PROJECT COST

Fixed Capital : Land and Building

The extent and cost of the land proposed to be acquired, total cost of the buildings to be constructed and the covered area, future expansion if any, indicating the additional covered area, proposed to be constructed, its cost etc. should be given. If the land and building are to be taken on rent/lease, the details thereof should also be given.

Plant and Machinery

A list of machinery utilised in the process with price should be given. The total cost is to be indicated.

Testing Equipments

The cost of equipments should be given.

Furniture

A list of furniture, office equipments, typewriters, etc. required for the unit indicating their price/value should be given.

Product Development Cost

Details of Expenditure to be incurred for undertaking market study, procuring foreign collaboration/exchange, development of new business, training of personnel and payment to consultants etc. are to be given.

Pre operative expenses

Details of expenditure initially involved in preparing the project, setting up the factory, obtaining approval, raising sufficient capital, obtaining electric power and water supply, erection and installation of machinery and other incidental expenditure during the gestation period of the project should be given.

Recurring expenditure

The requirements of raw materials, components, parts, sub assemblies for carrying on production continuously for one month should be given or listed out, both in terms of quantity and value. If some of these materials are to be procured from abroad or from other units, the details thereof are to be given. The different consumable items like cotton waste, lubricants, files, taps, dies, hacksaw blades etc. are also to be listed with quantity required and price.

Personnel/labour required

The list of personnel of different categories to be employed, their number and monthly salary, allowances, total salary/wage bill is to be furnished.

Utilities

Expenditure on utilities like electricity fuel and water is to be indicated.

Other Contingencies

The monthly expenditure on rent, postage, stationery, transport, selling and distribution, repairs to machinery is also to be furnished and the total arrived at.

Working capital

The expenditure on raw materials, components, parts, sub assemblies, consumables, salaries, wages, utilities and other contingencies etc. as outlined above, if totalled up will give the capital required for running the industry for a month. On this basis the requirements for a 3 month period should be worked out which will be the minimum working capital needed for running the industry. It has been borne out by experience that only if an entrepreneur is able to meet the working capital requirements for a minimum 3 months period he will be able to make it a running proposition.

COST OF PRODUCTION

In the above paragraph we have indicated the working capital requirements, component-wise for running the unit for one month, which multiplied by 12 will give the cost per year.

There are certain other cost components like interest on capital (fixed capital and working capital for 3 months requirements) say about 15% which might have been paid by the entrepreneur, depreciation on machinery say 10% per year, a similar depreciation on certain assets like furniture, typewriters etc. which will also have to be computed for arriving at the total cost of production per year (Depreciation will be on a continuing basis. In the 2nd year of production, machinery will be valued at only 90% of its original cost, on which 10% depreciation is to be worked out for the subsequent year). The cost of production has to be tabulated year by year for a period of 5 years in the Project Report.

BREAK EVEN POINT

The main aim of any business enterprise is to make profit. What is profit? It is the revenue received over and above the cost of production. Even if there is no profit, it should be able to

recover all expenses without incurring any loss. Break even point for the unit is that quantum of sales at which the unit is able to recover all expenses. In other words, it is a point at which neither profit is made nor any loss incurred. It is thus the minimum level of activity at which any unit should operate. Once the level of operation of a unit is above this point, it then starts generating a surplus.

CALCULATION OF BREAKEVEN POINT

The expenses incurred by a unit can be classified into 2 categories viz., fixed and variable expenses. Fixed expenses are those that are independent of the level of activity in the unit and have to be willy nilly incurred expenses such as utilities at zero production, salaries of permanent labour, factory and administrative overheads, depreciation and interest on long term loans etc. Variable expenses on the other hand have a direct relation to the level of activity. Expenditure on raw materials, packaging materials, utilities, selling expenses, interest on short term loans, wages of casual labour etc. are to be reckoned under this head.

Break Even Point can be defined as $\frac{\text{Fixed Cost} \times 100}{\text{Contribution}}$

Contribution = Total Sales - Variable expenditure

FOR EXAMPLE

Total Sales Realisation in a unit = Rs. 34.92 lakhs

FIXED EXPENDITURE

This is expenditure at zero production	Rs.
Utilities	2,720
Salaries	3,600
Factory overheads	14,160
Admn. Overheads	8,400
Depreciation	11,125
Interest on long term loans	39,057
	70,062

VARIABLE EXPENDITURE

Raw materials, Consumables	24,00,000
Packing materials	1,16,669
Utilities	43,200
Casual Labour wages	16,000
Selling expenditure	1,00,009
Interest on ST loan	90,600
	Rs. 27,66,478

Contribution = Total Sales - Variable expenditure
 = Rs.34,92,000 - 27,66,478 = Rs.7,25,522

$$\text{Break Even Point} = \frac{\text{Fixed Cost} \times 100}{\text{Contribution}}$$

$$\text{i.e.,} = \frac{70062 \times 100}{725522} = 9.66\%$$

It is inferred that at 9.66% of capacity utilisation the unit could break even. The industry can boast of high returns if the production is increased beyond this level. This is only a hypothetical basis. In many cases, break even point may be above 40% of capacity utilisation. There are other methods of calculation of break-even also. Whatever be the method, the break even analysis should be given in the Project Report.

It sometimes becomes very difficult to exactly judge the figures of variable cost in a project at the planning stage itself. The Small Industries Service Institute, adopts the following method of calculating breakeven point:

It can be mathematically shown that the breakeven point as a percentage or turnover will work out to:

$$\text{Percentage Breakeven} = \frac{F}{F + P} \times 100$$

where F = Fixed cost of the project
 and P = Profit anticipated when the whole of the total production is sold.

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFITABILITY ESTIMATES

ITEM	Operating Years				
	I	II	III	IV	V
A Installed Capacity (Qty)					
B. Capacity Utilization (%)					
☆ Raw materials & Consumables					
☆ Packing material					
☆ Utilities					
☆ Wages & Salaries					
☆ Repairs & maintenance					
☆ Rent					
☆ Depreciation					
☆ Miscellaneous expenses towards manufacturing					
C. Total					
D. Income by Sales					
E. Gross profit (D-C)					
F. Interest					
☆ Interest on term loan					
☆ Interest on working capital					
☆ Interest on other borrowings					
G. Selling and General Administrative Expenses					
H. Profit before tax : E - (F+G)					
I. Provision for tax					
J. Net profit (H-I)					
Add depreciation					
K. Net Cash Accrual					

F. FIXED COST PER ANNUM

- ◆ Depreciation on machinery per year (normally computed as 10% of the purchase value) +

- ◆ Depreciation on tools (normally computed as 25% of the purchase value) +
- ◆ Depreciation on furniture (normally computed as 20% of the purchase value) +
- ◆ Annual rent for the shed and workshop are +
- ◆ Interest on total investment, i.e. fixed capital and working capital for 3 months (normally computed as 15%)
- ◆ 40% of the annual salary of all the employees (inclusive of staff and workers) +
- ◆ 40% of annual the expenditure on other consumables (excluding rent) - like electricity, water charges.

It may be seen that this method of working is a simpler way for arriving at the breakeven point even at the planning stage of the project.

It is needless to add that the term 'Fixed' in the case of 'Fixed cost' is itself not that much rigidly fixed as it will get affected by any increase in the wages paid to employees or expenditure against consumables. Similarly profit anticipated may also vary according to the fluctuations of the price of the end product in the market and raw material and other inputs. This break even point may vary from period to period and as such strict vigil has to be kept up by the concerned on the current breakeven point by working out periodically.

PROFITABILITY

The profit is to be worked out year by year for a period of 3 to 5 years. The percentage of profit, the rate of return on investments and repayment schedule is to be indicated.

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Sales} - \text{Cost of Production}$$

$$\% \text{ of profit} = \frac{\text{Profit} \times 100}{\text{Sales}}$$

$$\text{Rate of return} = \frac{\text{Profit} \times 100}{\text{Total Investment}}$$

A statement of cost of production and profitability may be appended to the report as shown in the table on the left.

CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

The cash flow statement serves the following purposes. To the unit, it gives an understanding of the cash readily available and serves as a guide for profiting funds for growth, improving return on investment, planning repayments etc. To the banker, it gives an insight into (a) the sources of finance and their utilisation, (b) the internal

generation of funds and the extent of borrowing, (C) net income, (d) repayment capacity. The cash flow statement, has to be worked out for at least 3 to 5 years. The following format may be useful

Necessary Aid

The help and assistance expected from the Bank for the Project may be indicated.

CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

CASH FLOW ANALYSIS						
Item	Preparative Period	Operating Years				
		1	2	3	4	5
A. SOURCES OF FINANCE						
★ Net profit •						
★ Share capital						
★ Depreciation						
★ Investment allowance reserve/Tax concessions/Subsidies						
★ Long term loan						
★ Short term loan (Working capital)						
★ Deferred payment facilities						
★ Others (indicate details)						
B. DISPOSITION OF FUNDS						
★ Preparative expenses						
★ Increase in capital expenditure Fixed assets						
★ Increase in current assets						
★ Repayment of Term loans						
★ Repayment of Deferred payments						
★ Interest on all loans						
★ Taxes						
★ Dividend						
★ Others						
Opening Balance						
Net Surplus (A-B)						
Closing Balance						
Capacity Utilisation						

N.B. • Before taxes with interest added back but not

N.B. • Before taxes with interest added back but after depreciation and development rebate reserves)

A Zen Short Story

Finding a Diamond on a Muddy Road

Gudo was the emperor's teacher of his time. Nevertheless, he used to travel alone as a wandering mendicant. Once when he was on his way to Edo, the cultural and political center of the shogunate, he approached a little village named Takenaka. It was evening and a heavy rain was falling. Gudo was thoroughly wet. His straw sandals were in pieces. At a farmhouse near the village he noticed four or five pairs of sandals in the window and decided to buy some dry ones.

The woman who offered him the sandals, seeing how wet he was, invited him to remain for the night in her home. Gudo accepted thanking her. He entered and recited a sutra before the family shrine. He then was introduced to the woman's mother, and to her children. Observing that the entire family was depressed, Gudo asked what was wrong.

"My husband is a gambler and a drunkard," the housewife told him. "When he happens to win he drinks and becomes abusive. When he loses he borrows money from others. Sometimes when he becomes thoroughly drunk he does not come home at all. What can I do?"

"I will help him," said Gudo, "Here is some money. Get me a gallon of fine wine and something good to eat. Then you may retire. I will meditate before the shrine."

When the man of the house returned about midnight, quite drunk he shouted; "Hey, wife I am home. Have you something for me to eat?"

"I have something for you," said Gudo, "I happened to be caught in the rain and your wife kindly asked me to remain here for the night. In return I have bought some wine and fish, so you might as well have them."

The man was delighted. He drank the wine at

once and laid himself down on the floor. Gudo sat in meditation beside him.

In the morning when the husband awoke he had forgotten about the previous night. "Who are you, where do you come from," he asked Gudo, who still was meditating.

"I am Gudo of Kyoto and I am going on to Edo," replied the Zen master.

The man was utterly ashamed. He apologized profusely to the teacher of his emperor.

Gudo smiled: "Everything in this life is impermanent", he explained. "Life is very brief. If you keep on gambling and drinking, you will have no time left to accomplish anything else, and you will cause your family to suffer too,"

The preception of the husband awoke as if from a dream. "You are right," he declared. "How can I ever repay you for this wonderful teaching. Let me see you off and carry your things a little way".

"If you wish," assented Gudo.

The two started out. After they had gone three miles Gudo told him to return. "Just another five miles," he begged Gudo. They continued on.

"You may return now," suggested Gudo.

"After another ten miles," the man replied.

"Return now," said Gudo, when the ten miles had been passed.

"I am going to follow you all the rest of my life," declared the man.

Modern Zen teachers in Japan spring from the lineage of a famous master who was the successor of Gudo. His name was Mu-nan, the man who never turned back. □

Internet Jargon Made Easy

The Internet is a global network of computers linked by exclusive and regular phone lines and microwave and satellite signals. To understand how it works it helps to think of a system of highways that connect "communities" of linked computers, called *networks*. Smaller groups of PCs in an office or building are called *LANs* (local area networks). Larger groupings, known as *intranets*, are comprised of perhaps hundreds of computers in several places that belong to, say, a large company or university.

Most networks have one thing in common: at least one machine works as a *server*, storing most, if not all, of the files that members share. (Server is also the term for the software that runs such a machine). Programmes that reside on member computers to help them access the server are called *clients*. Think of the server as a central post office that receives files and sends out copies of any document you want, and the client as a device that helps you get them.

A big part of the network of networks known as the Internet is called the *World Wide Web*. A server on the web often contains many *sites*, which in turn are composed of *pages*. Sites and pages can be identified by their addresses, or *URLs* (Uniform Resource Locators), which are strings of words, characters and numbers. <http://WWW.Pathfinder.com/Asiaweek/> is one example. Web sites are popular with users because in addition to text they can offer pictures, sound, graphics and movies. They are also relatively easy to use. The varied components are formatted using *hypertext*, which produces documents in the form of pictures or text that contain *links* to other documents. To activate a link, just click on a highlighted word

or picture and you are transported to another page or site with related information. Client programmes designed to work with Web servers are called *browsers*.

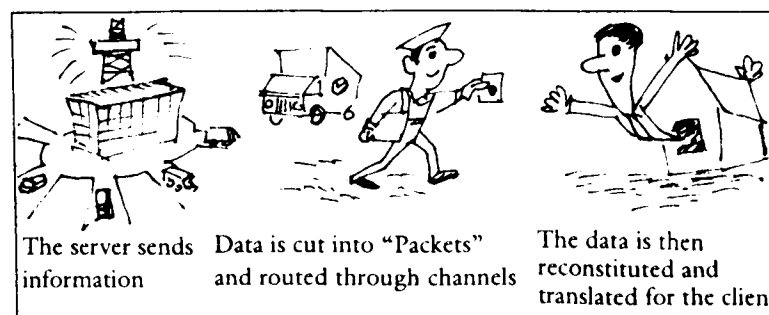
Web servers use Internet expressways to deliver data through a process called *packet switching*. Each file is broken into small packages, tagged with their origin and destination, and sent to you through any number of connections- one part may travel through a computer in New York, another through California, certain computers along the way, called *routers*, function like mail handlers, sending each package they receive through various routes. The client programme on the other end reconstitutes the pieces. The speed at which the data travels is measured in *bits-per-second* (bps). The faster a line can send data, the larger its so-called *bandwidth*. Fiber-optic lines can convey 10 million bps, enough for full-screen video.

This complicated process is possible because computers connected to the Internet speak the same language. That is, they follow the same protocol: TCP/IP, the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol built into *UNIX*, the operating system the most Internet servers use.

Since personal computers use different operating systems, such as DOS, Mac OS and OS/2, browsers use programmes such as *PPP* (Point to Point Protocol) applications, which allow your computer to make its own

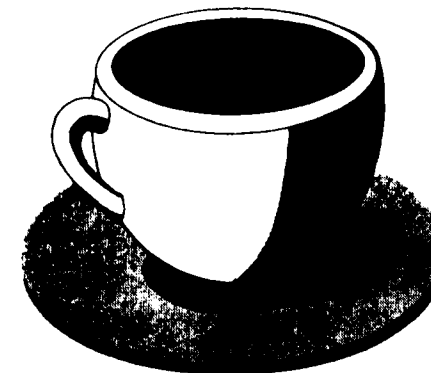
TCP/IP connection to the Internet-Your own private chauffeur/translator, so to speak, to the infobahn. You'll need a driveway, though: a *modem* connects your computer to all the action. A good one these days has a *baud* rate (basically, a measure of the speed at which it sends or receives data) of 28,800 bps. Happy site-seeing.

- Courtesy : Asia Week



Stories from the Far East

A Cup of Tea



Nan-in, a Japanese master during the Meiji Era (1868-1912) received a university professor who came to inquire about Zen.

Nan-in served tea. He poured his visitor's cup full, and then kept on pouring.

The professor watched the overflow until he no longer could restrain himself. "It is over full. No more will go in".

"Like this cup," Nan-in said, "you are full of your own opinions and speculations. How can I show you Zen unless you first empty your cup". □

Is That So?

The Zen master by name Hakuin was praised by his neighbours as one living a pure life.

A beautiful Japanese girl whose parents owned a food store lived near him. Suddenly, without any warning, her parents discovered she was with a child.

This made her parents angry. She would not confess who the man was, but after much harassment at last named Hakuin.

In great anger the parents went to the master. "Is that so," was all he would say.

After the child was born it was brought to Hakuin. By this time he had lost his reputation, which did not trouble him but he took very good care of the child. He obtained milk from his neighbours and everything else the little one needed.

A year later the girl-mother could stand it no longer. She told her parents, the truth - that the real father of the child was a young man who worked in the fishmarket.

The mother and father of the girl at once went to Hakuin to ask for his forgiveness, to apologize at length, and to get the child back again.

Hakuin was willing. In yielding the child, all he said was "Is that so?" □

ON THE WRAPPER

I - Hon'ble Chief Minister presenting the Budget for 1996-97 on 17.7.96.

II - A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Tamil Nadu Government and Hyundai Motor Corporation of South Korea for the establishment of a car manufacturing plant at Chennai on 18.7.96. The Chief Minister Kalaigal M. Karunanidhi was present.

IV - Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, whose birthday falls on July 15.

"Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything"

- George Bernard Shaw

Consumer Education

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

Vitamins and their side effects

Amongst the many causes for prolonged ill health is the casual use or misuse medicines. The increasing popularity of over the counter drugs especially vitamins is definitely a threat to responsible consumerism.

It is unfortunate that hardly anybody reject the statement that Vitamins are good for you. Hence, the increasing sale of vitamins that accounts for billions of dollars around the World. In a carefully orchestrated campaign, the pharmaceutical

companies are propagating both directly and indirectly that vitamins can cure every thing from common cold, baldness to diseases and debility. This is unproved on most cases and quite false. The greatest danger is that by these claims, consumers are distracted from dealing with the causes of their problems.

We present here some of the side effects the indiscriminate use of vitamins may bring about.

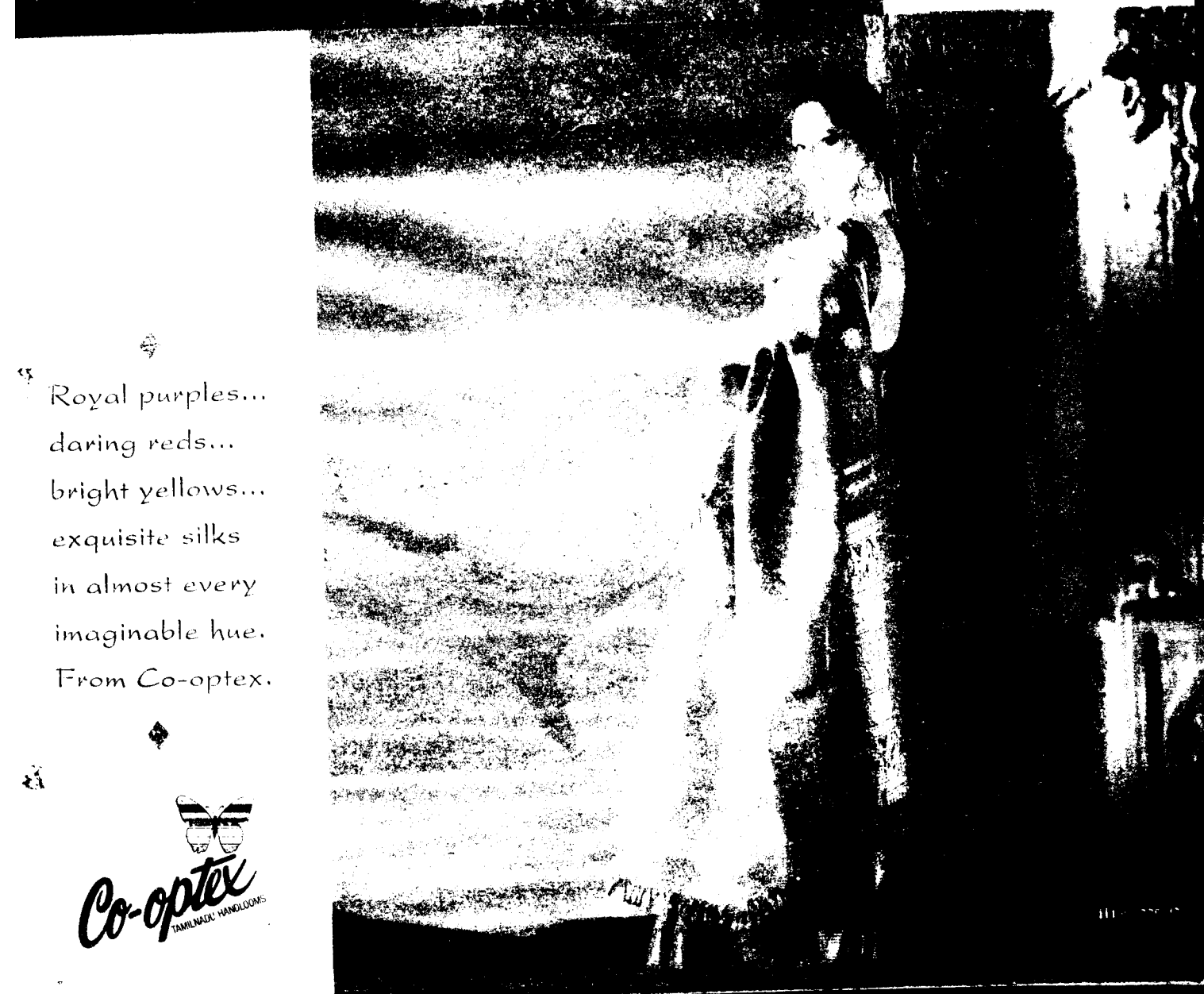
SIDE EFFECTS OF VITAMINS

Vitamin A	:	Headache, nausea, visual disturbance, general weakness, hairless, dryskin and dry lips, bone pain (joints) and liver damage.
B 6 (Pyridoxine)	:	Toxicity, clumsiness of arm/leg movement, tingling pains, muscular incoordinate.
Niacin	:	aggravates asthma, activates peptic ulcer, impairs glucose tolerance and damages liver.
Vitamin C	:	forms stones in Kidneys
Vitamin D	:	Hyper calcemia (excess calcium in blood), hyper calciuria (excess calcium in urine), muscle weakness, headache, nausea, raised blood pressure, bone pain, and kidney damage.
Vitamin E	:	Toxicity, headache, blurred vision, nausea, muscle weakness
Vitamin K	:	Allergic reaction in some, infantile jaundice,



PURE
silk

PURE
zari

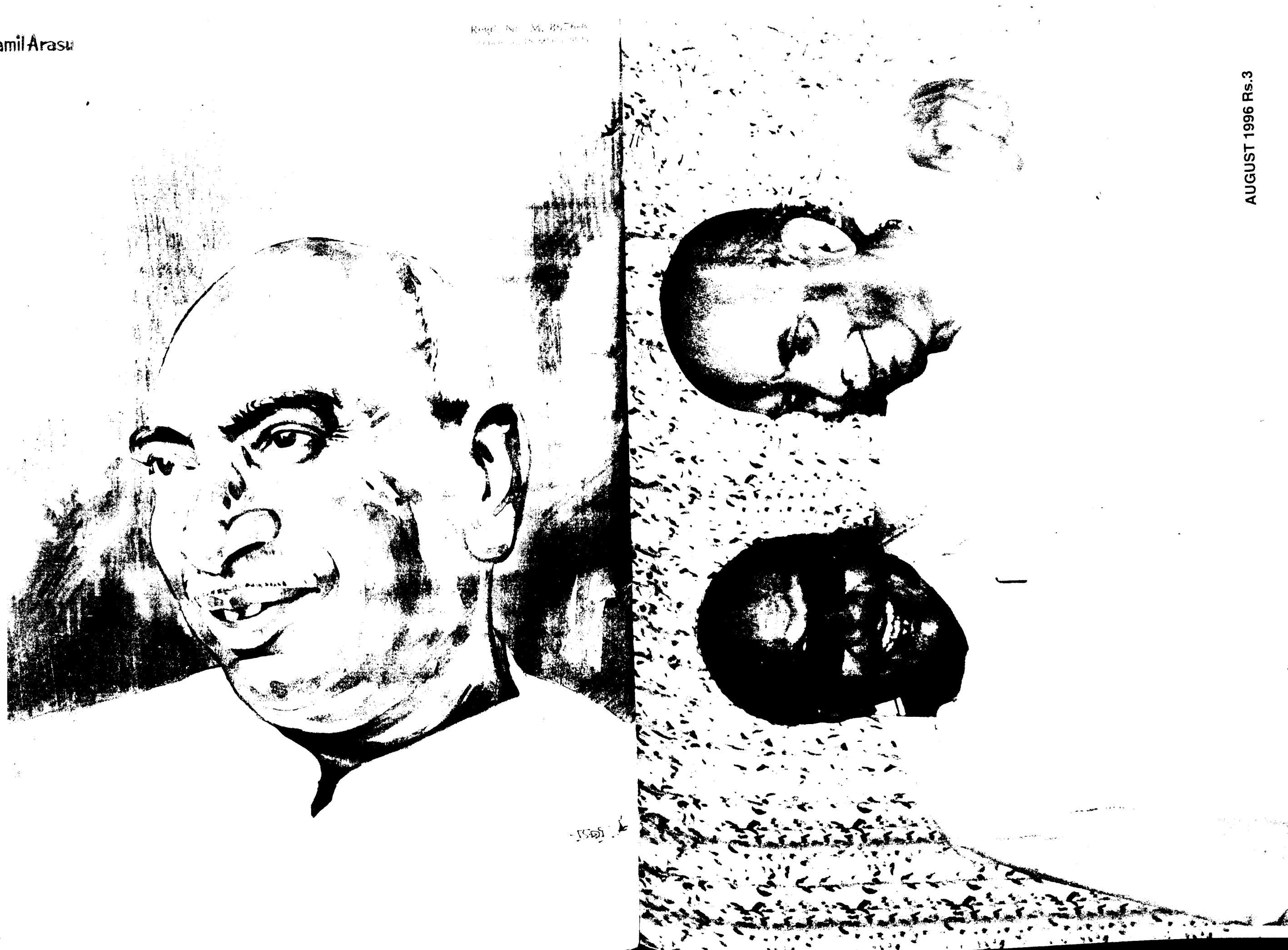


Royal purples...
daring reds...
bright yellows...
exquisite silks
in almost every
imaginable hue.
From Co-optex.

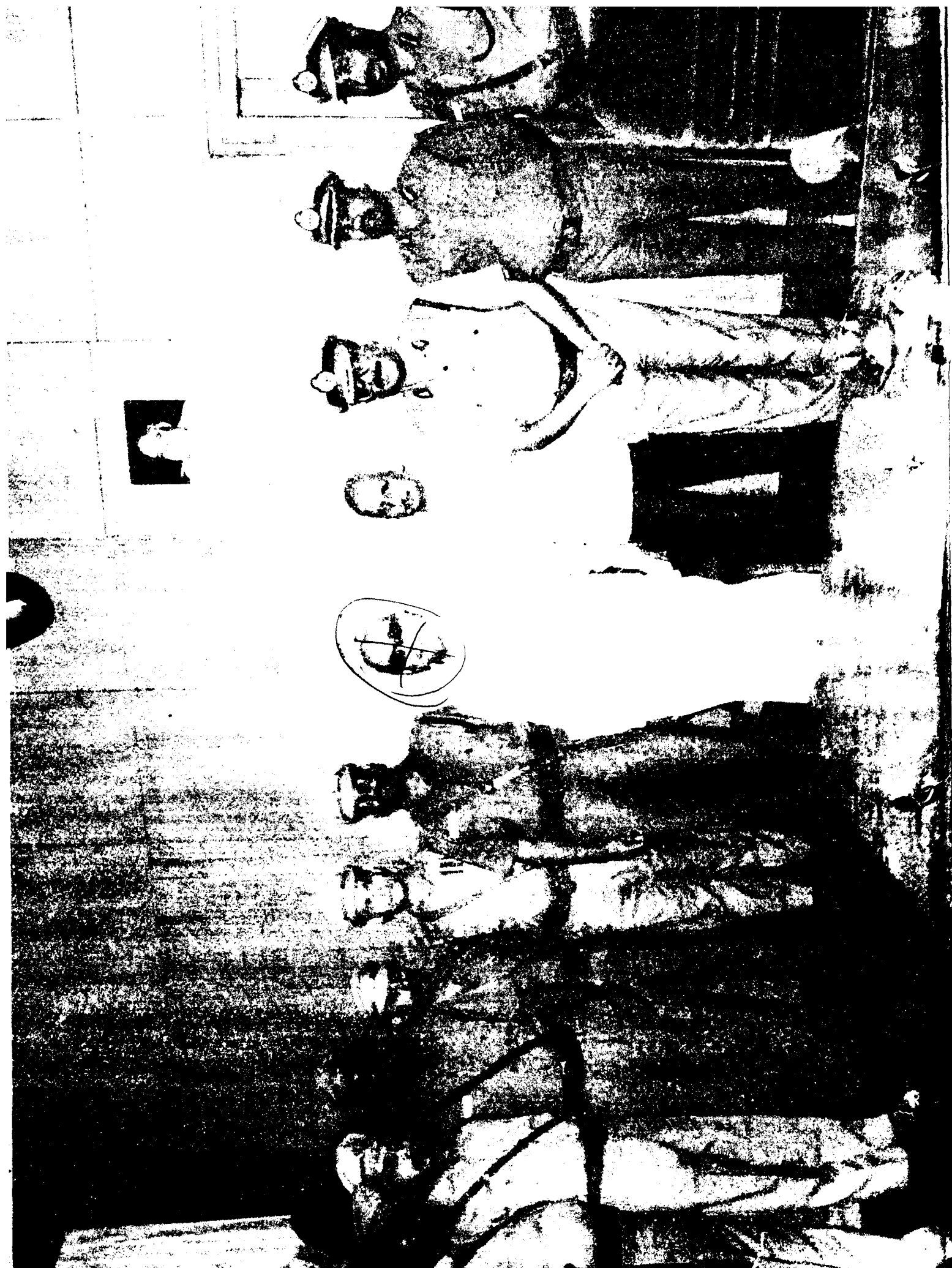
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2

Hyundai at Madras

A MoU was signed on 18.7.96 between Government of Tamil Nadu and Hyundai Motor Company for the establishment of a car project near Madras.

7

Stories from Far East

Sometimes wise. Sometimes funny. These short stories make interesting reading.

19

Small Industry

In the third part of our series, we focus on incentives and concessions for SSI.

9

Cover Story

Talks on Cauvery held

The Chief Minister of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu met on August 5th, to discuss the Cauvery issue, as directed by the Supreme Court.

21

Is your child gifted?

Look out for signs of genius in your child. And help them build.

4

Self Conquest

An inspiring Tamil poem by Subramaniya Bharathi, translated by Prof. K. Swaminathan.

11

Health Update

The regular Science Update is now devoted to Health.

24

News from Legislature

The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly is in session. Some announcements made on the floor of the House.

5

Anti Social elements being curbed

Tamil Nadu Police has launched a crack down on criminal and mercenary gangs. The Legislative Assembly lauds the effort. A Report.

16

Consumer Awareness

Dental care is expensive. We discuss on ways to control dental expenses. And on saving your teeth.

29

Aquaculture ?

Dr. Rajalakshmi of Madras University discusses the implications of the raging controversy.

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Tamil Nadu fast becoming the most favoured State for New Industries

MoU SIGNED FOR SOUTH KOREAN CAR PROJECT NEAR MADRAS

The Government of Tamil Nadu and the Hyundai Motor Company of South Korea have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 18.7.96 for the establishment of a Car Project at Sriperumpudur near Madras. While Thiru B.J. Park, President, Hyundai Motor Company, signed the MoU on behalf of his Company Thiru P.C. Cyriac, Secretary, Department of Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu signed it on behalf of the State Government.

Hyundai Motor has already incorporated a wholly-owned

Indian subsidiary, Hyundai Motor India Ltd., with its registered Office in Madras. The Company has proposed to establish facilities for manufacturing one lakh cars of the Accent 1.3 and 1.5 litre models initially. This will be increased to two lakh cars in Phase-II of the Project.

Mega Project

Hyundai has obtained the approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board for investment of upto \$ 700 million (Rs. 2,450 crores) in the first phase covering five years and \$ 400

million (Rs. 1,400 crores) in the subsequent five years. The Project is estimated to generate direct employment for 2000 to 3,000 persons and indirect employment to 20,000 persons.

High level of indigenisation

The Sriperumpudur plant will start with a high indigenisation level of 70 percent and the cars are expected to roll out of the assembly line in the latter half of 1998 (Because of this level of indigenisation and absence of CKD/SKD imports, this project is exempt from the requirement

of signing an MoU with the Director-General of Foreign Trade of the Commerce Ministry.) Full indigenisation will be reached by the year 2001.

Also for Export Market

Hyundai Motor has 1000 percent equity participation to the extent of \$350 million (Rs. 192 crores) in the next four years. The import of capital goods will be met out of Hyundai's initial investment. Exports from the plant are projected at \$ 54 million (Rs. 200 crores at current rates of exchange) by 1999 and \$ 267 million (Rs. 1,000 crores) by the year 2003.

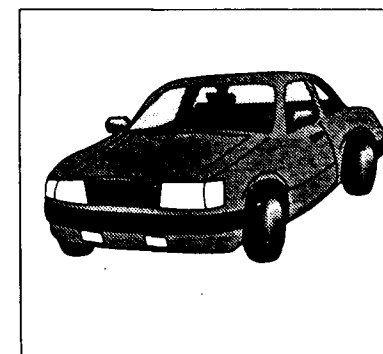
About ten major component suppliers of Hyundai Motor Company are also likely to establish facilities in Madras for supplies to the Sriperumpudur plant. This would involve investment to the tune of \$ 105 million (Rs. 370 crores).

Hyundai has chosen a site at Irungattukottai about 35 km from Madras, on National Highway 4. According to Thiru. Cyriac, Industries Secretary, Government

of Tamil Nadu about 543 acres of land required for the project would be handed over by the Government, out of 2,000 acres being acquired by it in the area. The Company's water requirement, estimated at 0.8 million gallons per day (MGD) would be provided by the Government which would also ensure availability of the required 30 MVA of power.

The Standard incentive package extended

The Hyundai project will be eligible for the Standard package of incentives available to Industries in Tamil Nadu including Sales tax (ST) waiver/deferral, power tariff concessions and capital subsidies. Hyundai Motor Company has a production capacity of 1.75 million cars in South Korea alone and commands a 55 per cent share of the car market in the country. Its turnover is in the order of \$ 13 billion (Rs. 45,000). It is the 13th largest car manufacturer in the world and exports cars to 170 Countries. It has assembling plants in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Egypt and Botswana and a plant under construction in Turkey.



A small car to be manufactured later

According to Thiru Y.S. Kim, Executive Managing Director of Hyundai Motor Co and Thiru Jong D. Bae-Executive Director of the Company, the Company has set the target of 'GT.10' or becoming one of the 10 top global makers of cars by the year 2000. It produces cars of capacity varying from 1.3 to 3.5 litres. A small car is under development in South Korea and once it is successfully marketed in that Country, it will be produced in India (as a competition to the 800 cc cars from Maruti Udyog which dominates the low-capacity car segment), they announced.

Besides exporting components from the plant in Tamil Nadu to Hyundai's assembly units in other Countries, the Company would market the cars all over India. Hence, it requires a rail link to Sriperumpudur, they said. Availability of a Port in Madras, an educated workforce and a supportive State Government were among factors which favoured the location of the plant here, the Company sources said.



“ The Project is estimated to generate direct employment for 2,000 to 3,000 persons and indirect employment to 20,000 persons”.

SELF CONQUEST

- Subramania Bharathiar

What reaches the eye,
Cannot the hand reach out to it?
The sky seen from the earth,
Can we not make it our own, is it beyond us?
O Primal force
That fills sky and earth, eye and mind!
Are we merely to dream and dream
And toil
And in the end slump in a futile heap?

All that the heart yearns for,
All gifts,
Glory and merit and all else noble
Can be ours
Yea, if only we conquer self.
So spake the sages
Ages ago.

And we who hear now and know,
Are we to stand, listless, nerveless,
Sunk into nothing?
Is it beyond us, this power,
The power to win
And rule the self

(‘Kannil teriyum’ translated by
Prof. K. Swaminathan)

(India's Olympic debacle at Atlanta is well known. Can our sportsmen be inspired by
Bharathiar's powerful verses and bring glory at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games?)



ACTIVITIES OF ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS BEING CURBED

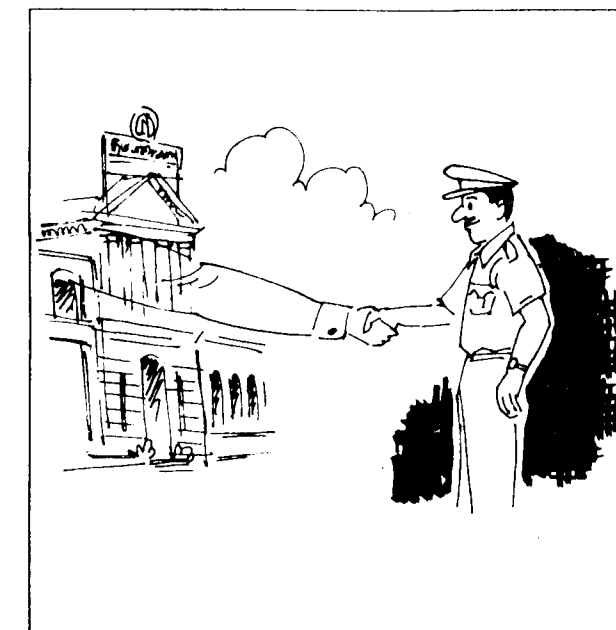
TAMIL NADU ASSEMBLY LAUDS EFFORTS OF POLICE

All the members in the Assembly of August 1st 1996 praised the police crackdown on "rowdy" and the mercenary gangs in Madras city during the last week of July and urged the Government to wipe out all such gangs in the State.

The Members' appreciation of the Police came when the shoot-out between Police and a gang in Chennai on July 31st was raised through a special cailling attention notice.

The Chief Minister said that a "rowdy" gang under the leadership of Asai Thambi, Sera and Mano was indulging in committing crimes in Chennai and its suburbs in the last few years. Cases has been registered against Mano and Asai Thambi and they were pending ever since 1992. A Special Police force was formed following a complaint filled by an Industrialist, Thiru Bharathi who was abducted but escaped

from the custody of this gang. Though six of the gang members were arrested and some of their vehicles seized, Asai Thambi and Mano went under ground.



On July 5, the gang entered the Egmore Court and killed an undertrial prisoner, Viji and escaped. Following this, the police intensified their hunt and arrested 15 members of the gang. Still the police could not capture Asai Thambi and Mano.

A member of the gang, by name Sekhar alias Mattu Sekhar, was injured on July 22, when the Executive Director of the Southern Railway Mazdoor Union, Thiru Kanniah, opened fire in self defence when he was attacked by the members of the gang "rowdies" at Purasawalkam on July 27. The Police party was attacked with petrol bombs. A Deputy Commissioner of Police and an Inspector of Police were injured. However, the police arrested four persons-Senthil Kumar (26) of Tirunelveli District, Kumaragurubaran (30) of V.O.C District, Muthukumar (26) of Nagercoil and Kumaran (19) of Kanniyakumari. Senthil Kumar sustained

bullet injuries.

The Chief Minister, narrating the incident near Loyola College, said that Asai Thambi, Mano and Gopal died of bullet injuries when they were being removed to hospital "two others of the gang has escaped. In the incident,

Superintendent of Police Thiru Gandhirajan, Inspectors Thiru Elango and Thiru Mohan, Sub-Inspectors Thiru Perumal and Thiru Elango and Thiru Thillai Natarajan sustained injuries. While Thiru Mohan had been admitted to hospital, others were treated as out-patients. The hostage Thiru Sudhir, was rescued from a house in Meenambakkam. A car, a motor-cycle, three revolvers, five petrol bombs, two swords and a cellular phone used by the gang were seized. Further investigation was on."

Before giving details of the shoot-out, the Chief Minister said in a lighter vein that the July 31st incident was the first police firing that had received approbation from the Members of the House.

The Chief Minister agreed with the INL member Thiru M.A. Latheef, that the incident was an unfortunate one but said that it could not be helped. An enquiry by the PA to the Collector,

Chennai had been ordered into July 31st incident. Search for those who escaped and efforts to put down the "rowdy" menace had been intensified. He announced amidst applause, at the House Government's resolve to control "rowdy" gangs not only in Chennai but in other parts of the State also. A dragnet will be spread for the capture of all extortionists. On 31st July a "rowdy" was arrested for threatening a trader and demanding Rs. 5000.

The Chief Minister also referred to the arrest of an imposter who had used the name of the Fisheries Minister Tmt. Jenifer Chandran and said the Government would take stern action against such persons who tried to make use of the names of not only Ministers, ruling partymen but MLAs and MPs also.

The Chief Minister expressed the Government's resolve to put

down the menace. The illicit liquor pots would also become the targets of police bullets in future, he warned.

Thiru R. Thamaraikani (AIADMK) applauding the police action, urged the Government to eliminate the "rowdy" elements, to whichever party they belonged to. Thiru R. Krishnasamy (Devendrar Sangam) said that though the action was belated it was good for the State.

Thiru D. Mani (CPI-M) referred to the operation of such hired goons in other parts good for the State and demanded their elimination.

Thiru G. Palanisamy (CPI) said the 31st July police action was a feather in their cap.

Thiru Ranganathan (TMC) wanted the illicit liquor trade to be effectively curbed, as that alone provided sustenance to the "rowdy" gangs. ○



The Statue of the Freedom Fighter Tmt. Rukmani Lakshmi was unveiled by the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi on 6.8.96 at Chennai. Former Governor of Maharashtra, Thiru C. Subramaniam, Minister for Public Works, Thiru Durai Murugan and others also participated.

Very short Stories from the Far East

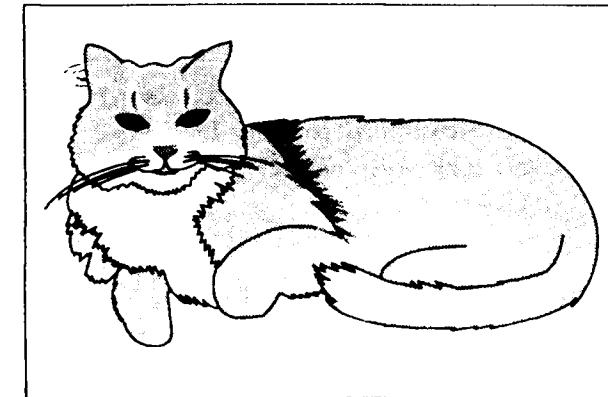
The Most Valuable Thing

Sozan, a Chinese Zen master, was asked by a Student, "What is the most valuable thing in the world?"

The master replied: "The head of a dead cat"

"Why is the head of a dead cat the most valuable thing in the world?" inquired the student.

Sozen replied: "Because no one can name its price."



Real Prosperity

A rich man asked Sengai to write something for the continued prosperity of his family so that it might be treasured from generation to generation.

Sengai obtained a large sheet of paper and wrote "Father dies, son dies, grand-son dies".

The rich man became angry. "I asked you to write something for the happiness of my

family! Why do you make such a joke as this?"

"No joke is intended," explained Sengai. "If before you yourself die your son should die, this would grieve you greatly. If your grandson should pass away before your son, both of you would be broken-hearted. If your family, generation after generation, passes away in the order I have named, it will be the natural course of life. I call this real prosperity".

The Taste of Banzo's Sword



Matajuro Yagyu was the son of a famous swordsman. His father, believing that his son's work was too mediocre to anticipate mastership, disowned him.

Matajuro went to Mount Futara and there found the famous swordsman Banzo. But Banzo confirmed the Father's judgement. "You wish to learn swordsmanship under my guidance?" asked Banzo. "You cannot fulfill the requirement."

"But I work hard, how many years will take me to become a master?" persisted the youth.

"The rest of your life," replied Banzo.

"I cannot wait that long," explained Matajuro, "I am willing to pass through any hardship, if only you will teach me. If I become your devoted servant, how long might it be?"

"Oh, maybe ten years," Banzo relented.

"My father is getting old, and soon I must take care of him," continued Matajuro. "If I work far more intensively, how long, would it take me?"

"Oh, may be thirty years," said Banzo.

"Why is that?" asked Matajuro. "First you say ten and now thirty years. I will undergo any hardship to master this art in the shortest time "

"Well," said Banzo, "in that case you will have to remain with me for seventy years. A man in such a hurry as you are to get results seldom learn quickly."

"Very well," declared the youth, understanding at last that he was being rebuked for impatience, "I agree".

Matajuro was told never to speak of fencing and never to touch a sword. He cooked for his master, washed the dishes, made his bed, cleaned the yard, cared for the garden, all without a word of swordsmanship.

Three years passed. Still Matajuro laboured on. Thinking of his future, he was sad. He had not even begun to learn the art to which he had devoted his life.

But one day Banzo crept up behind him and gave him a terrific blow with a wooden sword.

The following day, when Matajuro was cooking rice, Banzo, again sprang upon him unexpectedly.

After that, day and night, Matajuro had to defend himself against unexpected thrusts. Not a moment passed in any day or night that he did not have to think of the taste of Banzo's sword.

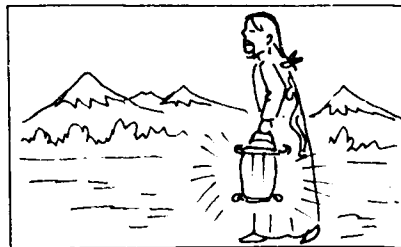
He learned so rapidly he brought smiles to the face of his master. Matajuro became the greatest swordsman in the land.

Teaching the Ultimate

In early times in Japan, bamboo- and paper lanterns were used with candles inside. A blind man, visiting a friend one night, was offered a lantern to carry home with him.

"I do not need a lantern," he said "Darkness or light is all the same to me".

"I know you do not need a lantern to find your way," his friend replied, "but if you don't have one, someone else may run into you. So you must take it."



The blind man started off with the lantern and before he has walked very far someone ran squarely into him. "Look out where you are going" he exclaimed to the stranger. "Can't you see this lantern?"

"Your candle has burned out, brother" replied the stranger.

Cover Story

Chief Ministers of Karnataka And Tamil Nadu Meet

CAUVERY TALKS HELD ON OPTIMISTIC NOTE

The hour long discussions between the Chief Minister of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu on Cauvery on August 5th ended on an optimistic note with both the heads of Government agreeing to continue the dialogue for evolving an "Interim arrangement" for sharing the waters for "Mutual benefit without prejudice to the interests of the farmers of both the States".

In his statement to the Assembly, Kalaigarnar M. Karunanidhi said the talks between him and Thiru. Patel took place as per the directive of the Supreme Court. "The talks took place in a cordial atmosphere," he added.

A decision had been taken to share, as an immediate "Interim relief", the Cauvery waters between the two States in a beneficial way with the intention of meeting the need of both the States and without affecting the interests of the farmers of Tamil Nadu

and Karnataka, he said.

The Chief Minister also conveyed to the House the happy news that Thiru. Patel had invited him to Karnataka for further talks and said that his trip would be some time after August 15.

Talking to media persons after the discussions, Thiru. Patel described the talks as a "Historic beginning to resolve a historic problem" and to clinch a historic solution. He assured, in response to repeated questions, that any solution should be for the mutual benefit of farmers of both the States whose interests should be primarily safeguarded. Pressed further, he agreed that he was of course, keen in protecting the interests of the farmers of Tamil Nadu without jeopardising the interests of the farmers of Karnataka State.

The time and the quantum of water to be released would be decided soon, he said, when asked whether

In his statement to the Assembly, the Chief Minister said the talks between him and Thiru. Patel took place as per the directive of the Supreme Court. "The talks took place in a cordial atmosphere"

Which type of water is better?

The boiled water section in supermarkets is always lined with a spectrum of brands some status-laden, others only genetic. But there are really only two types of water; distilled and mineral. Is one better for your health than the other? Yes and no, says Dr. Edmund Li, a University of Hong Kong senior lecturer in nutrition. Water makes up some 70% of the body; drinking enough of either type will ensure that the body is properly lubricated and flushed. Those concerned about impurities can opt for a distilled brand. Water that has been purified by vaporization and then recondensed. Detractors of distilled water point out that it leaches minerals from the body. However, the minerals it drains are inorganic and are not used by the human system. Mineral water contains electrolytes, compounds needed for muscle function and energy. Extreme fluid loss due to exercise or vomiting can deplete electrolytes. When this happens, "distilled water is not the most appropriate method of fluid replacement," says Dr. Li. Mineral water or fluids formulated as sports drinks are better choices to replace the required electrolytes.



Fat is good for some things

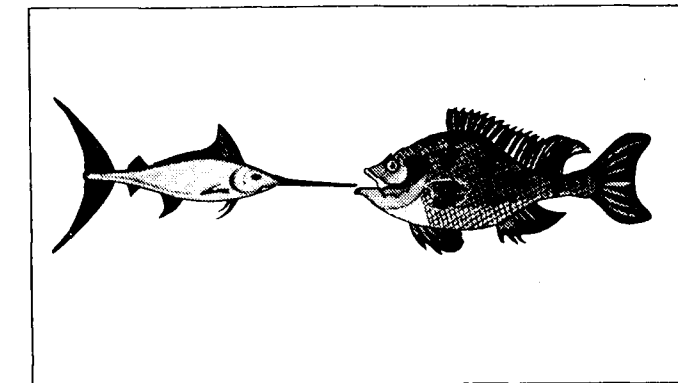
Just like wide lapels and long hemlines, different nutrients enjoy moments of being in vogue. What's hot right now is Vitamin E, an anti-oxidant that is rumoured to ward off cancer and heart disease. Vitamin E is stored in fat and found in fatty foods like eggs, corn, wheat, germ and peanuts. For years, nutritionists have urged people to eat fats, sparingly, spurring the evolution of fat-free salad dressings, "egg substitutes" and most recently, the artificial fat Olestra. According to a recent article in the New England Journal of Medicine, Scientists found that eating high-fat foods like margarine, mayonnaise

and other oil based products provides a dose of Vitamin E significant enough to reduce the chances of death from coronary heart disease by 62%. The study which spanned seven years, tracked the eating habits and illnesses of 34,486 post menopausal women. Although Vitamin E is widely available in capsule form, the study showed that supplements did not reduce the risk of damage to the body. Amount guidelines have yet to be set, but getting your daily Vitamin E dose is easy as sticking to normal habits of cooking with vegetable, sun-flower or corn oil.

Good News for sea food lovers

Cholesterol conscious seafood lovers who bemoan the high cholesterol content of seafood have reason to take heart nowadays.

A new study suggest that seafood is full of cholesterol but of the good type. In the University of Washington in Seattle, 18 men were made to eat seafood - including squid and shrimp in place of meat and dairy products. The results of the tests showed that those who ate crabs, clams, mussels and oysters showed a drop in their levels of LDL (the bad cholesterol), while the levels of good cholesterol (HDL) increased.



However those who ate shrimps and squids did not show any changes in their blood cholesterol. Conclusions point that a moderate consumption of seafood may not at all be detrimental to the heart after all. A problem would be in the way the seafood are prepared. Cooking these goodies in butter and saturated oil, water still raise 'bad' cholesterol levels. So it's best to eat them steamed or grilled in moderate amounts and you can have all the seafood diet you want!

Beware of that ginseng magic

Ginseng a much-touted Chinese herb and one of the most popular oriental elixirs to gain admiration in the West has built its reputation for its body-invigorating properties. But so may claims about ginseng's numerous psychological feats has left experts skeptical. Although studies prove that ginseng shows down aging, lengthens life spans and improves performance in athletes, none of these studies have proved beyond doubt that ginseng was responsible for the beneficial results, experts continue to keep an eye on this intriguing herb.

Although regarded as generally safe, ginseng

can cause minor problems because it travels through the blood thereby acting on different parts of the body, it has been presumably responsible for causing vaginal bleeding in post-menopausal women. Some other people react sensitively to ginseng in that they get jittery and have trouble falling asleep after taking it (much like what you feel when you've had too much coffee).

So if you do decide to have some ginseng and notice that you suffer some reaction to the herb, limit yourself only to a small portion of ginseng root, half an inch or the size of your little finger tip. O

any decision had been taken for releasing a specific quantity of water within a time frame. He said, "We are ready to give water, your Chief Minister is ready to accept it. The modalities, we have to work them out".

When a reporter pointed out that with the total failure of the Kuruvai

paddy crop in Tamil Nadu, a minimum of 170 tmc ft of water would be required to sustain the main Samba Paddy crop in the Delta on an extent of about 12 lakh acres till January end, Thiru. Patel replied, "Statistics and technical data had not resolved the issue for over 100 years. The welfare of the farmers in both the States would be the primary concern as other things were only of the nature of details".

"The tribunal exists, but we are trying to find a solution to the problem for safeguarding the mutual interests of the States", he said when asked whether a solution could be reached through negotiation within the ambit of the interim award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

"I am happy to be here with my Cabinet colleagues and officials for the discussion with the

hope that a solution could be reached to protect the interests of farmers of both the States," Thiru. Patel said.

Thiru. Patel described the talks as a "Historic beginning to resolve a historic problem" and to clinch a historic solution.

KARNATAKA DELEGATION

The 15 Member Karnataka Delegation included Deputy Chief Minister Thiru Siddha Ramiah, Major

irrigation Minister Thiru K. Nage Gowda, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Thiru Nanaiah, Chief Secretary Thiru Cecil Naronha, Irrigation Secretary Thiru Pancha Gatti, Law Secretary Thiru Basavaraj and Irrigation Technical Advisory Committee Chairman Thiru K.C. Reddy.

TAMIL NADU DELEGATION

The 12 Member Tamil Nadu Delegation included Union Minister Thiru Murasoli Maran, P.W.D. Minister Thiru K. Durai Murugan, Law Minister Thiru Aladi Aruna, Chief Secretary Thiru. K.A. Nambiar, P.W.D. Secretary Thiru Naresh Gupta, Law Secretary Thiru A.K. Rajan, Agriculture Secretary Thiru N. Athimoolam, Cauvery Technical Cell Chairman Thiru. A. Mohana Krishnan and Cauvery Advisory Committee Chairman Thiru R. Thirumalai.

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SCIENCE UP-DATE

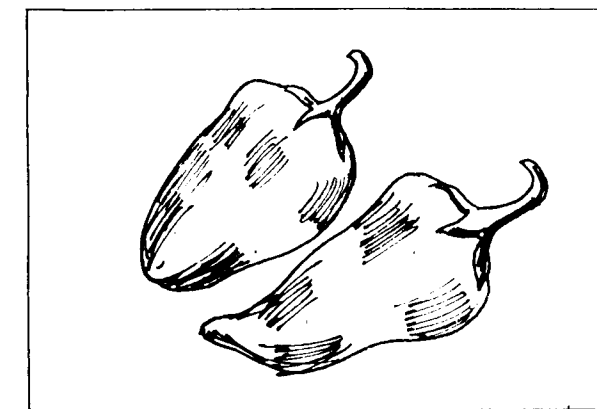
The Good News

It's teatime! Men who drink more than 4-7 cups of black tea a day may reduce their RISK OF STROKE 69% compared with those who drink less than 2-6 cups. A Dutch report indicates Tea along with Dozens of other foods is rich in flavonoids, vitamin-like compounds that appear to make platelets less prone to clotting.

Coffee as carcinogen neutralizer

The world's oldest cooking method-barbecue is also the most carcinogenic - especially for those who like their meat well done. Flame cooking adds flavour, but it also subjects food to oxidization, a process that adds cancer-causing chemicals to whatever gets put on the grill. At a meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research, Scientists revealed an unusual discovery. Coffee reduced the amount of genetic damage in mice subjected to barbecue carcinogens by 50%. Good news for picnicking rodents but will that cup of coffee have the same effect on us? Researchers say they are working on human trials now- One of the best ways to reduce your chance of barbecue induced stomach cancer is to cook meat moderately. People who eat their food well done have triple the risk of stomach cancer compared to those who only barbecue their meat to a rare or medium rare degree, claims the National Cancer Institute in the U.S. Specialists say for best results avoid the charred bits and have a cup of coffee after your meal.

The benefits of chilli peppers



People who love to eat scorching spices may not be as crazy as you think. Chillies, as many an embarrassed pepper-popper knows, make noses run and eyes water. But mucus production is actually a good thing, a defense mechanism that flushes germs and irritants out of the body. A quick way to clear your sinuses is to add a little cayenne pepper to distilled water, place a small amount of the mixture below your nostrils and sniff. A slight stinging sensation does, however, accompany this treatment. Chilli can also work as an antiseptic and astringent. Gargling with a mild solution of cayenne grains and water relieves gum irritations and sore throats. As article in U.S.A. weekend claims that in addition to these benefits, hot pepper sauce actually raises the metabolism by 25% burning 45 extra calories per hour. But, before you go in search of a suitably piquant potion, be aware that anything in excess has its price; too much hot stuff often means heartburn or diarrhoea.

*An agreement for the establishment of a modern Glass factory at Sengundram Village near Chengleput by Messrs. Pilkington of England on an investment of Rs. 550 crores, was signed in the presence of the Chief Minister Kalaighar M. Karunanidhi on 16.7.96.



PHOTO FEATURE



The Director General of Coast Guards Vice Admiral B.J. Jacob called on the Chief Minister on 2.8.96.

* The former Governor of Maharashtra, Thiru C. Subramaniam called on the Chief Minister Kalaighar M. Karunanidhi on 2.8.96.



* The Central Minister for State incharge of Public and Personnel Grievances and Parliamentary Affairs, Thiru S. R. Balasubramaniam called on the Chief Minister Kalaighar M. Karunanidhi on 21.7.96.

* The Finland Ambassador to India Thiru Benjamin Passin called on the Minister for Education Thiru K. Anbazhagan on 17.7.96



CONSUMER AWARENESS

The Expensive Dental Care

It is common knowledge that going to dentist is not just a traumatic experience but an exorbitantly expensive experience too. This expensive experience is heightened by the fact that even the negligible percentage of people who have access to health insurance, are required to pay directly from their pocket. Indeed, most insurance companies demand a higher premium if dental health care have to be included in their coverage.

The result of high dental costs have had a widespread negative impact. People (or consumers) are often forced to put off sorely needed tooth care, only to wind up with more paid, more expense, and tooth care in the long run. The children of the poorer sections are the most affected as they can't afford private dental care and Government hospitals with dental departments are extremely crowded.

A study at Vermont in U.S.A. showed that the majority of Vermont's families are in urgent need of dental care but they could not

afford dental care even for their children. If this is the reality in an advanced nation like U.S.A., obviously the situation must be worse in a nation like ours. The administrators of Vermont dealt with the problem by passing to the "Tooth Fairy

Bill" cutting the cost of children's dental care to Vermont's families between 50 percent and 75 percent depending on their economic status. The success of the bill was possible because every medical practitioner in the District of Columbia and Connecticut are required to provide all essential data on themselves in a

Directory from where the consumers can choose their Doctors. The Directory also publishes a fee schedule. May be we can learn from U.S.A. experience.

From the consumers point of view, good dental care need not be a luxury, nor need it be left to dentists alone. Consumers can find out what their teeth need and don't need. By good diet and proper home care, consumers can save their teeth even without dentists, and avoid fillings and extractions. If you do your part well you can have your teeth all your life.

Rights of the Consumers in managing their dental problems

The Right to Quality

The best dentist is one primarily in the prevention of dental disease. At your first appointment this dentist will obtain from you your medical and dental history. You should advise the dentist of any of your drug allergies and about

many medication you might be taking. He will ask for a record of your past dental treatment, including X rays. During your examination, note whether your dentist checks (1) your lips, tongue and throat (soft tissue) for any abnormalities that might



indicate cancer of the oral cavity (2) your gums for bleeding, unusual colouring, tooth mobility and other signs of disease and of course (3) your teeth (hard tissue). Throughout your examination and then your treatment consider how well organized your dentist is. One who is constantly interrupted or has to rush to meet a fast-paced schedule can be dangerous.

The Right to the knowledge of preventive technique

You should not feel uneasy about asking questions and your dentist should not be unhappy to provide answers you can understand. You should have some ideas of the risks involved with any treatment. When the dentist decides to give you an anesthetic, ask him about it. Ask him what specialized training he has had. Ask him how he is prepared for an emergency. And if you have even the slightest doubt about your dentist's judgement, ask the advice of another dentist or a dental specialist.

The right to minimize X-Ray exposures

Whenever a dentist says he needs X-rays of your teeth, ask him why. X-rays are capable of causing cancer and genetic damage and should be used sparingly. Nevertheless, it is estimated that over half of all diagnostic X-rays taken are unnecessary. Slipshod practice and poorly functioning equipment compound the problem. To guard against excessive

exposure to radiation, a dentist taking X-rays should cover his patient with a lead apron. A good dentist will not have to be asked to do this. To shorten X-ray exposure, he should also use ultraspeed dental film. The patient should request older X-rays form any previous dentists. Under normal circumstances, this will reduce the need for new X-rays, particularly full-mouth sets, which are necessary only every three to five years.

The right to the most conservative therapy

An extraction is the last taking you want from your dentist. If he advises a removal, ask him why he has rejected periodontic treatment or root canal therapy. Then, if you are still hesitant, go to a specialist who does not know your dentist. Loosing a tooth may appear more economical than saving it, but consequent dental problems can turn an extraction into a financial disaster. Be wary too of dentist who suggest capping before a more conservative therapy, or who without good explanation want to remove your wisdom teeth.

The right to written estimate of costs in advance of treatment

After your examination and before any dental treatment, your dentist should present you with a treatment plan, with a written itemization of costs and fees. After the treatment, you should be given an itemized bill, breaking down the charges.

Caring for Teeth and Gums

Prevention is better than cure, is an apt repeated statement. This is true in the care of teeth, which have a major role in speech, digestion, appreciation of food and even self-image. Tooth decay (caries), bleeding gums and bad breath can be prevented by cleaning the teeth atleast twice a day and better, by brushing after every meal.

Diet

Eskimos rarely suffered from tooth decay until

they adopted a high sugar western style diet. It is also said, that during World War II, when sugar was scarce, there was less tooth decay. A sweet tooth is a bad habit and children must be helped not to develop one, by giving them fruits, nuts and raw vegetables instead of soft drinks (which contain a lot of sugar), chocolates, biscuits and sweets. A healthy diet, with as little sugar as possible, is the basic rule for preventing dental problems.

Fluoride

The introduction of fluoride toothpastes in USA brought about a sea change in dentistry in USA: Dentists had lesser patients. The mineral fluoride

has an important part in the development of dental decay, especially during the development of teeth and after they have erupted.

The most effective way of supplying fluorine salts is by adding fluoride to the public water supplies. It has been proved to good effect as residents become resistant to tooth decay when supplied fluoride in public water supplies.

Drinking water fluorinated at the level of one part fluoride to every million parts of water. When fluoride level reach the parts per million or more,

white or brown marks might appear on the teeth as it occurs when children are given certain antibiotics. Fluoride toothpastes, mouthwisher and fluoride paints help prevent tooth decay.

Gum care

More teeth are lost through gum problems than by tooth decay. Plaque collects around the gum margin, inflames the gum and eventually loosens the contact between gum and tooth, leaving a gap for the bacteria to breed and finally the tooth loosens.

The Right to own your Dental X-rays and Records

When a dentist X-rays your mouth or records your treatment, you pay him to do it. You then have a right to the records. Before you move or change dentists, you should ask your last dentist for a copy of all your X-rays and records to give your next dentist. This saves needless expense and exposure radiation and provides your newest dentist with information he will require.



What is Dental Flossing?

Dental flossing is a way of maintaining the teeth and gums, just like brushing. Flossing helps to prevent the accumulation of food particles and helps stop breeding of bacteria.

HOW TO START A SMALL INDUSTRY?

In the third part of our series, 'How to Start a small Industry', we focus on incentives and concessions for SSI.

INCENTIVES AND CONCESSIONS FOR SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

STATE CAPITAL SUBSIDY

-15% of fixed capital investment (cost of land, building, plant and machinery) subject to a ceiling of Rs.15 lakhs for the 82 backward Taluks, State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT)'s Industrial complexes and growth centres, Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO)'s Industrial complexes and other Industrial complexes developed by Government Agencies including the Madras Metropolitan Development Authority, Madras Export Processing Zone etc.,

- 20% of fixed capital investment subject to a ceiling of Rs.20 lakhs for units in the 31 most backward Taluks in Tamil Nadu.

-The cost of second hand machinery should be excluded from the total amount of capital investment, for subsidy purposes.

- All new units and also existing units which go for substantial expansion/diversification will also be eligible.

- Power intensive industries like iron and steel smelting, aluminium smelting and calcium carbide units and small service establishments are ineligible.

- Application for subsidy is to be filed through the District Industries Centres.

ADDITIONAL CAPITAL SUBSIDY FOR EMPLOYING WOMEN

- 5% additional capital subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 lakhs is available for units in which more than 30% of the workers are women.

- This is not applicable to industries such as (a) Food

20 percent capital subsidy for units in the 31 most backward Taluks in Tamil Nadu

products; (b) Garment; (c) Leather products; (d) Hosiery and (e) Matches in which traditionally women are employed.

SPECIAL CAPITAL SUBSIDY FOR SELECTED CATEGORIES OF INDUSTRIES

- 20% of the capital investment upto a ceiling of Rs.35 lakhs for electronics, Rs.20 lakhs for leather and Rs.15 lakhs for other industries (exclusive of value of second hand machinery).

- This subsidy is available to

industrial units irrespective of their location, subject to the condition that where backward area subsidy is available, this subsidy will become part of such subsidy.

- New or existing small scale units involved in :

1. Leather Industry
2. Electronic Industry
3. Auto ancillaries
4. Drugs and Pharmaceuticals
5. Solar Energy equipment
6. Gold and Diamond jewellery for export
7. Jute Processing Industry in six Taluks namely Ambasamudram (Nellai Kattabomman), Madurai (Madurai), Musiri (Trichy) Kumbakonam (Thanjavur), Chingleput (Chengai Anna) and Panruti (South Arcot Vallalar)
8. Pollution control equipment
9. Sports goods and accessories
10. Cost effective building materials like aluminium, PVC doors and windows, window frames, etc.
11. Food processing industries.

- Existing industries which undertake expansions/diversification without any limit to the number of expansions/diversifications are eligible for subsidy.

STAGE BY STAGE RELEASE OF STATE CAPITAL SUBSIDY

- Vide order dated 27.2.1992, the Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu ordered stage by stage release of State Capital Subsidy as per the following procedure.

- In respect of land purchased and new building constructed, 25% of subsidy to be released after

completion of civil work, 50% after installation of plant and machinery and 25% after commencement of commercial production.

- In respect of ready built building purchased, 25% to be released after execution of sale/purchase deed, 50% after installation of plant and machinery and balance 25% after commencement of commercial production.

- In respect of premises taken on rent or lease or units being set up in own premises/ building without new civil construction, 50% to be released after installation of plant and machinery and 50% after commencement of commercial production.

LOW TENSION POWER TARIFF SUBSIDY

- Available for 3 years from date of commencement of production or date of power connection, whichever is later, at 40% of actual energy charges paid for the first year, 30% for the second year and 20% for the third year, to all small scale industrial units consuming low tension power excluding areas falling under Madras Metropolitan Development Authority/Urban Land Tax jurisdiction and Urban Land Ceiling jurisdiction, namely Madras and its environs of 15 km and towns of Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem and Trichy, with 8 km belt area.

- For reimbursement of power tariff paid once in six months,

claim should be made through District Industries Centres with copies of permanent registration certificates and photostat copies of Electricity Board consumption

Full waiver of sales tax for a period of 5 years upto ceiling of total investment in fixed assets made in new units in 31 most backward taluks

card and the receipt from the Electricity Board for having paid the charges. For bills paid from January to June, claim should be made before August 31, and for the bills from July to December before February 28 of the succeeding year.

POWER GENERATION SUBSIDY

- 15% of the cost of the generator not exceeding Rs.5 lakhs. All high tension/low tension power consuming units are eligible.

- Generator purchased for replacement of old generator is also eligible subject to some conditions.

- Conventional, resource based and power intensive industries are not eligible (for complete list contact DIC).

- Prior permission of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is to be obtained for installation of new generator sets.

- Generator should be purchased

from the manufacturer or from the dealer accredited by the manufacturer.

- After installation of generator, application should be filed for subsidy to District Industries Centre.

INTEREST FREE SALES TAX - DEFERRAL/WAIVER

- Full waiver of sales tax for a period of 5 years upto a ceiling of total investment in fixed assets made in new units and a similar concession for existing units undertaking expansion/diversification in the 31 MOST BACKWARD TALUKS or

- Sales tax deferral for 9 years to the full extent of the total investment made in fixed assets for new units.

- Sales tax deferral for 9 years to the full extent of the total investment in fixed assets made in new units and to the extent of 80% of the additional investment made in fixed assets under expansion/diversification in the 82 Taluks declared as Backward Taluks. Sales tax deferral for 5 years subject to a maximum of 60% of the total investment made in fixed assets in the case of new industries and 50% of the additional investment in fixed assets made in the case of expansion/diversification in OTHER AREAS.

SUBSIDY FOR QUALITY PRODUCTS

- Upto Rs.2,000/- for getting ISI certification. This is given only once for a product.

GUIDE YOUR CHILD TO EXCELLENCE

Is your Child Gifted?

Every parent thinks that his or her child is special or unique. But how many of you out there have wondered whether or not your child is talented or gifted? Gifted children are those

who are developmentally advanced in many if not all areas. Truly gifted children may be advanced in most aspects of achievement and the acquisition of skills. They will enjoy all kinds of brain exercise and may even find some of them very easy. Such a child invariably learns early and is able to use that learning in a broad flexible way.

Again, the nature versus nurture arguments has a part to play in the whole equation. There are numerous examples in which a child who is born normal has the potential to be gifted in the right environment.

Though there may be developmental milestones to establish what a child should do at different stages in life, consistent assessment is still tough as children progress at different rates. Some children progress by leaps and bounds while others may progress at a uniform rate. Some seem slow initially



but may catch up at an amazing speed.

When seeking to discover whether a child is talented or not, the parent is actually seeking approval that he is indeed a successful parent. Having a gifted child gives parent a sense of achievement that they

have something right. But the desire to create intelligent children should not escalate into a situation where parent push their kids into a position where they have to perform or be persecuted. Even intelligent children can recoil from such pressure and under perform due to the stress. Give children maximum room to express themselves and be confident in their own environment. If your child is not gifted he may have a special talent that's worth encouraging.

Looking out for signs of Genius

Although it's difficult to say what 'normal' intelligence is, many experts in the field of development can define the sequence and rate of mental development in the average child and use this to predict intelligence. So what should parent of preschool Children look out for in their children. In the book, Gifted Young Children, written by Drs. W.C. Roedell, N. E. Jackson and HB Robinson, there are some tips to look out for.

- * When your child starts using advance vocabulary and asks about new words which she hears being used into a story or conversation.
- * When your child can use an analogy or metaphor.
- * When a child spontaneously makes up his own song or story drawing on new experiences.
- * When a child can play with words, rhymes, rhythms etc.,
- * When your child is extremely creative with blocks, playdough or drawing material.
- * When your child attempts to copy a pattern or when the pattern created is symmetrical.
- * When the child simplifies her language for younger children like shortening a sentence.
- * When a child understands the emotions of another child and sympathises with her feelings and needs.
- * When a child uses her verbal skill to end a conflict or influence another child's behaviour.
- * When a child displays special skills in solving puzzles.
- * When a child can comprehend several things at the same time.
- * When a child masters a new skill or concept with unusual speed.
- * When a child is able to carry out complex instructions to do several things in succession.
- * The child has an excellent sense of



direction and is able to locate herself in the environment.

- * When a child can readily identify left and right, forward and backward, before and after and other such concepts.
- * When a child use language for sophisticated exchange of ideas and information.
- * When a child has long attention span.
- * When a child is interested in and speaks knowledgeably about adult topics.

Seven Special Talents

Looking out for talent in many different directions can be confusing for the parent. Talents in gifted children can be easily divided into defined categories. Dr. Howard Gardner, an educational psychologist at Harvard University has done ample research in this topic and has defined seven types of intelligence to assess and stimulate the intelligence of preschool children. These include:

Linguistics : traditional IQ tests usually test for this intelligence which is defined as the ability to understand the meaning and order of words.

- * **Logics/mathematical** - the ability to comprehend mathematical concepts and logical systems. This is the other type of measure that traditional IQ tests use.

- * **Musical** - the ability to create and understand music.

- * **Spatial** - the ability to understand the visual world and recreate or alter it.
- * **Bodily - Kinesthetic**: the ability to use the body in a skilled manner or for self-expression.
- * **Intrapersonal** - To understand and be in touch with one's own emotions.
- * **Interpersonal** - the ability to understand other individuals, their feelings and goals.

According to Dr. Gardner, it would mean the application of several of these seven types of intelligence.

Stimulating your Child

If you have a gifted child it is important to provide him with plenty of stimulation, new games, new ideas for play and plenty of creative opportunities. Otherwise he is bound to become bored and frustrated if he is not being attached by play.

You can encourage your gifted preschooler in those crucial maturing years without stress and pressure. We show you how:

- * Devote ample time to your child.
- * Provide a bright play area with ample space to move about.
- * Cultivate independence and responsibility by allocating safe chores around the house.
- * Encourage drawing, painting, writing and all types of self-expression.
- * Opt for activities or toys that combine learning and play eg. word, games etc.
- * Read stories and discuss plots later.
- * Interact with your child, talk to her, ask her questions and respond to her queries with

interest and complete attention.

- * Expose your child to book stores and public libraries.
- * Let your child listen to a wide variety of music.
- * Travel with your child when you can.
- * Involve your child in your own activities and explain your actions to your child.
- * Get your child to solve some hypothetical solutions.
- * Don't 'baby-talk' - talk to her like an adult.

Special Needs

A gifted child may have special needs which may not be adequately provided for in schools. Added to that she may have specific emotional needs that are different from those of the average child. She may find it hard to relate with her peers. She may become impatient with her friends and find them slow. She will want to be like other children and be accepted as one of them. She may feel isolated and alone.



When a gifted child is denied the change to exploit her potential she will feel alienated and thus sulk. She may be tantrumatic and may be bored by school subjects. Teachers may find her arrogant, precious and cheeky. Thus parent have to intervene and discuss their child's future with the school teachers before they misunderstand her behaviour and ability to perform.

News from Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

SALES TAX RELIEF FOR MORE PRODUCTS ANNOUNCED

The Chief Minister Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi announced Sales Tax relief on a range of products including Computers and TV Sets, readymade garment, Tirupur hosiery and pressure cookers on July 25.

Replying to the debate on the budget for 1996-97 in the State Assembly, the Chief Minister said that despite the revenue loss of Rs. 306 crores as a result of tax reforms and concessions in the budget, he was announcing further reliefs. The Chief Minister had received representations from trade and industry and to reduce the hardship the decision was to the public.

IDENTITY CARDS TO GENUINE FARMERS



The Tamil Nadu Government has proposed to issue identity cards to farmers to ensure

agricultural inputs supplied at subsidised rates reached them, announced the Agricultural Minister Thiru Veerapandi Arumugam at the Assembly on July 27. In the first phase 2.63 lakh Adi-Dravida farmers would be issued the identity cards which would cost the Government Rs. 13.15 lakhs.

RESOLUTION ON REVIVAL OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PASSED

A Resolution on the revival of the Legislative Council, moved by the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, was passed in the State Legislative Assembly on July 26.

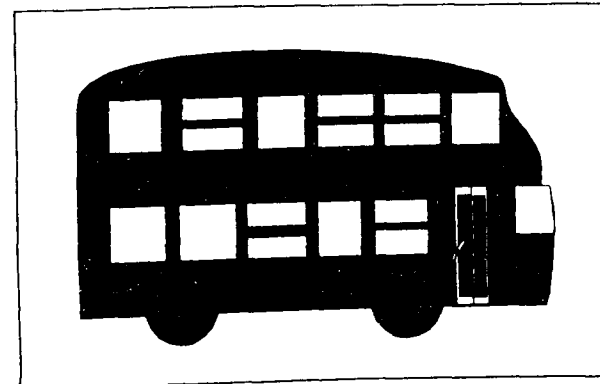
This is the second attempt by the DMK Government to revive the Upper House, that stood abolished from 1986 during MGR's administration. The first effort by the DMK was in its earlier term of office in 1989 but the move did not fruitify as the National Front Government at the Centre had to quit and the DMK Government itself was dismissed. The AIADMK Government that followed later chose to nullify the DMK's effort.

The Resolution will now be forwarded to the Centre for the consideration and approval by Parliament.

In all 199 Members from the DMK and its allies supported the Resolution. Of the 12 Members who remained neutral 4 belonged to the AIADMK and 8 to the CPI. The sole CPI(M) Member registered his opposition.

DOUBLE-DECKER BUSES TO BE INTRODUCED.

Double-Decker buses will be back on the roads in the City. The Transport Minister Thiru



K. Ponmudi on 5.8.96 announced in the Assembly that 20 Double-Decker buses are proposed to be introduced in Chennai on an experimental basis.

STATE TO SEEK CLASSICAL LANGUAGES STATUS FOR TAMIL

The State Government will urge the Centre to declare Tamil as a classical language, the Minister for Tamil Language and Culture Dr. M. Tamizhkudimagan, told the Assembly on 31st July 1996.

All Universities in Tamil Nadu had adopted a Resolution in this regard. Recently, the Centre had included Persian, Arabic and Sanskrit in the list of classical languages. Tamil was one of the oldest languages and it served as a root for several other languages, and the demand is obvious.

TWO TYPES OF FAMILY CARDS TO BE ISSUED FROM APRIL

From April 1997 there will be two categories of family cards one for those "below the poverty

Replying to the discussion, the Chief Minister said the second chamber of the legislature was abolished without following the procedure. As per the Business Rules and Secretariat Instructions, the dissolution of the Council should have first been discussed in the Cabinet. This was not done.

A letter written by MGR to Rajiv Gandhi seeking the Congress (I)'s support for the Resolution recommending the abolition of the Council was the only official communique from the State that decided the fate of the Upper House. The Resolution was passed in a hurried way and it was not forwarded to the Governor either. No doubt MGR was ill at that time and the Governor was kept in the dark per a note put up by the Deputy Secretary to the (then) Chief Minister which stated that the intention of the Chief Minister is that this need not be circulated to the Governor. In this haphazard way, the Council was abolished then, the Chief Minister added.

GOVERNOR TO CONTINUE AS CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITIES

The Tamil Nadu Government had decided to withdraw the Bill passed by the previous AIADMK Government to make the Chief Minister the Chancellor of the Universities in the State.

The Education Minister Thiru K. Anbazhagan told the Assembly on July 30 that the present Government wanted the Governor to continue as the Chancellor.

Intervening during the discussion on the demands for grants for Education and allied subjects, the Minister said the Government also felt that the earlier Bill would seriously infringe on the concept of autonomy to Universities if the Chief Minister was to be made the Chancellor.

line" and the other for the rest of the population.

The two would be of different colour for easy identification. Every card would have a photograph of the head of the family for which it was issued, the Food Minister Thiru. K.N. Nehru, told the Assembly on 2nd August 1996, replying to the discussion of the demands for grant.

The Chief Ministers Conference convened recently by the Centre on "basic minimum services" suggested the streamlining of the Public Distribution System (PDS) by issuing special cards to the poor and helping them to get essential commodities at specially subsidised prices according to the policy note on Food placed on the table of the House.

REVENUE COMMISSION TO BE SET UP

A Revenue Commission to stream-line and activate the Revenue Department would be set up, the Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi said on 6.8.96.

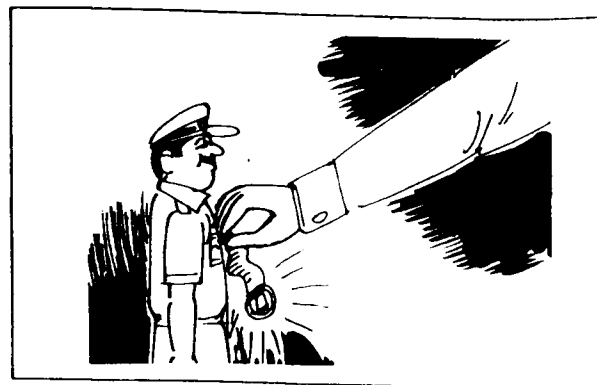
Replying to the discussions on the demands for grants, for Tax and District Administration, the Chief Minister said the Commission would be similar to the Police Commission constituted during the DMK's earlier rule.

He also offered to constitute a Committee to examine the changes being made in the Districts set-up following the creation of New Districts and act on its recommendations.

CHIEF MINISTER ANNOUNCES AWARD FOR POLICE PERSONNEL

The Government will institute an award in the name of Mahatma Gandhi for Police Personnel

who have put in exemplary Service in the eradication of illicit liquor, the Chief Minister



Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi announced in the Assembly on 7.8.96.

The award carrying a medallion and a cash grant of Rs. 10,000/- would be presented on January 26 every year.

He said the institution of the award was to break the nexus between the Police and illicit distillers.

TAMIL NADU REGISTRATION ACT TO BE AMENDED

The Tamil Nadu Government will amend the Registration Act to invalidate transaction of properties located within the State, if they are registered outside the State. Thiru. I. Periasamy, Minister for Rural Industries in-charge of Registration, who disclosed this while replying to the discussions on demand for grants for the Department under his charge, said the Act provided for the re-validation of registrations done in other States. Though, sale of properties situated in Tamil Nadu worth several crores had been registered in the neighbouring States in the last 5 years, they had not been re-validated in Tamil Nadu resulting in heavy loss of revenue to the ex-

chequer. The amendment was to prevent such transaction in future.

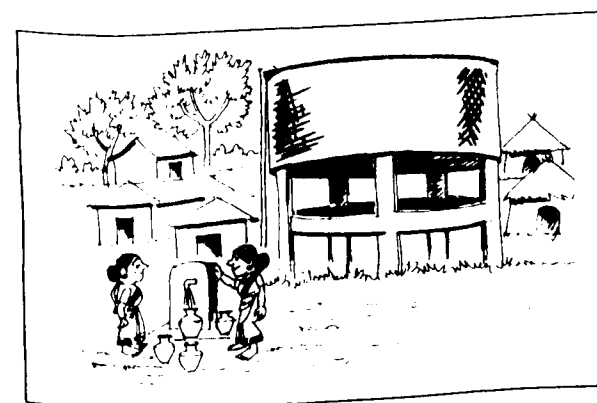
WATER FACILITY FOR ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Drinking water facility would be provided to all the Primary Schools in the State within the next six months, the Local Administration Minister Thiru Ko.Si. Mani said in the Assembly on 9.8.96.

This would be done either by giving a tap connection from the nearest overhead tank or the integrated water supply source or by providing a hand pump, he said.

RS. 894 CRORES RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME ON THE ANVIL

A Rs. 894 crore Water Supply and Sanitation project for rural areas has been forwarded to the Centre for World Bank Assistance, the Local Administration Minister Thiru Ko.Si. Mani said in the Assembly on 9.8.96.



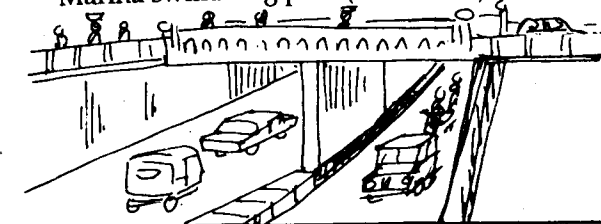
Moving the Demands for his Ministry, he said the scheme now under the active security of the Centre would be the phase-II of the programme. The components of the scheme, included construction of 45 major comprehensive water supply schemes for 4938

habitations (Rs. 443 crores), provision of deep borewells for 5000 rural habitations (Rs. 375 crores) and sanitation facilities through construction of 60,000 latrines and sullage drains including final disposal pits in 40 rural town panchayats (Rs. 64 crores).

Rs. 71.33 CRORE FOR MAJOR PROJECTS IN CITY

The Local Administration Minister Thiru Ko.Si. Mani announced a package of schemes costing Rs. 71.33 crores for the development of Chennai on 9.8.96 in the Assembly.

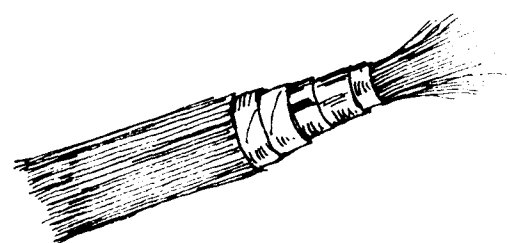
The major projects to be undertaken included a railway overbridge connecting Perambur Cooks Road and B.P. Road (Rs. 25.77 crores), an overbridge over Sterling Road Junction in Nungambakkam (Rs. 10.23 crores), a bridge near Napier bridge (Rs. 5.20 crores), a bridge near Basin bridge (Rs. 3.75 crores), a subway at Mint and at Basin bridge (Rs. 2.50 crores), a subway near Luz Junction (Rs. 1.38 crores), a foot path on either side on the Perambur Subway (Rs. 1.30 crores), a Subway near Ezhilagam (Rs. 1.05 crores), 3 storeyed parking lot for vehicles at Loan Square in Prakasam Salai (Rs. 9 crores), a commercial complex at the junction of Anna Salai and Thiru Vi. Ka. Salai in Thousand Lights (Rs. 3.50 crores), a commercial complex at the junction of Theagaraya Road and G.N. Chetty Road (Rs. 1.60 crores) and renovation of old shops and construction of new ones in Theagaraya Road (Rs. 2 crores), a recreation-cum informative park at the Dr. Visveswaraya park at Anna Nagar (Rs. 3 crores) and a dancing fountain near the Marina swimming pool (Rs. 1 crore).



Signs of PROGRESS

TTL SIGNS MoU WITH JAPANESE FIRM

Tamil Nadu Telecommunication Ltd (TTL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fujikura Ltd of Japan on 2.8.96 for manufacturing Optical Fibre Cables (OPC).



The agreement was signed in the presence of the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi by Thiru A.S. Bansal, Chairman and Managing Director of TTL, Thiru Akira Tsujikawa, Senior Managing Director, Fujikura and Thiru P.C. Cyriac, Industries Secretary, Tamil Nadu Government who is also the Chairman and Managing Director of SIDCO.

SEIZED DRUGS PILFERED FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL

The Government drugs seized from a private clinic on G.N. Chetty Road have been found to be pilfered from the peripheral Hospital, Tondiarpet. Investigation revealed that an employee of the Peripheral Hospital

had been taking medicines from the Pharmacy in the names of non-existent patients. He used to fill OP (out patient) tickets with bogus names and prescriptions to account for the stolen drugs.

NEW ANTI-HIV COMPOUNDS DISCOVERED

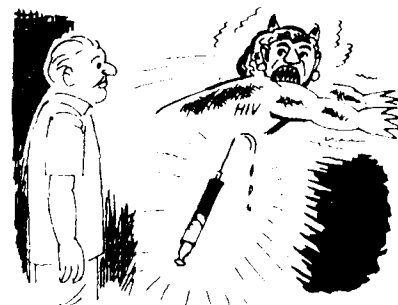
Researchers including a former chemistry Professor from IIT, Chennai, claim to have discovered a new class of Compounds with anti-HIV properties.

According to Prof. S.R. Ramadas, a key member of the team, the compounds could prevent HIV infection if applied externally as one percent ointment. Clinical trials to assess their efficacy and skin reactions were on, he said.

The Compounds were developed by Prof. Ramadas and Ms. Sabina Jhaumeer, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius in collaboration with Prof. Erik De. Ckerq, Professor of Microbiology and Dr. Myriam Witvrouw of Rega Institute, Belgium.

Prof. Ramadas said the new compounds contained a disulfide benzamide structure. One of the compounds SRR-SB.3 was found to inhibit different HIV.I. strains, including clinical isolates and HIV.I. strains, resistant to protect inhibitors and nucleoside inhibitors. It was also found to be effective against HIV.2 strains, SIV.mac 251, murine sarcoma virus (MSV).

The Compound was also found to be effective against chronic HIV.I infections 'in vitro' and to act synergistically in combination with other anti-viral agents such as AZT, DDC and D4T.



THE MELTING POT

AQUACULTURE-What are its true implications?

There is debate on between Environmentalists, Industrialists and locals on the impact of Aquaculture on society. Dr. N. Rajalakshmi of Madras University discusses the implications.

Tamil Nadu has a long coast line of 1,000 k.m. along the south east coast of India, and a short distance on the south west coast of India. It has a continental shelf of about 35,000 sq.km and an estimated off-shore region of 22 lakh hectares; the coastal stretch affords excellent scope for fishing operations throughout the year. The major rivers flowing in Tamil Nadu are the Cauvery in the Coromandel coast, the Vaigai in Palk Bay coast and the Thambaraparani in the gulf of Mannar region. The fishery resources in the coastal waters have been traditionally exploited. Tamil Nadu which is situated on the South-Eastern extremity of the Indian Peninsula accounts for 17 per cent of the coast line of India. The continental shelf of Tamil Nadu occupied an area of about 41,400 K.M. which is smaller when compared to other states on the east coast. Those are upto 50 M. depth constitute 23,000 km. and of 50-2000 depth constitute 18,000 km. The entire fish catch is within a distance of 35 K.M. and upto a depth of 75 M.

Tamil Nadu possesses an estimated brackish water resources of 0.08 million ha. besides 1,20,000 ha of salt pans, coastal lagoons and low-lying coastal areas. About 27,000 ha of brackish land are reported to be available for immediate utilisation in the seven coastal districts.

Ecological Impact

The environmental impact of shrimp farm effluents is a matter of controversy. The Ecological

Impact on coastal resources are as such -

- Impact on coastal land use
- Impact on soil
- Coastal Ecological System
- Salination of ground water and surface water.
- Health impact



It is a obviously unwise to leave an unproductive, degraded environment to future generation. One has to opt for sustainable management of resources in harmony with nature and exploit the resources keeping in view the current and future potential. Even though it is possible to multiply production and increase export, these

temptations may be resisted in the interest of long terms sustainability of production.

In the coastal areas, the integration of aquaculture into integrated coastal area management should be a strongly encouraged as a means of ensuring equitable use of resources.

Socio-Economic Impact

Apart from lucid foreign exchange earnings with possibilities of increasing production, a socio-economic survey of the coastal Tamil Nadu region shows remarkable positive implications of shrimp production. The dramatic expansion of aquacultural industry in India has introduced new concerns, especially in terms of environmental degradation and on socio-economic impacts. Nearly 50 per cent of the aquaculture production

in India as well as of the world originated from brackish and marine environment, especially from the coastal zone. The coastal areas offers large opportunities in terms of larger resources of coastal waters, bays, estuaries, lagoons and the saline lands.

Shrimp farming has created new job opportunities such as construction of ponds Shrimp harvest, feeding, maintenance of equipments, etc. The villagers with higher income, better economic status and higher purchase power have how access to consumables such as radio, tape recorder, television and cycle etc.

The standard of living of people in coastal areas have increased. Among the people studied, 35 per cent have an annual income of Rs. 4000-5000, along 21 per cent have Rs. 5000-6000 and 41 per cent have Rs. 10000 and above. The consumption capacity has also improved simultaneously; 67 per cent own radio sets, 17 per cent own tape recorders, 34 per cent own televisions and 21 per cent own some kind of vehicles (mostly two-wheelers). There is a significant improvement in consumption pattern of 56 per cent of the people studied.

With improvement in economic conditions of the people, access to better transport letter roads and communication facility, the people have benefited. Employment opportunities have increased.

Infrastructural development and their Impact on Habitants

	Percentage
New Roads	46
New Houses	48
Improvement in Communication	32
Market facilities	25
Change in employment	51
Employment for women	39
People benefited by Banking Institutions	65

Education improvement	63
Transport	100

Income and Consumption Pattern

Income	Percentage	Consumption	Percentage
Rs. 4000-5000	35	Radio	67
Rs. 5000-6000	21	Tape Recorder	17
Rs. 10000-20000	41	Television	34
		Cycle	21
		Improved consumption pattern	56

Conclusion

There is a hue and cry made by N.G.Os and Voluntary Organisation about the environmental impact of aquaculture. When it is analysed in depth, this export oriented economic activity with positive socio-economic implication cannot be completely wound up more so because some corrective steps are being taken by the Government. At the sametime a feasible way for sustainable shrimp production has to be evolved rather than trying to ban or stop production. Sometime the alarm given against environmental degradation seem to create awareness; at other times i.e. as it happens to aquaculture, it tries to stop production.

Shrimp culture in the country is at the cross roads and the directives for the future are being expected. Cases of over concentration and intensification can cause degradation of water qualities. Scientific studies have to be done and data base has to be created based on current knowledge and experience. It is however better to plan, guide and regulate aquaculture in order to keep the ecological balance as well as reap the positive socio-economic impacts. The successful functioning of the enormous potential in aquaculture will lead to the upliftment of the socio-economic condition of not only the people living around the areas, but also to the entire country. O

The Government to avoid the Extravagaganza of the previous Government.

The excess amount incurred in the maintenance of Selvi. Jayalalitha's house during her term of office as Chief Minister would be recovered by the Government, the Chief Minister declared in the Assembly on 6.8.96.

He said Rs. 31.54 lakhs had been spent on the maintenance of her house during her five year term. There was a ceiling for the expenditure on this head and the additional cost that had been incurred would be recovered from her, the Chief Minister said to the cheers of the members.

Giving more details the Chief Minister said the expenditure on functions (excluding the World Tamil Conference and the SAF Games) in which Selvi Jayalalitha participated was Rs. 27.56 crores. Over and above this, on travelling a stupendous expenditure of Rs. 3.08 crores had been incurred. Her telephone bill ran to Rs. 35.89 lakhs cumulatively during the five year period.

Referring to the concern voiced by Selvi. Jayalalitha as to how the present Government was

going to manage the huge Budgetary deficit in the current year, he said he was confident of getting over the hurdle by curtailing the extravagaganza his predecessor has indulged in during her tenure.

The Chief Minister said the charges for chartering planes for Selvi. Jayalalitha's travel came to Rs. 4.08 crores. In addition, the charges paid for using the Government helicopter and plane came to around Rs. 60 lakhs. Over and above these, a Cessna aircraft was purchased for Rs. 19.85 crores and a helicopter for Rs. 19.69 crores. The Chief Minister said, the Government had decided to

dispose them as their maintenance cost Rs. 80 lakhs per year besides, a ground rental of Rs. 20,000 per month.

" " The huge budgetary deficit in the current year, can be managed by curtailing the extravagaganza of the previous Government," says the Chief Minister "

Compared Selvi. Jayalalitha's ostentatious spending with the austere style of this functioning

while in office during 1989-91. He said in the two year period, the maintenance of his house had cost the Government only Rs. 1.46 lakhs. The expenditure on Telephone was Rs. 6.93 lakhs and that on travel just Rs. 9.27 lakhs.

The Chief Minister also said that Public Works

Department alone had claimed Rs. 51.34 lakhs for arrangements made for a Government function at Bargur on January this year in which Selvi. Jayalalitha participated. The expenditure was in respect of 47 items. Towards erection of pandal and decorations on expenditure of Rs. 32.62 lakhs had been claimed. Other expenses included Rs. 1.74 lakh for levelling of grounds, Rs. 1.68 lakh for putting up barricades, Rs. 10.45 lakhs had been claimed. Other expenses included Rs. 1.74 lakh for levelling of grounds, Rs. 1.68 lakh for putting up a helipad, Rs. 1.05 lakh for the rostrum, Rs. 3.09 lakh for putting up toilets on the dais and Rs. 72,000 for putting up steps to the dais. Apart from this expenditure claimed by the PWD, other expenses like that on electricity has also been incurred, the Chief Minister said.

Turning to her style of administration, he said that an enquiry by the Additional District Magistrate was conducted into the stampede that occurred at the Mahamagam tank in Kumbakonam in 1992 in which 48 people were killed and 66 injured.

The Magistrate had sent a report but the file was closed on May 6, 1996, with the comment 'no further action was needed'. Had any one heard of this report or was it ever placed in the Assembly, he asked.

He said the enquiry officer in his reports had lamented that he could not summon any witness with authority as it had not been made clear under what a statute the enquiry had been ordered. The Video Cassette by Doordarshan was not produced as evidence. Some Officers did not turn up even after issue of summons.

The Additional District Magistrate rejected the police theory and said the stampedes had occurred at around 12.15 p.m. on that day when the Chief Minister had just left the Mahamagam tank or about to leave the tank.

The Magistrate had also dismissed the police contention that the distribution of food packets to the crowd at the nearby Bangur Choultry had caused the stampede. The theory of food packed was only imaginary, created by the police for reasons best known to them, the magistrate had observed. The Chief Minister added that to this extent the facts about the stampede had been hidden.

He also stated the Magistrate had pointed out the smooth way in which Mahamagam went off in 1968 when he (Kalaigarnar M. Karunanidhi) was P.W.D. Minister.

Yet another instance was that though the Tamil Nadu Flour Mills Association has forfeited eligibility for any tax remission, the AIADMK Cabinet took a decision on 7th June 1995 to waive the tax. This cost the Government Rs. 20 crores, the Chief Minister said.

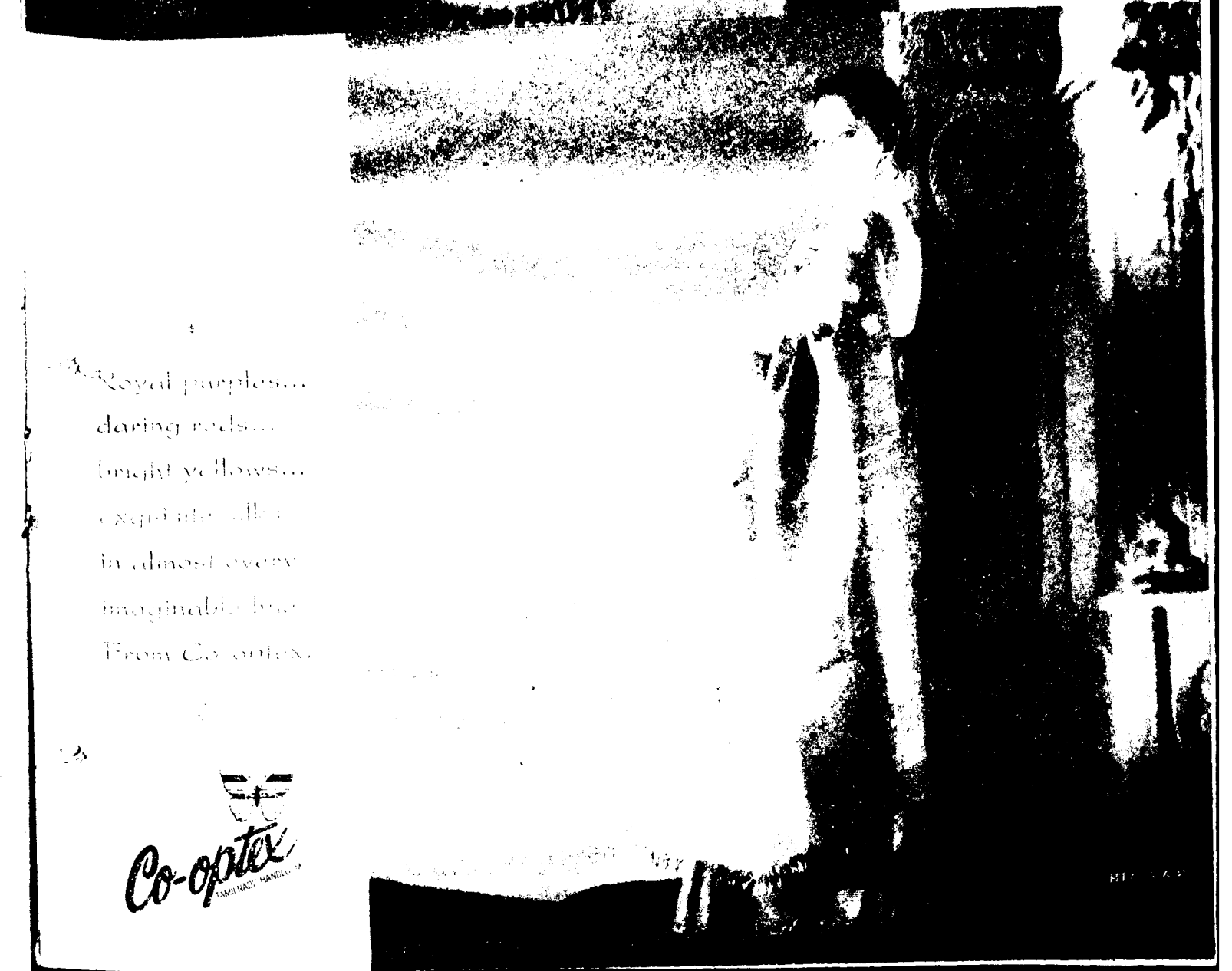
In another instance, the AIADMK Government took a decision favouring a firm in respect of tax liabilities with retrospective effect for the LAB Feed Stock it used. The total loss to the Government was Rs. 46.2 crores.

ON THE WRAPPER

- I Chief Minister Kalaigarnar M. Karunanidhi with the Chief Minister of Karnataka Thiru Patel at Madras, after the talks on Cauvery water sharing (see Cover Story)
- II Chief Minister with the Police team that was credited with the recent smashing of criminal gangs in Madras city.
- IV Comrade P. Jeevanandam, a great social reformer of yester years; and late Kalaivanar N.S. Krishnan, a fine movie star and social activist of Tamil Nadu.



PURE
PURE





C O N T E N T S

Tamil Arasu

MAGAZINE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
September 1996

2

Cover Story Chief Minister Unfurls National Flag

Chief Minister warns that criminals will not be allowed to take refuge in politics, at the Golden Jubilee National Independence Day on 15.8.96.

4

Song of The Rain

A poem of Kahlil Gibran.

6

'94 State Film Awards

Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi presents the 1994 State Film Awards. Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy and Super Star Thiru. Rajinikanth participate in the function.

10

News from Legislature

Some important announcements made on the floor of the Assembly.

18

Prime Minister at Madras

Chief Minister pleads for special consideration for Tamil Nadu

At the meeting organised to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of LIC, the cream of Political leaders in Tamil Nadu participate along with the Prime Minister - A report.

21

Children & Discipline

In an age of increasing nuclear families, disciplining children is becoming difficult. We discuss on means to discipline them.

24

Start a Small Industry

In our final article in the series, we discuss the ways to lay the foundation for business success.

29

Our Environment

We reproduce the fascinating article, a global plan to save our planet's environment, published in USA Today.

35

Asthma

Asthma is on the increase mainly due to increasing pollution. An article that would help understand the disease, especially in children.

37

Home Accidents

Some potential home accidents and the ways to avoid them.

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SONG OF THE RAIN

- KAHILIL GIBRON



*I am dotted silver threads dropped from heaven
By the Gods. Nature then takes me, to adorn
Her fields and valleys.*

*I am beautiful pearls, plucked from the
Crown of Ishtar by the daughter of Dawn
To embellish the gardens.*

*When I cry the hills laugh;
When I humble myself the flowers rejoice;
When I bow, all things are elated.*

*The field and cloud are lovers
And between them I am a messenger of mercy.
I quench the thirst of the one;
I cure the ailment of the other.*

*The voice of thunder declares my arrival;
The rainbow announces my departure.
I am like earthly life, which begins at
The feet of the mad elements and ends
Under the unraised wings of death.*

*I emerge from the heart of the sea and
Soar with the breeze. When I see a field in
Need, I descend and embrace the flowers and
The trees in a million little ways.*

*I touch gently at the windows with my
Soft fingers, and my announcement is a
Welcome song. All can hear, but only
The sensitive can understand.*

*The heat in the air gives birth to me.
But in turn I kill it.
As woman overcomes man with
The strength she takes from him.*

*I am the sigh of the sea;
The laughter of the field;
The tears of heaven.*

*So with love -
Sighs from the deep sea of affection;
laughter from the colourful field of the spirit;
Tears from the endless heaven of memories.*

COVER STORY

Chief Minister unfurls National Flag on 50th Independence Day

CRIMINALS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SEEK REFUGE IN POLITICS

- Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi
addressing at the ramparts of
Fort St. George, Madras on 15.8.96

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi unfurled the National Flag at the ramparts of Fort St. George on the occasion of the 50th Independence Day on 15.8.96 and declared that the nexus between criminals and politicians will be broken and an honest and corruption free administration will be provided in Tamil Nadu.

The people were well aware of this determination of the Government from the actions

initiated in the three months since it assumed office. Whether they were politicians or officials, severe action had been taken against those who had committed irregularities, the Chief Minister said.

Simultaneously, the Government had taken steps to simplify the various procedures by decentralising the powers which were now concentrated at the higher levels of the administration. The attempt was to provide a greater access for

the people to seek redressal for their grievances which would make the administration more responsible.

The Chief Minister said that his Government had assumed office at a time when people had lost faith in the police and anti-socials were ruling the roost. Extortionists, dacoits, mercenaries and goondas were threatening the very security of life. The drive against them would be carried on with an iron hand and lawlessness would be

put an end to in the State. "The criminals will no more be allowed to seek refuge in politics or don the mantle of politicians", the Chief Minister warned.

The funds of the Government which found its way elsewhere had been routed back to the

provide basic amenities, like protected drinking water supply, proper roads and street lights.

"We may be confronted with many problems but they will be overcome with confidence and fortitude", the Chief Minister said.

He said that the Nation had



exchequer. The efforts now would be to further increase the income of the Government and provide efficient administration which would be alive to the problems of various sections of society.

Besides weeding out corruption, the Chief Minister said the Government had taken various measures to bring about a second green revolution in the State. A lot of efforts had been made to give a new thrust to the industrial development in the State. As the State had a good infrastructure and trained manpower, the Government wanted to create more employment opportunities. A committee of legislators, representatives of consumers and officials had been appointed to revamp the public distribution system in the State. The Government had taken a massive scheme on a war-footing to

entered the Chief Minister warned a new era and the formation of the United Front Government at the Centre marked the dawn of true federalism in the country. Such a Government was necessary to recognise the diversity of culture and aspirations of the people of various States, languages and religions. The common minimum programme of the United Front was based on this principle.

While the State Government was pressing for greater autonomy to ensure a truly federal set up, it was also keen on delegating powers to the lower levels. This could be realised by the people soon when the elections to the local bodies were completed, he added.

The Chief Minister distributed sweets and food packets to physically

handicapped children and distributed awards to persons who rendered appreciable service to the physically handicapped and aged persons.

Earlier, on arrival at Fort St. George, the Chief Minister was received by the Chief Secretary, Thiru. K.A. Nambiar and introduced to the representatives of the three Defence Services, the Director-General of Police, Thiru. K.K. Rajasekaran Nair, the Commissioner of Police, Thiru. V.K. Rajagopalan and other senior police officers. Before he was conducted to the flag mast, the Chief Minister took the police salute and inspected a guard of honour.

The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, Thiru. K.A. Swami, the Assembly Speaker, Thiru. P.T.R. Palanivel Rajan, Ministers, MLAs, MPs, the TMC Leader Thiru. G.K. Mooppanar, Prince of Arcot Thiru Mohammed Abdul Ali and Senior officers of the Government participated in the function.

In the evening, the Governor, Dr. M. Channa Reddy, held the customary Independence Day reception at Raj Bhavan. The Chief Minister, Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi and his cabinet colleagues, former Maharashtra Governor, Thiru. C. Subramaniam, former Chief Justice of Madras High Court Thiru M.M. Ismail and several retired and serving IAS and IPS officers and prominent citizens were among the distinguished invitees who attended the reception.



1994 STATE FILM AWARDS PRESENTED

Tamil Nadu has great potential for development and people must extend their support to the Chief Minister in this task.

*- His Excellency the Governor
Dr. M. Channa Reddy in his Presidential Address at the
Film Awards Function on 18.8.96 .*

Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi distributed film awards to producers, directors, actors, actresses and technicians at a function held at the University Centenary Building, Madras on 18th August'96. His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Dr. M. Channa Reddy, presided over the function.

In his presidential address the Governor commended the initiatives taken by the Chief Minister to put down lawlessness in the State. He said that he had been watching the proceedings of the State Assembly and the Government activities



outside. He said, the Chief Minister had embarked on himself a difficult task of bringing sanity where lawlessness had reached its peak. The Chief Minister's determination to free Tamil Nadu from the clutches of violence and lawlessness was praiseworthy. The Governor said the coming together of film actor Thiru Rajinikanth, Thiru G.K. Moopanar, and the entire film world to fight against the lawlessness created in the State during the previous regime had made the task for Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi easier. He said Tamil Nadu had a great potential for economic development and called upon people to extend their support to the Chief Minister



in this task.

The Chief Minister in his address said Tamil Nadu was



lucky to have a person of the stature of Dr. Channa Reddy as its Governor. Although the recipients of the awards for the year 1994 were chosen by a Committee set up by the former regime, the present Government accepted it as it believed in political ethics, the Chief Minister reminded. He assured the film industry that he would do his best to fulfill its demands as early as possible. Referring to Rajinikanth's statement that a leader had conveyed his appreciations of the way he was ruling the State now, the Chief

Minister said he wanted Thiru Rajinikanth to convey his personal thanks to the leader who was in the other corner of the country.

Movie Super Star Thiru Rajinikanth said God had saved Tamil Nadu from the lawlessness and has installed Kalaignar Karunanidhi as Chief Minister.



Earlier, Thiru V.

Mullaivendan, Minister for Information and Publicity welcomed the gathering. Thiru Durai Sundaresan Secretary, Information and Tourism Department later proposed a vote of thanks.



RECIPIENTS OF THE FILM AWARDS FOR THE YEAR 1994

Best Feature Film :

- First Prize : **Naattamai** (R.B. Chowdhri, Super Good Films)
- Second Prize : **Nammavar** (P. Venkatarama Reddy, Chandamama Vijaya Combines)
- Third Prize : **Pavithra** (K. Subash, Thanuja Films)
- Special Prize : **Mohamull** (J. Dharmambal, J.R. Circuit)

Best Tamil Film Portrayed women : **Karuthamma** (Bharathiraja, Vetrivel Art Creations) in a good manner



Awards for Best Actors, Actresses and Technicians

Best Actor : **Sarathkumar** (Naattamai)
 Best Actress : **Selvi Rajashri** (Karuthamma)
 Best Actor : **Nagesh** (Nammavar)

(Special Prize)

Best Actress : **Selvi Oorvasi** (Magalir Mattum)



(Special Prize)

Best Director : **Ravikumar** (Naattamai)
 Best Script Writer : **Erode Sounder** (Naattamai)
 Best Dialogue Writer : **Balakumaran** (Kaadalan)
 Best Music Director : **A.R. Rahman** (Kaadalan)
 Best Lyricist : **Vairamuthu** (Karuthamma)
 Best Playback Singer (Male) : **S.P. Balasubramaniam** (Jai Hindh)
 Best Playback Singer (Female) : **Swarnalatha** (Karuthamma)
 Best Cinematographer : **Jeeva** (Kaadalan)
 Best Sound Recordist : **Sridhar, Sivakumar** (Duet)



Best Film Editor : **Lenin, Vijayan**
 Best Art Director : **Thotta Tharani**
 Best Stunt Master : **Raakki Rajesh**
 Best Choreographer : **Sundaram, Raju**
 Best Make-up Artiste : **Sasi**
 Best Costume Designer : **Kasi**
 Best Child Artiste : **Monisha**



Awards to outstanding Film Veterans

Arignar Anna Award :

Aroor Dass

Paventher Bharathidasan Award:

Kavignar Vali

Raja Sandow Award :

S.P. Muthuraman

Kalaivanar Award :

Senthil

M.G.R. Award :

Vijaykanth



Greens Road in Thousand Lights by dismantling the existing 637 police quarters.

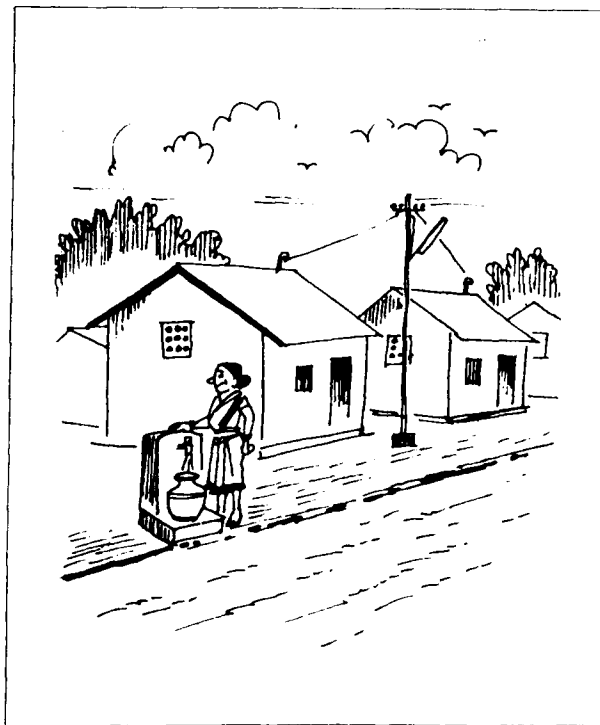
The project would be implemented in a phased manner over a period of four to five year. HUDCO had been entrusted with the work of preparation of layout and type designs.

In the first phase 400 flats would be constructed and action had been initiated to vacate the existing occupants, he added.

Government ready to build houses for gypsies

The State Government would not hesitate to provide houses to gypsies if they gave up their nomadic practice and settle down in a place, the Chief Minister Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi told the Assembly on 25th August.

Not only 'pucca' houses were constructed for



them near Tiruchi under a free housing scheme some decades back, but assistance was extended to help them start trades but they did not stick on in that place, he said during the question time.

Qualifying Service for full pension reduced

The Tamil Nadu Government has decided to reduce the maximum qualifying service to get full pension from 33 years to 30 years.

This was announced by the Education Minister, Thiru K. Anbazhagan, while replying to the discussion on the budgetary demands for miscellaneous subjects in the Assembly on August 27.

The Minister said the option would be given to the employees either to opt for pension at 50 percent of average emoluments drawn during the last 10 months prior to retirement, or 50 percent of the pay last drawn at the time of retirement. This would come into effect from June 1, 1996.

According to the policy note, the Government has decided to extend the enhanced gratuity of Rs. 2.5 lakhs to employees who had retired on or after April, 1995 against the earlier eligibility date of October 1, 1995.

MLAs get pay hike

Education Minister Thiru K. Anbazhagan, on 27.8.96 announce an increase of Rs. 550 in the monthly pay and allowances of the members

of the State Assembly. With this the MLAs would draw a total emolument of Rs. 5,000 a month.

Replying to the debate on demands for grants for pension, State legislature and election departments in the Assembly, he said the basic salary of the members would be increased to Rs. 1,800 from the present Rs. 1,700. The rates of various allowances also would be hiked. The enhanced rates are :

Travelling allowance would be Rs. 1,200 from Rs. 1,000, constituency touring allowance from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500, Postal allowance from Rs. 450 to Rs. 500 and Telephone allowance increased from Rs. 900 to Rs. 1,000.

Further hike in the salary of MLAs

The Chief Minister announced a further hike of Rs. 1,000 by way of allowances to the MLA's and they would now be getting Rs. 6,000 per month. The salary of the Ministers and the Assembly Speaker would be increased to Rs. 7,000 and that of the Deputy Speaker, the Government Whip and the Leader of the Opposition to Rs. 6,500.

The monthly pension for those who has participated in the language agitation would be increased to Rs. 1,500 from the present Rs. 500. They would also get a monthly medical allowance of Rs. 15. The freedom fighters who were not getting any Central pension were paid at present Rs. 1,500 per month. For those who received a Central pension of Rs. 1,500, the State was giving a token of Rs. 250 besides the medical allowance.

The widows of the freedom fighters and the language agitators would be allowed free travel facility in State transport buses.

Four lakhs of new jobs to be created

The Chief Minister hoped that 4 lakh jobs would be created in the current year itself against 18,000 in 1995 and 14,000 in 1992. The break up was 25,000 Makkal Nala Paniyalargal in rural areas, 10,000 more for municipal areas, 25,000 women to be recruited for prohibition campaign, 3 lakh jobs for women under the integrated women's development programme, 11,000 junior grade teachers, 3,000 graduate and post graduate teachers, 10,000 police personnel selected in the previous AIADMK rule, 5,000 police constables to be recruited in the current year, 1,100 Sub-inspectors and 1,060 fire service personnel.

TNEB to recruit 4,000 workers

The Minister for Electricity, Arcot Thiru. N. Veerasamy told the Assembly on 28.8.96 that the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board will recruit 4,000 persons in the next two years to fill vacancies at various levels. Of them 2,000 would be appointed this year.

Replying to a question, the Minister said there were 8,000 vacancies in the TNEB.

He said an electricity sub-station would be set up at the DMS complex at Teynampet to ensure proper distribution of power in the area. Orders had been issued for transferring the land

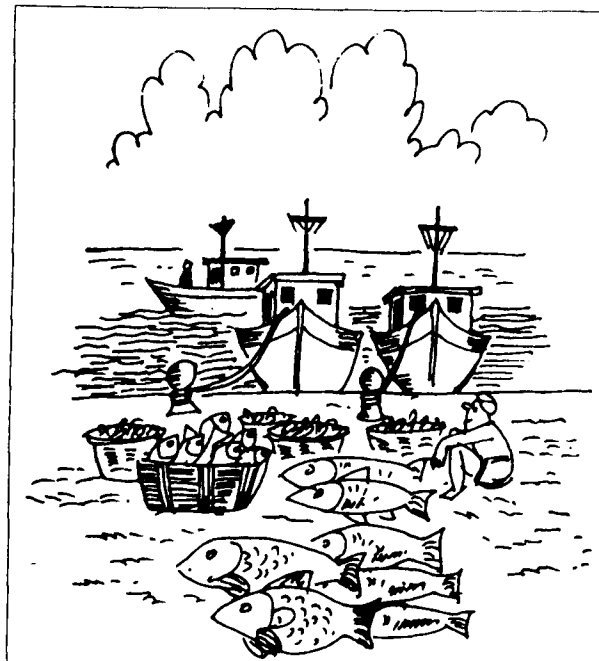
TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY NEWS

CM hints at reinstating Madhavaram dairy workers

The Chief Minister, K. Jayaraman, on August 20, hinted at the possibility of reinstatement of the Madhavaram dairy workers who were dismissed in 1980 and still remained unabsorbed in service. He said the trade unions could sit together and draw a list of the workers who should be restored to the job and the Government would be prepared to consider the list.

20 fishing harbours to be developed in Tamil Nadu.

Fisheries Minister Tmt. Jenefer Chandran, on August 20, informed the Tamil Nadu Assem-



bly that the State Government would take steps to develop 20 fishing harbours in coastal areas in the State.

Replying to the debate on August 20, on the fisheries demands, she said based on the demands from Tamil Nadu Fishermen, a master plan was sent to the Centre for the development of the fishing harbours. A survey was being conducted in Colachel and Rameshwaram areas. After obtaining the report, the harbours would be built with Central Financial assistance.

Fishing harbours in Palayaru, Mallipattinam and Tuticorin would be expanded, she said.

Grace time to renew job registration

Unemployed persons who had failed to renew their registration with the employment exchange in the period 1993 during 1995 would be given a three month grace period to revalidate their registration, the Labour Minister Thiru A. Rehman Khan, announced in the Assembly on August 20.

The grace period would be from the date of the Government Order be issued in this regard.

Likewise for defaulters in the current year, the renewal period had been relaxed to 18 months from the normal one year, he said replying to the

discussion on the demands for grants on Labour, Factories, Employment and Training.

SSG to be disbanded

The Special Security Guard, created during the previous AIADMK regime for providing protection to the then Chief Minister Selvi. Jayalalitha will be disbanded forthwith.

Announcing this in the Assembly on August 26 the Chief Minister K. Jayaraman said the 606 personnel inducted in the SSG would be deployed for the 'Service of the People', the training facility created for them would be utilised for the benefit of other police personnel.

As the SSG was created by the statute, necessary legislation would be brought forth to disband the force, he said replying to the discussion on the police demand.

Selvi Jayalalitha was enjoying the protection available for a "Z" category VIP. For this category of people, three inspectors, two sub-inspectors, two head constables and 20 constables were provided protection. Since she wanted that her Protection should be like that afforded by the Special Protection Group to the Prime Minister, the SSG was created, K. Jayaraman charged. For no other Chief Minister, a force like the SSG was created in the country.

A total expenditure of Rs. 21.23 crores had been incurred for providing protection to Selvi. Jayalalitha during her Chief Ministership, he said.

The Chief Minister also announced the abolition of the prohibition enforcement wing (PEW) and the forest cell CID Police wing. The

decision on the latter was a sequel to the recommendation of the Police Commission set up by the DMK Government in its earlier rule in 1989. The Commission had suggested that the local police station could investigate offences relating to the forests. Special forest police stations in the vicinity of forests would also be set up to prevent sandalwood smuggling. K. Jayaraman said that since a special task force had been created to apprehend the forest brigand, Veerappan, abolition of the forest cell CID would not hamper that work.

Police City for Madras

A 'Police City' will be formed in Madras at a cost of Rs. 100 crores.

The Chief Minister K. Jayaraman, told the Assembly on 24th August 96 that 3,000 residential quarters for the officers upto the level of Assistant Commissioners of Police would be constructed in the proposed city to be located at

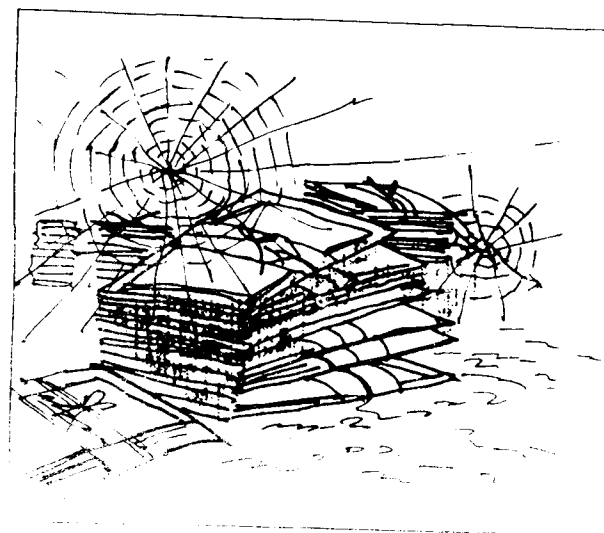


for the purpose from the health department to the TNEB.

New Technology for old factory

The Chief Minister Kalaiggar M. Karunanidhi on 28.8.96 said that the State Government would take steps to reopen the closed Marine Chemicals and Magnesium Plant at Valynokkam in Ramanathapuram District using new technology with Rs. 5 crore assistance from the Centre.

'Unproductive' files kept pending.



In all 2,681 files were kept pending by the previous AIADMK Government because there was no 'revenue-earning potential' in them, the Chief Minister Kalaiggar M. Karunanidhi declared in the Assembly on 28.8.96. The Chief Minister, in a lighter vein, said he was subjected to a heavy burden while clearing these files, having to spend long periods waiting from the very

five years.

While on the one hand such files were allowed to pile up, other files which had a 'revenue earning potential' were cleared in just a day, he said. The details are :

Thirty-four files were kept pending for five years.

60 files for four and a half years, 457 files for three years.

238 files for two and a half years, 229 files for two years.

276 files for one and a half years and

184 files for one year.

While the previous Government has created 14,000 jobs in 1994 and 18,000 jobs in 1995, the present Government would create four lakh jobs in the next year, he added.

Memorial for Jeeva

The Chief Minister, Kalaiggar M. Karunanidhi, announced in the



Assembly that a memorial would be constructed for the veteran communist leader, late P. Jeevanandam, at Nagercoil, on 28.8.96.

The District Collector had been asked to choose a suitable site for the memorial within 15 days, he said.

Though the previous AIADMK Government made an announcement in the Assembly in 1994 that a memorial for the communist leader would be put up and the Chief Minister, Selvi. Jayalalitha, herself reiterated it at one of the meetings in Kanniyakumari subsequently, no efforts were taken in this regard, the Chief Minister pointed out.

The Chief Minister's announcement was hailed by all leaders cutting across partylines.

Krishna waters will reach Madras on September 15

The long awaited Krishna waters will reach Madras on September 15, the birth anniversary of Anna, the Chief Minister Kalaiggar M. Karunanidhi announced in the Assembly on 28.8.96.

Though the project agreement envisaged a supply of 15 tmc ft of water to the city, in the first phase it would get 3 tmc ft of water. On account of the efforts taken by the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Thiru N. Chandrababu Naidu, the Krishna waters will flow into the city by the middle of next month, he announced.

An official function would be organised at

Uthukottai on that day to mark the formal receipt of water and a thanks giving meeting on the same evening in the city, the Chief Minister said.

Sales tax abolished

The Chief Minister on 28.8.96 said in the Assembly that sales tax would be abolished on coir made out of coconut fibre and on the ornamental Thanjavur plates.

Ceiling increased for crop loans

To meet the growing needs, the ceiling on cooperative credit for crops as well as jewels had been increased, the Cooperation Minister Thiru V. Thangapandian announced in the Assembly as August 14th.

The limit had been increased by Rs. 10,000 for each of these categories. Presently, cane growers were getting a maximum of Rs. 45,000 and cultivators of other crops Rs. 25,000 while those raising a loan against their jewels Rs. 40,000, he said.

As waiver of crop loans was not possible under the MoU signed between NABARD and the State Government, the present Government had come forward to give an incentive for prompt repayment of loan in the form of fixed deposits or small savings certificate to the value of half a per cent of the loan repaid.

The Ceiling on loan extended by the Central banks for petty trade and that by the urban banks for the poor to start trade had been increased to Rs. 2,000 from the present Rs. 1,500, the Minister added.

The Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Thiru P.T.R. Palanivel Rajan met the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi on 16.8.96, before leaving for Malaysia to participate in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at Kuala Lumpur.



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The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Channa Reddy inaugurated the All India Folk and Classical Dance Festival of the South Zone Cultural Centre on 13.8.96. The Minister for Tamil Development and Culture Dr. M. Thamizhkudimagan was present.

In commemoration of the Birth Anniversary of the Former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi, the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi paid floral tributes to his portrait and administered the Pledge for National Integration and Communal amity to the officers and staff of the Secretariat on 20.8.96.



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Former Captain of the Indian Cricket Team Thiru Azaruddin called on the Chief Minister, Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi on 19.8.96.



The Union Minister for Rural Development and Employment, Thiru Erran Naidu called on the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi at the Secretariat, on 19.8.96

Chief Minister calls for special consideration for Tamil Nadu

BASIC MINIMUM SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED IN ALL THE VILLAGES IN THE COUNTRY

- Prime Minister Thiru Deve Gowda
at Chennai on 24.08.96

I assure Mr. Karunanidhi and Mr. Moopanar that the question of letting down Tamil Nadu will not arise at all on any issue" declared the Prime

during the last five years. The Prime Minister was addressing the nation "Jeevan Suraksha" a new pension scheme of the Life Insurance Corporation and

conference of Chief Ministers held at Delhi was a step in this direction. The Prime Minister was confident that within the next four years, no village will



Minister Thiru Deve Gowda at Chennai on 24.8.96.

The Prime Minister was responding to an appeal made earlier by Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi requesting him to show special consideration for Tamil Nadu as the State has remained an "emaciated" child

commemorating the LIC's 40 years of service to the people at Kalaivanar Arangam.

The Prime Minister reiterated his government's, commitment to provide the basic minimum services in all the villages of the country, in the next four years. He said that the recent,

have any grouse regarding drinking water, health facilities, roads etc. His governments, endeavour was to see that the poorer sections were taken care of. Thiru Deve Gowda stated that Rs. 250 crores was provided in the Central Budget to provide basic facilities to slum dwellers.



Paying encomiums to LIC, Thiru Deve Gowda said that the institution has contributed to the nation by building a social security network to the common man and also by providing long term development funds for the country. The LIC had over eight crore policies with a life fund of over Rs. 72,000 crores. The LIC has till March this year, released towards social sector investment an amount of over Rs. 18,000 crores in the form of loans for purpose such as housing, power generation, water supply and sewerage schemes, road transport development etc, the Prime Minister added.

Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi, said during the last five years Tamil Nadu has wallowed in darkness and the sunshine was on only after the DMK came to power. The Chief Minister felt that there is nothing wrong in Thiru Gowda having a soft corner for his home state,

'Karnataka' and added that unless a leader has such sentiments he cannot be expected to have similar sentiments towards other states.

Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi appealed to the Prime Minister to show special consideration towards Tamil Nadu in the light of the suffering it had undergone in the last five years. The Chief Minister quoting statistics said that the LIC's contribution to the joint sector on Tamil Nadu nose dived to 0.36 percent during 1994-95 from 7.96 percent in 1989-90. The Chief Minister hoped that there would be an increase in LIC assistance.

The Chief Minister referred to the large number of banks and financial institutions having chosen their head quarters in Bombay and Delhi, and the general impression that the states located nearby reaped the benefits because of the

proximity. The Infrastructure Development Corporation should be located at Madras, the Chief Minister urged.

The Governor of Tamil Nadu Dr. M. Channa Reddy paid tributes to the LIC for introducing a new pension scheme for the benefits of the middle class, the self employed professionals and the salaried.

Union Finance Minister, Thiru. P. Chidambaram called on the LIC to be more active and evolve new schemes to spread the social security network in the country.

Thiru G.K. Moopanar, Member of Parliament, offered his good wishes to the new pension scheme.

Earlier, the Chairman of LIC, Thiru N.M. Govardhan welcomed the gathering.

REPORT OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF INDIA

TAMIL NADU FINANCE IN BAD SHAPE DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS

The gap between the liabilities and assets of the State Government has grown ten-fold in the past five years from Rs. 480 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 5,075 crores in 1994-95.

According to the Report (Civil) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 31 1995, placed in the State Assembly, the revenue deficit of the Government, persisting from 1987-88 stood at Rs. 415.55 crores for 1994-95 and the deficit was covered out of borrowings.

The non-plan revenue expenditure increased by 73 per cent from Rs. 4,529 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 7,848 crores in 1994-95. The Internal debt of the Government stood at Rs. 2,561 crores at the end of 1994-95. As much as 78 per cent of the public debt receipts was utilised for repayment of principal and interest.

The interest payment of borrowings of the Government increased by 153 per cent from Rs. 455 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 1,152 crores in 1994-95. Fifty-six per cent of the Central loans was appropriated towards repayment of loans

and interest payment. The return on Government investments of Rs. 781 crores was only Rs. 7.86 crores (1.01 per cent) and was far below the rate at which the Government was borrowings (12.5%).

The assets of the Government increased by 29 per cent from Rs. 6,596 crores during 1990-91 to Rs. 8,525 crores in 1994-95 while liabilities grew by 92 per cent from Rs. 7,076 crores to Rs. 13,602 crores.

Against the total grants and appropriations of Rs. 13,422 crores sanctioned for 1994-95, only Rs. 11,844 crores was spent. Expenditure of Rs. 208 crores incurred under 15 grants and eight appropriation was without the approval of the legislature. A sum of Rs. 131.4 crores was withdrawn by booking it to final head of account, indicating that the amount was spent for the purpose it was granted but actually the amount was not spent, the C.G. reports says.

Another significant observation is that in relation to 1990-91, assistance to local bodies during 1994-95 declined by 30 per cent.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WORK HARD

Work is the foundation of all business, the source of all prosperity and the parent of genius.

Work can do more to advance youth than his own parents, be they ever so wealthy.

It is represented in the humblest savings and has laid the foundation of every fortune.

It is the salt that gives life its savour but it must be loved before it can bestow its greatest blessings and achieve its greatest ends.

When loved, work makes life sweet, purposeful, and fruitful.

PARENTS' GUIDE

How to infuse discipline in Children?

One day a friend of mine threw a pan of porridge at her children. (It missed I am happy to say. The incident had a drastic effect for months afterwards. If one of the children played up at breakfast time, the others would whisper : "Remember the porridge."

I can't recommend throwing porridge at children but all the same I do think that Children need discipline. It's quite surprising how many parents are afraid to lay down rules in their own home, afraid to say "No" when occasion demands.

No human group, including the family can live together happily without rules. You should have as few as possible but to make sure everybody sticks to them.

This was brought home to me when my children went to stay with some rather eccentric acquaintances. They were old when they came back. They were told "There is only one rule in this house. You can do what you like, when you like". The three of them stayed up late, ate when they felt like it, and didn't wash the dishes or do any other jobs around the place.

And they were all glad to come home again. They all looked tired out. "It was fun for a while," said one, "but it was so chaotic". There was no semblance of order to make them feel safe.

Children like order. And they like to know where they are. What is expected of them. They will put up with very strict discipline providing it is consistent. It is the parent who smacks them one minute and praises them the next who really confuses them. Of course, it's difficult to be consistent all the time. But we can try.

What do children need?

They like sweets, pocket money and cream

cakes but do they really need them? I think that the basic needs of children are the same the world over; they are love, security, a feeling of belonging, a sense of their own worth and last but, not least - some responsibility.

Nowadays, we tend to buy children toys, bikes, roller skates or new clothes to prove that we love them. A simpler and cheaper way would be to give them a hug and a kiss from time to time and praise them when they have been helpful. With children (as with adults) it's those little shows of affection that mean such a lot.

What we have to learn to do is to enjoy our children's company and to keep our sense of humour rather than taking every thing so seriously. We should be natural and spontaneous with our children when they are young. Try to have some fun with them. After all, they grow up terribly quickly.

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The basic needs of children are the same the world over: they are love, security, a feeling of belonging, a sense of their own worth and last but, not least - some responsibility.

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That's one reason, one disagrees with pseudo psychological techniques being used to frighten children and make them submissive. If a young child deserves to be punished, and you are angry, then give it a light smack there and then, and forget it. Don't threaten children incessantly. Saying things like: "Do that just once more and you're for it".

One thing you shouldn't do is say "if you do that I won't love you any more". Your child

might think that you really mean what you say and that is very frightening. John Steinbeck tells us: "The greatest terror a child can have is that he is not loved".

Now for some don'ts: Yours, not theirs

Don't use dad as a threat, saying: "What until your father comes home". Mum should have her own rules of behaviour, preferably the same as dad's and she should insist on them being kept whether dad is there or not.

Don't instil fear into children by saying: "The bogey-man will come for you." Young children find it hard enough to distinguish reality from fantasy, and this kind of warning will confuse and frighten them.

Don't overdo loss of privileges or pocket money in order to get your child to behave. One boy I knew had to forfeit two years pocket money for a misdemeanour. By the time the two years was up he'd forgotten what he'd done in the first place. He was still aware of the unfairness involved.

Try to ignore children when they behave badly (or, at least don't give them too much attention). I know this is difficult. The thing to do is give them lots of attention (and praise) when they behave well. Many parents make

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Try to ignore children when they behave badly (or, at least don't give them too much attention). I know this is difficult. The thing to do is give them lots of attention (and praise) when they behave well. Many parents make the error of only noticing children when they misbehave.

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the error of only noticing children when they misbehave.

A grave mistake is to wait on children hand and foot. Even young children can do jobs about the house and sharing in family chores gives them a feeling of responsibility and a sense of belonging. Where everybody has something to do (and knows what it is) there's less need for formal discipline.

If you think this is going too far. You can still let your child do some cooking. Make sure he/she helps in the housework, and keeps his/her bedroom tidy. Why shouldn't they? A house should be a home, not a hotel with you as honorary cook plus chambermaid.

We underestimate children

Children want to be trusted, to contribute. It's their family too so why let them get away with idleness? It's the spoilt pampered child who is so objectionable in later years, and not the child who has been subjected to rules, and given responsibility.

Children need kindness and consistency not indulgence. Remember this and you shouldn't have many discipline problems. I haven't smacked any of my children for years. Now that they're older, they discipline themselves; which is the aim of the exercise.

“And here are the “do's”

Do show your children affection (if you love them, show it) and have some rules in the home (make sure your children know what the rules are). Do know your own 'no' and stick to it; never be afraid to say: "Don't do that" (and mean it).

Do find a good playgroup, neighbour, club or child minder to take your child(ren) off your hands for a morning whilst you have a rest/coffee with a friend/your own. Little breaks from each other make the heart grow fonder.

If you do all this I can't see you'll have much bother with the perennial problem of discipline. The whole thing is much easier if you stick to the simple things.

Courtesy : Parenting by Heart

by Dr. Ron Taffel with Melinda Blau

HOW TO ENSURE A CHILD BECOMES MALNOURISHED (OR NOT TO)

Start with the smallest possible mother. This probably means that she was malnourished in her own childhood. Any extra food she may receive during pregnancy will be used to fuel her own metabolism and to make good her own chronic energy deficiency rather than to nourish the child in her womb.

If the diet of the mother to be is inadequate and unvaried, and she continues to do heavy work, then this will sharply increase the chances of the baby being born with low birth weight. At this point, the mother's anaemia can be almost taken for granted. Frequent illness, malaria, reproductive tract infections, mental and physical abuse, and exposure to smoke from domestic fires and cigarettes, will further increase the possibility of pre-mature birth and low birth weight.

When the baby is born, the malnutrition of the mother may reduce the micronutrients in her breastmilk. Delaying the start of breastfeeding for 48 hours will further reduce the supply and also prevent the infant from receiving colostrum, the yellowish fluid which precedes normal breastmilk and protects against infection.

From now on, breastfeeding either infrequently or not at all will deny the child both the best possible food and a source of protection against common infections. If the child is instead fed from an unsterilized bottle using

milk powder over diluted with unsafe water, then a self-reinforcing cycle of poor growth and frequent infection will be set up.

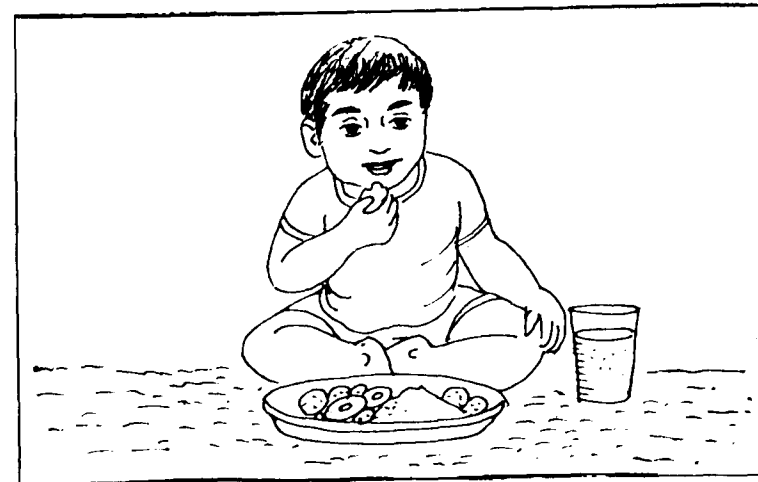
Introducing solid foods too early, especially if the food is a watery gruel with little energy value, will further increase the risk of infection and growth faltering. If the child is also kept away from health centres and vaccination points, then this too will increase the likelihood of frequent infection, giving the child little time to recover properly and catch up on growth in between episodes of disease. Measles and diarrhoeal disease, in particular are sure to take away the child's appetite and cause growth to falter, especially if it is part of the culture to refuse food to a child who has an infection or withhold fluids from a child who has diarrhoea. The process will be accelerated if the child's immediate

environment is unhygienic, especially if there is neither safe water nor sanitation.

If the mother continues to eat last and least, she may have insufficient fat reserves to breast feed adequately and very little energy for looking after her child. If she also

has six or seven other children to look after, no help from her husband or partner, and a job outside the home, then this will make it virtually impossible for her to give the kind of care and attention that all small children need if they are to develop properly.

Article Courtesy : UNICEF



HOW TO START A SMALL INDUSTRY?

How to lay the foundation for Business Success?

In the fourth and final part of our series, we present an article that would mould the businessman in you.

An outstandingly successful business needs a sound foundation which ensures that simple but vitally important day-to-day matters are consistently handled well. This article gives a brief reminder of some of the things which require constant attention but are often allowed to slip.

Sales opportunities

People have a tendency to think that diversification is more attractive, and miss sales opportunities within their existing business and customer base as a result. For instance, when the customer is a subsidiary of a group of companies, the opportunity should be taken to ask for either an introduction to someone, or at least the name of a person to contact, either at group level or in other subsidiary companies, in search of business.

Many companies

list their most important customers in the order of invoiced sale, and understandably so, but it may be more important to list major customers and non-customers in the order of potential sales value, and alongside each one to record actual sales. Large differences between potential and actual sales to a customer should be analysed in order to understand the reasons, and a sales attack mounted. Quite often a customer buys only some of the product range. An analysis of sales by product type to major customers will highlight these situations,

so that efforts can be made to sell the remainder of the range equally effectively.

Cross-selling is not done as systematically as it deserves. Subsidiary companies in a group should be cross-selling by exchanging client lists and providing personal introductions wherever appropriate for other subsidiaries.

Former customers and clients often do not get the attention they deserve. It is important to know promptly that someone has become a former customer, so that action may be taken before

the competition entrenches itself. Some professional firms perform one-off services for their clients, such as a house purchase or a patent application, but do not keep in contact in order to build a continuing business relationship.

New product may sometimes arise from the needs of



seemingly demanding or difficult customers, in service industries as well as in highly technical fields such as electronics or biotechnology. A corporate client of a company commissioned the design a seminar to train major systems salesman in the use of discounted cash-flow awareness to help to sell the financial benefits, because no suitable training programme was available.

Customer Service

We live in what seems to be increasingly a self-service world. When a service is provided, therefore, it is more noticeable and appreciated today.

Often good service is inexpensive or even cost-free to provide. It does require, however, a company-wide belief and commitment to provide outstanding service. Not just the salesman, but everyone dealing with a customer must regard themselves as an ambassador for the company. Telephonists, secretaries, receptionists, and delivery drivers are an integral part of the customer service.

Staff attitudes are crucial. Company-wide training programmes may be needed to bring about the required awareness and commitment to service. Airlines and railway

companies, for example, have put tens of thousands of their employees through specially tailored programmes. It is desirable to reinforce this kind of training with specific companies to improve customer service. People must feel it is part of their job to provide good service, and be continually

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reminded of its importance.

Measurable standards are needed for customer service, and performance should be measured regularly. Standards should be set for these few key features which are important to the customer; too many different standards of service to aim for are likely to diminish the response from employees.

If there is doubt about what customers regard as important, then surveys or questionnaires should be used to determine their requirements.

By measuring the service provided, important selling features may often ensure calls

are attended within an hour of notification as part of an advertising campaign to attract new members. Speed of service response is equally important to a wide range of customers from television set owners to corporate computer users.

Some customer complaints are inevitable. There is no doubt, however, that speedy and effective handling on a complaint may result in a satisfied and loyal customer. Once again, standards must be set and measured regularly. Equally money must be invested in training staff to ensure that complaints are handled well.

Quality and reliability are strong selling features. The whole workforce needs to be aware of how important these are. Continuous training and the wish to give good service are needed to maintain quality standards.

Service operations require particular attention. It is not enough to have the required standard at the beginning of the day, and then to allow things to deteriorate. Standards need to be set and monitored regularly. Attention to detail is important. For example, one chain of restaurants checks the lavatories every hour for cleanliness, and each check is recorded to ensure

the discipline is maintained.

Quality circles have been published widely and used successfully in many manufacturing operations. The concept is just as applicable to service companies, but does not seem to have been used to the same extent.

Business image

Every business has an image, even if no one makes a conscious attempt to create or improve it. The image is created not just by the product and service, but by everything that the customer sees and experience.

First impressions do count. So things such as reception area, letters and promotional literature are important.

Sometimes the reception area is unwelcoming, untidy, shabby even used for temporary storage of office supplies. It should contain product samples or display boards, company and product literature, the annual reports of the company, award certificates won and anything else that helps to create the desired image. Some

of the worst reception areas and letter headings are to be found

“ Letter headings need be designed and not left to the printer offering the cheapest price. Equally the quality of paper used and the standard of typing or word-processing need to be good. Large companies invest in design, but small companies wrongly tend to look upon designs as an avoidable expense rather than a source of extra sales and profitability. ”

amongst the smallest professional firms. As their 'product' is meeting people to give advice which is confirmed in writing, there is no excuse.

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extra sales and profitability.

Design in the widest sense is not just part of an intangible company image, but can lead to dramatic increases in sales and profits. Customers do look for better designed products and often are prepared to pay a premium price for them. The presentation of products can have a tremendous impact on sales, and there are numerous examples of dramatic increases in sales of existing products as a result of repackaging. Equally shop and store design as a total

concept can produce similar results.

Cost reduction

Turning off the lights

whenever one leaves the office is common sense, but cost reduction needs to be tackled with strategic common sense to be effective. A desirable aim must be to become the lowest cost producer for a given specification of goods and selling or higher profit margins at any given price for the item to be achieved.

Value analysis should be used to challenge the specification of products. The customer buys the product or service for the benefit of using it or the pleasure of owning it, and if the specification is unnecessarily high for purpose intended, then the product cost is higher than it needs to be.

Value analysis should be used to attack the cost of significant items of expenditure, and not just in production departments. For example, management information is deceptively costly to produce, and should be subjected to value analysis.

Employment costs and items of expenditure not directly concerned with making, distributing or selling the products and services should be subjected to particular scrutiny. The existence of service departments should be challenged and alternatives examined. Should staff catering be handed over to a specialist catering company? Is it cost-

effective for the company to repair its own lorries and cars? Could more expert tax advisers would to rather than having an internal department? Why are internal painters and decorators employed? Should product delivery be completely, or partly, subcontracted?

Similar questions should be asked of numerous other peripheral activities. Not only cost, but the drain on management time should be considered when deciding whether or not to make a change.

Offices in the centre of major cities, whether owned or leased, are expensive. Whilst a prestigious or convenient city centre presence may be needed or desirable, the number of people located there should be kept to an absolute minimum. For example, the group financial accounting staff do not need to be located in a city centre to produce consolidated accounts.

Asset and cash management

Managers should manage assets and not imagine that these should be left to the accountant to handle. The reality is, however, that too many managers concern themselves only with profit. Assets which managers should manage include debtors, inventory, fixed and surplus assets, and equity investment.

Debtors

Amongst professional partnership and small businesses, debtor managements is often poor. The starting point for cash collection is to prepare and despatch invoices promptly, and interim invoicing should be agreed with the customer of client whenever appropriate.

In some circumstances a deposit should be requested at the outset, and this is appropriate for the provision of professional services as well as for the supply of products. Outstanding debts need to be chased as soon as they become due for payment. The reason for non-payment needs establishing quickly and dealing with promptly, because standard fellow-ship letters are often ignored. For example, a query concerning the amount to be paid may be used as an excuse for not paying. The first telephone call to chase an overdue payment should establish the reason or excuse for delay. Partners and directors should know each month the number of debtor days outstanding; an increase of only 1 or 2 days needs prompt action to retrieve the situation.

Inventory

The inventory levels for materials, work-in-progress and finished goods stocks are the responsibility of line managers.

Standards need to be set and monitored.

Stock levels should be set in relation to anticipated sales, which may be quite different from recent experience. Unsaleable stock should be disposed of and space released. In many inventories 10 percent of the number of lines account for up to 90 percent of total stock by value. Clearly the key items of stock by value need to be identified and managed tightly.

Fixed assets

Within the medium term the cash invested in some fixed assets may be 'unfixed'. Existing property could be sold and leased back. A fleet of vehicles could be sold to a leasing company and leased back. Equally future acquisitions of property, equipment and vehicles could be leased. Strategic common sense means that the option should be examined and appropriate action taken as part of a sensible approach to financing the business.

Surplus assets

Surplus buildings, or even vacant floor space within a buildings, are apparent to everyone and action is usually taken. Surplus equipment and stocks are often allowed to remain for years, using up valuable floorspace.

If the stock really is unsaleable or unusable in the normal course of trade, then it should be disposed of at best price obtainable. A newly appointed divisional manager of an oil company,

finding he had inherited a huge stock of redundant replacement parts for the processing had written off nearly all the value in an earlier year, so the manager boosted his profit as well as his cash flow.

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A paper manufacturer decided to close an old plant, even though it was in good working order, because quality standards had improved in recent years beyond the capability of the equipment. The initial assumption was that the cost of removing it from the site would be greater than the scrap value, but the chief executive intervened and instructed people, to find a buyer. Enquiry quickly revealed a secondhand equipment broker who had a ready buyer in a developing country.

Equity investments

Companies take minority equity stakes in both quoted and unquoted companies from time to time, no doubt for sound commercial reasons at the outset. Over the years the reasons for and benefits from the investment may disappear because that circumstances change. Whilst a moderate dividend yield may have been acceptable when other benefits were being obtained, today it may make sense to realise the investment and use the cash to develop wholly owned businesses. Nonetheless some companies never seem to review their minority equity investments. ■

A GLOBAL PLAN TO SAVE OUR PLANET'S ENVIRONMENT

“As the world enters the 21st century, the community of nations either will have rallied and turned back the threatening trends, or environmental deterioration and social disintegration will be feeding on each other.”

Many societies have been tested severely, over the several thousand years since civilization began. Some successfully met the challenges confronting them and thrived; others did not. However, the world as a whole has never been so challenged as it is today. The questions humanity now faces are profound ones: Can we protect this and future generations from harmful doses of ultraviolet radiation? Can we avoid the biological impoverishment of the Earth projected for the next two decades? Can we head off runaway climate change? Can we bring population and food supplies into balance so that

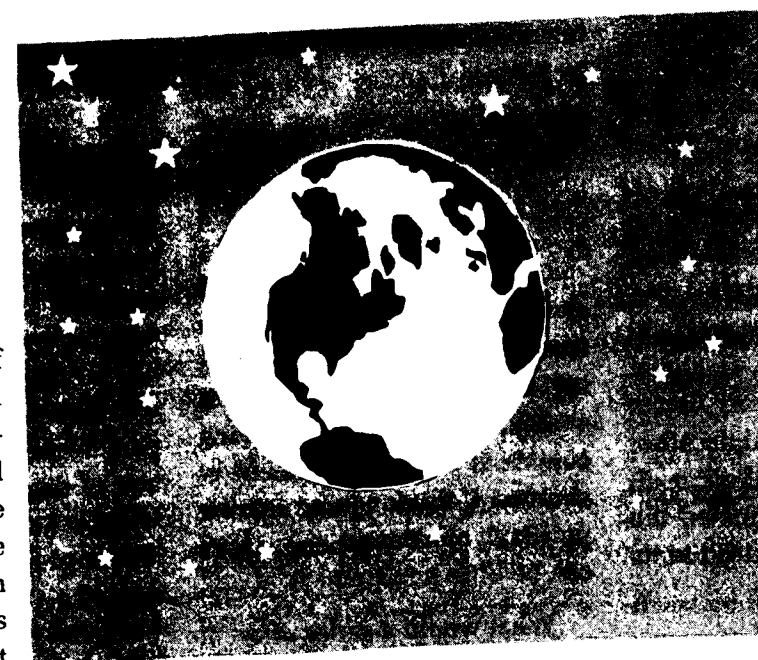
famine does not stalk the land persistently?

An affirmative answer to these questions depends on restoring and preserving the conditions that make the Earth capable of supporting a diversity of life and modern indus-

trial civilization. Human activities have pushed the planet's natural support systems dangerously out of kilter. Continuing on a business-as-usual path virtually assures severe economic disruption, social instability, and human suffering.

In the last few years of the 20th century, difficult questions are emerging of social equity, national sovereignty, and individual rights and responsibilities. For example, a person may be able to afford a large, energy-consuming automobile, but can the planet afford it? Indeed, how many carbon-emitting automobiles can the atmosphere tolerate without Earth's habitability being threatened?

Like it or not, we find ourselves in a world where we are responsible for each other's well-being. Inefficient use of fossil fuels in the Soviet Union and the U.S. contributes to global warming and thus to the eventual inundation of rich cropland in the



Nile River delta of Egypt. Uncontrolled air pollution by any country in central Europe threatens forests throughout the region. The use of chlorofluorocarbons anywhere puts the ozone layer at risk everywhere.

Obviously, a comprehensive global action plan would include many other issues - meeting the world's food needs, curbing population growth, infant mortality, inequitable wealth distribution, and industrial pollution, to name a few - but failure to meet the challenges of global warming could make dealing with other pressing needs virtually impossible. The capacity of national leaders and international institutions will be tested severely in the effort to put the world on firm ecological footing. Yet, in the end, it is we as individuals who are being tested. Our values collectively shape social priorities - what policies are formulated, how resources are used, and when change begins to occur.

There can be little doubt that energy systems are changing the Earth's climate and, with it, many of the natural systems on which humanity depends. Food production, water supplies, forest products industries, and fisheries will be at risk if global warming continues to accelerate during the next several decades. The huge quantities of oil, coal, and natural gas that fueled the modern age well may lead to its decline.

Replacing fossil fuels

There are no quick fixes to this problem. Avoiding destructive climate change will require a fundamental reordering of natural energy priorities within the next decade. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) accounts for about half of the global warming now occurring. Producing less CO₂ requires using less fossil fuels, which means that other energy sources must be found to run the global economy.

Unfortunately, the challenge of making global warming a central concern of national energy policies is far from being realized. Energy policymaking often is driven by self-interested industries and unions, and some, such as the oil and coal lobbies, push for policies that accelerate global warming. Key legislative committees are dominated by provinces or states that produce fossil fuels, and many of the laws and tax breaks that emerge are intended to propel their growth. In Eastern Europe, ossified energy ministries continue to emphasize meeting their five-year plans, regardless of the ecological costs.

The tendency is simply to add global warming to a long list of considerations that go into making energy policy. This is not enough. If energy policymaking continues to be the domain of short-term thinking and narrow political considerations, there can be little hope.

What would a series effort at

slowing climate change look like? There are essentially three ways to displace fossil fuels: improving energy efficiency, thereby accomplishing the same tasks using less oil and coal; developing renewable sources of energy; and expanding the use of nuclear power. Our conclusion is that the simultaneous pursuit of renewables and efficiency - and the abandonment of the nuclear power "option" - is the only safe and cost-effective way to slow global warming. Meanwhile, natural gas has an important role to play as a transition fuel since it produces less carbon per unit of energy than do the other fossil fuels.

The problem with nuclear power is that, over the past 40 years, it has absorbed the vast preponderance of government energy investments and diverted political attention from the real choices at hand. Nuclear power does provide about 15% of the world's electricity and, in theory, could be used to replace coal-fired power plants and reduce carbon emissions, but this is not a practical response. Since its troubled start, nuclear power has been a problem-ridden technology and, unlike renewable energy, its problems are growing. It has become increasingly expensive and accident-prone in the past decade, and the critical issue of disposing of radioactive wastes has yet to be solved. Throughout most of North America, Western Europe, and even the Soviet Union, people

are rejecting the expansion of nuclear power. Unless the tech-

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Worldwide, lighting accounts for about 17% of electricity use or 250,000,000 tons of annual carbon emissions. For common household use, compact fluorescent bulbs using 18 watts of electricity can provide the same illumination as incandescent bulbs that use 75 watts.

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nology is revamped completely and there is a sea change in public attitudes, both of which are increasingly implausible, that scale of expansion is impossible.

Improved energy efficiency can have a much larger and more immediate impact. Shifting to more fuel-efficient transportation could reduce carbon emissions sharply. If vehicles average 50 miles to the gallon rather than the current 20, automobile carbon emissions would fall to 273,00,000 tons, half of what they are today. (Already, prototype cars have been developed that get over 70 miles per gallon.)

They also could be lowered by improving the efficiency of electricity-using devices. Currently, 64% of the world's electricity is produced using fossil

fuels (chiefly coal), accounting for 1,500,000,000 tons of global carbon emissions annually.

More efficient lighting systems have a particularly large potential. Worldwide, lighting accounts for about 17% of electricity use or 250,000,000 tons of annual carbon emissions. For common household use, compact fluorescent bulbs using 18 watts of electricity can provide the same illumination as incandescent bulbs that use 75 watts. Improved bulbs and ballasts can cut the electricity use of commercial buildings lighting by 75% using existing technology. Cogeneration (the combined production of heat and power) also has enormous potential to improve the efficiency with which electricity is generated. This technology allows the inevitable waste heat from electricity generation to be used directly by buildings or industry or for further electricity generation in a combined cycle system.

Over all, energy efficiency improvements worldwide between 1990 and 2010 could make a 3,000,000,000 ton difference in the annual amount of carbon being released into the atmosphere. A study by Irving Mintzer of the World Resources Institute suggests that a reduction in emissions of this magnitude could make a difference of 0.5-1.5. Celsius in the global average temperature by 2075. There is simply no other approach that offers as large an opportunity for limiting carbon

emissions.

Renewable sources of energy do not have nearly as large a potential to displace fossil fuels in the years immediately ahead. However, that potential will grow as the technologies are improved. Solar, hydro, wind, and geothermal power have been pursued with notable successes by governments and private companies since the mid-1970's. Across a broad spectrum of technologies, costs have fallen steadily and performance has improved. If renewable sources are to supply a large share of the world's energy by mid-century, they must be vigorously developed today.

If policymakers do not grasp the link between energy efficiency, renewable energy, and global warming, climate stabilization will not be possible. Although governments have supported these technologies for over a decade, their commitment has been inconstant and wavering. This is particularly true in the U.S., where research and development budgets for renewables and efficiency soared in the late 1970's, but then were cut by 80% between 1981 and 1988, slowing the reduction in carbon output. The U.S. Department of Transportation's recent decision to lower fuel economy standards for automobiles and light trucks will exacerbate global warming, as will the choice of Chinese officials to emphasize extensive coal mining, rather than efficiency. A serious and

lasting government commitment to the development and use of energy-efficient and renewable technologies is a prerequisite to stabilizing world climate. So, too, are individual decisions about the kind of refrigerator to buy, the amount of home insulation to install, and how much to drive a car.

For policymakers, the essential challenge today is to improve energy efficiency in a period of low energy prices. The costs of climate change and other environmental effects of fossil fuels can be reflected in prices for consumers by raising taxes on gasoline and other carbon-based fuels. The U.S., for example, could raise \$100,000,000,000 annually by hiking its gasoline taxes \$1.00 per gallon to the European average tax of \$1.50 per gallon. Alternatively, governments could levy a "carbon tax" on fossil fuels, corresponding to the amount of carbon in each fuel. This would hit coal appropriately hard, since it produces more carbon per unit of energy used than oil or natural gas. Energy prices would rise, efficiency would improve, and renewable energy sources would become more competitive.

Ideally, such taxes should be agreed on internationally so that the additional costs would not hit economies disproportionately. The revenues could be used to offset other taxes and

develop permanent and stable funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy programmes.

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It would, for example, make sense for the international community to devise a programme to use photovoltaics, rather than coal, to electrify all Third World villages by 2010.
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If industrial-country governments devoted 10% of the revenues of such a tax to energy efficiency, renewable energy development, and reforestation in the Third World, it would encourage a broad-based assault on the problem of climate change.

Large-scale investments in energy-efficient buildings also can help stabilize climate. Governments can provide building owners with technical assistance and utility companies can invest in improved building efficiency, rather than new plants. These investments can be essentially self-financing via a revolving fund since they pay for themselves in lowered fuel bills.

Fuel efficiency standards for automobiles, appliances, and other energy-using devices are another proven way to reduce fossil fuel use. U.S. appliance efficiency standards already enacted will displace over 300,000,000 tons of carbon by

the year 2000. The international market for technologies and the common interest in climate stabilization argue for international efficiency standards for automobiles, trucks, lighting systems, appliances, and electric motors. Reaching a minimum new-car fuel efficiency of 50 miles per gallon by the year 2000 and 60 miles per gallon by 2010 would be an important step toward restoring climate stability.

Cost-effective options

To slow global warming significantly, hundreds of billions of dollars of investments in improved energy efficiency ultimately will be required. Although it might seem that such levels are impossible in a debt-swamped world, many energy efficiency options are inherently cost-effective. Companies and individuals ultimately would save money via reduced fuel bills, and the more energy-efficient economies would tend to be more competitive in world markets. Government's role is to set the framework that allows these kinds of cost-effective investments to proliferate.

In other areas, government has a more direct role to play. It would, for example, make sense for the international community to devise a programme to use photovoltaics, rather than coal, to electrify all Third World vil-

lages by 2010. The United Nations and the World Bank, thereby, could spur sustainable development and help slow global warming.

The challenge of raising sufficient funds to invest in efficiency in the Third World is particularly severe. Carbon emissions are growing at annual rates as high as five percent, driven by rapid population growth and expanding economies. China, for example, has plans to more than double its use of coal by sometime after the turn of the century, an "achievement" that well could push it past the U.S. and the Soviet Union as the world's number-one carbon emitter. Already deeply in debt, most developing countries are chronically short of capital. One answer is to redirect a portion of the enormous flow of international lending currently devoted to building power plants and electric lines. The World Bank has begun to consider major loans for improved efficiency.

Global warming already has opened a new chapter in the debates over energy policy in many national capitals. Old battlelines, first established when high oil prices commanded attention, have been redrawn in many cases. Numerous politicians still seem to be hoping for technical fixes that will allow them to avoid making hard choices. This resistance will

have to be overcome if effective energy policy is to be forged out of the global warming threat.

To redirect world energy trends in the absence of direct market pressures is an unprecedented challenge. Politicians will have to rise above the parochial interests that often motivate them, and companies and individuals will have to focus on the real bottom line, which shows that improved efficiency is both cost-effective and can slow global warming. Action will be facilitated if governments adopt short- and long-term carbon reduction goals along the lines of the 20% reduction by 2005 suggested at the 1988 Toronto climate conference. Perhaps more productive would be energy efficient targets, either by

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sector or for the economy as a whole. In any case, there is a clear need both for early national initiatives and eventual international agreements to reduce carbon emissions from fossil fuels.

If, instead, societies persist with business as usual, letting current trends continue, the new age will look very different. Climate change will accelerate, causing untold economic disruption. Summertime heat waves will bring more water shortages, power blackouts, and crop failures. The hunger and malnutrition that has engulfed much of Africa and parts of Latin America during the 1980's will spread. In more countries, infant mortality will rise and life expectancy will fall, as is already happening in Ghana, Madagascar, and Peru. As food riots and famine become more commonplace, and as the chasm between the haves and have-nots widens, social and political institutions will begin to unravel. At some point, a mounting preoccupation with the unstable present will begin to obliterate hopes for reclaiming the future.

There is little precedent for the scale of action needed over the next decade. In recent history, the only time when change even remotely approached what needed now was in the early 1940's, when countries mobilized for war. There are, however, important

differences. Despite its name, World War II scarcely touched many parts of the globe. The dangers were clear and immediate for those involved, and they knew the military effort was temporary. This made the sacrifices

and adjustments needed to mount an effective fight easier to bear.

By contrast, the battle to protect the Earth's life-support systems lacks definition in the minds of many. The danger is not so clear at present. Climate change is a gradual process and therefore difficult to mobilize against. Moreover, the adjustments needed are permanent, for they are the prerequisites for long-term progress. Given these characteristics, a timely response to environmental threats depends less on emotion and more on reason - which may explain the growing gap between what needs to be done to secure the future and what is being done.

Social change on the scale needed will take society into uncharted territory. It will require converting a global economy now using six percent of its resources for means of destruction into one devoted to the reconstruction of the planet. In essence, the task is to organize and sustain a survival economy much the way countries today maintain permanent standing armies and strategic weapons in the hope of deterring war. Rather than sitting idle, however, the investments in our planet's future will be used productively - for planting trees, developing renewable energy sources, and expanding food production, among other vital tasks.

Launching and carrying through on the initiatives needed to safeguard the planet will place

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Our values, choices, and behaviors shape social and political change. Unless more of us join the effort, there is little hope of halting the planet's deterioration.”

extraordinary demands on political leaders and a high premium on imaginative leadership. As shown by the progress of air pollution control in Europe or protection of the ozone layer globally, action by just a few countries can inspire many others to join in. When the prime ministers of Canada and Norway publicly embraced the goal of reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 20% by 2005, they helped move concerns about climate change from research institutes into legislatures, where they now need to be.

Whether the 1990's becomes a turn-around decade also will depend heavily on the response of scientists and the communications media, for both play key roles in broad-based public education. As important as scientists' findings in their laboratories will be their ability and willingness to translate these discoveries into terms understandable

to nonscientists. Similarly, the media will serve the public's need for information better when it begins conveying, for example, that deforestation rates are as important an indicator of societal health as inflation rates.

Ultimately, responsibility for the future rests with individuals. Our values, choices, and behaviors shape social and political change. Unless more of us join the effort, there is little hope of halting the planet's deterioration. The risk is that, if we do not move fast enough, pressures on social institutions will become excessive, and they will be in to unravel. By the end of the next decade, the die will pretty well be cast. As the world enters the 21st century, the community of nations either will have rallied and turned back the threatening trends, or environmental deterioration and social disintegration will be feeding on each other. The ultimate rationale for a massive social mobilization to reverse these trends is summed up in a bit of graffiti painted on a bridge in Rock Creek Park in Washington, D.C.: "Good planets are hard to find."

Article by :
Lester R. Brown,
Christopher Flavin and
Sandra Postel

Courtesy : The USA Today.

HEALTH

ASTHMA IN CHILDREN

Asthma can start at any age and it is one of the most common childhood diseases. There are many causes for this disease but understanding the disease can help you care your child better.

Asthma is a disorder of the respiratory (breathing system) involving the lungs and the airways. The typical signs and symptoms are attacks of breathlessness, wheezing (that is breathing with difficulty and whistling sound) and coughing which can start within 15 minutes of exposure to the stimulating factors. If there is great breathing difficulty, the person may perspire and have a fast pulse rate. These attacks come in episodes and are usually reversible spontaneously or on treatment. Between attacks, the patient has a normal breathing pattern.

Childhood asthma is one of the most common diseases causing absence from school. Boys are twice more likely to develop asthma than girls. In many children, the attacks become less severe and occur less frequently from the age of 6-8 years and at least one third of them grow out of it by puberty.

What can start off an attack?

The air passage of the asthmatic are abnormally, sensitive (hyper-reactive) to a variety of substances and conditions. For an asthmatic child, the stimuli for an attack can be any of the following.

Environmental Factors :

- * Allergens, pollens (especially, grasses) mould spores, animals fur and dandruff, house dust, mite, biological detergents.
- * Foods, milk, eggs, nuts, alcoholic drinks, tartrazine, (food additive) sulphur dioxide preservative.
- * Non specific irritants, dust, cigarette smoke,

- air pollutants,
- * Exercise
- * Stress and emotional disturbance
- * Change of air temperature
- * Chemical fumes including exhaust fumes. Medical condition & medicines.
- * Respiratory infection (especially viruses)
- * Some antibiotics and other medicines.
- * Certain medicines and devices used in asthma treatment.
- * Certain ingredients in the medicine such as preservatives and dyes.

Although some children are sensitive to only one of these agents, most are sensitive to several, so attacks may be due to combined effects of these factors.

How is asthma first diagnosed?

The diagnosis of asthma can be fairly straightforward. However, in some children, it can take a while for the picture to become clear. But, there are several pointers which help health care professionals make the diagnosis.

- * Is the cough, tightness or wheeze worse at night, just before going to bed or just after waking?
- * Is the cough, tightness or wheeze better after using a relieving inhaler?
- * Is the cough, tightness or wheeze worse after exercise?

If the answer is yes to any of the above questions then the child probably has asthma. Cough is a more important sign than wheeze in preschool children. In fact, wheeze in an infant is more likely to be due to a viral infection than asthma.

Common questions about asthma

* Is asthma hereditary?

Most childhood asthma is linked to a family history of allergy, such as eczema, allergic rhinitis and asthma.

parents is not looking or doing something else.

Safety Measures :

- * Never leave your baby unattended on the bed, sofa, chair or tabletop.
- * Always use safety straps to secure your baby in her high chair or baby seat.
- * Install window guards on all windows.

POISONING :

In an annual report by the American Association of Poison Control Centers Toxic Exposure Surveillance System, over 415,000 kids of one year and below were exposed to poison in 1993 (in USA).



Safety Measures :

- * Keep all potentially harmful products out of reach of your child. This may include medicines, pesticides of household detergents. Never refer 'medicine' as a 'candy' to your Child and misguide them.
- * Keep perfumes, cosmetics and mouthwash on high shelves.
- * If you keep plants at home make sure they are not poisonous or pose a potential threat to your child.

BURNS

Babies and children have thinner skin than adults and are therefore more susceptible to burns at lower temperature within a shorter period of time. Hot tap water, heated beverages and foods are potential causes of burns in young children.

Safety Measures



- * Always test the water temperature before putting your baby in the bathtub, or before pouring hot water on the child.
- * Sterilise the milk bottle in hot water and cool it down before re using it.
- * Do not hold your child and a cup of hot beverage at the same time.
- * Keep hot foods and water away from the table edge.
- * Never carry your child when you are cooking. He could reach out and touch the hot pan or worse get scalded by heated oil.
- * Do not let your child come near you when you are ironing. He may accidentally pull the iron cord when you are not looking and get scalded.
- * Always keep matches and lighters safe in a high cabinet. It is better to be a little inconvenient for yourself than for it to pose a danger to your child.

SUFFOCATION AND STRANGULATION



Young children, especially babies fall easy prey to these hazards, most often than not due to the parent's negligence.

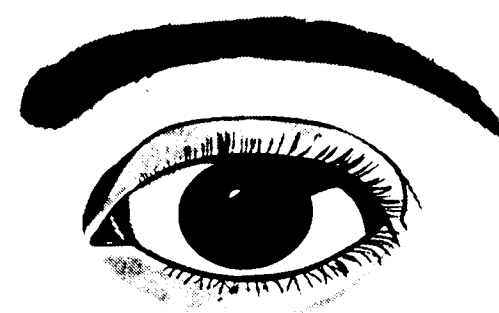
Safety Measures :

- * Make sure the baby's cot mattress is firm and fits the cot perfectly.
- * Check that the gap between the cot railings are not wide enough for the baby to get his head struck.
- * Do not put pillows or thick comforters in the bay's cot.
- * Keep Plastic bags away from your child.
- * Avoid toys that come with strings or cords which could pose a strangulation hazard.
- * Never tie a pacifier or anything around your child's neck.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EYE HOSPITALS TO BE SET UP IN DISTRICTS

Separate Eye Hospital with independent infra-structure will be opened in all Districts before the end of this year, the Minister for Health Thiru N. Veerasamy, said on 10.8.96.



Inaugurating the "District Seminar on Vision Care" the Minister said that the State had received Rs.65 crores from the World Bank for the purpose. The State had plans to offer eye care in rural areas needing the services of Ophthalmologists.

Tips to perfect health

- * Do not use elevators when you can climb.
- * Focus on breathing. Take a deep breath, then exhale slowly. Repeat a couple of times every day.
- * Learn to relax. Spend 20 minutes consciously relaxing each muscle of your body.
- * Spend 20 minutes a day in silent meditation, prayer or contemplation.
- * Learn the healing power of laughter. Watch a crazy movie, recall a joke, read a funny book and laugh out loud.
- * Tap the powers of the sub-conscious. Relax your body for 20 minutes and project the 'Perfect You' on your mind screen.
- * Balance your lifestyle. Devote equal time each week to work and fun.
- * Join kids in a sports activity and re-discover the joys of childhood.
- * Do keep in touch with friends. Call up, visit and be at peace with the world.
- * Enrol in an activity (like dancing, swimming or roller skating...) you never indulged in because you were afraid of "what people might say".
- * Forgive the person who you think has done you wrong and cleanse your spirit of rancour.
- * Do a nice turn to someone you don't know too well, but who could do with a friend.
- * Spend a quiet half-hour chatting with your family.
- * Listen to soothing music for 15 minutes atleast each day.
- * Read a great book once a week.

* Is asthma contagious?

Asthma cannot be passed from one to another by contact or by being in the same room, unlike infective diseases such as measles or the common cold. It is also not transmitted when an asthmatic mother breast-feeds her baby. However, certain asthma medication taken by the mother may be passed through the breast milk and this may be harmful to the child. Therefore it is best to take medication under your doctor's supervision during pregnancy and when breastfeeding.

* What happens during an asthmatic attack?

In an asthmatic attack, some of the muscles in the airway contract and the airways also become swollen with the buildup of this (also known as inflammation). At the same time an abnormal thick mucus is secreted which may plug smaller airways.

The result will be the child experiencing difficulty in breathing due to the reduced capacity of the airways.

* Do asthma attacks occur more in the night?

About 90% of asthmatics suffer attacks at night and in the early hours of the morning. There are several possible biological explanations for the phenomena. As air temperature may contribute to a small extent, it is best for the asthmatic not to sleep in cold rooms.

Management of asthma

Parents need to understand the nature of asthma and plan firstly to control symptoms, minimize anxiety and permit as normal a life as possible; next to educate the affected child about the possible agents and conditions which provoke to the attack and avoid them.

“

Some general measures include removing pets, using non allergenic bed clothing, minimizing house dust, stopping smoking in the family, reducing stress controlling any chest infection promptly, encourage the child to take up swimming which helps to develop their airways.

”

Some general measures include removing pets, using non allergenic bed clothing, minimizing house dust, stopping smoking in the family, reducing stress, controlling any chest infection promptly, encourage the child to take up swimming which helps to develop their airways.

The other aspect of managing asthma is medications. Asthma is controlled by basically two groups of medications. The first group are the 'relievers' or bronchodilators eg, salbutamol, theophylline. The second group are the 'preventors' or as anti-inflammatory agents eg. Corticosteroids, sodium cromoglycate and ketotifen. One or more

medicine may be prescribed by the Doctor depending on the severity of the asthmatic attack.

Traditional medicine for asthma

Before the advent of western medical sciences, numerous traditional herbal treatments were used to relieve the symptoms of asthma. Some are soothing and may break-down the mucus.

In general, traditional tonics considered to be food supplements and may be used if they do not interfere with the prescribed medication. In order, not to upset the management of the asthma condition, parents are advised against discontinuing or substituting the medications prescribed by the doctor without consulting the doctor again.

However, cautions should be exercised as some herbal preparations, may be adulterated with asthmatic medicine, like theophylline and corticosteroids to achieve faster results. This can lead to undesirable side effects if there is an overdose of the asthma medicines. It is therefore always wise to buy herbal remedies of reputable brand with assurance from established retailers.

●

Prevent Home Accidents

SIX POTENTIAL ACCIDENTS YOU CAN AVOID FROM HAPPENING TO CHILDREN

Home accidents have been on the rise, often because of carelessness. Tamil Arasu 'discusses' ways to avoid a few house accidents that can happen to children. Please take care.

CHOKING

Infants put almost anything and everything into their mouth. Parents should keep all small objects or items that have tiny, detachable parts out of a baby's reach as they can pose a choking hazard.



Safety measures :

- * Buy toys that are appropriate for your child's age. Check the labels if you're unsure.
- * Encourage your older kids to keep their toys (that can be potentially dangerous) away from their baby brother or sister.
- * Check toy frequently for loose or broken parts that could cause choking.
- * Make sure that baby's toys like rattle and teethers are large enough so that they cannot become lodged in an infant's throat.
- * Regularly check floors for small objects like coins, paper clips, hair pins etc.
- * If your child is under four, do not give him hard candies, popcorn, nuts, raisins or grapes.

DROWNING

A baby can drown in only one inch of water

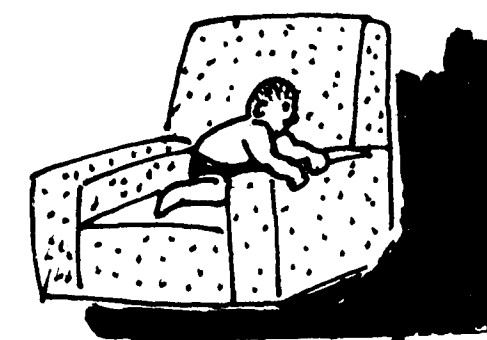


Safety Measures :

- * Never leave your baby or toddler unattended in the bath while you answer the phone or the door.
- * If you live in a house near a pond or with a private swimming pool, instal a four sided fence around it so your baby or toddler will not risk falling into the water.

FALLS

Babies or even toddlers can roll off a high landing such as the bed onto the floor if the



TRUE STORY

CALL OUT THE RESERVES

The desire to win enables many people to win, who at least theoretically couldn't, against overwhelming odds. Billy Miske was such a man. He was a fighter and boxing champion like Tommy Gibbons, Harry Greb and Battling Levinsky. He also fought Jack Dempsey for the heavyweight championship of the world. At 25, when he should have been at his peak and headed for even greater heights, he was hospitalized with a serious illness. The doctors told him to quit the ring. He should have, but fighting was the only thing he could do. By the time he was 29, his kidneys were shot. He knew he was dying of Bright's disease and he had only one fight that year. Too weak to go to the gym to train, too sick to seek any other job, he stayed at home with his family and watched his family's finances reach desperate straits.

Christmas was around the corner and his love for his family cried out to him to provide that "Merry Christmas" for them. In November, Miske went into Minneapolis to see his friend and manager Jack Reddy to persuade him to arrange a fight. At first Reddy was adamant in his refusal. He knew of Miske's condition and he would have no part in such a fight. Miske pleaded his case well, explained he was broke and that he knew he wouldn't be around much longer. He had to have just one more fight because Christmas was on its way and his family was in need. Finally, Reddy agreed under the condition that Miske train and get in shape. Miske knew he was too weak to get into shape, but promised he would make a good fight.

Against his better judgement, Reddy finally gave in and matched his old friend with Bill Brennan. The fight was slated to take place in Omaha, Nebraska. Brennan was a tough, hard fighter who had gone twelve rounds with Dempsey. He was past his prime, but he was still a formidable opponent for a dying man.

Since Miske didn't have the stamina to train, he stayed at home to conserve his strength. He went to Omaha just in time for the fight. In those days, Boxing Commissions were considerably more lenient than they are today, so they passed Miske. The fight drew well and when it was over Billy Miske picked up his \$2,400 purse and went home to his family and Christmas. He spent

“
His pride and desire to be
at his best for the
family he loved, drove him
to unbelievable
efforts.”

it all on the things the family wanted and had been doing without. It was truly a happy occasion, the biggest Christmas the Miske family ever had. On December 26th, Miske called Jack Reddy to take him to the Saint Paul Hospital, where he died on New Year's day. The last fight on his record had been just six weeks before and his friends couldn't believe it. Billy was weak and dying and it would have been easy for him to have taken a dive. However, his pride and desire to be at his best for the family he loved, drove him to unbelievable efforts. Bill Brennan was knocked out in four rounds. Miske tapped his reserve resources because of his desire to win. Your reserves are available too - when you have the desire to use them.

(Courtesy : Ziz Ziglar's See You at the Top)



Royal purple
daring red
brilliant yellow
exquisite white
in almost every
imaginable hue
From classic to

Co-optex
TAMILARASU

தமிழக அரசு திறைப்பட விருதுகள்
வழங்கும் விழா
18.08.1996.

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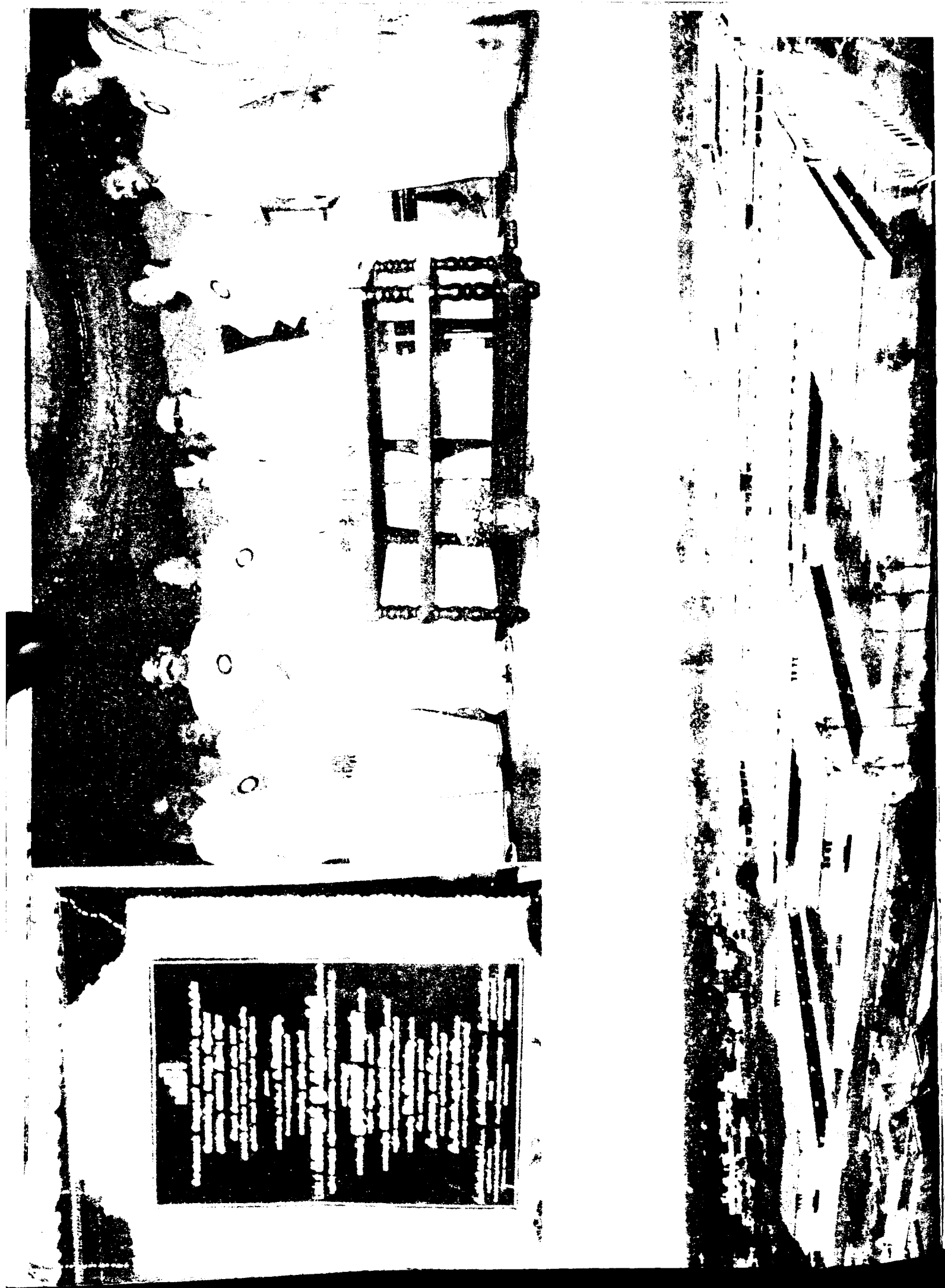
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CHIEF MINISTER'S ASSURANCE

We will provide an investor friendly environment... Addressing the Energy Summit '96 at Chennai on 11.9.96, the Chief Minister explains the Government's steps to improve power generation, transmission and distribution in the State.

4

REMEMBERING ANNA

We reproduce a speech given by Arignar Anna that extols the virtue of being a Tamil. Arignar Anna's birthday falls on 15th September.

6

COMMON MAN

A poem by Kalaigiar M. Karunanidhi. Translated into English.

9

KOYAMBEDU MARKET OPENS

Chief Minister Kalaigiar M. Karunanidhi declared open the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex on 28.8.96. A report.

13

KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL

Why do more girls drop out of school? And what can be done to keep them there?

15

RECORD PLAN OUTLAY

The 1996-97 Annual Plan Outlay for Tamil Nadu has been fixed at Rs. 3700 crores. A report.

18

IF IT WEREN'T FOR CATERPILLARS...

How to change oneself for the better? How to accomplish personal progress? A classic article on self-development.

22

ASPIRING FOR CIVIL SERVICE

Dr. K.M. Pathusha discusses the ways and means to increase success of civil service aspirants in Tamil Nadu.

24

TAKE THE ACHE OUT OF BACKACHE

Stop suffering because of backaches. Some sensible guidelines.

28

THE WHOLE EARTH AGENDA

Environment is becoming an important aspect of world security. A document on Climate and Pollution.

30

CONSUMER AWARENESS

React to sub-standard products and indifferent service. By a letter. And reap the rewards.

32

TRUE STORY

A scintillating short story that proves goodness pays very generously, in the long run.

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"WE ARE DETERMINED TO PROVIDE AN INVESTOR - FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT TO PROMOTE RAPID INDUSTRIAL GROWTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT"

Inaugural speech of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 11th September 1996, at Energy Summit '96



Every one of us is aware that Electrical Energy is a vital input for the development of a country. I am happy to note that this Energy Summit '96 is designed to look at the opportunities in the Indian Power Sector, in the areas of Energy Conservation, Renovation and Modernisation of the existing power plants, establishment of small power plants and setting up of major power plants in the Private Sector. I am also given to understand that an Exhibition displaying the Energy Saving Devices, Energy Monitoring Equipments, etc. is being conducted during this period of Energy Summit. I am confident that this Exhibition would be an attraction to the large number of Business Visitors from all over India.

The Tamil Nadu Government is determined to provide an investor-friendly environment to promote rapid industrial growth and economic

development. We are aware that provision of adequate infrastructure, especially power, is an essential prerequisite for development and are taking a number of steps to increase the generation of power and improve its transmission and distribution.

The present total installed capacity at our command, including the share from the Central Generating Stations is 6,579 Mega Watts. The highest peak demand met so far is 4,555 Mega Watts and the highest daily energy

consumption registered is 96 Million Units. As on date, there is no Power Cut in the State. The Load Growth in Tamil Nadu is 10% per annum. The Demand and Energy requirement at the end of the Ninth Plan is estimated to be 9020 Mega Watts and 49,200 Million Units.

In line with the Central Government's Liberalisation and Globalisation Policy, throwing open the Power Sector to Independent Power Producers, Sixteen Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed for a total capacity of 10,650 Mega Watts. We expect 200 Mega Watt of Power from IPPs by the end of 1998, about 3000 Mega Watts by 2002 and about 9,000 Mega Watts by 2005 from these IPPs. Transmission facilities to evacuate the power have already been planned and would be executed in time. Suitable sites are being identified for additional power projects in the Private Sector in this State.

National Thermal Power Corporation, the Premier Power Generating Company in the Private Sector in the country will set up a 2000 MW Thermal Power Station at Cheyyur, about 80 KMs South of Chennai.

As the power from large IPPs is likely to be substantially available only after the year 2000, in order to meet the demand for power in the State during the next four years, we have decided to set up smaller liquid fuel based power plants of capacity upto 100 MW. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation, with the technical support from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board will be calling for bids to establish power plants of capacity ranging from 40 MW to 100 MW in 20 locations in Tamil Nadu.

"We are determined that the entire process of selection and award of contracts to the successful bidder should be fair, transparent and on internationally competitive basis."

We are determined that the entire process of selection and award of contracts to the successful bidder should be fair, transparent and on internationally competitive basis. I would therefore invite the interested firms both from India and abroad to take part in the bidding. I would like to state certainly that we are aware of the capital constraint in this country and welcome investment in the Power Sector of this State from foreign investors.

Our Government takes Energy Conservation seriously. We are aware that energy conservation results in reduction of investment needs as well as environmental pollution. We have planned to create awareness among the electricity consumers to encourage the use of energy efficient lamps and equipment in houses, agricultural, industrial and commercial sectors. We have made energy audit compulsory in industries. Various measures like installation of capacitors in substations and on transmission lines, adopting Demand Side Management Techniques, reconfiguration of the present Power Network, planning for

more substations at optimal locations to improve the voltage profile are being taken to reduce the line losses. The Transmission and Distribution Loss in Tamil Nadu is 17% which is well below the All-India average of 22%. We expect to bring this down further. Realising that Energy Conservation benefits the State in reducing the investment in generation reduction in environmental pollution, our Government would actively promote Energy Conservation measures. Adequate State Plan allocation would be ensured to strengthen the

Transmission and Distribution Network to ensure reliable and quality power to the consumers.

In the Renewable Energy Sources Front, Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in promoting power generation from

Renewable Energy Sources. I am proud to state that our State has been in the forefront in respect of windmill power generation, with a capacity of 555 Mega Watt already installed. The potential available in our State of Tamil Nadu is estimated at 2000 MW and every year 100 Megawatts are being added. The generated power is purchased by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. In respect of harnessing Solar Energy, 100 Solar Photo Voltaic Pumpsets are in operation. A programme of installing larger number of Solar Photo Voltaic Pumpsets in Tamil Nadu is being actively considered.

Co-generation in Sugar Mills and other Industries is an area of priority for our Government. As on date, about 55 Megawatts of power is generated by Sugar Mills in the State. In 1996-97 and 1997-98, about 88 Megawatts and 104 MW of new co-generation capacity will be added by the Sugar Mills. By the year 1999, Tamil Nadu will have 500 MW of co-generation capacity.

(Excerpts from the original text of the Speech) ♦

ANCIENT TAMIL NADU'S LOFTY CONCEPTS TRANSCENDING PAROCHIALISM

Arignar Anna

To-day under the auspices of Pachaiappa's College Tamil Sangam, the portraits of two great Tamil men of letters are being unveiled and a special number also is being issued to commemorate the occasion. I am elated to take part in this function and unveil the portrait of Mu. Va. the great Tamil savant and professor who had rendered yeoman service as professor of Tamil in this college and contributed much to research in Tamil besides authoring books of essays, stories etc. that breathe life-truths of perennial interest. He had said everything in his own inimitable style and in a manner illuminating than polemical. There are speakers and writers who speak or write without forethought. But Mu.Va. thinks as he writes and makes others think simultaneously. Such is the might of his pen. For a literary piece to be enduring it should not be the product of emotional outburst alone. Such works born of emotion can't stand the test of time. The works that cause astonishment lead to clarity which in turn paves the way for rightly perceiving the truth of the matter. This correct perception should give a sense of assurance and certainly to the reader and impel him to spread the knowledge so gained to others. Dr. Mu.Va's works have this power of alchemy, as it were; he has embellished in well over seventy of his works the ideas and message of Kural and the Tamil classics.

Time was when Pandits delighted in writing literary works that others could not understand and that they alone could decipher. The Tamils felt delighted in writing cryptically. Even cures for scorpion's sting and snake bite were kept secret. Very many works of Tamil pulavars seem obscure by their own pedantry and so unintelligible to others.



Our worry is not that there are no classics or great literary works in Tamil. Many others don't possess this much literary lore in their languages. But our comprehension of our classics had not kept pace with the uniqueness of our classics. Mu.Va had taken upon himself the task of propagating the message of the Tamil Classics to people at large by diction, simple and intelligible to masses and classes of TamilNadu. A portrait can't be an adequate recompense to what he had done for Tamil and Tamil Nadu. We should note how he had served Tamil and developed it. So also we should have the determination that we would transmit all that we had learnt from our ancient Tamil works to others in a manner suited to them. If students resolve to do so firmly, then the future of Tamil is safe and secure.

If any one ask what are the concepts, ideals that Tamil literature is endowed with that other literatures can't boast of, my reply is this. Nowadays leaders of rank all over India social reformers and people who are eager to spread modern liberal ideas among the people, all of them are emphatic in their conviction that the caste system should go. For so long as caste

differences prevail, social cohesiveness among people can't be seen and there will be tendencies of mutual jealousy and dupe and looking down upon each other. But the feelings or ideas that tended to create caste-system are conspicuous by their absence in ancient Tamil Nadu. The very word 'jati' is foreign to Tamil. The first letter 'ja' of the word is not a Tamil letter. As no caste system prevailed in ancient Tamil Nadu the word 'jati' is not to be seen in old Tamil works. Aram is so meaningful that it can be expatiated upon at great length. A line in a Tamil classic poem says, "I am not a merchant trading in 'aram' (Righteousness) performing a good deed in this birth with a view of reaping the benefit there of in the next world."

When I had been to U.S.A., I had occasion to visit U.N.O. where I found the flags of every nation flying side by side in gorgeous colours and in fine array. I observed in course of a talk with the Secretary-General of the U.N. that our ancient Tamils had this universal vision as is clear from the dictum, "any hamlet is ours and any one our kinsman." I suggested to the Secretary-General to kindly arrange displaying this lofty Tamil dictum in the U.N. along with its translation.

Such ideas that we cherished from times immemorial and that were so natural to Tamil society had to be brought home to us by the forceful revolutionary poems of Bharathidasan and the didactic essays of Mu. Va after an interregnum of 2,000 years. The virtuous precepts formed the basis of ancient Tamil Society were disturbed and thrown out of the shape by the graft of ideas, customs that came from without. We can get rid of the intruded, unhealthy matter only by drawing sustenance from the writings of Mu.Va and Bharathidasan. Their literary creations have the added significance immortally. They will infuse courage whenever the Tamils are dejected and look forlorn. Their works will keep aloft the true Tamil genius, spirit and culture.

It is but fitting that you have called upon me to unveil the portrait of Mu.Va and my brother Karunanidhi to unveil the portrait of the revolutionary poet Bharathidasan.

My connection with Pachaiyappa's College is an intimate one. I used to visit my alma mater atleast once a year and address meetings. Though I had no benefit of studying Tamil as an optional subject of study my deep fervour and love for Tamil were the result of fruitful guidance I had from the Tamil Professors Mani Tirunavukkarasu Mudaliar and Mosur Kandaswamy Mudaliar. The latter was well versed both in Tamil and English.

In those days conditions of college life were different. During the five years of my study in this college I had called on the Principal only thrice. We could not meet the Principal so easily as you do nowadays. So different were we.

It is a welcome trend that students are developing a liking for Tamil and its growth. In order that the message of Tamil is spread to other societies Tamil should gain pride of place atleast in Tamil Nadu. The incursion of Hindi even in a piece meal manner either overtly or covertly should be resisted by the combined strength of all of us.

(Gist in English of Anna's Speech in Tamil at Pachaiyappa's College.)

Courtesy : The voice of Great Anna.

"CHENNAI TAKESOVER MADRAS"

The Government of India has accepted the Tamil Nadu Government's recommendation changing the name of the city of Madras to "Chennai". The alteration of name was published in an extraordinary gazette of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The city of Madras (alteration of name) Act 1996 was officially notified by G.O.Ms. No. 1002 - Revenue Department dated 13.9.96.

Common Man

- Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi.

To raise our life
To heaven of peace
Is my belief -

To high and low,
Distinctions barred,
Equality
Is sure relief!

All Revolts
Are mind creations!
All Revolts
Are feelings, explosions!
All Risings
Are in Writings!
All Resolves
Equality raise!

All these
Must have genesised
Long long ago
A saga to praise,
A Era to sing,

Is there a Man
Who has known
Life in all its own?
We call the birds,
Mammals and Movables
As fully alive:
We call a man
Not rationale
But just mobile,

All pride to cry
"We live our life
In peace and strife!"

We see them sip
Life's honeyed bliss
Like babes in cues!



They mire their paths
Like bullock pairs! -
The tiger pleased with prey,
The python mouthing deers,
More than its hunger needs,

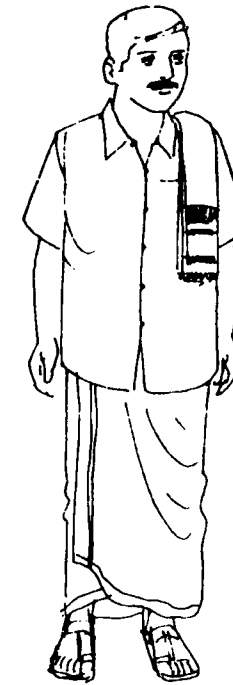
The scenes witnessed,
They do not learn
The art of running life, -
What else to do?

Death may be at Six
Or may be one hundred-
A truthful man
Is not afraid of long life span;
He braves all storms,
He fights all harms;

But one sunk
In sensuousness,
Can never Survive
And will perish
In life devilich

That one who clings
To home and mate,
His own children
And Kith and Kin
Is not Human;

But he alone
Is truer man
Who swears to lift
His countrymen
And his dialects
To freedomed heights
And he alone is chosen man,
A common man -
A man to illumine
All his countrymen!



(Translated by Dr. Krishna Srinivas)



SECOND ROUND OF TALKS ON CAUVERY WATERS



“For a very long time, Tamil Nadu has been engaged in constructive discussions with Karnataka and the discussions would continue, however, keeping in mind the existence and importance of Tribunal. As the United Front was in power at the Centre, the discussions could lead to a fruitful solution”, said the Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi addressing a Joint Press Conference with the Chief Minister of Karnataka at Bangalore on 4.9.96. The Chief Ministers were addressing the press after about an hour long discussions at Vidhan Sowdha held earlier.

The discussions to find a permanent solution to the Cauvery Waters issue also centered around the release of water during this month. It was decided at the meeting to have a third round of talks in the fourth week of September. The Chief

Minister of Karnataka Thiru J.H. Patel said, “We are meeting again towards the end of the month to take a final decision” The venue is yet to be decided.

Thiru J.H. Patel said at the press meeting, the second round of talks was held with the same confidence and co-operation as the first round of talks at Chennai on August 5.

The Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, Thiru Sidaaramaiah and the Major Irrigation Minister Thiru. K.N. Nage Gowda were part of the Karnataka delegation. Minister for Public Works Department, Thiru Duraimurugan, Minister for Health and Electricity, Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy, Law Minister Thiru Aladi Aruna, Chief Secretary Thiru K.A. Nambiar, and senior officials assisted the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister during the discussions. ♦

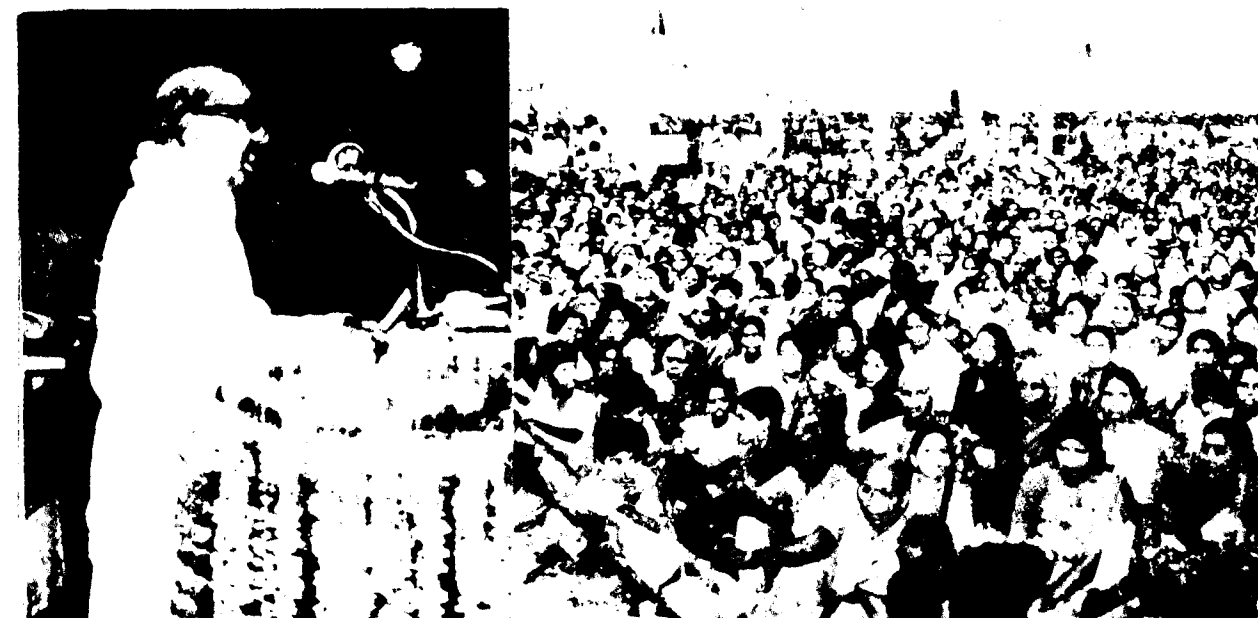
Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex inaugurated GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE HOUSING TO TRADERS

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi declared open the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex at Koyambedu, Chennai on 28th August 1996.

Declaring open the complex, the Chief Minister in his address referred to a demand made by a traders' representatives said, the Government would take necessary steps to

member Market Management Committee having representatives from traders and Government Officials, for managing and maintaining the complex.

He commended the Minister in charge of MMDA Thiru K. Ponmudi and officials of the MMDA for the excellent facilities provided in the complex. He also honoured Thiru Kuldip



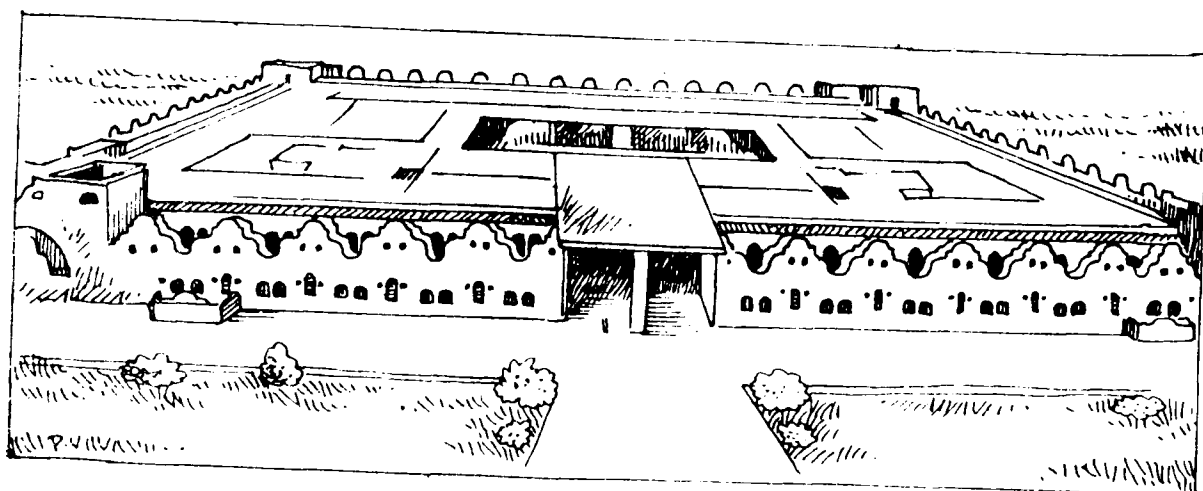
provide housing facilities for traders of the Koyambedu Wholesale Market.

The Chief Minister said he has had a look at the facilities and infrastructure provided in the market complex. He had suggested construction of more number of toilets and said the open lands in the market area could be used for the housing schemes.

Referring to another demand from the traders' representatives, the Chief Minister said the Government with assistance from MMDA would provide support for managing and maintaining the complex for one year. He also said the Government has formed a seven

Singh, who had designed the complex. The Chief Minister detailed the measures being initiated for decongesting the Kothawal Market. He said compared to the perishable shops which were now on 4 acre plot in North Chennai, the new complex had come up on a 300 acre site, with various infrastructural facilities.

Chiding his party colleagues for converting the issue of naming the complex after him into a debate, he refused to oblige by naming the complex on his own name. He said the name should have some historical significance and that was why he had refused to name Thiruvarur District after himself and gave it the name of Dravidian Leader A.T. Panneerselvam.



and MMDA Complex after Thalamuthu Natarajan, who participated in anti-Hindi agitation. He announced that the vegetable market would be named after Periyar, the fruit market after Anna and flower market after Kamarajar.

Thiru K. Ponmudi, Minister for Transport said 306 shops were being allotted to platform vendors, besides 456 fruit shops, 456 flower shops and 1,422 vegetable shops. Tmt. Jayanthi, Vice Chairperson of the MMDA said the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex had been built at a cost of Rs. 77

crores. Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy, Minister for Health distributed the documents for the shops to some traders.

Thiru N.V.N. Somu, the Union Minister of State for Defence, Thiru Parithi Ilamvazhuthi, Deputy Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru K. Pichandi, the Minister for Housing, Thiru M.K. Stalin, Thiru J.M. Haroon, Thiru K. Kittu, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru S. Rajarathinam, Secretary of Housing Department and Thiru M.M. Farooqui, the MMDA Member Secretary, spoke on the occasion.

DECONGESTION OF CHENNAI - MMDA'S PLANS

Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu is the fourth largest city in our country. The population in Chennai city and in Chennai Metropolitan Area is about 40 lakhs and 60 lakhs respectively and it is estimated to grow to 60 lakhs and 95 lakhs respectively by 2011. The George Town (GT) area, CBD of Chennai City is intermixed with wholesale activities in steel, vegetable, fruits, flowers, stationaries and paper, textile, food grains and intense residential developments and office uses. It has become incapable of serving the vastly expanded metropolis. Intensive activities, high land and rental values, narrow street system (developed during past centuries), lack of parking spaces and movement of a mixture of

vehicle types (ranging from slow moving bullock carts / cycle rickshaws to heavy trucks), and non-availability of space for expansion have led to over crowding, traffic congestion, woeful inadequacies in infrastructure such as water supply, sewerage and conservancy. Particularly the trades in perishables are conducted in the area in unhygienic environment. The premises are in old outworn condition.

MMDA'S PLANS FOR GEORGE TOWN

The adverse impacts of this unsatisfactory quality of life in general in the CBD are suffered not only by the public at large but also by all those who are directly concerned including

the traders, labourers, transport operators, the authorities in charge of traffic regulation, city maintenance and conservancy. Recognising the close connections with the trades, movement of goods and economic life of the city relatively painless solutions have been worked out by Madras Metropolitan Development Authority (MMDA). As a possible solution to the above said problems of CBD, MMDA has planned for establishment of new market complexes for wholesale trades and new city level bus and truck terminals at sites which are well clear of the congested areas, and also without being much far away from the City. Market Complexes at Koyambedu (for perishables, textiles, foodgrains) and Sathangadu (for iron and steel), Bus and Truck Terminal at Madhavaram, are the few such developments being executed to decongest the GT area and to provide better / healthy environment for these activities. Once the activities are shifted, the premises used for these activities will be or allowed to be redeveloped for less intense activities (particularly for those which do not attract truck / heavy vehicles traffic) with adequate open spaces to improve the living environment of the areas.

MOVING EXISTING MARKETS

The congestion is the main problem in the existing markets at GT; vehicles parked in front of shops / stalls obscure the shop and hold up traffic in the very narrow streets. The goods-in function is mixed up and impedes the goods-out function. There is a social reason also to shift these markets: to make the process of market more efficient as a means of moving goods from producer to consumer, thus protecting the price mechanisms and availability. Further old outworn premises are inconvenient for trades. Markets rely more on modern methods of goods handling and communication; more efficient buildings and layouts can improve efficiency of operation.

A large proportion of the traders have indicated not only their willingness but also their desire to move to Koyambedu. The traders are not only convinced about the goods the project may deliver to them and to the general public, but also for looked security of tenure in

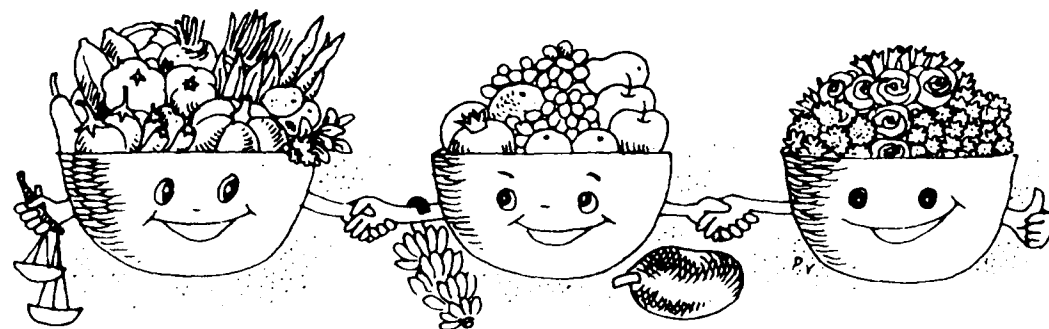
the new market which is absent in their present location. They also see it as a means of investing for their future.

THE KOYAMBEDU MARKET COMPLEX

The wholesale market complex at Koyambedu is being developed over an area of 295 acres, to house wholesale markets in perishables, foodgrains and groceries, and textiles with all required amenities and facilities. The project site comprises of Government / Government agency lands of 60.04 acres and private lands of 235.68 acres. So far 166.05 acres of private lands has been taken possession and the remaining lands to extent 69.63 acres are under varrious stages of acquisition. In the contiguous areas development of facilities and amenities in the perishable markets complex have been taken up and completed. Once the remaining private lands are acquired, the Food Grains Market (over an area of about 80 acres) and Textile Market (over an area of about 22 acres) will be taken up.

In Phase-I, the development of perishable markets viz., flower (456 shops), fruit (456 shops) and vegetable (1,422 shope) was taken up at a cost of about Rs. 77 crores. The sizes of shops ranges from 150 sq.ft to 2400 sq.ft in floor area. The facilities provided include restaurants, kiosks, godowns, police station, fire station, telephone exchange, etc. The shops have been allotted since 1987 to G.T. traders at concessional price and also to other traders who conduct the trade elsewhere. Unlike the markets for such perishables developed by Agricultural Produce Market Committees elsewhere in India, the new market is a unique of its kind in design and facilities provided.

In planning and designing of these three perishable markets, their individual physical requirements in terms of internal spaces, selling areas, loading and unloading areas, storage areas etc., were considered and adequately provided. Further these were related to common functions such as bus service areas, restaurants, lorry parking areas etc., Perishable food stuffs necessarily generate considerable amounts of solid wastes and for



cleaning these wastes separate lanes are provided in the rear of the shops without conflicting with the ways for movement of incoming and outgoing goods and also to pedestrian movement areas. The layout is also developed in such a way that good-in function and goods-out function do not result in conflicts, and are clearly segregated.

A Common Amenity Building is being constructed at KWMC to accommodate the supporting facilities for the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex like Banks, Post Office, Management Committee Offices, Office space for Traders Association etc., An estimated cost of the construction of building is of Rs. 2.20 crores. As a first phase, part of GF + 2 floors is being developed (1500 sq.ft in area) with an anticipated estimated cost of Rs. 110 lakhs - in which MIDC share is of Rs. 45.40 lakhs. The construction work is in advanced stage and it will be completed soon.

NEW LAW

There is no provision of law available to enable MMDA or Government or a Government agency to take any appropriate step for establishing or shifting such markets to other localities. Therefore, the necessity was felt to enact a new law to regulate the location of wholesale markets in respect of commodities specified from time to time, and to establish market committee to manage and control such markets and to provide for matters connected therewith. A new legislation called "Tamil Nadu Specified Commodities Markets (Regulation of Location) Act" was therefore enacted.

MARKET MANAGEMENT

The market complex will be managed by the

Market Management Committee to be set up under the Act, comprising representatives of traders and Government Officials. MMDA after development of the markets will hand over the complex fully along with common assets to the Market Management Committee for its maintenance.

FINANCE

The total cost of the Perishable Markets Complex project executed in Phase-I is Rs. 77 crores. For the project, Government loan of Rs. 14.32 crores and HUDCO loan of Rs. 15 crores have been availed. Remaining part of the fund required for the project has been met from the Planning and Development Fund of MMDA and the cost recoveries made from the allottees in instalments.

BIO METHANE PLANT

Fuel from waste is one of the recognised policy of the Government. Presently all these perishable wastes are dumped as filling material in Corporation dumping yards. It is proposed to set up a pilot plant of 30 MT / day capacity to generate methane gas from the perishable waste and eventually electricity out of the gas generated, with the Government of India's assistance. The Bio-Technology would be acquired from western countries. The total cost of the pilot plant, including acquisition of technology is estimated as Rs.2.85 crores. The Bio-Tech pilot plant project is first of its kind in our nation and when it is made successful, it could be replicated in other parts of our State and our Nation.

(CBD means Central Board District) ◇

KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL

- Patricia Lone

Choose a desk in a primary school in the developing world and the chances are that it will be occupied by a boy.

do not believe that the kind of education on offer is appropriate for their daughters or because they feel the risks are too great.

Many forces combine to spell an early end to education for girls. Chief among them is poverty. The cost of "voluntary" contributions, uniforms, books and bus fares can make even free education expensive-especially if there are many children. When a poor family considers how much a daughter can help in cleaning, cooking, collecting wood and water and looking after younger children, and how little opportunity there will be for her to get a paying job even if she is educated, then the returns rarely seem to warrant the expenditure. So it is usually the daughters who are withdrawn from school.

Even when girls are enrolled, the burden of domestic chores stands in the way of educational progress. A study in Mozambique's primary schools found that the single most important factor in poor performance was the time and strain imposed by the child's workload.

Close behind poverty follows tradition. And perhaps the strongest tradition of all is the idea that sons should be educated because they will be the bread-winners of their own future families and the supporters of their aging parents. A girl's work, though it may be longer and harder, is considered less likely to bring in monetary income. And in cultures where marriage means that a daughter becomes part of her husband's family, the incentive to educate girls is weaker still.

Yet when asked, many poor families will say that they want their daughters to be educated. Many girls stay home, not because parents are poor or culturally intransigent, but because they

Those risks are real. Girls are sexually harassed, by their fellow students, or their teachers, or sometimes by strangers as they walk

Why do more girls than boys drop out of school? And what can be done to keep them there? A survey by Patricia Lone (UNICEF), based on information and research from Ann Cotton (Cambridge Female Education Trust, UK), Randy Hatfield (Academy for Educational Development, US), Peter Laugharn (Save the Children Federation), Molly Melching (Tostan Literacy Project, Senegal) and Saudamini Siegrist, Rosa Maria Torres and Malak Zalouk (UNICEF).

to school. Girls get pregnant. And these sexual pressures and vulnerability are central to low enrolment and retention rates for girls in the classrooms of many countries. If classes are overcrowded, if children are poorly supervised, if male students are unruly and violent, then many girls feel threatened and many parents fear for their safety. If no single-sex schools or classes are available, if there are no women teachers, and if the school is too far from the home or community, then female attendance tends to fall away. A study in Egypt, for example, showed that girls enrolment was at a low 30% when schools were three or more kilometers from the children's homes, but over 70% when the school was located within one kilometre.

Here, too, poverty plays its part. If their clothes are torn or inadequate, girls from poor families, constrained by the demands of modesty and propriety, will stay at home. If they do not have adequate sanitary protection, or if their school

does not have separate toilets then the beginning of menstruation can mean the end of a girl's education.

Few governments and development agencies have adequately addressed the many needs, risks and fears of girls and their families as they make their decisions on whether or not a daughter should attend school.

Just as there is no single cause of the low level of girls enrolment and retention in school, so there is no single answer.

Many different approaches are being tried, most of them small in scale and as yet unevaluated. The common strands in the experiments to date appear to be the building of schools or classrooms closer to communities (at



least for the early years of primary education); the involvement of local communities and parents in the running of schools; the training of more female teachers; the offer of cash incentives to families who keep daughters in school up to specified grades; the expansion of non-formal education to try to give more girls basic literacy, numeracy, and life skills; information campaigns about the importance of girls' education; flexible schedules (to allow girls to meet domestic responsibilities); and more preschool education both as a means of reducing later drop-outs and as a way of making it possible for girls to attend school while their young siblings are cared for.

Courtesy : The Progress of Nations 1996 ♦



The Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi garlanded the statue of Thanthai Periyar on 17-09-96.

RECORD PLAN OUTLAY FIXED AT RS.3,700 CRORES

The 1996-97 annual plan outlay for Tamil Nadu has been fixed at Rs.3,700 crores more than last year's allocation of Rs.3,200 crores. The outlay was fixed at a meeting at New Delhi on 20.9.96 between the Chief Minister, Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Thiru Madhu Dandavate.

As per the details worked out at the meeting the State's own resources would be mobilised to the extent of Rs.609.15 crores and the Central support to the plan will be Rs.2,474.15 crores bringing the total of Rs.3,093.30 crores in addition to this Tamil Nadu has got a share of Rs.92.36 crores out of the additional Rs.2,466 crores provided in the Central Budget. This amount has been earmarked for spending on basic minimum services.

During the discussions, it was also agreed that the State's open market borrowing would be Rs. 40.34 crores during the year and that additional resource mobilisation by the State would be to the tune of Rs. 494 crores. How these additional resources are to be mobilised would be decided by the Chief Minister.

Last year, the annual plan for Tamil Nadu was fixed at a level of Rs. 3, 200 crores and the revised figure was also the same. Consequently, this year's allocation is 15.6 per cent higher than last year's.

In his presentation at the meeting Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi said the State Government was of the view that local bodies and Panchayats should be actively involved in the planning process. In this context he pointed out that election to the local bodies were being held in the state after a gap of 20 years. He also requested the Commission to grant more time to Tamil Nadu to present its view on the Ninth Plan since the elected local bodies would become operational only by the end of October.

On the basic minimum services, the Chief Minister said the State's concentration would be on facilitating drinking water and rural link roads. He pointed out that the States had a satisfactory record in case of basic minimum services and more effort would be made to carry out these schemes in an effective manner.

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, in his comment, complimented the State administration for satisfactory performance in areas like health and education. He held out the view that decentralisation would become meaningless unless there was proper coordination between the agencies involved. Thiru Dandavate also agreed with the Chief Minister that there should be better supervision of the Plan projects and that the involvement of the Planning Commission and the Central Government would be essential in this. ♦

P H O T O



Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaigmar M. Karunanidhi was presented with a sceptre at a felicitation function organised by the Tamil Nadu Trade Union Corporation at Tiruchy, by the Chairman Thiru J.J.L. Gnanaraj, Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Electricity, Thiru Durai Murugan, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works and Thiru K.N. Nehru, Hon'ble Minister for Food participated in the function. (2.9.96).



In commemoration of the 125th Birth Anniversary of Kappalottiya Tamizhan V.O.C, the Minister for Education, Thiru K. Anbazhagan garlanded the statue of V.O.C. at Madras and paid homage. The Chairman, Chennai Port Trust Thiru S. Ramakrishnan was present (5.9.96).

F E A T U R E



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between MCC Investment Rai Surala Group, Calcutt and TIDCO for the establishment of a coconut processing - factory at Kinathukadavu in Pollachi Taluk a cost of Rs.38.42 crores, in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaigmar M. Karunanidhi, on 29.9.96

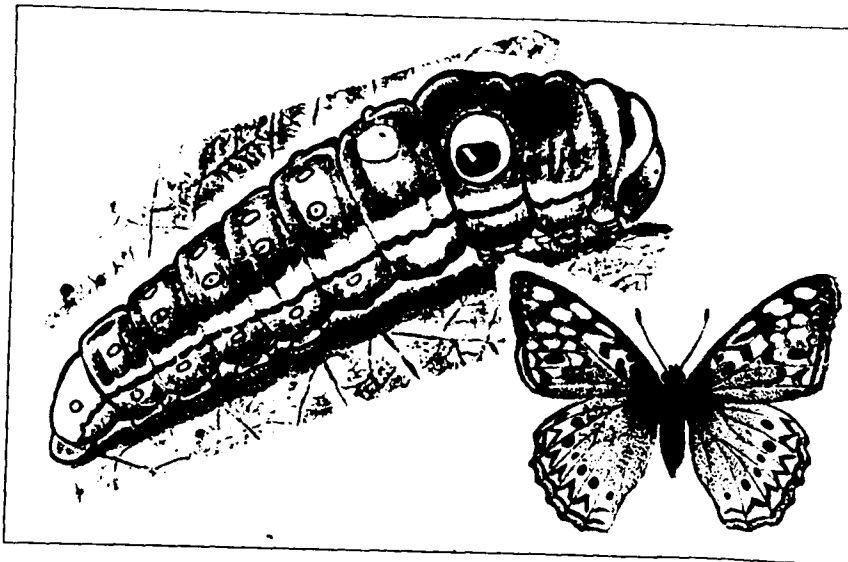


On the occasion of Rakshabandhan on 28.8.96, a Rajasthani girl tied Rakhi to the Chief Minister Kalaigmar M. Karunanidhi.

If It weren't for Caterpillars, There wouldn't Be Any Butterflies

Metamorphosis is the passage from one state or condition to another. In nature there are many levels of metamorphoses. The changes that occur during metamorphosis range from dramatic to slight. During their life cycle, butterflies undergo complicated changes, while silverfish sustain only minimal alterations.

The four-stage metamorphosis of a butterfly is amazing. All butterflies begin life, an egg laid singly on the surface of a leaf or stem. Next they become larvae, more commonly referred to



as caterpillars. In this second phase of their metamorphosis, the caterpillars are ravenous eaters of vegetation. Many of them have hairy bodies and look quite ferocious, so some people are afraid to pick them up. Some can give off an odour when agitated. A few have hairs that can sting or irritate human skin. Most caterpillars however, are quite harmless to handle. Because they eat foliage, bore into fruit, and are serious pests of cultivated plants, caterpillars aren't usually welcome in backyards.

Moving to the next stage, the caterpillars abruptly stop eating. With its head hanging down, each caterpillar attaches itself by its stomach to a leaf or twig. During this third phase, most butterfly caterpillars spin a tuberculate or sculptured pupal case (the chrysalis) about themselves. Unlike the hardened protective case (the cocoon) of a moth in this stage of development, the chrysalis is soft and the butterfly (chrysalid) hangs unprotected in it.

In the fourth and final stage of the metamorphosis each butterfly gradually frees itself from its chrysalis. As adults, butterflies are sun-loving insects who usually live only a few weeks.

Because they eat by sucking nectar from flowers through a long hollow tongue, called a proboscis, butterflies are valuable pollinators.

The biological process of metamorphosis also happens to human beings. The changes we experience involve physical growth and

deterioration, intellectual development, and emotional maturation over the entire course of our lives. We may also experience spiritual transformation.

A wonderful illustration of how people change for the better is found in Frances Hodgson Burnett's novel, *The Secret Garden*. The central character is Mary Lennox, a neglected orphan sent to live with her uncle at his huge estate, Misselthwaite Manor.

Mary arrives at her uncle's home as an ill-tempered, plain looking, spoiled brat. Her uncle is a cripple with a crooked back. Mary spends a lot of time with the maid, Martha, and her brother Dickon. After a short time, Mary also discovers Colin, her uncle's son. The young boy is sickly and, like his father, has a crooked back.

Mary, with the help of a robin, discovers the key to a gate that leads through a wall into a secret garden. Once beautiful and well manicured, it has been left unattended; its gate has been locked tight for ten years since her aunt died after an accident in the garden.

Mary tells Dickon about the secret garden. She suspects that Dickon used his almost supernatural powers with wild creatures to direct the robin to help her find the key. Mary also tells Colin about the garden, and all three children cultivate it, returning it back to its former beauty. Mary helps Colin overcome his perceived disability - he really isn't a hunchback after all. Out of fear, his father always treated Colin as if he were deformed. Near the end of the story, the master is first shocked and then overjoyed to learn that Colin can walk, that he is normal and healthy, and that Mary's leadership to the children have restored the secret garden to its former radiance. By the end of the book, Mary has become a lovely, sweet, and sensitive young girl.

* * * * *

Every community has its share of unsung heroes-ordinary people who make tremendous, if unappreciated, contributions. Doug was just such an unsung hero. He was an inconspicuous man who never achieved anything outstanding on the job. Dependable, competent, and honest, Doug worked at a dairy. He and his family lived in a comfortable home with a beautiful vegetable garden.

Why? years after his passing, do many people remember Doug as one of their hometown's unsung heroes? Because he helped a number of boys through the vulnerable years

of adolescence - a time marked by metamorphosis. Doug was a scoutmaster.

For most of his life, Doug was involved with the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts have clearly defined requirements for boys who earn merit badges and progress through the ranks. They encourage achievement, personal growth, the character development.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank that a Boy Scout can earn. There are no short cuts, and the requirements are the same for the rich and poor alike. Every boy can become an Eagle Scout. But he can't do it alone. No youngster can achieve the personal growth, skill and character development this programme affords, without people like Doug.

Doug took his scout troop camping on weekends and during their summer vacations. Sometimes they fished in the mountains. Other times, they camped out in the foothills. Doug helped his scouts learn to build safe campfires, how to cook, and how to hike through unfamiliar territory. During their weekly meetings, Doug made sure his scouts learned first aid and citizenship skills. He took them to the local pool and taught them swimming and life-saving skills. Doug was important in the lives of his scouts, augmenting the guidance and counselling they received from their families, teachers and coaches.

No one was ever made to feel unwelcome in Doug's scout troop. He showed no favoritism and tolerated the boy's harmless rebellions. He instilled in them a sense of personal discipline by teaching them to obey the troop's rules. Doug helped guide many young men through the biological and emotional metamorphosis of adolescence.

Caterpillars become butterflies without external interference. Humans, like Mary Lennox and the other characters in *The Secret Garden* need help from others to improve their lives. And that's why people in every community owe a great deal in men and women like Doug, the unsung heroes.

**REFLECTION ON
IF IT WEREN'T FOR CATERPILLARS THERE
WOULDN'T BE ANY BUTTERFLIES.**

In the life of the butterfly, metamorphosis advances according to a predictable time schedule. The progress is generally the same for all butterflies; without intervention or opposition, they all achieve the same end - moving in a positive direction from ugly pest to beautiful pollinator.

For human, change is not totally predictable. It doesn't always progress in an orderly or convenient fashion. Unlike the one-way metamorphosis observed in insects, reversals in the human condition can and do occur. Just when you begin to behave as independent, fully functioning adults, you may revert back to childish behaviour. You can lose skills that you previously mastered if you neglect them. And unlike a butterfly that does good but not harm, humans are capable of both good and evil.

Had her early childhood been happier, perhaps the fictional Mary Lennox would have been a lovable and charming young lady when she arrived at Misselthwaite Manor. And had it not been for Dickon's "Supernatural" Power over the robin that led Mary into the secret garden. She and several other characters would have remained in their miserable states.

Without men and women like Doug whose accomplishments are in their service to others, none of us would ever realize our human potential. But with their guidance, we can reason and make choices during our own metamorphoses - the changes we experience.

**LESSONS LEARNED FROM
IF IT WEREN'T FOR CATERPILLARS
THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY BUTTERFLIES.**

Change is exciting. Education changes us by releasing us from a prison of ignorance. Developing skills and abilities that enable us to make a living and interact effectively with other people also requires a metamorphosis.

Here are some tips that may help in your own metamorphosis :

- * The first step in changing and progressing is to realize that both change and progress are possible. Most unrealized potential is the result of failure to try, not of failed attempts.
- * Unlike insect metamorphosis, human metamorphosis is never complete. There is always more to learn and to achieve. So try to overcome habits, attitudes, and weaknesses, that block achievement of your full potential.
- * You can change your circumstances. If you dropped out of high school, you can go back and get your degree. If your grades were poor last semester, you can improve them in the current term. If you don't like your job, there are others to be had. If you have just received a poor performance appraisal, perhaps you ought to change what you do on the job.
- * Some kinds of transformation require a good deal more personal effort than others.
- * To resist change is natural, so if you get struck, ask people you respect to help you get moving again.
- * To take advantage of new opportunities, you often have to leave something behind. Just make sure what you leave behind isn't something you'll need in the future.
- * The accumulation of a lot of little skills and the steady development of abilities makes you increasingly effective.
- * Don't let people push you into trying to be someone you can't or don't want to be. Instead, rely on people whose goals for you are compatible with your goals for yourself.
- * A penultimate thought on human metamorphosis. Mary Lennox illustrates a curious property of personal progress - you usually help yourself most when you are helping others.
- * And last, people of achievement see opportunity and make the necessary personal change, or changes, to grasp it. ♦

CORPORATE CARE



Thiru Alex Trotman, Chairman, Thiru John Parker, Managing Director and Senior Officials of Mahindra Ford India Ltd. called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi on 28.8.96. They presented a cheque for Rs.25 Lakhs, as their contribution for the establishment of a Health Centre at Maraimalai Nagar.

Extending a helping hand to its new neighbours, Mahindra Ford India Ltd. today pledged start up funds for a new health care facility near the site of its planned automotive plant.

The new health care facility will offer a range of health care services to the residents of Maraimalai Nagar.

"Following the tradition of our corporate parents, Mahindra Ford intends to be a responsible corporate citizen contributing to the well-being of the communities where we do business", said John Parker.

"We are proud to help provide this facility for the people of Maraimalai Nagar and hope it is the first of several community initiatives for MFIL".

Mahindra Ford India Ltd. is a joint venture company between Ford Motor Company and Mahindra & Mahindra Limited. Mahindra Ford will market the Ford Escort produced at Mahindra's Nasik facility and Ford Fiesta to be produced at the new manufacturing facility in Maraimalai Nagar in Tamil Nadu. ♦

ASPIRING FOR CIVIL SERVICE

A training guide

DR. K.M. PATHUSHA.

Tamil Nadu was considered the intellectual capital of the country, dominating the All India scene in respect of Civil Services manned by men of eminence coming from Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu was the envy of several states and supplied the largest number of candidates to the IAS and other services concerning several high ranks.

The slide from the pinnacle of glory started twenty years ago. Since then the situation has been deteriorating continually and what is surprising is that even as of today there is no proper diagnosis of the cause and initiative of effective measures. In a federal polity like India, it is necessary that every State plays a role in policy formulation and implementation. If Tamil Nadu is unable to secure adequate representation in the higher Civil Services it will not be able to play this role satisfactorily. The State will not have the opportunity of enjoying its share of power in the Centre there by hampering its change of getting its due in terms of projects has allocation of funds. Tamil Nadu has now been reduced to a position of not having enough officers to fill its own quota at the state level.

This precarious situation is also true of the IIT Joint Entrance Examinations, National Talent Search Examinations, Defence Academy Examinations, GATE Examinations and UGC-CSIR Fellowship Examinations.

An analysis of the performance of students from over 100 universities in India in the UGC Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) Examinations conducted by Mr. R.P. Bhatnagar of Meerut University and Mr. N.K. Jain, Deputy Secretary, UGC has concluded that Delhi University (14.67%) and JNU (11.85%) retain the top two positions and Madras secured 2.8%, whereas

M.K. University secured 1.33%. The Universities in the top slots of the UGC examinations for administrative services conducted by the UPSC. While Delhi, JNU, Punjab, Allahabad, Rajasthan, Lucknow, Patna, Andhra, Ranchi Universities and I.I.T's have had a lion's share of prospective candidates for the Civil Service Examinations, Universities of Tamil Nadu have been trailing behind miserably.

Factors responsible for the poor performance are: Failure to build appropriate courses in the Universities, lack of motivation, deficiencies in the syllabi, improper coaching facilities, little or no awareness among rural students, inadequate infrastructural facilities in affiliated Colleges. Liberal marking system in Tamil Nadu Higher Secondary Examinations and the Universities is one of the major drawbacks leading to poor performance in the competitive examinations. After strengthening curriculum, infrastructural designs and evaluation techniques in the Universities in Tamil Nadu they have to plan, implement, monitor strategies to motivate aspirants towards Civil Service Examinations to regain the past glory. In this connection, Tamil Nadu State Council of Higher Education has taken the lead. The following suggestions may be tried in our Universities.

Assumptions

The aspirants are faced with two hurdles. First is psychological and the second is related to the academic. There has to be different techniques to overcome these hurdles. However, the second cannot be arrested until the first has been overcome. Not every student can make it to the All India Services. Hence there should be an objective and professional approach in identifying the aspirants who have the

potentialities to be successful. Only then should they be motivated and groomed. The resources within the varsities in terms of men, material, money, time, expertise etc., are all limited. Hence there should be an optimal utilisation of the resources for achieving the best results.

Strategies to be adopted

Based on the P.G./B. Tech/B.L. Pre-finals year results, the top five ranking students of each course may be identified. Young and dynamic faculty members from different departments may be identified and they can be appointed counsellors. They may be rewarded suitably and they can be appointed counsellors. They may be suitably oriented by Academic Staff Colleges of the University concerned of collaboration with the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad. Such counsellor's work load may be reduced by 4-5 hours every week.

This time should be utilised by them to either consult their counsellors or collect literature/reference/materials for them from libraries/allied sources. Ten prospective aspirants may be attached to a counsellor. The counsellor will have to invite the attached aspirants by name and by sending written invitations for evening tea. After initiating a dialogue with the aspirants about their future plans and the varsity is role in achieving their goals, motivation towards the competitive examinations may be offered. After realizing the varsity's recognition and voluntary and sincere help, the aspirants will be willing to take up the challenging task.

The counsellors may be given some funds/allowances (say Rs. 300/- month) towards refreshments expenses. The University Guidance and Coaching Centre may also make multiple copies of the literature prepared by subject experts in leading coaching centers of the country and circulate the same among the aspirants, apart from a very rich and well-designed Civil Services library, parallel efforts to develop a computerised database of the question/materials collected as stated above or developed on its own by the Centres of the varsities. By paying handsome remuneration to interested expert faculty members, model answers for previous years question papers for key subjects may be made. In

the selection of aspirants apart from rankers, extreme professionalism must play a vital role. Very strict and efficient screening test must be conducted.

Advisory Committee

An advisory committee may be set up for the Varsity's Centre comprising the following:

Two persons from those who have got selected in IAS/IPS/IFS/IES/IFS/Eng.S/I GeoS/ISS etc. One prominent journalist and a faculty member from one of the varsity departments. One person who has been an examiner in the past. The tenure of the members should be only for two years. Only this can ensure that vested interests are not pampered.

For bringing about a sense of accountability as well as for monitoring purpose, the Head of the Department should have the list of aspirants from his departments. They should conduct monthly meetings with the respective counsellors along with the prospective aspirants to review the progress. A roll of honour depicting the name of the topper of a given year of the P.G. Course must be displayed in each department with a view to making known the recognition the varsity gives to its brilliant students. The varsity can allot a hostel exclusively for the aspirants like the one as A.N. Jha Hostel of Allahabad University / Shivalk / Vindhya Hostel of IIT, New Delhi.

Awards and Incentives

Successful candidates may be offered cash awards on the convocation day and honoured suitably. The HOD and the counsellor concerned may be honoured by a Syndicate resolution appreciating their role in guiding the successful aspirants. The services of the counsellor may be given weightage for his career promotions. Leading educational trusts may also be motivated to institute specific endowments in the varsities for honouring successful candidates. The mass media must give wider publicity to such successful candidates.

Undoubtedly these measures, if effected sincerely, may go a long way in regaining the past glory of Tamil Nadu in Civil Services. ♦

TAKE THE ACHE OUT OF BACKACHE

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER ANYMORE,
HERE'S THE LOWDOWN ON HOW TO SOOTHE THE PAIN.**

Suddenly my back felt made of glass. One wrong move could shatter its delicate equilibrium, sending spasms of agony down my lower back to the toes of my right foot. Years of a sedentary job as a writer, weak back and abdominal muscles and a failure to warm up before exercising made me a prime candidate for a major back incident. The result? A bulging disk pressing mercilessly on my sciatic nerve.

Desperate to recover, I tried virtually every method of pain control. Finally, by learning ways to protect my back during every activities - like sitting at my desk - I found relief. Within three weeks, I was back at work and pain free I hope for good.

My experience taught me there's no universal fix for an aching back. What works for some may not work for others - with one exception. Staying fit - maintaining firm abdominal and back muscles - will help you achieve life-long flexibility and manage stress, both keys to preventing back problems.

WHY BACKS GO OUT

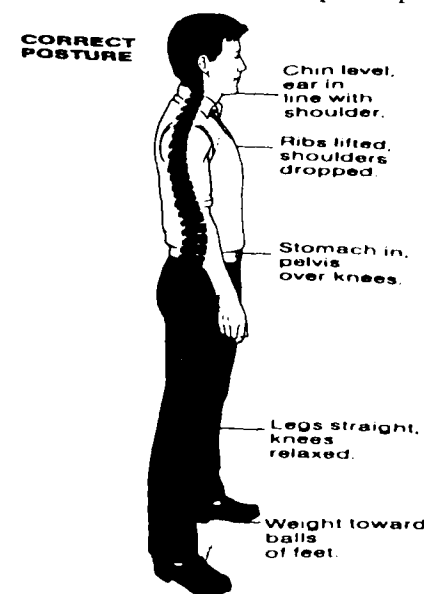
The spine, an intricate stack of shock-absorbing disks and bony vertebrae, is

stabilized by two muscle groups, which help the body lift, straighten and bend forwards and control the degree of curvature in the lower back. These muscles, along with posture-supporting muscles in the buttocks and thighs, help us conduct our daily activities without undue strain. But the gradual increase of physical and/or emotional stress to the back over time can trigger muscles to spasm, causing back pain.

Indeed, the likelihood of back pain increases as we age, when spinal disks (ringed by cartilage tissue on the outside and composed of a jellylike centre) begin to dehydrate and lose flexibility. Being in poor physical shape, in particular, can aggravate this process and cause a disk to herniate or bulge. "When the back is 'ripe' to go, one awkward movement bending to pick up something (whether it's light or heavy) can trigger a back attack", says Diana Dong, Director of Physical Therapy at the Texas Back Institute (TBI) in Houston.

THE SELF-HELP SOLUTION

Roughly 75 percent of all back injuries happen after working hours, when we try to compensate for the effects of our stress-filled lives with sporadic exercise



bodies have not been properly conditioned to handle.

Luckily, most of us can survive a back episode without medical help and resume normal activities in no time. Before you rush off to a doctor, try managing your pain at home.

Stop the pain-producing activity. Avoid lifting your two year old or any heavy object. Skip aerobics class and don't sit for long periods of time.

Rest in bed for no more than two days. Until just recently doctors believed that up to two weeks of bedrest was the best first step to recovery. No longer. New research proves that getting moving soon after a back attack (regardless of whether you still hurt) prevents loss of strength, muscle weakness and ligament tightness, which increase pain.

When you do rest in bed, lie on your back with your knees bent and propped up on one or two pillows, or on your side with a pillow cushioned between your knees. Avoid resting or sleeping on your stomach.

Take Aspirin or Ibuprofen four times a day. This will help control pain and reduce inflammation the first few days, when the pain is most acute. (Long term use of pain relievers is not recommended.)

Apply heat, cold or gentle massage. Heating pads, cold packs, over-the-counter ointments and massage (professional or amateur) all can help bring minor back pain under control.

For a homemade cold pack, fill a large zipper-type plastic bag with three parts water and one part alcohol. Freeze to a slush and wrap the bag in a towel.

**Most back specialists
today acknowledge that
emotional problems play a
role in triggering a back
episode. Others believe
that back pain is almost
always caused by
emotional factors.**

If pain persists, seek a referral (through your hospital's orthopedics department) to a physiatrist, a physical medicine rehabilitation specialist who can assess nerve function and/or muscle damage by using an arsenal of diagnostic techniques - of which surgery is the very last option. In fact never allow anyone to rush you to surgery unless a battery of

tests (such as X-ray, magnetic resonance imaging or computerized tomography scans) confirms a condition that won't respond to more conservative, noninvasive methods.

HOW PHYSICAL THERAPY CAN HELP

When Rolando Romo, 45, a community-relations representative from Houston, suddenly became unable to turn his head, he was diagnosed with degenerative arthritis. This condition was causing severe disk deterioration.

Romo's doctor prescribed physical therapy involving lower back and lower neck stretches. Though skeptical, he gave it a try. After just one exercise session, the pain disappeared.

Although considered one of the most effective tools in combating a back attack, physical therapy should not be under-taken when there's unusual weakness in the extremities, nerve damage or a ruptured disk.

Though many people will, like Romo, improve right away, others may need four to six treatments. Those who don't respond within six visits should be reevaluated. Physical therapy is covered by virtually all insurance carriers.

CAN CHIROPRACTIC HELP?

Recent studies have helped prove the value of chiropractic in treating back pain. For example, in a study published in the British Medical Journal, researchers compared the two year progress of 741 low-back-pain patients treated by either physical therapists performing soft-tissue manipulation or by chiropractors who applied force to their spines to move vertebrae beyond their normal range of motion.

Chiropractic won hands down. While hospital patients began to deteriorate after just six months, chiropractic patients were still doing well two years later.

Chiropractic treatment generally relieves symptoms within six weeks, involving about three treatments per week for the first two weeks, tapering down to once a week or once every other weeks as the patient improves. Cost varies and is covered by most insurance policies.

MIND OVER BODY

Registered nurse Jaime Wallace, 34, felt "her life was caving in" and thought she's have to quit her work when it seemed her back pain would never subside. Then she began treatment at the Pain Management and Behavioural Medicine Centre in Farmington, Connecticut. After six months, Wallace learned to recognise stress-triggering events and how to relax her muscles to prevent a pain spasm.

Most back specialists today acknowledge that emotional problems play a role in triggering a back episode. Others believe that back pain is almost always caused by emotional factors.

The guru of this school of thought is John E. Sarno, M.D., Professor of clinical rehabilitation medicine of New York University School of Medicine in New York City. Dr. Sarno is convinced that back pain is the brain's way of diverting repressed feelings of anger, anxiety or inferiority to a place where we don't have to deal with them directly - our backs.

Dr. Sarno, who once prescribed two months of physical therapy for back pain, now advises patients to avoid any physical treatments for the back, as they may block recovery.

His solution? To teach patients that the pain is acting as a distraction from the underlying emotional problems. His programme, includes two-hour lectures, with group follow-up for some patients. Says Dr. Sarno, "The most important factor in recovery is information. It's the penicillin for this disorder"

Just how do you determine which came first-heartache or backache?

IS IT REALLY A BACK PROBLEM?

The following symptoms, alone or when they accompany back pain, warrant immediate medical attention.

- * Loss of bowel or bladder control.
- * Radiating pain down your arm or leg.
- * Numbness or weakness in the hands, arms, buttocks, legs or feet.

- * A lump on the spine's surface.
- * A dull, aching pain that prevents sleep.
- * Back pain that won't subside or that aches in your kidney area.

Such symptoms may indicate any number of underlying problems, from kidney disease to cancer, which have nothing to do with back problem.

"Ask yourself probing questions about your psychological well - being", advises Arthur White, M.D., Medical Director of the San Francisco Spine Institute.

Are you under unusual pressure at work or at home?

Sudden changes in appetite, sleep, sexual interest, decisiveness or mood-especially feelings of hopelessness and prolonged crying-indicate depression.

Short-term counselling, a brief course of antidepressants (or programmes such as Dr. Sarno's) can quickly elevate your mood, control pain and help you deal effectively with difficult people and situations - controlling back pain.

BIOFEEDBACK TO RELAX MUSCLES

Pain management also may involve biofeedback training, a technique that teaches you how to control stress through muscle relaxation. Working with a biofeedback machine, on an average of four to ten 30-minute to one-hour sessions, people may receive

**Pain management
also may involve
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relaxation.**

feedback on tensions in the muscles and learn to relax them. Home relaxation tapes are also provided.

"Biofeedback helps patients under great stress and others for whom pain has become the dominant event of their lives", says Diane Lokay-Nickell, a behavioural medicine clinician at TBI.

LIVING THE GOOD LIFE

A bad back doesn't have to mean a life diminished by disability. You can still remain active as long as you keep back safety in mind. Here are some quick hints.

- * Walk instead of jog (for less impact on the spine)
- * Swim or bike for cardiovascular fitness and flexibility training.
- * Protect your back with a lumbar support when you drive, and move the car seat forward to keep your knees level with your hips. Interrupt long trips with stretch breaks.
- * Bend from the knees-not from your waist or back-whenver you pick something up, whether it's light or heavy.
- * Practice good posture. Avoid slouching or a "military" position. Tuck in your chin and stomach and move your pelvis slightly forward.

By following some sensible guidelines, you can live a vigorous, productive, passionate, successful life.

Courtesy :The Healthy Women ♦

THE WHOLE EARTH AGENDA

CLIMATE AND POLLUTION MAY FIGURE IN FUTURE
WORLD PEACE

In August of 1989, a surprise invasion in Bangladesh killed several thousand people, leveled 2 million homes, devastated 4 million acres of cropland, disrupted 25 million lives and cost the impoverished Asian nation \$ 1.5 billion. Had this destruction been wrought by the military invasion, Bangladesh would have gone to war. It was instead an environmental blitzkrieg; Monsoon floodwaters cascading from the denuded foothills of the Indian Himalayas. But this flood was no random natural disaster. Bangladesh's land and people were violated by deforestation: A deliberate, albeit nonhostile, act of environmental destruction by another nation.

Throughout modern history national security has meant safe-guarding the homeland from military threats. But increasingly cross-border environmental threats are fostering regional tensions and threatening stability between neighbours. Water-supply arguments between Egypt, the Sudan and Ethiopia, for instance have

already prompted Egypt's Foreign Minister to warn: "The next war in our region will be over the waters of the Nile, not politics." As the U.S. - Soviet ideological struggle winds down, some environmentalists and politicians are beginning to argue that national security should be redefined in far broader terms than military strength. Their vision is that in the coming decades, problems such as global warming, ozone depletion, deforestation and pollution will pose greater threats to world peace than any foreseeable military menace. "Ecological integrity," argues Administrator William Reilly of the Environmental Protection Agency, "is central to any definition of natural security."

Climate change poses the greatest threat to the security of many nations because of its potential to cause vast changes in food-growing cycles, destroy forests, inundate coastal areas and displace populations. Although the prospect of massive global warming is still open to much scientific debate, the World watch

Institute estimates that disasters related to climate have already created some 10 million environmental refugees-people forced to evacuate areas where they cannot find enough food, potable water or means of support. Global climate change, if it should come, would exacerbate this refugee problem enormously, threatening regional stability.

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, a presidential hopeful and leading "green" on Capitol Hill, introduced a legislative package he calls the Strategic Environment Initiative (SEI), an ecological version of Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). Domestically, it would focus on transportation efficiency, alternative fuels, reforestation, comprehensive recycling and drastic cuts in ozone-depleting chemicals. SEI would also help Third World Nations obtain energy-efficient technology, develop environmentally sustainable, labour-intensive industries and promote high-yield, low tech farming on marginal land. "SDI can't assure our survival for the next seventy years," Gore argues. "An environmental initiative might."

Some defense experts see the proposed redefinition of national security as a mistake, or simply a clever strategy to raise the political profile of the environment and loosen the

congressional purse strings. "Whenever people want to get something funded-highways, education, drug enforcement-they call it national security," says Lawrence Korb, a former assistant secretary of defense. Robert McNamara, former Defense Secretary and World Bank President, thinks the environment security coupling is "illogical," not because the environment is unimportant, but because it is too important to include under the national-defense umbrella. Doing so, he argues, could lessen the sense of urgency around environmental problems.

As the cold war ends and military budgets are reduced, environmentalists on both sides of what is left of the iron curtain will press for a greater share of resources to solve massive challenges that face their countries. A combined \$800 billion is now spent annually on military defense by the East and West blocs. Current Pentagon plans envision a \$150 billion budget reduction over the next five years, and ecologists would like to see this so-called peace dividend invested in the environment.

This will likely come from a military-industrial complex forced to wean itself from the Defense Department and refocus on innovative solutions

The Worldwatch Institute estimates that disasters related to climate have already created some 10 million environmental refugees-people forced to evacuate areas where they cannot find enough food, potable water or means of support.

to such potential big ticket programmes as toxic waste and garbage disposal. "I think that Lockheed and the other big defense industries can find a role in the area of environmental improvement," says former CIA Director William Colby. "And they will have as rich and as good a business after they have made the transition".

ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCES?

While it remains nascent, EPA chief Reilly and White House environmental head Michael Deland say the kernel of the strategic-environment idea is slowly beginning to filter into the thinking of administration leaders, particularly in the wake of recent cataclysmic events in Eastern Europe, where the green political movement, much more sophisticated than in the U.S., is poised to seize

the day. Five East-bloc nations, for example, have already asked the U.S. to send EPA teams to advise in restoring landscapes polluted by decades of industrial vandalism.

It is too early to speculate how strategic ecology will play out in the Pentagon, at the diplomatic bargaining table or under the direction of such a logical global forum as the United Nations Environment Programme. But observers feel the initiative holds promise for warmer East-West relations. Revitalizing the Soviet and Eastern European economies, believes Worldwatch's Micheal Renner, will require among other things strong environmental security. New global environmental coalitions replacing the old adversarial military alliances like NATO and the Warsaw Pact could lay the foundation for a more cooperative and secure world. While possibilities for useful co-operation between the two superpowers are limited, says U.S. elder statesman George Kennan: "The greatest and most important of these, without question, is that of environmental protection and improvement on a planetary scale."

- Michael Satchell
Courtesy : USIS

CONSUMER AWARENESS

IT PAYS TO COMPLAIN

An effective complaint letter can produce surprising results :- replacements, refunds, Gift Certificates, Free Samples, even improved products and services.

LETTERS GET THE MOST ACTION

I always fretted over flawed socks. badgered my husband to fix the broken stroller and swore I'd never return to a restaurant whose employees gave me poor service.

My husband grew tired of my complaints and urged me to write instead. I did and quickly learned the emotional and financial rewards of effective complaints. Suddenly I was in control. And in helping myself, I felt I was helping to improve products and services for others. When I complained about a split seam in an infant coverall, for example, the company promised to increase seam allowances and reinforcements.

You also can reap the rewards of effective complaint letters by following these steps.

BE SURE YOUR COMPLAINT IS VALID

Don't approach a company with a problem that's your own fault or stems from a misunderstanding. Make sure you have followed directions and have been reasonable in your expectations.

SAVE ALL PARTS AND RELEVANT PAPERS.

It helps to have the model or serial number, warranty and receipt when you write to complain. Never throw away the broken product, the company may ask to examine it. I used to discard receipts after I'd worn a garment once or

used a small appliance a few times without mishap. Now I know it pays to save them.

Type your letters. A neatly typed letter makes a better impression than handwritten one and improves your chances of a good response. Always check it for errors before mailing.

ADDRESS YOUR LETTER CORRECTLY.

Most companies list their address on the packaging, the warranty card and instruction booklets. If you need the corporate headquarters, consult Telephone Directory, Yellow Pages or Business Directory. Call a store or restaurant for the address of their corporate headquarters. Most stores also can supply addresses of manufacturers of the products they carry.

WRITE TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE.

And be sure to get the correct spelling of his or her name, from the Telephone Directory or by calling the company phone.

You needn't write to the president of the company over a small matter. Someone at a lower level may provide better and faster results - especially if you send a copy to the president and indicate that the bottom of the letter. When a box of my crackers were undercooked, I received prompt results from the customer-service manager. But when the safety of my children was at risk because on an unsafe toy, I went

straight to the top.

ESTABLISH RAPPORT IN YOUR OPENING.

The person who receive your letter will be more eager to help if you're a loyal customer and say so. If you've never purchased their products or partonized their store before, explain why you did so this time. Learning that you love the firms, advertising or admire its reputation for top quality puts the recipient of your letter in a positive frame of mind.

STATE THE PROBLEM SUCCINCTLY.

A few paragraphs are usually sufficient to explain your complaint. Include a careful description of the product, the model or serial number and copies of relevant papers. If your problems relates to service, include relevant dates, times, locations and names of employees when possible.

DON'T WRITE WHEN YOU ARE ANGRY

Wait until you've calmed down, they write on the assumption that the recipient of your letter cares out your problem and is eager to help you resolve it.

ASK FOR A SPECIFIC RESOLUTION IN CLEAR-CUT CASES ONLY.

When my son's stroller snapped going over a Curb and could't be fixed, I requested a replacement. But I'am glad I didn't request a replacement when I complained about pair of flawed socks. I received two pairs of better - quality socks in return! Specific requests may limit your chances of a more generous settlement.

END ON A POSITIVE NOTE.

Write that you hope the problem can be re-

moved quickly so that your confidence in the company will be restored. A thank-you for assistance is always appreciated. Include your phone number in case the person wants more information.

MAKE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER BEFORE MAILING.

If the company does not respond in four to six weeks, send a copy with a note expressing your disappointment at not receiving response. If you didn't write the president the first time, send him or her follow-up letter.

DON'T GIVE UP.

If you still don't get a response or your're not satisfied, contact the local consumer forums or Consumer Action Group.

SEND A THANK-YOU LETTER TO ANYONE WHO IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL.

This courtesy should give the company incentive to continue helping customers. ♦

WRAPPERS

I - The Chief Minister Kalaighar M. Karunanidhi received the President of India Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma on 19.9.96 at Chennai Airport. The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Channa Reddy was present.

II - The Chief Minister declared open the Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex on 28.9.96.

IV - Mahatma Gandhi

TRUE STORY

LITTLE ANNIE

A number of years ago, in a mental institution just outside Boston, Mass., a young girl known as "Little Annie" was locked in the dungeon. This institution was one of the more enlightened ones for the treatment of the mentally disturbed. However, the doctors felt that a dungeon was the only place for those who were "hopelessly" insane. In Little Annie's case, they saw no hope for her, so she was consigned to a living death in that small cage which received little light and even less hope.

About that time, an elderly nurse in the institution was nearing retirement. She felt there was hope for all of God's creatures, so she started taking her lunch into the dungeon and eating outside. Little Annie's cage. She felt perhaps she could communicate some love and hope to the little girl.

In many ways, Little Annie was like an animal. On occasions, she would violently attack the person who came into her cage. At other times, she would completely ignore them. When the elderly nurse started visiting her, Little Annie gave no indication that she was even aware of her presence. One day, the elderly nurse brought some brownies to the dungeon and left them outside the cage. Little Annie gave no hint she knew they were there, but when the nurse returned the next day, the brownies were gone. From that time on the nurse would bring brownies when she made her Thursday visit. Soon, the doctors in the institution noticed a change was taking place. After a period of time, they decided to move Little Annie upstairs. Finally, the day

came when this "hopeless case" was told she could return home. But Little Annie did not wish to leave. The place had meant so much to her she felt she could make a contribution if she stayed and worked with the other patients. The elderly nurse had seen and brought out so much in her life that Little Annie felt she could see and help develop something in others.

Many years later, Queen Victoria of England, while pinning England's highest award on a foreigner, asked Helen Keller, "How do you account for your remarkable accomplishments in life? How do you explain the fact that even though you were both blind and deaf, you were able to accomplish so much?" Without a moment's hesitation, Helen Keller said that, had it not been for Anne Sullivan (Little Annie), the name of Helen Keller would have remained unknown.

It's not too well known, but Helen Keller was a normal healthy baby before some mysterious disease left her almost helpless and hopeless. Anne Sullivan saw Helen Keller as one of God's very special people - treated her as she saw her - loved her - disciplined her - played, prayed, pushed and worked with her until the flickering candle that was her life became a beacon that helped light the pathways and lighten the burden of people all over the world. Yes, Helen Keller influenced millions after her own life was touched by "Little Annie".

Courtesy : Zig Ziglar's. 'See you at the top'.



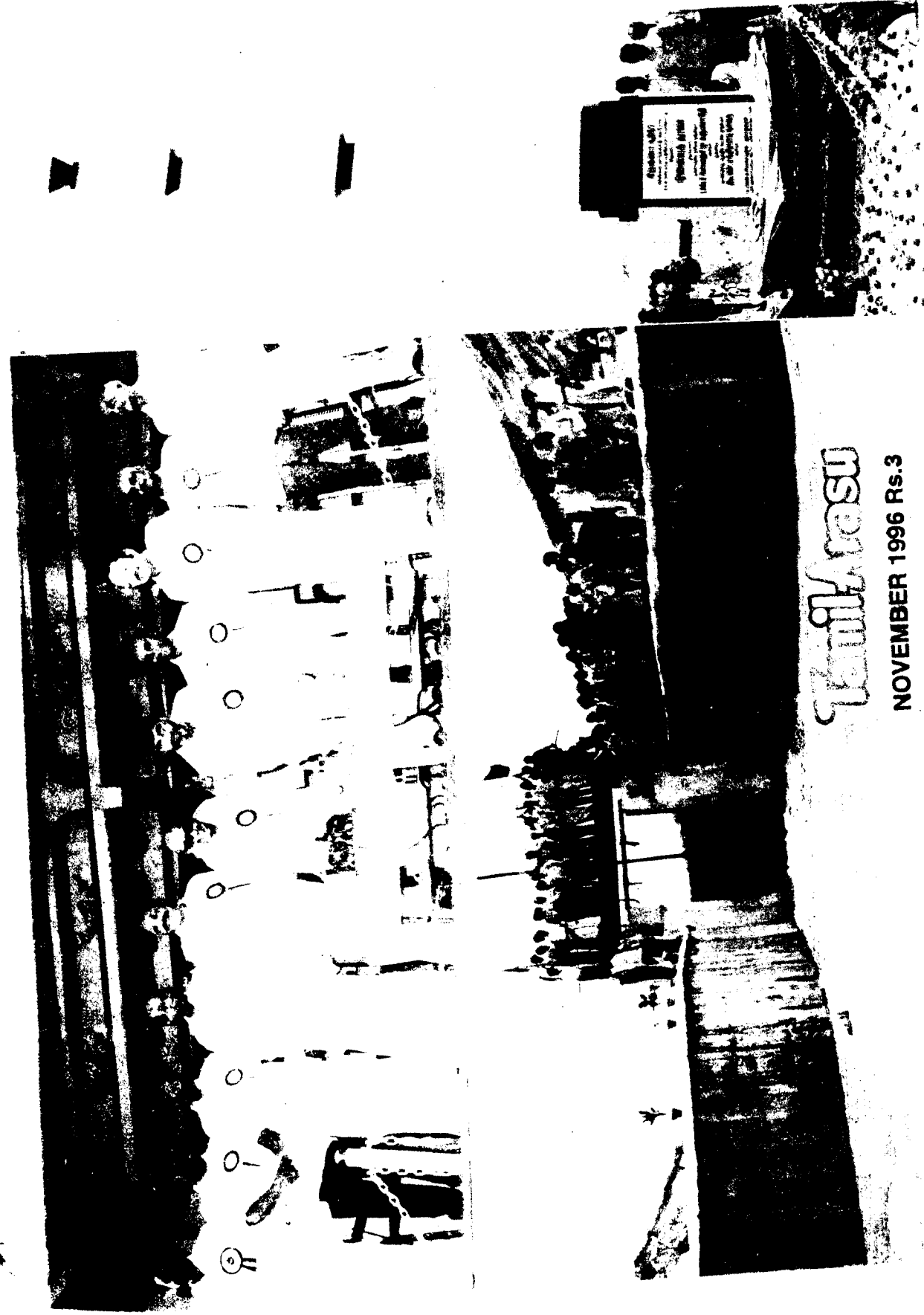
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NOVEMBER 1996 Rs.3



C O N T E N T S

Tamil Arasu

Magazine of the Government of Tamil Nadu

NOVEMBER - 1996

★ Krishna Water released for Chennai	2
★ Telugu Ganga Project - an example of Inter-State Co-operation	3
★ "I expect preferential treatment will be given to Tamil Nadu in setting up liquid fuel based power plants" -Chief Minister Kalignar M. Karunanidhi at the Conference of Power held at New Delhi on 16.10.96	9
★ What kills children?	13
★ Knowledge -Subramania Bharathi	14
★ Science Update	16
★ Internet acronyms: Learn the Language	17
★ Unfinished Business -Monica Sharma & James Jullocl	18
★ Exploitation of Children	21
★ A new archaeological discovery	28
★ The art of parenthood	29
★ Contact Dermatitis -Dr. G. Ilangovan	30

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Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu Participate KRISHNA WATER RELEASED FOR CHENNAI

History was made on September 29, 1996 when water from the Krishna river in Andhra Pradesh started flowing into Chennai, heralding a new chapter in the relationship between Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. When the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, K. Jayaraman 'accepted' the water from the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Thiru. N. Chandrababu Naidu, it marked the fruition of an Inter-State project launched 13 years ago.

At 11-15 a.m., a manually-operated shutter at the 'zero point' at Tamaraikuppam, a village on the border of the two states, about 65 km from Chennai, was lifted to let the water into Tamil Nadu. At this 'zero point', the Telugu Ganga Project in Andhra Pradesh becomes the Krishna Water Supply Project (KWSP) in Tamil Nadu.

It was for the first time in the country that water of an Inter-State river was being made available to a city situated outside the river basin. To symbolise the release, Thiru. Chandrababu Naidu pressed a button and a replica of the shutter kept near the dais went up.

About 300 cusecs was released to the final leg of the Satyamurthi Sagar in Poondi and then to the city.

"This will show the way for other States to evolve a constructive co-operation among themselves", the Chief Minister said. "We are together and we will work together. Our friendship will be permanent", the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister remarked.

At a function held to commemorate the water release, Chief Minister K. Jayaraman unveiled a 20-foot-tall marble pillar and symbolically received the water amidst cheers from people belonging to both the States.

The Chief Minister said following the inauguration of the scheme, water supply in the city would be increased from the present 240 million litres a day (MLD) to 440 MLD.

The scheme was launched in 1983 when the late M.G. Ramachandran and N.T. Rama Rao were the Chief Ministers. When he returned to power in 1989, Thiru. Karunanidhi said, he gave



a push to the project by taking it up with the successive Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh.

Referring to Thiru. Naidu's statement that Thiru. Karunanidhi would be his leader for ever, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister said he was overwhelmed to hear it and was fortunate to have such a 'general' ('thalapathi'). Thiru. Naidu's name would always be in his heart.

In addition to providing drinking water to Chennai, the scheme would benefit the Rayalaseema region. Water from the project would immediately irrigate 47,000 acres in the region.

Thiru. Naidu said he intimately knew Thiru. Karunanidhi for more than 15 years. "I have

always called K. Jayaraman Karunanidhi my leader. I proudly say that he will be my leader for ever".

The Tamil Nadu PWD Minister, Thiru. Durai Murugan, expressed the hope that the Krishna water supply scheme would lay the foundation for the linking of major rivers in the country. Dr. K. Sivaprasada Rao, Medium and Major Irrigation Minister of Andhra Pradesh, said the State had spent about Rs. 230 crores in the last year alone for the scheme.

Thiru. Murasoli Maran, Hon'ble Union Industries Minister, Thiru. N.V.N. Somu, Union Hon'ble Minister of State for Defence, Thiru. N. Veerasami, and Thiru. Ko. Si. Mani, Tamil Nadu Ministers and Thiru. K.A. Nambiar, Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary, were present.

TELUGU GANGA PROJECT - *an example of inter-state cooperation*

The successful bringing in of Krishna water to Tamil Nadu was hailed as a shining example of inter-state Co-operation and a spirit of true federalism by K. Jayaraman. Karunanidhi and Thiru. N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

An air of festivity and rejoicing filled the air as Thiru. Chandrababu Naidu, amidst thundering cheers, poured Krishna water from a silver pot into a vessel held by Thiru. Karunanidhi to mark the joyous occasion at a function held at the Government estate in front of Rajaji Hall in Chennai on 29-9-96.

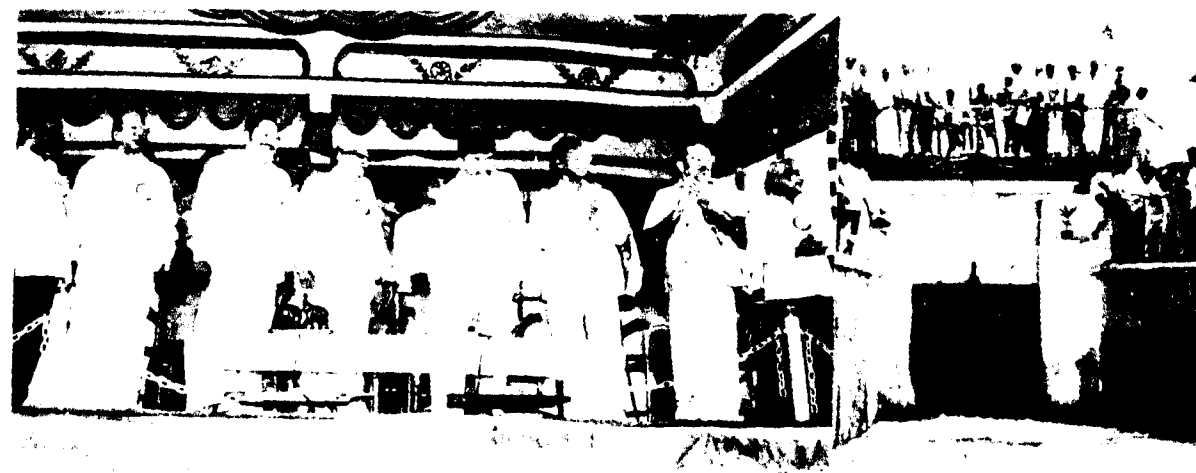
The Tamil Nadu Governor, Dr. M. Channa Reddy, Thiru. Murasoli Maran and Thiru. M. Arunachalam, Union Ministers for Industry and Labour respectively who participated in the function, congratulated both the States for having made history and having set an example of mutual love and cooperation for emulation by other States in the country.

Thiru. Karunanidhi said it was time that the regional parties became strong and united to protect the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the nation and also further strengthen the united front Government at the Centre.

Referring to a plea made earlier by Thiru. Maran for taking

up the Cooum improvement scheme in Chennai, Thiru. Karunanidhi said that unlike the Krishna water project termed by the Union Industry minister as an example of true federalism minus centre, Cooum improvement project required Centre's help. If the Centre did not come forward to help, the State would approach the World Bank and other international agencies. More than that the Central Ministers from Tamil Nadu should extend their cooperation in the task.

The Chief Minister paid moving tributes to his counterpart for having shown keen interest in expediting the Krishna water project.



Thiru Karunanidhi had a word of praise for Thiru Durai Murugan, Tamil Nadu PWD Minister, for the way he struggled day and night to expedite the project.

"Thiru Chandrababu Naidu is my loving brother and he is one of dynamic forces who laid the foundation for the United Front. I would say that Thiru Naidu is one of the pillars of the United Front", Thiru Karunanidhi said.

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister who regaled the vast crowd by speaking in Tamil for a few minutes before switching over to English and Telugu, became little emotional as he referred to the cultural ties of Tamils and Telugus for generations.

He was happy that the Krishna water project could be completed to the satisfaction of Tamil Nadu. If States were to abide by the verdict of Tribu-

nals, there could be no inter-State water sharing problems on the Alamatti dam issue.

"Thiru Karunanidhi is my leader", Thiru Naidu said and added that regional parties in the country were going to play a very vital role in national politics hereafter. He assured the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister that he would work under his leadership in a spirit of true federalism.

Dr. Channa Reddy said that the country was getting into an era where all the political parties should learn to work together for fulfilling the aspirations of the people. He said the United Front Government at the Centre was a peculiar phenomenon. But it was a wonderful phenomenon.

Thiru Maran, said it was for the first time in the country that a scheme of this kind had been executed without the involvement of the Central Government.

This was an illustration to show how States could moot projects on their own and execute them. Like in U.S., the "Federalism minus New Delhi" should be evolved. The Centre should confine itself to framing guidelines for the functioning of States and act as a referee, he added.

Thiru. M. Arunachalam said there was a possibility to unite States, which were divided on the basis of languages through linking of rivers. He requested the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister to formulate projects which would benefit the public on the long run.

Dr. K. Sivaprasada Rao, Andhra Pradesh Major and Medium Irrigation Minister, said the visionary approach of elders combined with technological advancements, could help improve the quality of people. This was the uniqueness, of projects like the Telugu Ganga.

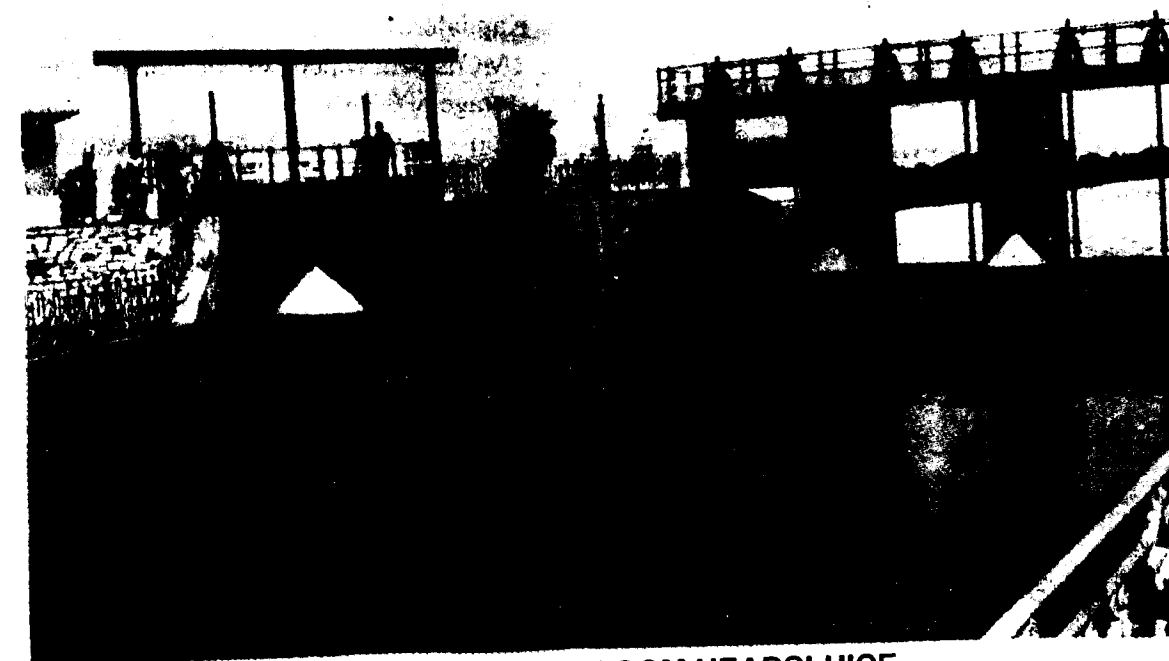
KRISHNA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT AND TELUGU GANGA PROJECT

The Project

On the initiative of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Tmt. Indira Gandhi in 15th February 1976, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra mutually signed an agreement on 14th April 1976 to spare each 5 tmc annually from their share of Krishna Water to Tamil Nadu for Chennai city water supply. The Tamil Nadu Government also entered into an agreement with the Government of

The portion of the project falling in Andhra Pradesh limits and to be implemented by that Government is known as Telugu Ganga project. This includes works above Pennar and below Pennar. The portion in Tamil Nadu limits to be implemented by Tamil Nadu is known as Krishna Water Supply Project.

As per the agreement, the cost of the common components of the scheme is to be

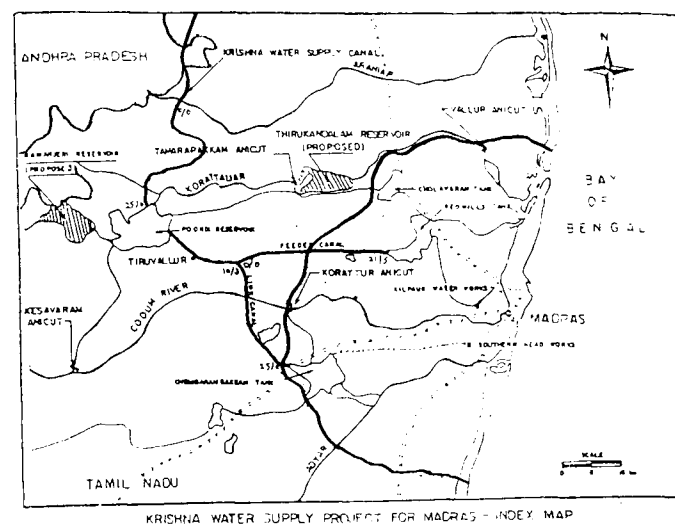


FEEDER CANAL LSOM HEADSLUICE

Andhra Pradesh on 18th April 1983 for the implementation of the project for the drawal of 15 tmc. of water from river Krishna for Chennai city water supply.

The project is being implemented as joint project for water supply to Chennai and irrigation for 5.75 lakhs acres in Andhra Pradesh within the frame work of the agreement.

shared in proportion to the contemplated utilisation in both the States. The quantity being ensured at the Tamil Nadu border on an annual basis, the manner of the drawal at the border month after month, the components of the project to be executed in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu limits and the guidelines for the cost allocation are specified in the agreement drawn on 18th April 1983, between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.



The project work commenced during 1983 and is in progress. At present the canal system to convey the Chennai city water supply is nearing completion.

II COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT:

1) Telugu Ganga Project Components in Andhra Pradesh Limits:

The project consists of the conductor system

from Srisailem Reservoir to Tamil Nadu border for a length of 379 KMs with 3 Reservoirs enroute viz., Velugodu Reservoir, Somasila Reservoir and Kendaleru Reservoir. The total length of the canal from Somasila to Tamil Nadu border is 197 KMs.

In the course of the canal, from Srisailem Reservoir on Krishna after the Mittakondala ridge cut and below Banakacherla Regulator, the Velugodu Reservoir is formed with a capacity of 17 TMC to serve the proposed irrigation of 1.25 lakh acres in Kurnool District and 1.50 lakh acres in Cudappah District. On Pennar, the capacity of the existing Somasila Reservoir is increased from 16 TMC to 78 TMC by creating 40 feet shutters over spillway for development of irrigation (stage II) under Somasila and also for diverting waters to Chennai. Across Kandaleruvalley, a reservoir of capacity 59 TMC is built which provides for an intermediate storage of 5 TMC meant for Chennai city water supply. Below Kandaleru Reservoir, the canal will be irrigating 3 lakh acres in Nellore and Chittoor Districts of Andhra Pradesh before it enters Tamil Nadu border.



1 M DROP AT LS 2214 M

NOVEMBER 1996

The cost of the Telugu Ganga Projects on date is about Rs.2180 crores. An amount of Rs.512 crores has been given to Government of Andhra Pradesh towards the share of Tamil Nadu.

2. KRISHNA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT COMPONENTS:

i) Kandaleru Poondi canal from Andhra Pradesh - Tamil Nadu border to Poondi reservoir:

This is a 25.28 KM long canal from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu border to Poondi reservoir with discharging capacity of 1000 cusecs.

ii) Providing additional storage space in Tamil Nadu limits.

- Raising the F.R.L. of Poondi Reservoir.
- Raising the F.T.L. of Chembambakkam tank.
- Raising the F.T.L. of Red Hills lake.

To provide additional capacity to store water, the F.T.Ls of the above reservoirs have

been increased by 60 cms and their bunds are strengthened to meet the additional requirement. Their capacities before and after improvements are as follows:

Tank	Capacity		Additional Storage
	before improve ments. Mcft.	after improve ments. Mcft.	
1. Poondi Reservoir	2750	3460	710
2. Chembambakkam Tank	3120	3645	525
3. Red Hills lake	2850	3300	450
Total	8720	10405	1685

d. Formation of a new reservoir across Kosasttalaiyar river near Ramanjeri village: 1180 Mcft.

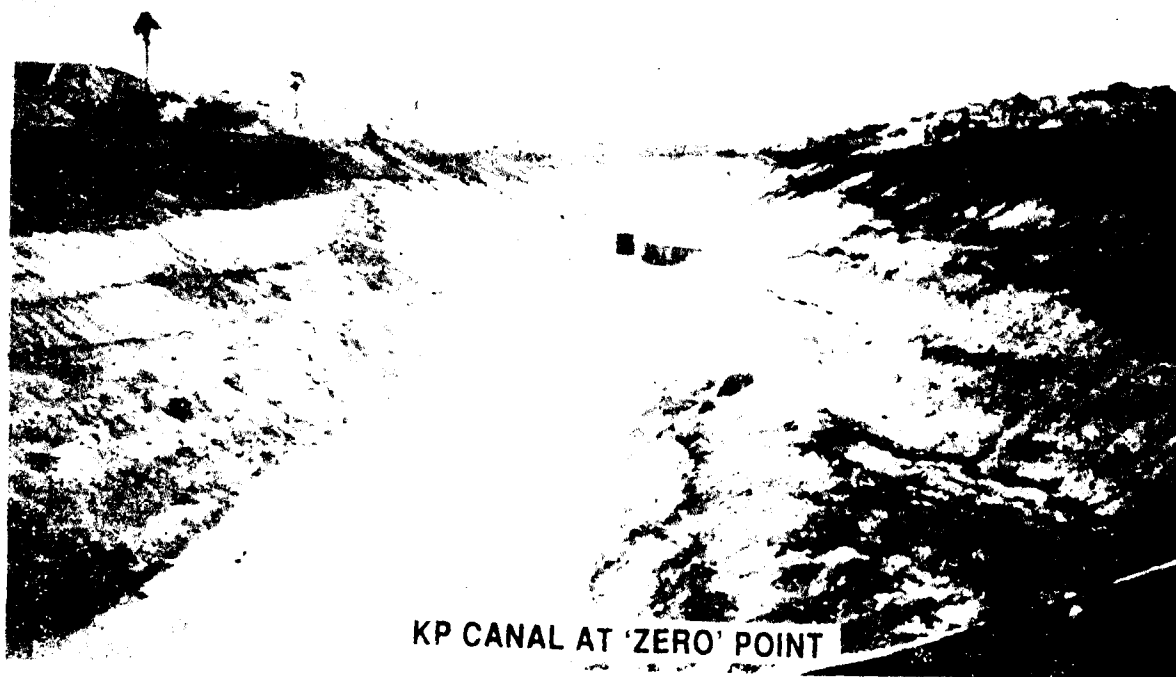
e. Formation of a new reservoir across Kosasttalaiyar river near Thirukandalam village: 1000 Mcft.

The above new reservoirs are proposed to be



NOVEMBER 1996

CANAL SYPHON AT LD 4217



KP CANAL AT 'ZERO' POINT

formed with an additional capacity of 2180 Mcft. and would be taken up for implementations as II stage components.

iii) Providing system linkages:

- a. Link canal from Poondi Reservoir to Chembarambakkam tank:

This canal is of 25.75 KM length with a discharging capacity of 1000 cusecs.

- b. Formation of feeder canal to Red Hills lake;

This canal of 21.50 KM length takes off at L.S. 10.365 KM of link canal and joins Red Hills lake with a designed capacity of 500 cusecs.

Up to date cost of the Krishna Water Supply

Project within Tamil Nadu State is Rs.182.00 crores as per 1995-96.

iv) Treatment, transmission and distribution works including waste water disposal.

The components in Tamil Nadu limits are intended solely for the purpose of water supply to Chennai city. While the components upto the terminal reservoir viz., Red Hills lake and Chembarambakkam tank are being implemented by the Public Works Department. The works connected with treatment, transmission, distribution etc., are being implemented by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

Getting Involved

If you want to take on war criminals in Bosnia, battle attempts to regulate the internet without leaving your home, now you can thank to a couple of activist web sites. At Inter Activism (<http://www.interactivism.com>) you can send free protest faxes, sign petitions and discuss issues of the day. Contact (<http://www.contract.org>) lists more

than 8,000 nonprofit groups in the United States and 90 other countries, and even helps the un-wired get on-line. Now you can save the world one byte at a time.

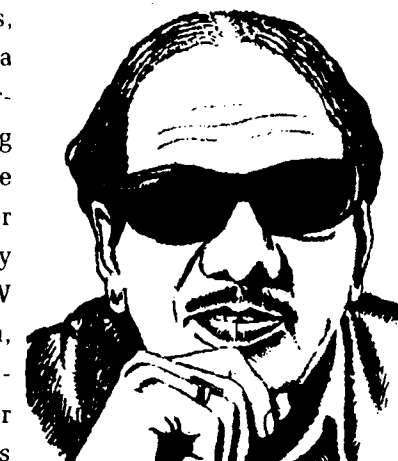
"I expect preferential treatment will be given to Tamil Nadu in setting up liquid fuel based power plants"

- Chief Minister Kalam M. Karunanidhi at the Conference of Power held at New Delhi on 16.10.96

As of now, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has 6908 MW of installed capacity at its command including 1841 MW as share from the Central Generating Stations. I am glad to inform this gathering that Tamil Nadu had not imposed any restrictions on use of power during 1995-96 when all their Southern States were reeling under severe shortage. This was possible due to good inflows into our hydro reservoirs and sustained good performance of the thermal stations in the State. With the reasonable inflow into our hydro reservoirs during this South-West monsoon, the present position is satisfactory.

The performance of our Thermal Stations has been consistently very good. The combined Plant Load Factor of the three stations in the State for 1995-96 was 77.12% which was higher than the all India average of 60%. The Tuticorin Thermal Power Station continues to receive Government of India's meritorious productivity award. The combined auxiliary consumption of all the three thermal stations in our State is around 8.6% which is less than the norms of the Central Electricity Authority.

The Government of India has liberalised the Country's economic policies, paving way for private sector participation in power development in the Country. In the line with these policies, 17 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed for a total capacity of 10,880 MW in Tamil Nadu, with Independent Power Promoters (IPPs). However, these projects may start yielding



benefits only by the end of 9th plan period. Till then, there is bound to be deficit in both demand and energy due to constant load growth. A load growth of 10 percent each year is anticipated during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

The Tamil Nadu Government has, in this context, advertised in news papers calling for tenders for installation of power plants on multi-fuel, of any capacity between 30

"The performance of our Thermal Stations has been consistently very good. The combined Plant Load Factor of the three stations in the State for 1995-96 was 77.12% which was higher than the all India average of 60%."

MW, to 150 MW in 20 Industrial Estates located at various places in the State, for a total addition of about 1500 MW capacity. The generation from these stations can be absorbed by the industries located in the respective areas. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), with the technical support of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, is processing these tenders. These power stations are programmed to start generation within 20-22 months, as short gestation plants. The liquid fuel linkage for these stations has to be given by the Ministry of Petroleum. It is learned that the Government of India is working on a comprehensive liquid fuel policy. Tamil Nadu is situated far away from the coal fields and, naturally, I expect that preferential treatment will be given to Tamil Nadu in the matter of setting up of liquid fuel based power plants. Tamil Nadu will need immediate fuel linkage for these units.

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer in harnessing Non Conventional Energy Sources, especially Wind Energy. The State stands first in India in exploiting wind potential for power generation. Tamil Nadu Government aims to add the minimum of 100 MW of Wind Energy every year to its existing capacity of 565 MW.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is concerned about harnessing the solar energy for power generation and gives encouragement for its development. In the wind farms already existing, the land underneath the wind masts is otherwise un-utilised without any cultivation. But these

wind farm areas have high incidence of solar energy. The Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) has set up a solar photo voltaic plant of 15 KW capacity at Kayathar wind farm. Another solar photo voltaic plant of 100 KW capacity has been put up at Kethanur and it has been commissioned in July 1996. The cost per unit of energy generated in a solar photo voltaic plant is prohibitively high, being in the order of Rs.19/- per unit. Since adequate technology to develop cost effective solar power plants and funds for Research & Development in this direction are not available, projects on a large scale cannot be launched. I request the Hon'ble

Prime Minister to arrange to assist the State with the required funds to develop solar power projects, as vast land is available in and around the wind farms to set up the Solar Energy Plants in Tamil Nadu.

A very long coastal line is available in Tamil Nadu. The ocean energy available along the coast could be beneficially utilised for

power generation, for which proven technology is not available indigenously. The Govt. of India may therefore come forward to import relevant technology from the advanced countries and provide necessary funds also for setting up an Ocean Power Plant, which will be the first of its kind in the country.

There are 36 Sugar Mills in operation in Tamil Nadu. Co-generation Plants with a total capacity of 55 MW have already been established in 5 sugar mills. The aim of the Government is to see that the remaining 31 Sugar Mills are also encouraged to install co-generation plants within

**“
Tamil Nadu Government
aims to add a minimum
of 100 MW of Wind Energy
every year to its
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565 MW.
”**

the next 2 years. A capacity addition of 300 MW is expected from these non-conventional sources.

Generation through Non-Conventional methods like generation of power from hot waste flue gases and co-generation by refineries using waste residual oils are being encouraged. Whenever such proposals are received, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board accords 'in-principles' approval, indicating its willingness to purchase power from these plants, at a negotiated tariff.

Regarding captive power plants, the concept of a group of industries putting up captive plants for catering to their own needs has been accepted. The TNEB wheels the power for the participating industries. There are about 2200 MW of captive generating sets available in various industries at different voltage levels. Tamil Nadu Government is considering various options to bring these captive sets under beneficial use to the grid.

A paisa saved is a paisa earned, goes the saying and the same holds true in respect of reducing the loss of power during Transmission and Distribution. The transmission and distribution losses in our State is assessed at 17%, as against the country's average loss of about 21%. We are aiming to reduce the losses to not more than 15% before the end of 9th Five Year Plan. In this direction, Tamil Nadu Government has evolved measures like implementation of urban improvement schemes, addition of shunt capacitors at the high tension feeders, standardizing the conductor size in LT

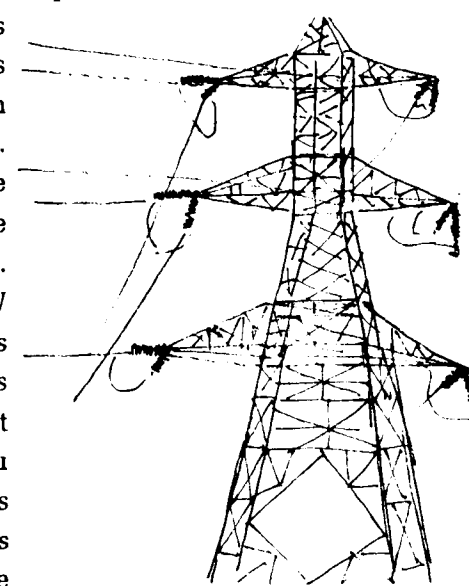
distribution net work, etc. It is estimated that, on an outlay of Rs. 500 crores will be required for implementing the Action Plan to reduce the T&D losses by about 2% before the end of 9th Plan Period. Providing such a massive outlay for improvements alone is a main constraint in taking up schemes to reduce the losses.

We are taking several steps to improve the operational efficiency and to economise on expenditure. Still, the negative effects due to the steep periodical increases in the cost of inputs and interest burden on loans have made it

difficult for the Board to bridge the gap between expenditure and revenue. Nearly 75% of the revenue goes to meet the cost of fuel and payment to central generating stations for purchase of power.

Energy generation through thermal power stations has to be given high priority in the National Agenda of

future policy making. This encompasses maximum reliance on domestic resources, minimum dependence on imports and assured supply from stable and reliable sources. In the foreseeable future, coal will be the mainstay of energy supply and therefore, ways and means must be explored to augment coal production through private investments and upgrading infrastructure through provision of transportation facilities. Transportation of unwashed coal over long distances by rail amounts to costly and wasted effort in transporting ash. This apart, the problem of flyash disposal has to be tackled to avoid adverse environmental impacts. A new and innovative strategy of more extensive



KNOWLEDGE

Subramania Bharathi



Ye, foolish folk, who roam about
In search of myriad fancied gods,
Have you not heard the myriad scriptures
Declare knowledge alone is God?

Why worship Bull-god, Wood-god, Hunter god
When you have been told that the Awareness
Which pervades the universe,
This and this alone is God?

Why stumble and fall into creeds insane?
Why not listen to the *Srutis*
That say that Siva is Pure Awareness?

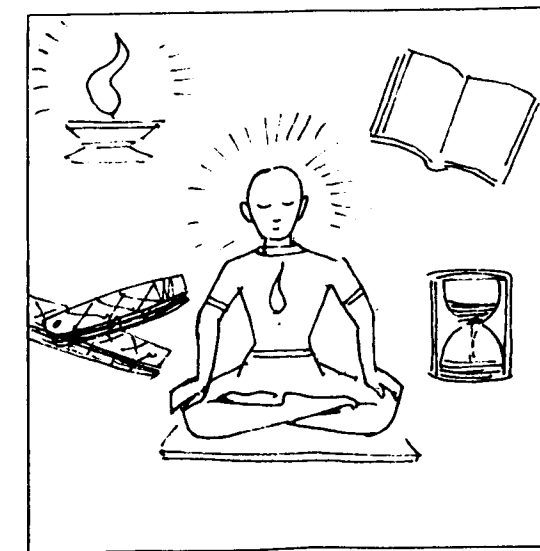
The Vedas say a million forms
With a million names are manifestations
Of one sole Being. But you mistake
Appearances for Reality.

All states and moods are states and moods
Of one sole Sakti, Power supreme.
The highest vedantic state discovered
By the sages *santi*. Heaven is
But a good life lived here on this earth
Free from all care. Why must you think
Of rice and munch dry husk? The Self,
The light that shines within all beings,
Is the Brahman you deem inaccessible.

Why go collecting gods and stories
And spreading false beliefs? One, one
Sole Brahman is the Awareness in you.

The one eternal Brahman, the one
True Being, is the Awareness in you.

Translated by Prof. K. SWAMINATHAN



washing of coal needs to be explored besides pithed generation.

Having exploited all the major hydel sources in the State, we have to necessarily depend on the establishment of mega projects based on fossil fuels, that is, coal, lignite and petroleum sources. Tamil Nadu does not have any coal deposits. Coal required for its four thermal power stations is supplied by M/s. Coal India Ltd. (CIL) from the mines located in West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa States and hauled over very long distances through rail cum sea routes, resulting in high cost of coal at the power station sites.

The State is however fortunate in having vast reserves of lignite, of over 24,370 million tonnes in Neyveli, Bahour-Pondy, Jayamkondan and Mannarkudi Belts. Obtaining fuel linkages from Northern/Eastern coal fields to the thermal power stations in Tamil Nadu is very difficult. Also the cost of coal delivered at power station site is very high due to transport over long distances. In view of these difficulties, it is felt that the Govt. of India should encourage exploitation of huge lignite reserves available in Tamil Nadu. To make a beginning in this regard, the Govt. of India may encourage and give necessary assistance to Neyveli Lignite Corporation to open a third mine cut in the Neyveli Lignite belt together with the establishment of a Super Thermal Power Station, by clearing the proposal already submitted by the NLC. This will be cost effective compared to transporting coal from far-away coal belts as also importing coal from foreign countries.

Power evacuation transmission schemes for the generation being planned by Tamil Nadu Government in the next 6 years is a priority programme. An outlay of Rs. 389 crores has been approved by the Tamil Nadu Government for the year 1996-97 for expanding its transmission and

distribution net work. This is bound to increase in the coming years. For some of the transmission schemes included in the State Plan, Power Finance Corporation Loans are being obtained. But, still, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is

“
Under Kutirjyoti Scheme,
the Tamil Nadu Government is
giving free supply of power to
huts in rural areas,
occupied by the poorest
of the poor.
”

finding it difficult to cope up with the transmission budget. The Central Government can come up with an alternate financial programme to assist the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board in implementing its transmission and distribution projects.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister who is fully committed towards the uplift of rural masses is aware of the importance of various welfare schemes now being executed for the benefit of rural areas. Under Kutirjyoti Scheme, the Tamil Nadu Government is giving free supply of power to huts in rural areas, occupied by the poorest of the poor. A portion of the expenditure towards this scheme is being given as grant by the Central Government to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board through Rural Electrification Corporation (REC). I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to announce 100% grant for the scheme.

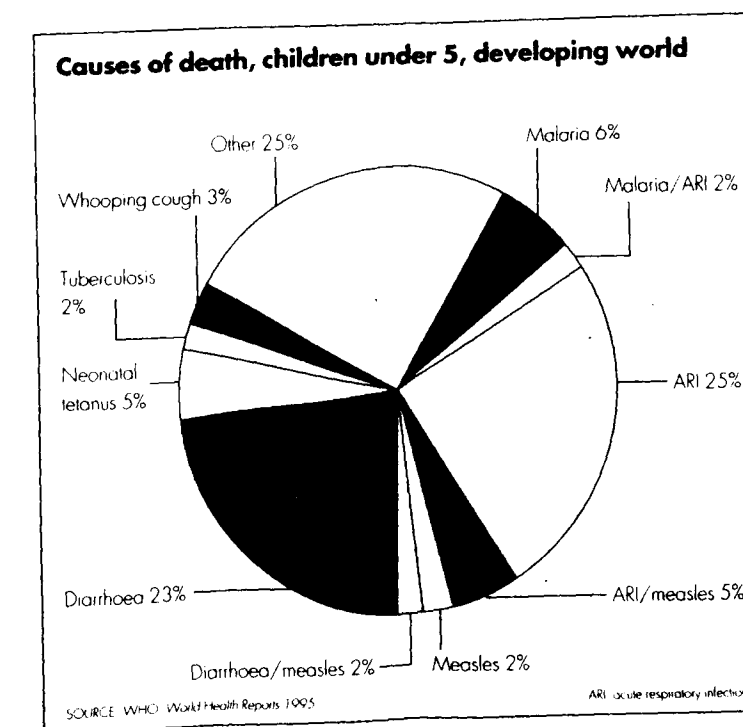
(Excerpts from the text of the address)



WHAT KILLS CHILDREN

Classifying deaths by disease hides the fact that death is not usually an event with one case but a process with many causes. In particular, it is the conspiracy between malnutrition and infection which pulls many children into the downward spiral of poor growth and early death.

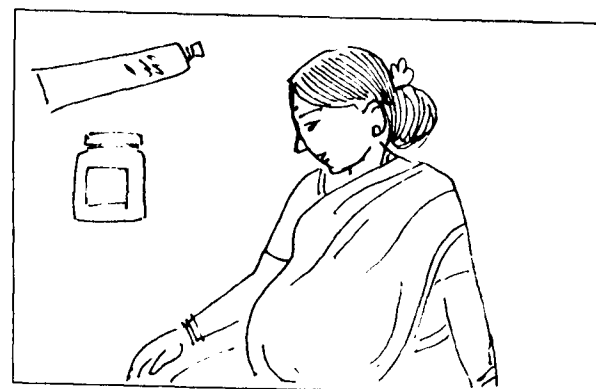
It is now accepted that about half of all child deaths are associated with malnutrition. Action on both fronts to improve nutrition and to protect against diseases-could save many more lives (and be significantly more cost-effective) than action on either front alone. And more that three quarters of all these malnutrition - related deaths are linked not to severe malnutrition but to mild and moderate forms.



SCIENCE UPDATE

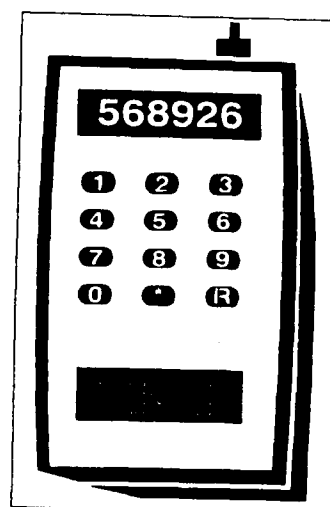
Remove Stretch Marks

The pimple and wrinkle fighter Retina-A may alleviate another skin woe: STRETCH MARKS. When rubbed on daily for six months, the cream



shrank the marks 14% in length and 8% in width; with a placebo, they grew. The scarlike lesions tested were relatively new ones, all with still smooth skin.

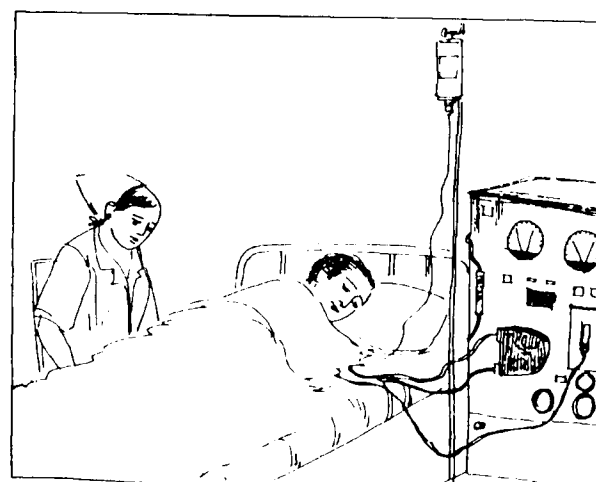
Cellular phone affect pacemaker



Electromagnetic fields from Cellular Phones can cause pacemakers to slow down, speed up or stop altogether. The effect, which appears to last only as long as the phone is on, usually occurs when the antenna is placed close to the pacemaker--for example, when the phone is inserted into a breast pocket.

Warmth reduces infection

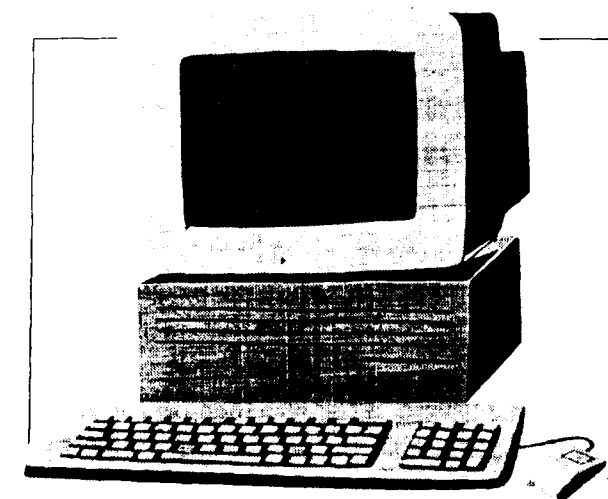
Keeping patients warm during SURGERY can reduce infection. Anaesthesia inhibits the body's



ability to regulate temperature, yet operating rooms tend to be kept chilly so heavily gowned surgeons won't sweat under bright lights. If a patient's temperature is kept normal, blood flows more easily to the skin to fight germs.



INTERNET ACRONYMS: LEARN THE LANGUAGE



INTERNET: The network created when computers worldwide communicate with each other over telephone lines, cables, and other means.

INTRANET: A network linking computers within a company.

URL: Uniform Resource Locator--the Internet address for document located on the Internet.

Hypertext: a text link to other documents containing more information on the same or a related topic. Hypertext links are identified as different-colored text with an underline. To retrieve the related document, click on the hypertext.

HTML: Hypertext Mark up Language--a Language (or format) used for creating hypertext documents on the World Wide Web.

HTTP: Hypertext Transfer Protocol--an information retrieval mechanism for HTML documents.

FTP: File Transfer Protocol--the standard protocol for transferring files from one computer to another over the internet.

Courtesy: News week (dated Sep. 2, '96)

Hyper graphic: a graphic image link to other



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Monica Sharma and James Jullocl

Diarrhoeal diseases and respiratory infections account for, over half the deaths in developing world

Children in rich countries do not die from the common preventable diseases of childhood. Children in poor countries do.

Except in rare and isolated cases measles, diarrhoea, malaria, pneumonia and malnutrition no longer claim the lives of children in the Industrialized world. But in poor countries, these five conditions kill more than 8 million children a year and account for two thirds of all under five deaths.

As the 20th century draws to an end, it is or ought to be a source of profound international shame that over 8 million children are allowed to die each year from problems that have long ago been overcome in others parts of the world. A famine that kills 10,000 an earthquake that kills 1,000, a plane crash that kills 100 all of these may stir the world to pity and protest. But the deaths of almost 25,000 children every day from five causes for which we long ago discovered inexpensive means of prevention or cure are allowed to pass with barely a murmur. It is as though a cure for heart disease or cancer or AIDS

had been discovered but not used. And if the comparison seems far-fetched let it be remembered that diarrhoeal diseases claims half as many lives as heart disease, respiratory infections more lives than cancer, measles more lives than cancer, measles more lives than AIDS. And the victims of these preventable conditions are, in the main, children under the age of five.

“As the 20th century draws to an end, it is or ought to be a source of profound international shame that over 8 million children are allowed to die each year from problems that have long ago been overcome in other parts of the world.”

The extraordinary lack of protest can be put down to two principal factors. The first is that these 8 million deaths do not happen in a particular place at a particular time. They do not, therefore, meet the criteria of the new media. Second, they are almost always the deaths of children from the least-regarded families in the world, families on the margins of life, families without political influence, without economic power, without media access.

PROGRESS SO FAR

If the tragedy of preventable child deaths has passed largely unrecognized, then so too has the progress that has been made in recent years.

Over the last decade and a half, UNICEF and WHO have led a world wide effort, working with Government and non-governmental organizations (NEOs) all over the world, to begin reducing the toll of the ordinary diseases of childhood.

In that time, immunization has been extended from about 25% to almost 80% of the developing world's children, preventing more than 3 million deaths a year from diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, and tetanus. By the same means, polio cases have been cut from approximately 400,000 a year to just under 100,000. Also since 1980, the technique known as oral rehydration therapy (ORT) has been put at the disposal of most poor communities, averting approximately 1 million deaths a year from diarrhoeal dehydration. More recently, a sustained advance has also been made against the Vitamin A deficiency which renders common diseases more likely to be fatal and is associated with between 1 and 3 million child deaths each year.

This effort has not been directed only at saving lives. Prevention and proper treatment of common illnesses also help to protect the growth and normal development of far larger number of children. In particular, the campaign to iodize salt and so eliminate iodine deficiency disorders, long the world's biggest cause of prevent-

able mental retardation is now close to success in 30 nations.

In sum, the progress made in one generation means that as many as 5 million fewer children each year are dying, and that at least three quarters of a million fewer are being disabled, blinded, crippled, or mentally retarded.

Although little noticed in the Industrialized nations, this advance must be ranked as one of the great achievements of the second half of the 20th century.

A JOB HALF DONE

In an attempt to maintain this momentum, the 1990 World Summit for children brought together a majority of the world's Presidents and Prime Ministers to discuss current opportunities for

further reducing the toll of ordinary childhood illnesses. The result was agreement on a set of basic goals to be achieved by the year 2000.

Around the consensus of what could and should be done, United Nations agencies are working with Governments and NGOs to put known solutions into practice on the necessary scale. UNICEF has dedicated most of its efforts and its advocacy to this cause for the last 15 years. WHO has provided the scientific guidance and helped to train over a million health

“The extraordinary lack of protest can be put down to two principal factors. The first is that these 8 million deaths do not happen in a particular place at a particular time. They do not, therefore, meet the criteria of the new media. Second, they are almost always the deaths of children from the least-regarded families in the world.”

diseases of childhood. Both organizations have devoted themselves to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of well-defined priority health interventions.

But despite the progress made, the job of preventing ordinary illnesses from killing, disabling, and malnourishing so many millions of children is less than half done. And over the next decade, the priority must be to finish what has been started. Recent years have shown that, with some support from the international community, almost all governments can now command the knowledge, the technology and the outreach capacity to enable most families to protect the lives and the normal growth of their children. If there was little excuse for the deaths of millions caused by ordinary diseases in 1980, there is none at all now.

As in so many other arenas of the possible, the weak link is still the relatively low level of political commitment, in many countries, to doing what can now be done.

The other main danger is a complacency born of two common misunderstandings.

First, the dramatic increase in immunization is not a once-and-for-all achievement but an

effort that must be renewed with each generation of infants. Over 120 million babies are born into the developing world each year, and all of them need to be vaccinated on four or five occasions during the first year of life.

Second, there is a widespread if unspoken belief that reaching 40% or 50% with ORT and 70% or 80% with immunization is good enough.

But the fact is that frequent illness, poor growth, and early death are concentrated among the poorest—the minorities, the geographically remote, the despised, and the discriminated against.

In other words, they are concentrated among those who have not yet been reached.

Finishing the job, reaching the unreached, and ending the shameful toll of the ordinary diseases of childhood, must therefore continue to be a priority in the remaining years of the 1990s.

At the same time, continued efforts are required to strengthen the basis for sustained progress in improving health through guaranteeing basic health services, adequate nutrition, safe water and sanitation and family planning services, to all communities.

*Courtesy: The Progress of Nations 1996
Published by Unicef*

EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

In recent times, there has been a growing body of opinion which has advocated the need for not regarding the prostitute as a criminal or an object but as a victim of circumstances and as a human being. There is also increasing concern that children, predominantly girl children, have been inducted into the trade and were subjects of shocking sexual abuse for commercial purposes.

The problem of child prostitution is of growing concern. Following the Supreme Court Order of 2nd May 1990, a Central Advisory Committee on Child Prostitution was established with the Secretary, DWCD as the Chairperson. A report was completed by this Committee on the subject and is circulated for the forthcoming workshops.

Convention on the rights of the child

The Conventions on the Rights of the Child and to initiate appropriate measures, national, bilateral and multilateral, to let every child enjoy the right to be free from all forms of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking. (Articles 34, 35 and 36).

Causes for Trafficking of Children

Social economic conditions and marginalisation of the poor, low perception of girl child, non-availability of employment potential in the rural areas, decline in purchasing power, rural-urban migrations have been admitted as some of the major supply factors. However, we need to understand and pinpoint, if any, poverty-creating conditions as an offshoot of policies in other sectors.

For example displacement, retrenchment and industrial depression and sickness make such areas clearly prone to this problem. In this context liberalization policies and their socioeconomic impact needs to be closely studied. It was feared that elimination of child labour without a proper rehabilitation package might swell the rising tide of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

The demand dimension of sexual exploitation of children is equally critical for any effective intervention. Comparable to the mafia-driven world of narco-terrorism, several micro-studies have revealed that abductions, kidnappings, disappearances from fairs and melas and parting with a child under duress by guardian account for a phenomenal increase in sexually exploited children. The popular belief is that having sex with a child reduces the chance of contracting life-threatening diseases like HIV/AIDS. The aiding, abetting and culpable indifference displayed by law enforcing machinery to organized trafficking ensures the entrenchment of such a demand phenomena.

Today, tourism is also seen as a profitable source of building up income-generating capacities of those areas in the hinterland of tourists spots contri-



buting to sex-tourism by pedophiles. The absence of law in India vis-a-vis tight laws to prohibit and counter this menace and the reluctance of Governments to check anything which affect tourism, facilitate sex-tourism in the country.

Development of data-base: Magnitude and dimension

To understand the trafficking dimension, survey in the catchment areas such as brothels, etc. and other prominent red light areas there is little doubt that the source and catchment area surveys/studies together can throw up more complete and meaningful indicators of the extent and the characteristics of the problem. Source area studies would also not account for the extra-territorial supplies, which is a very important feeder-category for such purposes. But, catchment area surveys are more easily prescribed than practiced. It is undoubtedly, a challenging task to penetrate the fortresses of red light areas, where any outsider intervention is resisted and thwarted. Hence, non cooperation and non-divulgence of crucial information such as age of the child, and the exposure and insecurity caused to such social workers, in pursuit of such information, needs to be kept in mind. The feasibility and practicability of such surveys and the training needs and methodology will require detailed discussions in the workshops.

Prevention in Source areas

One of the important outcomes of a well-conducted study would be to confirm supply areas

“Comparable to the mafia-driven world of narco-terrorism, several micro-studies have revealed that abductions, kidnappings, disappearances from fairs and melas and parting with a child under duress by guardian account for a phenomenal increase in sexually exploited children.”

psychologically acceptable way of life, explode religious myths and traditions behind devadasi and jogin practices. Package of audio-visuals and other communication media could be used to show the negative fall-outs of sexual exploitation of children for commercial purposes.

Experience of participants in implementing programmes of income generation, health education, skill and vocation building in source areas to address problems of poverty needs to be discussed and documented. Macro-policies to prevent rural depopulation by bringing about agrarian reform, provision of irrigation facilities to make land more productive and setting up small industries are necessary to provide adequate employment potential in rural areas. Guardians who have lost children for conscionable and unconscionable gains due to poverty, women abandoned after a life of prostitution and wanting to break the trans-generational cycle of placing children for such exploitable purposes need to be covered under programmes of social defence.

While many of the source areas of pre-meditated migrations (charted routes) can be

and such knowledge helps prevention.

It is possible to develop through social action groups, counselling, educating and awareness-building programmes in such areas. To educate on child rights and parental responsibilities and duties towards the child; to value, especially, the girl child; to induce the spirit of questioning prostitution as a physically, morally and

identified, mechanisms to sound and hear danger signals in potentials areas needs to be worked. Can such at risk zones be recognised and indicators formulated for this, to enable advance action plans to be implemented? Besides this, surveillance in fairs and melas where prospective recruitment and disappearances of children take place, provision of approved educators supported by city and public authorities for street children could be other preventive measures in potential areas.

POLITICAL AGENDA-Setting by Pressure Groups.

Issues such as child rights, crimes against children do not find a place in political agendas, election manifestos of political parties. Hence it is imperative for the building and strengthening of such pressure groups, from among children. NGO, to influence the political agenda and evoke commitments to such fundamental issues in respective constituencies; to look for ways and means to rally local support to give strength and reality to well-intentioned international declaration, so that, global thoughts could form part of local action.

Promotion of media watch-groups to oversee depiction of cheap-sex formulation of appropriate laws and policies to counter commodotising of women and children and sex objects, strengthening and intensification of drives against

those found in the possession of pornographic and other materials should help in reducing the demand for children for sexual exploitation.

Respect for human life, dignity, equality between sexes should become an integral part of school curriculum and its moral and civic training.

Networking among NGO's for information sharing and surveillance functions, for bilateral and regional co-operation to prevent extra-territorial supplies of children (Nepal and Bangladesh), qualitative improvements in the systems of governance, sensitisation programmes to law-enforcing agencies could contribute effectively to prevention.

Exploding myths and popular beliefs that child-sex is not prone to contraction of HIV/AIDS and other diseases is an important aspect of AIDS-control and prevention of sexual exploitation of children.

Role of Religions

The role of religions, through its spokespersons-temple, church leaders and mullahs etc. in decrying sexual exploitation of children is potent. Once declared as a moral crime, social crimes arising out of non-

adherence to moral values can be accuser to the accused, where the community is called to look down upon those involved in wanting child sex or found siding and abetting it. Social repression for such crimes through through exposure and

“It is possible to develop through social action groups counselling, educating and awareness-building programmes in such areas. To educate on child rights and parental responsibilities and duties towards the child; to value, especially, the girl child; to induce the spirit of questioning prostitution as a physically, morally and psychologically acceptable way of life, explode religious myths and traditions behind devadasi and jogin practices.”

ostracising can make this an unprofitable business and bring down the demand for child-sex.

Social programmes to counter the impact of consumerism, materialism should be encouraged and supported.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is the price paid for criminal social and political neglect of the problem over too many years.

However, rehabilitation has in practice come to mean physical recovery and rescue followed by placement in State-sponsored remand-homes. Rehabilitation should mean, for example, making alternative choices of living both visible and possible to such victims, to make it possible for them to see that they are victims of circumstances and help overcome feelings of guilt. It involves the providing of a supportive of a supportive environment for the inner healing to take place through integrationist not isolationist approaches. The ultimate test of rehabilitation is absence of recidivism. As in prevention, rehabilitation is neither the responsibility nor the prerogative of any particular wing of society. The outrage on society must be confronted squarely by a coalition of social forces.

The process of rehabilitation keeping the above criteria in view, is a multi-dimensional packages. It should provide for professional counselling services and access to child-abuse therapists. Access mechanism to such

professional aid and its incorporation in law (Both ITPA and JJ Act) should be ensured. Providing adequate housing facilities, easy procurement of food through public distribution systems, facilitating saving systems and securing free access to health and legal services in court cases skill and vocation building for economic well-being are important components of a rehabilitation package..

“Respect for human life, dignity, equality between sexes should become an integral part of school curriculum and its moral and civic training.”

Child Abuse and Trafficking

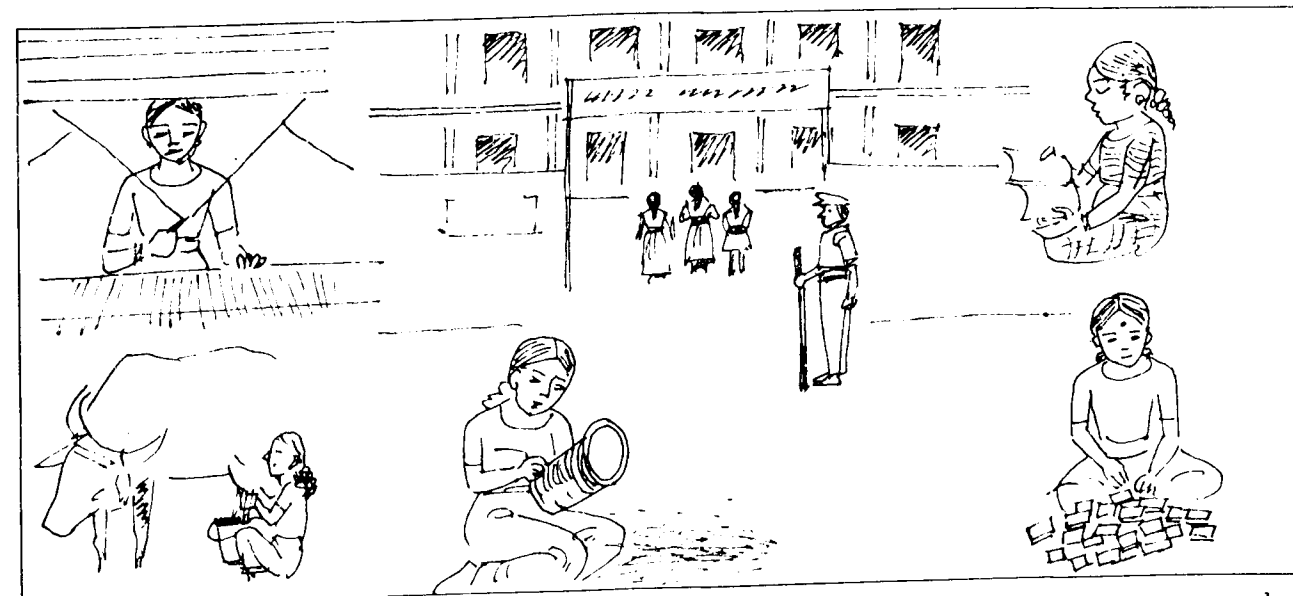
The UN International Convention held in New York in 1950 gave a call to all nations for suppressing trafficking in persons for exploitation for immoral purposes. In the Convention on the Rights of Child, of which India is

a signatory, adopted on 20th November 1989 by the UN, the following Articles cast important responsibilities on States Parties signatory to the Convention. They are :

ARTICLE 34

State Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes, States Parties shall in particular take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent:

- The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity.
- The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices:
- The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.



ARTICLE 35

States Parties shall take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction of the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form.

ARTICLE 36

States parties shall protect the child against all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare.

The Government of Tamil Nadu as a pioneer in devising ameliorative programme for the vulnerable sector (Children and Women) constituted an Advisory committee for Eradication of Child Prostitution consisting of official and non official members and voluntary agencies to advise the Government in the following matters:-

- to suggest measures to eradicate child prostitution.

- to suggest welfare programmes to be implemented for the Care, Protection, Treatment, Development and Rehabilitation of the young fallen victims.

- to suggest measures for providing adequate and rehabilitative homes manned by well qualified, trained social workers.

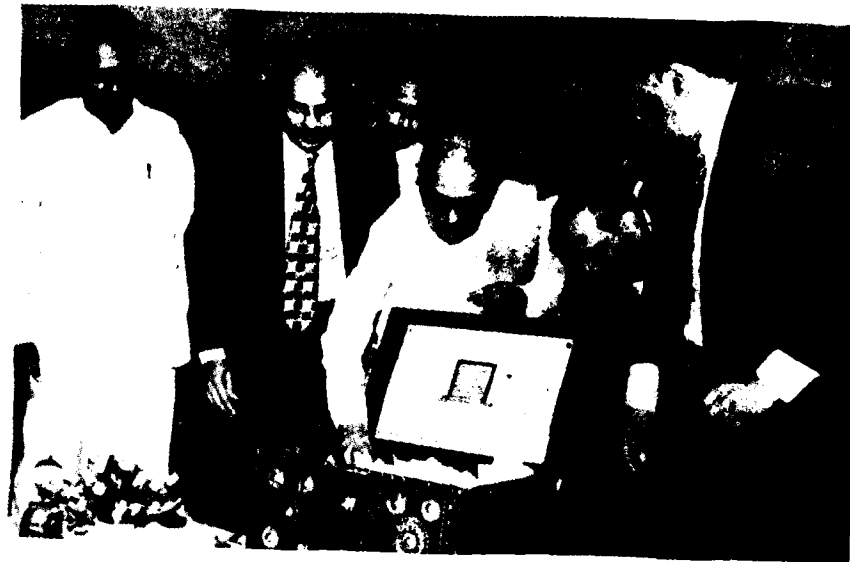
“The ultimate test of rehabilitation is absence of recidivism. As in prevention, rehabilitation is neither the responsibility nor the prerogative of any particular wing of society. The outrage on society must be confronted squarely by a coalition of social forces.”

The Director of Social Defence is the Member-Secretary of the Advisory committee. The Advisory Committee has met once and suggested for the effective implementation of the Immoral Traffic prevention Act, 1956 as well as the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 so as to give all fair chances for the better development of the girl children found to be living

either in a brothel or with a prostitute or is found to be associate with any prostitute or any other person who leads an immoral, drunken or depraved life. This also include a child being or is likely to be abused or exploited for immoral or illegal purposes. □



The Malaysian Minister for Public Works Thiru Datho Samivelu called on the Chief Minister and had discussion on starting new Industries, and laying of roads in Tamil Nadu. Datho IR Chuasoon Poh of Malaysian Transport Department, Industrialist Thiru Ravidharan, Deputy Ambassador of Malaysia at Chennai Thiru Ismail Ahamed were also present (28.10.96).



Hon'ble Chief Minister K. Karunanidhi picked the lucky winners for "Win the World", a promotional scheme by Air India at Chennai on 23.10.96. Hon'ble Minister for Health Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy was also present.

The newly elected President of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce Thiru M. Balasubramanian and Thiru AVM Saravanan called on the Chief Minister at his residence on 23.10.96.



PHOTO FEATURE

The Chairman and Managing Director of Tamil Nadu News Print Ltd. Thiru. Gopalan, R. IAS on behalf of TNPL presented a cheque for Rs.8.67 crores to the Chief Minister on 23.10.96.



His Excellency the Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy called on the ailing Chief Minister K. Karunanidhi at his residence on 2.11.96.

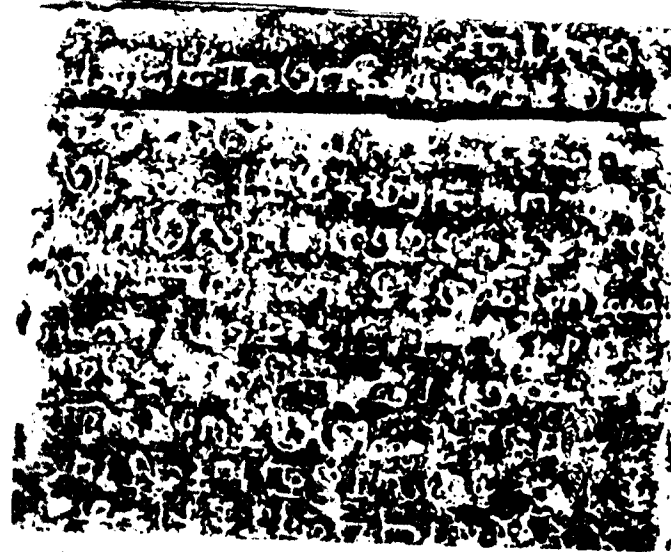


Thiru Sunil Usha of Navrang Cultural Academy presented Rs.50,000 to the Chief Minister for the Chief Minister's Welfare Fund.



A NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY

Anjatha Perumal Bund



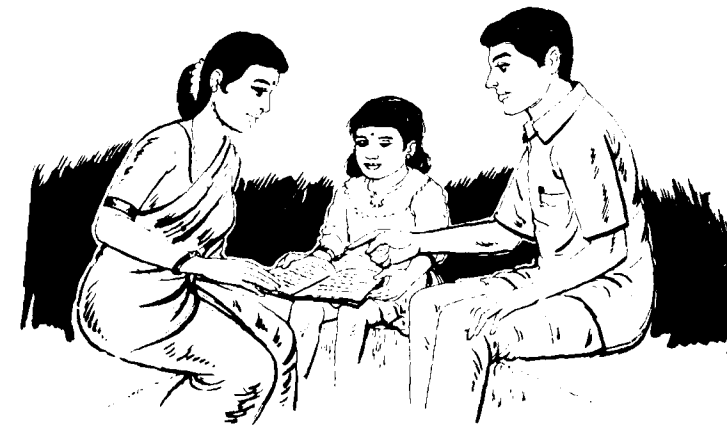
An inscription mentioning the name of a Tank bund as Anjatha Perumal Bund has been discovered as Devimangalam Akkaraipatti in Lalgudi taluk of Tiruchirapalli Perumpi dugu Mutharaiyar District. The inscription is engraved on a rock which is a part of the tank bund. The inscription written in the 20th Regnal year of Kulothunga Chola III who ruled from 1178 to 1218. AD states that the vassal of the Chola King, Kulothunga Chola Vanavatharaiyar, who took the crowned head of probably one of the Pandyas, had dug the tank and due to the damage occurred in consequent years, an individual known as Kodumpanavan alias Thiyaavinathavelan had repaired the damaged

portion and named the tank bund as "Anjatha Perumal Bund."

“It is very rare to encounter the name of the tank bund in inscriptions. Generally the name of the channels, rivers, the highways, the name of the land are found mentioned but giving the name of the tank bund by itself is rare. Hence, the inscription assumes great significance.”

This inscription was noticed by Thiru. J. Murugesan, a student of the Institute of Epigraphy and later deciphered by Thiru. K. Sridharan, Registering Officer, Tiruchy of the State Archaeology Department.

THE ART OF Parenthood



Of all the commentaries on the Scriptures," wrote John Donne, "good example are the best."

In practicing the art of parenthood an ounce of example is worth a ton of preachment.

Our Children are watching us live, and what we are shouts louder than anything we can say.

When we set an example of honesty our children will be honest.

When we encircle them with love they will be loving.

When we practice tolerance they will be tolerant.

When we demonstrate good sportsmanship they will be good sports.

When we meet life with laughter and a twinkle in our eye they will develop a sense of humor.

When we are thankful for life's blessings they will be thankful.

When we express friendliness they will be friendly.

When we speak words of praise they will praise others.

When we confront failure, defeat and misfortune with a gallant spirit they will learn to live bravely.

When our lives affirm our faith in the enduring values of life they will rise above doubt and skepticism.

When we surround them with the love and goodness of God they will discover life's deeper meaning.

When we set an example of heroic living they will be heroes.

Don't just stand pointing your finger to the heights you want your children to scale. *Start climbing and they will follow!*

(Courtesy: The Art of Living, by Wilfred A. Peterson)

CONTACT DERMATITIS

- Dr. G. Elangovan

Incidence of Industrial and Occupational disease is steadily rising with the increasing pace of development. In India and many Asiatic countries, no reliable statistics are available because the labour is not fully organized, agricultural sector is backward, causes of occupational dermatoses are not reported. According to Schwartz 72 percent of all Occupational diseases pertain to skin, 1 to 2 percent of all workers have occupational dermatitis and 2 to 10 percent of all skin diseases are occupational in origin.

Different substances coming in contact with skin, act in different ways to produce what is known as "Contact Dermatitis". Some act as irritant and produce irritant contact dermatitis. Others induce immunologic changes in the individual to produce Allergic contact dermatitis (ACD).

Classification:

1. Allergic Contact Dermatitis (ACD)
2. Irritant Contact Dermatitis (ICD) A Strong Irritants (Acids and Alkalies) and a Weak Irritants (detergents)
3. Contact urticaria
4. Photo contact dermatitis.

Types of contact dermatitis

Any rash resulting from a substance touching the skin can cause dermatitis by both allergic and non-allergic mechanism. When an allergic mechanism is involved, it is called Allergic

Contact Dermatitis (ACD) and when a non allergic mechanism is involved and chemically damages the skin, it is called Irritant Contact Dermatitis (ICD).

Clinical evaluation of ACD

Allergic contact dermatitis is an inflammatory reaction mediated by type IV Hypersensitivity i.e. contact sensitivity. Almost all of the allergens that induce and elicit ACD have relatively low molecular weight and belong to haptens immunological. The skin and its regional lymphnodes play an important role in induction and elicitation of ACD. The mechanism involved in contact sensitivity is divided into two parts. The regional lymphnode as the centre, from the skin to the lymphnode as afferent limb and from the lymphnode to skin as efferent limb.

Most allergens of ACD are of low molecular weight and they are called simple chemicals. These simple chemicals are haptens and they must link with proteins before they are able to sensitise. Some are chemically changed in the skin before forming the reactive haptens. (e.g) hexavalent Chromium is converted into Trivalent Chromium before inducing sensitivity. The haptens penetrate quickly through the epidermis within six hours. A large amount of hapten is excreted into the urine within twenty four hours, while a small amount of hapten remains in the epidermis and binds certain molecules of the epidermal cells.

Haptens when they invade the skin of sensitised individuals penetrate through epidermis to form hapten carrier protein complexes. Macrophages and or Langerhan's cells receive the antigenic information to transmit to their effector T cells which stimulate their protein synthesis to release special molecules called Lymphokines.

Langerhan's cells are the antigen processing and antigen presenting cells as established by several studies in ACD. In the regional lymphnodes Langerhan's cells are found mainly in the paracortical regions. The antigen carrying langerhans cells encounter additional specifically sensitized T lymphocytes, react with them and induce an immuno-proliferative reaction resulting in a significant increase in circulating specifically sensitized T lymphocytes which gradually accumulated at the site of challenge and release various lymphokines.

Histologic and clinical evaluation of ACD

Due to the release of various inflammatory mediator substances vascular dilatation with edema, and monocellular infiltrate occurs in the upper dermis. This infiltrate extends into the spongiotic epidermis. More and more intercellular edema (spongiosis) and intracellular edema form in the epidermis. The sequence of inflammatory changes in the dermis and intra and intercellular edema in the epidermis clinically manifest as

erythema, swelling, papules which constitute the primary signs of ACD.

If the number of vesicles is great and the intracellular edema is more, a multilocular bullae results which is clinically reflected as vesicle. When these vesicles rupture a weeping dermatitis occurs. The usual symptom is intense itching. If contact dermatitis persists because of continued or repeated exposure the stage is set for a subacute or chronic dermatitis.

Predisposing factors

Age

Age had little influence in the capacity of sensitization. Sensitivity to nickel and poison Ivy had been reported in Infants. In children and old persons exposure to potential allergens is less than in other age groups. Hence they are likely to develop ACD.

Sex

This is due to the variation in their exposure to different sensitising chemicals. For example, Nickel sensitivity is more common in women. and chromium sensitivity is more common in men.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy may either improve or aggravate ACD. In some a premenstrual flare up of ACD, seems to occur.

Genetic

Certain individuals may have inherent resistance of sensitization. For example, even a potent allergen such as DNCB cannot induce sensitization in a small segment of population, while certain other individuals have an increased tendency to become

sensitized which may be due to genetic factors as indicated by certain studies.

Tolerance

American Indians do not develop ACD to rhus plants because they ingest the leaf of the plant early in life. Tolerance is another factor responsible for the inability of certain people to get sensitized to certain chemicals. Some industrial workers may acquire resistance to occupational allergens.

Local Factors

Damaged skin

Contact sensitivity is easily acquired if the allergen is applied to the damaged skin. Inflamed or damaged skin is more prone to contact dermatitis healthy skin provides protection against contact sensitivity.

Seasonal changes

High temperature and humidity have been found to be directly responsible for increased number of cement dermatitis in a study in Kuwait. Experimental sensitization in man with DNCB is easily achieved in winter than in summer.

Area of skin

The greater the skin area exposed to allergen, the greater are the changes of inducing sensitivity because larger amounts of allergen are absorbed into the skin.

Associated disease

Patients with debilitating diseases such as cancer, Hodgkins disease have impaired capacity for contact sensitization. Patients with atopic eczema are certainly prone for developing irritant dermatitis.

Persistence of contact sensitivity

ACD tends to persist for many years because large number of patients with clean skin have been found to be giving positive reactions on repatch testing after many years even after cessation of all known contact with the allergens to which the patients were originally sensitized.

Diagnosis

The diagnosis of contact dermatitis is based on careful history with a knowledge of common allergens and irritants in the environment. The lesions of ACD can mimic almost any type of eczematous eruption. A selective and probing history and physical examination are essential and should be confirmed by patch testing.

History

A selective and probing history will help a lot for diagnosis. Routine enquiry should be made about occupation, hobbies, vocational, use of cosmetics, topical medicaments and systemic drugs and enquiry should be made about previous skin diseases, known allergies and about family history of skin disease.

Management

Corticosteroids are the main stay of treatment. Systemic corticosteroids and topical corticosteroids help a lot. It is possible to replace allergens in an industrial set up; proper protective measures such as cleaning, barrier creams, protective clothing and gloves and improved ventilation may be useful.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU 1996

FINANCE (PENSION) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 464, Dated 31st July 1996
(Thadhu, Aadi 16, Thiruvalluvar Aandu 2027)

MEDICAL ALLOWANCE to pensioners/family pensioners-Enhancement of medical allowance to the State Government pensioners/family pensioners including pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions-Orders-Issued.

READ the following:-

1. G.O. Ms.No. 314, Finance (Pension) Department, dated 8-4-1994.
2. G.O. Ms.No. 110, Finance (Pension) Department, dated 16-2-1995.

ORDER:

1. In the Government Order first read above, orders have been issued enhancing the rate of medical allowance from Rs. 15/- per mensem to Rs. 30/-per mensem to the State Government pensioners/ family pensioners with effect from 1-4-1994. In the Government Order second read above, orders have been issued enhancing the rate of medical allowance from Rs. 15/-per mensem to Rs. 30/-per mensem to the pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions with effect from 1-1-1995.
2. The Government have now decided to enhance the medical allowance of Rs. 30/-per mensem now paid to the State Government pensioners/family pensioners including the pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions to Rs. 50/- per mensem with effect from 1-12-1995. Accordingly, the Government direct that the medical allowance of Rs. 30/- be enhanced to Rs. 50/- (Rupees fifty only) per mensem to the pensioners/family pensioners including the pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions with effect from 1-12-1995.
3. In respect of pensioners/family pensioners for whom expenditure is met from State funds the expenditure shall be debited under relevant minor sub-heads under the major head "2071. Pensions and Other Retirement Benefits". In respect of pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies for whom expenditure is met from the funds maintained by the Director of Local Fund Audit or Municipal Fund as the case may be the expenditure shall be met from the respective funds referred to above.
4. The Government also direct that the family pensioners whose spouses died in harness and who wish to draw medical allowance till the normal date of retirement of the deceased employees are permitted to exercise option for drawal of this medical allowance within three months from the date of this order. The Pension Disbursing Officers are responsible for obtaining the above option from such family pensioners whose spouses had died in harness and who wish to draw medical allowance. Future family pensioners shall exercise such option within three months from the date of receipt of family pension.
5. These orders shall also apply to All India Service pensioners and family pensioners who opt for State Medical Reimbursement Scheme.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

S.GURUMURTHI,
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

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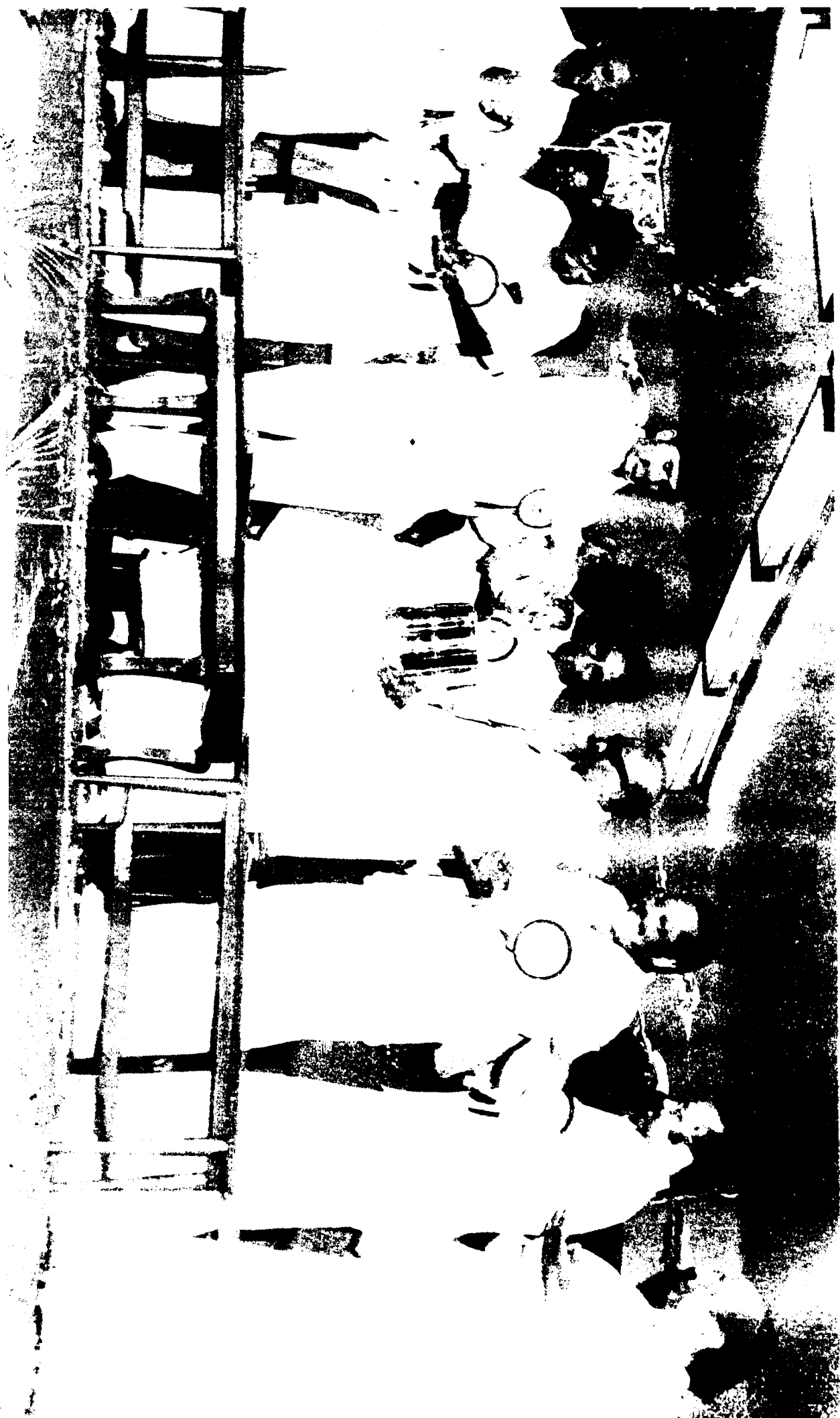
Tamil Arasu

Magazine of the Government of Tamil Nadu
DECEMBER - 1996

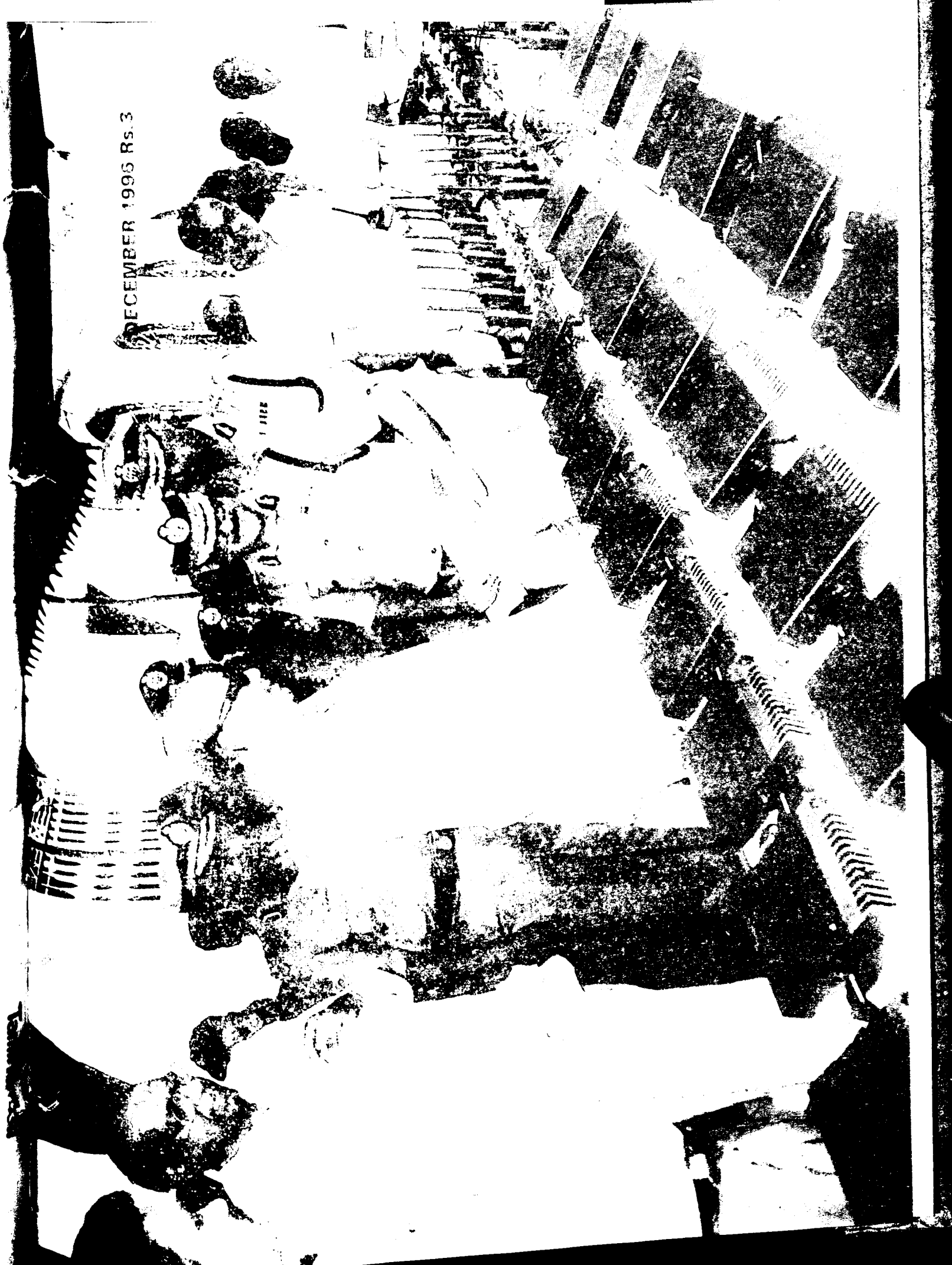
In this issue:

- ★ "Our endeavour is to ensure that no child, woman or man goes to bed without food"
-Honble Chief Minister Kalaigiar M. Karunanidhi
at the inauguration of 1996 Food Security Expo
on 9.11.96 2
- ★ The Road to Self-Esteem
-Claire Safran 5
- ★ A Tamil Arasu welfare guide 9
- ★ Benefits and concessions granted to employees during the last six months by the Government 13
- ★ Handloom Co-operatives -
Preserving our rich heritage
-V. Gunalan, I.A.S.,
Director of Handlooms 15
- ★ Tamil Nadu leads in harnessing non-conventional energy sources 17
- ★ Happiness is not pleasure, it is victory 21
- ★ Kuyil
-Subramania Bharati 28
- ★ Signs of crisis in world agriculture 30

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DECEMBER 1995 Rs.3

“OUR ENDEAVOUR IS TO ENSURE THAT NO CHILD WOMAN OR MAN GOES TO BED WITHOUT FOOD”



Speech of Hon'ble Chief Minister Of Tamil Nadu
KALAINAR M. KARUNANIDHI
at the Inauguration of
FOOD SECURITY EXPO 1996 on 9.11.1996.

This may be the right occasion to recall Article 47 of the Indian Constitution which states that “the State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and standard of living of its people and improvement of public health among its primary duties”. Tamil Nadu is in the forefront in providing food for all. The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced the nutritious meal scheme several years back which was hailed as an outstanding scheme of international standard. Mahakavi Bharathi said

“தனி ஒருவனுக்கு உணவில்லையெனில்
ஜகத்தினை அழித்திடுவோம்”.

The Government's foremost duty should be to eradicate illiteracy and hunger. Mahakavi Bharathi's words were echoed by Mahatma Gandhi when he said that the first duty of independent India should be to provide the daily food to every individual.

What we call food security today is nothing but what Mahakavi Bharathi said several years ago. A society can be said to be “Food secure” only when all persons can access food in adequate quantity to lead an active and healthy life. This access can be either physical or economic or both. While physical access can be provided by ensuring regular supply of food, economic access can be ensured only by improving the purchasing power of the people. If either of these are lacking or inadequate the result is food insecurity. Poverty is the main cause for hunger. While we can derive some comfort from the thought that the percentage of people below poverty line has been coming down due to the implementation of various income developing schemes. It is a matter of great regret that millions of people in our country even today are not able to get even one square meal a day. One way to overcome food insecurity is to transfer payments in cash or kind to the poor so that the real income is increased and to give them the means to increase their food consumption. A well known way to transfer income is to provide food at below market prices through Public Distribution System.

The Government of Tamil Nadu attaches the greatest importance to the

proper implementation of the Public Distribution System. Although people who visit Tamil Nadu tell me that Public Distribution System is very well implemented here, there are still some shortcomings which have to be removed. This is the reason why I appointed a Committee comprising legislators from all the major political parties, senior Government officials and representatives of consumer organisations to study the system of implementation in other States and give recommendations for improving the system in Tamil Nadu. You may all be aware that the Government provides a subsidy of more than Rs.1000 crores to ensure that even very poor people find physical access to food. In 1980-81 the total subsidy for food was only Rs.181 crores. One may argue that such a heavy subsidy affects the implementation of other welfare programmes like construction of roads and bridges, hospitals etc., However our Government is convinced that Public Distribution System should be complementary to employment generation and other poverty alleviation programmes and that it is necessary to provide food grains at subsidised prices in the interest of the welfare of the citizens. The off-take of rice under Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu has been increasing steadily. It was only 1.25 lakh tonnes per year between 1978 and 1980. But today we require as much as 2.25 lakh tonnes per month. The Government of India are allotting only 1.45 lakh tonnes per month since January 1996. I must thank the Prime Minister for responding to my request a few months ago and allotting 20,000 tonnes of rice additionally for three months from August '96. I would request him to keep up this additional allotment atleast till we procure sufficient

quantity to take care of our requirements for Public Distribution System.

We in Tamil Nadu have realised that unless agricultural production is increased we will not be able to meet the demands of increasing population. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the agricultural production has increased significantly in the last few decades, thanks to the Green Revolution and the enterprise shown by the farmers. While the area under paddy was 17.4 lakh hectares in 1950-51 the production was 19.81 lakh tonnes only. The average yield was only 1130 Kilos per hectare. But today while the area under cultivation has gone up to more than 23 lakh hectares, the production has gone upto more than 75 lakh tonnes. The yield per hectare has gone up to nearly 3300 kgs. Even in respect of coarse grains, though the area has come down from 20 lakh hectares to 12 lakh hectares, because of increasing productivity, the total quantity of coarse grains produced has not undergone much of the change. The problem that we face today is not one of availability, but of equitable distribution. Unless the purchasing power of the people is increased through appropriate economic agricultural and social policies, there can be no escape from hunger and privation.

Another important scheme through which we try to combat poverty is the Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme. As I mentioned earlier, Tamil Nadu is in the forefront in the implementation of the scheme and the number of beneficiaries who have direct physical access to the scheme is more than 79 lakhs. These include children, students, old age pensioners, pregnant women and destitutes who require our support. The

funds sanctioned for the Noon Meal Programme has been increased from Rs.360 crores in 1995-96 to Rs.401 crores during the current year.

The Government have announced, in the Budget for 1996-97 a new scheme to eradicate hunger due to poverty and constituted a committee under the Chairmanship Dr.M.S.Swaminathan to advise the Government in framing and implementing the scheme. This new scheme will be started to coincide with the Pongal festival in 7 Taluks, namely, Keerapalayam in South Arcot Vallalar District, Pennagaram in Dharmapuri District, Vedasandur in Dindigul Mannar District, Budalur in Thirumalai District, Tiruppullani in Thanjavur District, Tiruppullani in Ramanathapuram District, Kuruthangodu in Kanniyakumari District and Kothagiri in Nilgiris District. Each District has

been selected from different agroclimatic zone.

On this occasion, I would request our Honourable Prime Minister to do the needful to introduce a hunger free area on all India basis in the ninth Five Year Plan in line with the new Scheme in TamilNadu. We will be happy to help, in whatever way we can, to implement such a scheme. I also request our beloved Prime Minister to discuss our scheme in the forthcoming World Food Conference in Italy as the Conference is held mainly to find ways and means to provide food for every individual. Our endeavour should be to ensure that no child, woman or man goes to bed without food.

(The address of the Hon'ble Chief Minister was read out in absentia by Hon'ble Minister for Health and Electricity, Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy.)

★ Many new Industries coming up in Tamil Nadu

- * A Korean Car industry at an investment of Rs.2,450 crores being set up at Sriperumbudur near Chennai.
- * A factory for processing coconut at a cost of Rs.399 crores at Pollachi.
- * A coconut by-products industry at a cost of Rs.18 crores at Kanniyakumari.
- * A modern glass industry at a cost of Rs.550 crores near Chengalpattu.
- * An optical fibre cable project at a cost of Rs.41.57 crores at Maraimalai Nagar near Chennai.
- * Rubber factory at a cost of Rs.500 crores in Kanniyakumari.
- * A new tyre factory at a cost of Rs.550 crores as a joint venture with a South Korean Company near Chennai.

★ Revenue Increase to Government

- * Increased Revenue to the tune of Rs.65 crores to the State Government by increasing the levy on the manufacturers of Indian Made Foreign liquors (IMFL). The levy does not affect the retailers or consumers in return.

★ Manu Needhi Scheme re-introduced

- * The "Manu needhi" Scheme for immediate redressal of grievances reintroduced.

★ Dr. Radhakrishnan Award

- * 'Best Teacher Award' renamed as 'Dr.Radhakrishnan Award'.

★ New Schools Established

- * Establishment of 85 new primary schools.

GOVT. ACHIEVEMENTS

THE ROAD TO SELF ESTEEM

CLAIRE SAFRAN

The key to happiness and success is getting rid of all those negative thoughts and feeling good about yourself. Here's how to build self esteem and be a stronger more confident person.

Money can't buy it. Success doesn't ensure it. The most unexpected women, from Princess Di to Gloria Steinem, don't have enough of it.

It's self esteem, the catchword of the nineties. A few years ago, virtually no one talked about it, today everybody wants some. Self-esteem is being touted as the universal fix-it for women who eat, drink or love too much. It's the cure-all, experts tell us, for addictions, codependencies and other emotional problems.

WHATEVER IT IS, YOU WANT IT

But exactly what is self-esteem? The bottom-line definition: the state of feeling fine about who you are, deep down in your soul. According to the National Council for Self-Esteem NCSE in Sacramento, California, self-esteem is the experience of feeling that you are worthy of happiness and capable of managing life's challenges. "Less officially it's a feel good combination of self-confidence (having the gumption to ask for a

job, promotion or a raise) and self respect (the inner grit that keeps you going no matter what the answer).

good looks, can still be drowning in self-doubt.

A CRISIS

Self-esteem is elusive, changeable, hard to get and harder to hang on to. It's an idea that's turned into an industry, spurring thousands of scientific studies in the last ten years according to the NCSE, shelves of popular books and magazine ar-

The cold, hard truth about self-esteem is that hardly anyone has all she needs all the time. The lack of it affects people in different ways. For some, low self-esteem is a road block to love, work, friendships and adventure. For others, like Ste-

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ticles and hundreds of workshops and conferences.

inem, it's malevolent inner editor allowing them to function but deleting the joy from achievements.

"Self-esteem isn't everything," says Gloria Steinem "It's just that there's nothing without it."

It's no coincidence that Steinem's book and a gaggle of others arrived in the last year or so. We are in the midst of "a national crisis of self-esteem," says Susan Schenkel, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and author of *giving Away Success*. "As a nation and as individuals, we're apprehensive", says Dr.Schenkel. "We're not sure if we can rebuild our cities, our schools, our economy or our private lives. I see strong, confident women who are unemployed for the first time, and they are shattered. What's

Her confession may be the worst news yet to come out of the self-esteem movement. She's telling us that a woman of her achievements, international acclaim, outer strength and yes,

wrong with me?' they ask. They don't blame the recession, they blame themselves."

This is also the era of the recovery movement, which started in the eighties and then exploded in the nineties, with more and more support groups for alcoholics, battered women, incest survivors and victims of other traumas. "Here were rooms full of people in pain, talking about feeling bad, struggling to repair their sense of themselves", says Dr.Schenkel. "Whatever the problem, self-esteem seemed to be a large part of the cure, and that helped give birth to a new movement".

For women, self-esteem is the issue of the day. In the nine-

POOR SELF-IMAGE STARTS EARLY

A growing body of research shows that many more women than men are feeling bad about themselves. According to a 1990 survey by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), from grade school to graduate school, women do as well as or better than men academically, but their self-esteem plummets over the years. When they start school, a healthy majority of both boys and girls say they are "happy the way I am. By high school, it has dropped to 46 percent for boys and only 29 percent for girls.

Girls languish in school, ac-

"Like so many things, self-esteem goes back to childhood. Most of us start off with a good supply of it. But even as babies, while every little success builds up our self-esteem every little failure can chip away at it."

ties, as we keep trying to have it all, many of us have reached "role overload" according to Maisha Hamilton Bennet, Ph.D., psychologist and President of Hamilton Behavioral Healthcare, a counselling and consulting firm in Chicago. "We are struggling against a backlash that blames us if we're not perfect at all our roles - marriage, child rearing, lovemaking, working, even saving the whales. So we've got all those balls in the air - and we feel like failures if we drop just one of them".

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It may be the squeaky-wheel syndrome-noisy and restless boys demanding the teachers attention-but being ignored and bypassed takes its toll on female self-esteem. So do puberty, sexual pressures and the effort to compete with the air-brushed, siliconed models in all those beer and blue jeans commercials.

Even the best and brightest women start to wonder about themselves. In a 1987 University of Illinois study of high school valedictorians both sexes won good college grades, honours and scholarships. When they graduated from college, one fourth of the men still thought they were "far above average" but, none of the women would say that about themselves.

As adults, the pattern continues. Twice as many women as men suffer from severe depression. According to Donald L.Nathanson, M.D., a prominent Philadelphia psychiatrist and author of *shame and pride*, classical depression (one kind of severe depression) is linked to weepiness, morbid thoughts about the future and guilt (bad feelings about what you have done).

A typical depression, another type of severe depression, which is more common than its name suggests, is linked to low self-esteem or deep shame (bad feelings about who you are). Outwardly some people with this form of depression seem to be functioning well, but they are haunted by an inner bleakness. This is the form of depression that didnot respond to traditional medications, but doctors are now reporting good results with the drugs Prozac and the newer Zoloft.

FALSE PERCEPTIONS AROUND

For many women the trait that blossoms from low self-esteem

is self criticism - especially of their bodies. In one psychological test people are shown an array of body silhouettes, ranging from skeletal to obese, and asked to pick the one that's closer to their own.

No matter what they actually weigh, men tend to pick a silhouette that's two or three sizes thinner. Women, whether they're anorexic, normal or overweight, point to a silhouette two or three times larger.

"The typical man always thinks he's this side of Robert Redford", explains Carol Burger, Ph.D., Director of the Women's Research Institute at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg. "And the typical woman, trying to live up to all those media images, never thinks she's thin enough or good enough"

That out of focus body image was part of Steinem's problem. Men pursued her, and other women wanted to look like her, copying her clothes, her aviator glasses, her cascade of long hair. All along, she was squinting in the mirror and seeing the forlorn "pudding - faced" child she used to be.

Like so many things, self-esteem goes back to childhood. Most of us start off with a good supply of it. But even as babies, while every little success builds up our self-esteem every little failure can chip away at it. "For a little child sucess or failure is in the eye of the beholder - the par-

ent" explains Dr.Nathanson. The trouble is that on a scale of 1 to 10, some parents want to behold a 12.

Some measure their child by an imaginary ideal. Others just can't help comparing her or him to other children. Who walks or talks sooner? Who is prettier? When she lives up to the parents ideal, the child feels pride, the emotion of healthy self esteem. When she falls short, she feels shame, a sense of being defective and unlovable, the emotion of low self esteem".

As we move through life, the comparisons continue. So does the need for approval- and the struggle to hang on to our self-esteem. "Think of self esteem as a moving point on an axis", suggests Dr.Nathanson. "It is the distance between your ideal self and the self you see at this moment".

The trick, he says is to see both these selves clearly. Some people, like Steinem, underestimate their current selves, and so the gap seems wide and full of shame. Others overestimate the ideal. Is it your personal best, tailor made to your own desires and abilities, a goal you can realistically chase after? Or is it a false idol, hammered together

with all the "thoughts" and "shoulds", from parents and teachers, friends and employers, lovers and fashion ads?

HOW TO FEEL BETTER ABOUT YOURSELF

The first step on the long, winding road to self-esteem is to take a personal inventory. Dr.Nathanson urges his patients to make as long a list as possible of their positives, both big and small. Can you operate a VCR? Are you raising two wonderful children? Are you a good neighbour? A hard worker? A faithful friend?

When something goes wrong - whether it is a social gaffe, a missed job promotion, a lost love - consult that list, "that way", says Dr.Nathanson, you can isolate the event. You can see it as a specific experience, not something that defines your whole life. You can look at it as a particular failing, one trait among many others, an individual mistake that is part but not all of you.

"The cure for low self-esteem is to be specific about what has happened", he continues. "Are you crestfallen? Head bowed? Longing to run and hide? You can deny it, get angry, try to drown it in drink or food, or you

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can name the feelings and face the flaw that's been exposed. Then instead of giving up on yourself you can think about what you need to change and how you want to improve".

Once you have admitted those painful feelings, chase them away by doing something nice for yourself, Dr.Nathanson says. Treat yourself to lunch with a friend who cares for you- and lets you know it. Start a new hobby or take a course- something that will give you a small taste of success giving you a dose of "situational self esteem", as therapists call it.

Bouts with self-doubt are part of life, and with time, most of us get over them. For some people, though, low self esteem is chronic, as nagging as a toothache, as persistent as cellulite. "Some people may have a chemical imbalance, and they are the ones who need medication to help them through their remorseless, shame loaded depression", says Dr.Nathanson. Many others, though, can be helped by talking with a caring spouse or friend or therapist.

GOVT'S
ACHIEVEMENTS

Books to be translated into Tamil

Rs.5 lakhs sanctioned for translation of selected books in other languages into Tamil.

Tamil on the internet

Facilities made to communicate in Tamil on the internet.

Perhaps they grew up in a shaming, name calling family. Perhaps they had a series of bad experiences or a single great trauma that hasn't been worked through.

"These people need to confront their experience and process them, perhaps they will find the mistake they made, confusing a single experience with a global view of themselves. Perhaps they will learn to see themselves more clearly, both who they are today and who they want to grow up to be".

All of the steps toward better self-esteem begin by taking some action. That can mean changing

your thought patterns, your surroundings, even the people around you.

To make positive changes in her life, Steinem had to end a love affair that required her to be less than herself. To feel more deserving she redecorated her apartment, changing it from a crash pad to a real home. In midlife, she underwent treatment that let her get rid of the glasses she'd been hiding behind since sixth grade. At the same age, another woman, depressed about the progress of her career, went back to school to pursue an MBA.

"That's self-esteem", says Dr.Nathanson, "It is the courage to act, even if you may fail, even if you may humiliate yourself all over again. The real shame is to do nothing".

Courtesy:

The Healthy Woman



A TAMIL ARASU WELFARE GUIDE

How To Avail Social Welfare Benefits? And Whom To Approach?

NAME OF THE SCHEME / PROGRAMME	QUALIFICATIONS - CONDITIONS	OFFICER TO BE CONTACTED
Issuing of identity cards for physically handicapped.	Those with 40% disability, should apply with a copy of a photograph, Medical certificate and residential certificate.	Concerned District Rehabilitation Officer
Maintenance grant to the physically handicapped.	Should be a totally disabled person. Disability should be above 75% Annual income below Rs.6400/- Should not have availed any other concessions of the Govt. Rs.100/- per month will be granted for 10 years.	"
Scheme for the Hearing impaired	Children aged between 5 and 10 years are admitted to nursery schools. Boarding and lodging free.	"
Distribution of sewing machines.	Widows, orphans, destitute women whose annual income is below Rs.12000/-belonging to the age group between 20 and 40, should know tailoring and have not already availed free sewing machine under this scheme.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.
Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme.	The bride should be 18 years old and studied VIII Std. It should be the first marriage and applied before 15 days of her marriage. Annual income should not exceed Rs.12,000/- A villager should apply through Commissioner, Panchayat Union and belonging to Corporation through Commissioner of the Corporation. The grant is Rs.10,000/-	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.

GOVT'S
ACHIEVEMENTS

Houses for Fishermen

Rs.6.75 crores sanctioned for the construction of 20,000 houses with power connections in 442 fishermen villages.

Pollution Control

Rs.40 lakhs sanctioned to control pollution in Cuddalore and Tuticorin.

Distribution of Text books and note books to the children of widows.	Should be the child of a widow. Annual income should not exceed Rs.12,000. Note books will be given from first standard to eight standard. From 9th standard onwards till +2 text books will also be given along with note books.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.			Rs.15 for Typewriting Courses, and Rs.10 for Shorthand courses, per month.	
Marriage of a widow's daughter	The bride's mother should be a widow and not remarried. Annual income not exceeding Rs.12,000/- The bride should be 20 years old. The grant is Rs.2000/-	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.	Training Centre for Tailors.		The age should be between 18 and 30 years. The annual family income should not exceed Rs.12,000/- Rs.250/- per month will be given to each woman learning tailoring in a training centre run with financial assistance from Social Welfare Department. And Rs.30 /- per month will be given to each woman learning in the tailoring Centre run with the financial assistance from Adi- dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department/Backward Classes Department.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.
Dr.Dharmambal widow remarriage assistance scheme.	The bride should be a widow and in the age group of 20-30, who have not availed any of the Govt.'s concession. She will be given a National Savings Certificate worth Rs.5000/-. The bridegroom should be below 40 years and a widower. Annual income not exceeding Rs.12,000/-	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.	Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme.		Rs.500/- is being paid as assistance to pregnant women. The beneficiaries should have registered their names in nearby Govt.Hospitals. They should have a certificate obtained from a maternity assistant. The annual income of the family should not exceed Rs.12000/- The assistance is given for the first two children. The beneficiary should have completed 20 years of age.	Concerned Commissioners of Panchayat Unions and Corporations.
Destitute women marriage assistance scheme.	The bride should be an orphan. Annual income not exceeding Rs.12,000/- Age above 20 years. Only one member of one family may avail the grant. The grant is Rs.2000/-	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.				
Inter- caste marriage scheme.	Age should be above 20 years. Annual income not exceeding Rs.12000/- SC/ST person should have married backward class person, a backward class should have married SC/ST person, Forward class should have married a backward class or SC/ST person. Should be a registered marriage. Should apply within two years of marriage. The grant is in the form of National Savings Certificate for a sum of Rs.2000/- and Rs.3000/- in cash.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.	Government Child Care Centre.		Girls between age group 5 and 18, (i.e. 1st standard to +2) boys between age group 5 and 10 (i.e.1st standard to 5th standard) who have lost either of the parent or both are admitted in this Centre and provided food, clothes and shelter. The Guardians annual income should not exceed Rs.12,000.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.
Labour oriented training scheme for poor women.	Should obtain 50% of marks and above in the Secondary School Leaving Examinations. Age between 16 and 30. Annual income below Rs.6400/- The grant is	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.	Welfare Scheme for Girl child.		The parents of the beneficiary (mother or father) should be below 40. Should have undergone the family planning operation after 1.4.92.	Concerned District Social Welfare Officer.

The parents should have one or two girl children but not a boy child.

The girl child should be below 3 years.

The family should be below the poverty line. The annual income should not exceed Rs.12,000.

Benefits:

The Government will make a fixed deposit of Rs.5,000/- in the child's name.

A gold ring worth Rs.800 will be given to her on her first birth day.

On enrolment in the first standard, she will be given Rs.250/- and Rs.500 will be given to her when she goes to sixth standard.

From 9th standard to +2 she will get Rs.50 every month for 40 months.

On completion of 20 years, she will be given Rs.20,000 which could be used for her higher studies or for meeting the marriage expenses.

ON THE COVER



Hon'ble Chief Minister K. Karunanidhi handed over the jeeps, ambulances, cranes, motorcycles, wireless communication equipments, computers and cameras costing Rs.6.57 crores to the Traffic Police at Secretariat, Chennai on 19.11.'96.

BENEFITS AND CONCESSIONS GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS

+ Sanction of Third Interim Relief with effect from 1.4.96 at the rate of 10% subject to a minimum of Rs.100.

+ Sanction of third instalment of interim relief with effect from 1.4.96 to employees on consolidated Pay/Honorarium/Fixed Pay at Rs.40 p.m. to those drawing Rs.500 and above and Rs.25 p.m. to those drawing below Rs.500.

+ Sanction of increase in Dearness Allowance ordered with effect from 1.7.96.

+ Adhoc increase in remuneration sanctioned to those drawing honorarium/consolidated pay of Rs.150 and above at Rs.20 p.m. and for those drawing below Rs.150 at Rs.10 p.m. with effect from 1.7.96.

+ The amount of second interim relief impounded for the period from 1.4.95 to 30.6.95 allowed for withdrawal from G.P.F.as temporary advance or part final withdrawal.

+ Independence Day and Republic Day are included in the list of Festivals that would enable Government employees to avail Festival Advance.

+ Provision for availing second Marriage Advance while the first advance is pending recovery.

+ Enhancement of monetary limit for Conveyance Advance as indicated below:

	(in Rupees)	
	From	To
Bicycle	1000	1500
Motor cycle (new)	25,000	35,000

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Motor cycle (secondhand) 8000 12,000

Motor car (New) 1,40,000 2,00,000

Motorcar (secondhand) 60,000 90,000

+ Health Fund Scheme has been introduced for extending financial assistance to employees of Panchayat Unions, Town Panchayats, Municipalities for major surgeries/special treatments like open heart surgery, kidney transplantation etc., with effect from 1.7.96.

+ Pensioners were sanctioned second instalment of interim relief with retrospective effect from 1.4.95 instead of from 1.10.95 as in the case of serving employees.

+ Pensioners were sanctioned third instalment of interim relief at the rate of 10% of basic pension/Family Pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 100 with effect from 1.4.96.

+ Pensioners were sanctioned enhancement of Dearness Allowance with effect from 1.7.96.

+ Qualifying service for pension has been reduced from 33 years to 30 years to those who retire from service on or after 1.7.96.

+ Classification of 97% of pay as Dearness Pay for the purpose of calculation of gratuity to those employees retiring from service with effect from 1.4.95 instead of with effect from 1.10.95. The maximum limit of gratuity has been enhanced from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.2.50 lakhs with effect from 1.4.95 instead of from 1.10.95.

- + Enhancement of Medical Allowance to Pensioners/Family Pensioners from Rs.30 to Rs.50 with effect from 1.12.95.
- + Encashment of 50% of leave on Private Affairs standing to the credit of the employees upto a maximum of 90 days at the time of retirement with full leave salary for those retiring from service on or after 1.7.96.
- + Full leave salary including Dearness Allowance and all other allowances allowed for Earned Leave exceeding 180 days at the time of retirement with effect from 1.7.96.
- + Enhancement of lump sum payment under Tamil Nadu Government Servants Family Security Fund Scheme from Rs.60,000 to Rs.1 lakh with effect from 1.7.96.
- + Lump sum payment under the Group Insurance Scheme for the employees of Local Bodies Aided Schools, Aided Colleges and Aided Technical Institutions including employees working under Nutritious Meal Programme enhanced from Rs.60,000 to Rs.1 lakh.
- + Interim Relief at a flat rate of Rs. 50 granted to the families of the deceased Contributory Provident Fund/non pensionable Establishment beneficiaries of State Government and the employees of former District Board who are in receipt of ex-gratia payment.
- + 50% of the pay last drawn or 50% of the average of pay drawn during the last 10 months of service whichever is higher is granted as pension to those retiring from service on or after 1.7.96.

BUCKINGHAM CANAL BEING CLEANED UP

Removal of sludge and silt in Buckingham Canal Central Reach from Cooum River confluence point to R.K. Mutt Road.

The Buckingham Canal was a Navigation Canal. As the Canal is abandoned and not maintained to the required conditions, it has become a dumping place for the encroached slums on the sides of the Canal Bank and also due to the implementation of the M.R.T.S. along the Buckingham Canal has almost become completely functionless from Chepauk to R.K.Mutt Road.

During the heavy and unprecedented downpour of rain on 13th, 14th of June 1996 and due to blockades and obstructions in Canal, the Triplicane and Mylapore have become

completely inundated for eight days and the residents of the area had lot of sufferings.

In order to give immediate permanent relief to the residents, the Government of Tamil Nadu have accorded sanction for an amount of Rs.190 lakhs for the removal of slit and sludge to restore the flood level of canal for a distance of 4 km. from confluence of cooum river to R.K. Mutt Road.

The work has been taken up immediately on war-footing and the works are in progress. In the subsequent heavy rains during third week of October '96, effective relief is felt in those areas and on completion of this work the area will be completely relieved of from the sufferings due to the rains in future.

TAMIL ARASU

Handloom Co-operatives - Preserving our rich heritage

V.GUNALAN I.A.S.,

Director of Handlooms.

Handloom Industry is playing a vital role in the cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu and Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state in the country in the field of Textile Industry comprising of Handlooms, Powerlooms and Mill Sectors. All the three sectors of the Industry are growing rapidly in Tamil Nadu and the State Government is providing all the required assistance for the harmonious development of all the 3 sectors.

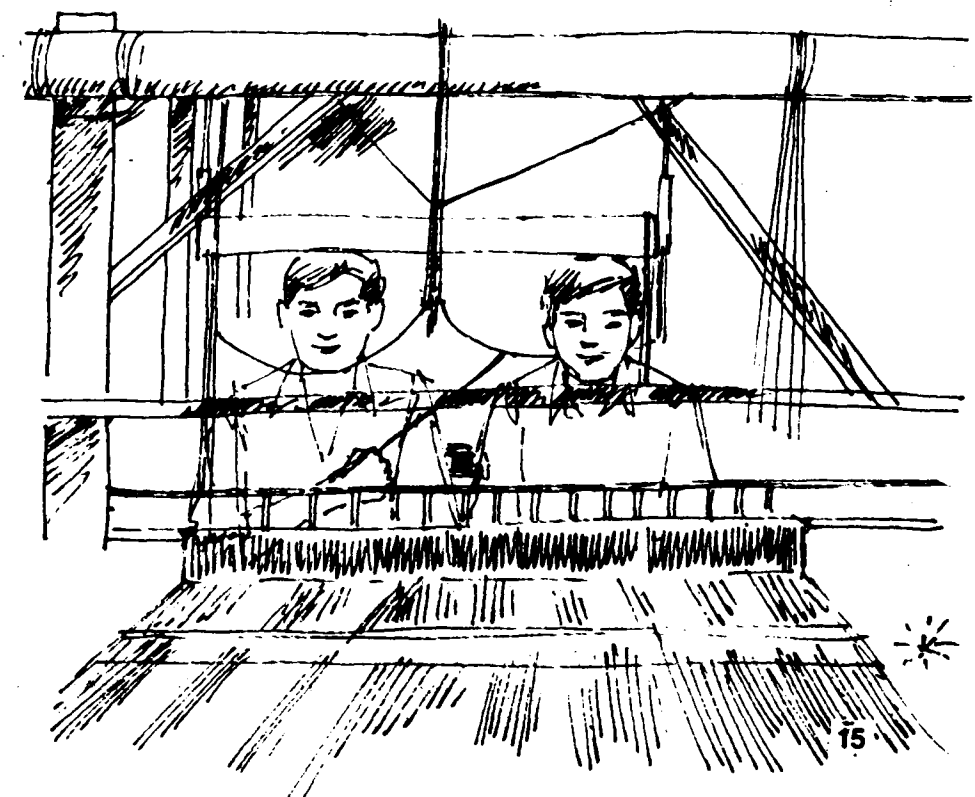
The Government of Tamil Nadu is the forerunner in designing, formulating and implementing various schemes for the well being of the Handloom Weavers. The Government of Tamil Nadu have also been implementing various welfare and development schemes of the Government of India effectively and sets an example to other States, especially in the implementation of Special schemes like Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing Units.

For safeguarding the interests of the handloom weavers and to preserve, protect and promote the traditional skill of the land, the Department of Hand-

TAMIL ARASU

loom Cooperative fold produces all varieties of handloom products and these societies produced 1233.86 lakh metres valuing Rs.435.76 crores and sold 1193.78 lakh metres valuing Rs. 455.66 crores during 1995-96.

The quantum of working capital availed by the Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies and Apex Weavers Cooperative Society in the year 1995-96 is Rs.350.93 crores and Rs. 400.00 lakhs has been provided as interest subsidy.



The Government of India have drawn up a comprehensive scheme to overcome the deficiency in the handloom sector by forming Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing

Units. 99 Handloom Development Centres and 5 Quality Dyeing Units were approved by Government of India for 1995-96 to Tamil Nadu and sanctioned Rs.233.36 lakh.

The other Weavers' Welfare Scheme implemented by the Department and expenditure incurred under each scheme are as below:-

Welfare Schemes		1995-96
1. Savings and Security Scheme		
a. Number of Weavers on roll	1,00,334	
b. Amount spent [Rs. in Lakhs]	485.00	
2. Central Thrift Fund Scheme		
Amount released by Government of India [Rs.in Lakhs]	192.15	
3. House-cum-workshed Scheme		
a. Number of units	1,000	
b. Amount [Rs.in Lakhs]	190.00	
4. Margin Money Assistance to Destitute Weavers		
a. Number of Weavers	1,926	
b. Amount [Rs. in Lakhs]	19.26	
5. Health Package Scheme [Rs. in Lakhs]	52.45	
6. TamilNadu Cooperative Handloom Weavers Family Pension Scheme		
Number of Nominees benefitted	218	
Other Schemes		
1. Janatha Cloth Scheme Production (in Million Sq.Mtrs).	29.39	
2. Market Development Assistance Scheme Rebate (Rs. in Lakhs)	4,099.55	
3. Free Distribution of Sarees and Dothies (value Rs.in Crores)	76.29	
4. Project Package Scheme Amount released (Rs. in Lakhs)	214.037	
5. Free supply of uniforms to School Children (value Rs. in Lakhs)	4,091.03	
Other Institutions functioning under the Department of Handlooms and Textiles		
1. Intensive Cooperative Handloom Development Project and Export Production projects.		
a. Production value (Rs.in Lakhs)	927.09	
b. Sales Value (Rs. in Lakhs)	1,011.75	
2. Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Co-operative society Ltd., (Co- Optex)		

a. Procurement (Rs.in Crores)	213.56
b. Sales (Rs. in Crores)	257.00
3. Cooperative Spinning Mills	
a. production value (Rs.in Lakhs)	24277.00
b. Sales Value (Rs.in Lakhs)	23123.00
4. Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation Limited;	
Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs.in Lakhs)	366.49
5. Tamil Nadu Zari Limited	
a. Production (in marcs)	33613
b. Sales value (Rs.in Lakhs)	885.83
6. Tamil Nadu Cooperative Textile Processing Mills Limited;	
a. Bleaching and dyeing (Value Rs. in Lakhs)	61.61
b. Printing (Value Rs. in Lakhs)	9.29
c. Yarn Dyeing (Value Rs. in Lakhs)	17.77
d. Polyester processing (Value Rs. in Lakhs)	90.51
7. Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation Limited	
a. Cloth production in powerloom Complexes (lakh metres)	44.54
b. Sales value (Rs.in Lakhs)	4026.83
8. Tamil Nadu Cooperative Spinning Mills Federation	
Procurement (Value Rs. in Lakhs)	53.73

TAMIL ARASU

TAMIL NADU LEADS IN HARNESSING NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES

SOLAR ENERGY

Being in tropical country, Tamil Nadu is blessed with so much of solar energy and Government of Tamil Nadu is exploiting the maximum possibility of harnessing the Solar Energy for different applications. Under Solar thermal one can use the Solar energy for water heating and for Air heating purposes.

The Solar Water Heating Systems (SWHS) is mainly used in;

DOMESTIC

1. Bathing
2. Antigrease (dish washing)
3. Tea processing

INDUSTRIAL

1. Industrial boiler Feeding water
2. Surgical theatre
3. Canteens
4. Hostels, Hotels, Hospitals
5. Dyeing & bleaching
6. Milk dairy cleaning, operation.

The Solar Water Heating Systems concept was popularised among public/industries by provision of subsidy by State and Central Government until 1993-94 and was subsequently withdrawn. Due to removal of above there appears a slackness in the minds of people going for Solar Water Heating Systems. Hence an outlay is sought for in the 9th Five Year Plan for restoration of subsidy for Domestic and Industrial type Solar Water Heating Systems.

Though the subsidy was removed, Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency is currently

actively engaged in installing Solar Water Heating Systems in Government, institutions like Government Students Hostel, Government Hospitals, etc., by obtaining the Government orders every year.

During the last 6 months Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency has installed, 3 numbers of 2000 LPD 80°C bigger system.

1. Government Students ADW Boys Hostel, Udhaigai - 2500 LPD 60°C

2. Government Students ADW Girls Hostel, Udhaigai - 2500 LPD 60°C

3. Government Headquarters Hospital, Nagercoil - 2000 LPD 60°C

In addition to this, project sites have been cleared and tenders have been called for; for installing Solar Water Heating Systems at:

1. Government District Headquarters Hospital, Dindigul - 1500 LPD 60°C

2. Government Medical College attached Government Hospital, Coimbatore 4000 LPD 60°C

3. Government Adidraivadar Students Hostel, Yercaud - 1500 LPD 60°C

In addition, the Government of Tamil Nadu have accorded sanction for the installation of 4 Solar Water Heating Systems of capacity 2000 LPD 60°C in Government Headquarters Hospitals and Government Students Hostel during 1996-97 under Part II schemes. For identifications of Project sites at Government Hospitals and Government Students Hostels with adequate water supply and

adequate space with RCC roof, the Director of Medical Education, Director of Health and Rural Service & Division, Chennai have been addressed. On receipt of the details of sites action will be taken by Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency to install the above 4 systems.

If the subsidy is restored for atleast for domestic system the common people may get benefit out of it to some extent, and we can increase the number of users of Solar Water Heating Systems, thereby future generation will be knowing the value of Solar Energy applications.

WIND MONITORING PROGRAMME

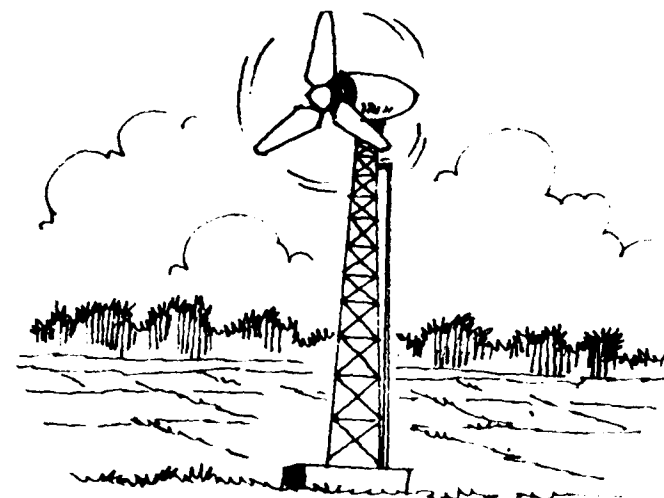
The following wind monitoring stations have been established under Relocation Programme of 12 Wind monitoring Stations sanctioned with the funding assistance of MNES and Government of TamilNadu upto 30.8.96.

S. No.	Location	District	Date of Establishment
1.	Kayathar II (Ayyanaruthu)	Chidambaranar	2.11.95
2.	Overi	Tirunelveli	3.3.96
3.	Vagailkulam	Chidambaranar	4.3.96
4.	Thoopakudi	Tirunelveli	6.3.96
5.	Mangalapuram	Tirunelveli	7.3.96
6.	Achsankundram	Tirunelveli	8.3.96
7.	Pushpathur	Dindigul	9.5.96
8.	Myvadi	Coimbatore	9.5.96
9.	Authiyur	Coimbatore	10.5.96
10.	Panangudi	Tirunelveli	5.7.96
11.	Vinayagapuram	Tirunelveli	8.7.96
12.	Vedaranyam	Nagai Quaid-E-Milleth	12.9.96

WINDMILL PROGRAMME

Under waterpumping windmill programme sanctioned with the subsidy of Government of

18



India and Government of TamilNadu during 1995- 96. Number of Gear Type wind pumps have been installed at the beneficiaries sites upto 30.9.96 as against the 14 numbers sanctioned.

IREP SCHEME

IREP scheme is implemented during 1996-97 in the following 15 blocks:

1. Wallajah-North Arcot Ambedkar District
2. Palani-Dindigul District
3. Harur-Dharmapuri District
4. Parangipettai-South Arcot Vallalar District
5. Alathur-Perambalur Thiruvalluvar District
6. Thirumangalam-Madurai District
7. Thiruthoraipoondi-Nagai Quaid-E-Milleth District
8. Dharapuram-Periyar District
9. Kunnandarkoil-Pudukkottai District
10. Nanguneri-Tirunelveli Kattabomman District
11. Rajakkamangalam-Kanniyakumari District
12. Bargur- Dharmapuri District
13. Thirupathur - Pasumpon Muthuramalingam District

TAMIL ARASU

14. Orathanadu-Thanjavur District

15. Ramanathapuram-Ramanathapuram District

Physical achievements made under distribution of energy saving devices to the beneficiaries during 1996-97 (i.e.) upto 30.9.96 is furnished below.

1. Improved Mud chulahs-1795 Nos
2. Improved Metalstoves-1315 Nos
3. Frictionless Footvalves- 455 Nos
4. Windmill for water pumping -3 Nos

SOLAR AIR HEATING SYSTEMS (SAHS)

Another application of Solar Energy is Solar Air Heating Systems. It is mainly used for preheating the ambient air upto 30° to 40°C and as input to conventional heaters, where the preheated solar air will be heated again for 100° to 200°C for different applications in tea plantations industry/fruit process, grain drying industry.

The main use of the SAHS, is to remove the moisture content upto 5° c so that roasting and powdering can be perfect in the case of grain drying and bacterial infection may be avoided in fruit processing industry thereby decaying may be avoided.

TamilNadu Energy Development Agency had commissioned a grain drying unit (chilly and coriander) at a cost of Rs.16.12 lakhs at Theni and Government of India offered a subsidy of Rs.4.00 lakhs to the units, which used to export the dried and powdered grain to Gulf countries and earned enormous foreign savings.

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC REFRIGERATORS

Under Part II scheme 1996-97, the Govern-

TAMIL ARASU

ment of Tamil Nadu have accorded sanction for the procurement and supply of 2 Solar Photovoltaic refrigerators for use in Government Hospitals and preserving life saving medicines and vaccines at a total cost of Rs.4.00 lakhs. TamilNadu Energy Development Agency is taking action to procure the Solar Photovoltaic Refrigerators from M/s BHEL, Hyderabad for installing in Government General Hospital, Government Children Hospital, Chennai during this year.

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (SPV) TECHNOLOGY

Solar Photovoltaic Technology converts sunlight directly and instantaneously into electricity in an environmentally clean and reliable manner. The Tamil Nadu Government is very keen on this Solar Photovoltaic Technology and its applications such as Solar Photovoltaic Lanterns, Solar Photovoltaic Pumping, and Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant which are particularly useful in unelectrified villages and are capable of bringing the benefits of electricity even to remotest locations. A conscious effort has been made by Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency to increase the efficiency of solar cells, in development of newer materials and to bring down the production cost of photovoltaic materials and products.

Among the different applications of Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Tamil Nadu Solar Photovoltaic Pumping Systems are considered to have significant potential in rural areas of Tamil Nadu for irrigation purposes, especially in places where the conventional power is always not available. These systems are mainly used for pumping water from shallow and deep wells. These pumps are working very well and creating a lot of impact. The Tamil Nadu Agriculturists are highly benefitted with these pumps by the encouragement and subsidy benefits offered by Government of Tamil

19

Nadu. At present, State Government offers a subsidy of Rs.59000 - per pumpset, being a portion of the cost of pump Rs.2 lakhs to 2.5 lakhs. In addition to Government of India subsidy of Rs.125 - per watt. During the past 6 months, 9 Solar Photovoltaic Pumpsets have been installed in Tamil Nadu and more number of pumpsets are to be energized in the coming years.

Apart from Solar Photovoltaic Pumps, Solar Photovoltaic Lanterns are distributed for the benefit of tribal people of hilly region under Hill Area Development Programme HADP and Western Ghats Development Programme WGDG. The cost of one Solar Photovoltaic Lantern is Rs.4100-

During the past 6 months, Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency distributed 1298 Solar Photovoltaic Lanterns as detailed below:

Under WGDG Programme 1995-96 = 60 Nos
Under HADP Programme 1995-96 = 34 Nos
Under Govt of India subsidy scheme = 1204 Nos
Total = 1298 Nos.

FREE TRAVEL CONCESSION EXTENDED

The free travel concession to the students studying upto VIII Standard has been extended to the students studying upto Plus two.

The widows and legal heirs of freedom fighters who are drawing Central Pension or State Pension or both pensions and the wife or husband and minor legal heirs of those who participated in the language stir to protect Tamil Language who are recipients of financial

BIO ENERGY

During the half year ending 30.9.96 of this current financial year 1996-97 four biogas plants in private farms and one in co-operative sugarmill have been installed. Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs 5.20 lakhs for the installation of 2 community biogas plants and 10 institutional biogas plants in co-operative/TASCO sugarmills. Currently, work in biogas plants in 3 co-operative Sugarmills are under progress and concurrence of six more sugarmills are awaited. Apart from this seven more biogas plants are proposed to be installed in private farms without the subsidy of Government of Tamil Nadu.

The State Government has also sanctioned Rs.4.00 lakhs for the installation of a 20 KW Gasifier for electrical application in a Government farm. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Chempak has been asked to select a suitable farm for this purpose.

With the financial assistance from MNES, five Energy Parks are proposed to be installed and Biomass assessment study is to be undertaken in 9 Taluks of Tamil Nadu and 2 1/2 months long programme has been entrusted to six institutions.

assistance from the Government of Tamil Nadu have been allowed free travel concession in all the buses of State Transport Undertakings.

The Government have constituted a High Level Committee and a Sub-Committee to decide on the price and terms and conditions of supply of all items of purchase by the State Transport Undertakings.

A true Story

Happiness is not pleasure, It is victory

In 1965, I was speaking at a seminar in Kansas City with six of America's top speakers. When the seminar ended on Saturday evening, I prepared for a solitary dinner. However, as I stepped of the elevator into the lobby of the Muhlbach hotel, I heard the booming voice of Bernie Lofchick from Winnipeg, Manitoba: "Where ya going, Zig? Standing impeccably dressed, he called out across the lobby and flashed his ever-present grin. "I'm going to dinner, Bernie," was my reply. Then, with a sparkle in his eye, he said, "I'll tell you what I'll do, Zig. If you'll go to dinner with me, I'll buy."

Well, I have a standing policy. When anyone offers to buy my dinner, I let him. As we sat down to dinner, Bernie and I established a rapport that has grown until we are more like brothers than friends, in fact, I call him Brother Bern. We asked the usual questions that night. What are you doing here? What business are you in? How much family do you have? This kind of thing. After a few minutes I commented to Bernie that he had certainly come a long way to attend a sales rally. "yes", he

replied, "but it was worth it because I got lot of good ideas that will help our business grow". I persisted by pointing out it was a long way from Winnipeg to Kansas City and it costs a lot of money to travel that far. Bernie smiled and said, "Yes, but thanks to my son, David, I don't have to worry about the money." "That sounds like a story, I said, "would you tell it?" With this invitation, Bernie opened his heart and poured out one of the most thrilling stories I've ever heard.

"When our son was born, our joy literally knew no bounds. We already had two daughters and when David was born our family was complete. However, it wasn't long before we realized something was wrong. His head hung too limply to the right side of his body and he drooled too much for a normally healthy child. The family doctor assured us nothing was wrong and David would outgrow this problem. Deep in our hearts, however, we knew better. We took him to a specialist who diagnosed the problem as a reverse of club feet. They proceeded to treat him for this condition for several weeks. We knew that the problem

was still more serious, so we took David to one of Canada's top specialists. After a very thorough examination, he said to us, "This little boy is spastic. He has cerebral palsy and will never be able to walk, talk or count to ten." He then, in effect, suggested we put our son in an institution for his own good and for the good of the 'normal' member of the family." With his eyes spitting fire, Bernie said, "you know, Zig, i'm not a buyer, I'm a seller and I couldn't see my son as a vegetable. I saw him as a strong, happy, healthy baby who was going to grow into manhood and live a full and productive life. With this in mind i asked the doctor if he knew some place we could go for help. The doctor rather adamantly said he had given us the best advice available and stood up to indicate the interview had ended."

As Brother Bern related the story to me he made a significant statement. "The only thing the specialist had done was to convince us to find a doctor who was interested in solutions and who wasn't over whelmed with problems."

Before the Lofchick's search had ended, they had taken

David to well over twenty specialists, each one told them essentially the same story and gave them the same advice. Finally, they heard of a Dr. Pearlstein in Chicago. He was reputed to be the world's foremost authority on cerebral palsy. Patients came to him from all over the world and he was booked solid for well over a year. Since, Dr. Pearlstein worked only through other doctors, Bernie enlisted the aid of his family physician. All the tests that had been made on David were sent to Dr. Pearlstein and contact was made for an appointment. Unfortunately, Dr. Pearlstein was so heavily booked he advised the physician to contact him again at a later date. When the doctor gave Bernie this information and said there was nothing more to be done, Bernie took matters in his own hands. He decided to see if he could get an appointment with Dr. Pearlstein for David. After much effort, Bernie finally reached him by telephone one evening. He persuaded him to place David on standby for the next cancelled appointment. A break came just eleven days later and David had that appointment with Dr. Pearlstein and with destiny. Hope at long last had reared its beautiful but elusive head. It was a welcome sight and the Lofchick's embraced it warmly.

The disease, Goliath, didn't know it but had a brand new

opponent. After several hours of examination, the diagnosis was the same David was a spastic. He had cerebral palsy. But there was hope, provided Bernie was willing to undertake the enormous and never-ending battle. The Lofchicks felt that no price could be too high to give their son his chance in life. So, they eagerly inquired what must be done.

Dr. Pearlstein and his therapist spelled out their instructions in minute detail. They were told that they were going to have to work David until he dropped and then they would have to work him some more. They would have to push him beyond all human endurance and then push him some more. He made Bernie and Elaine completely aware that it was going to be a

long, difficult and sometimes an apparently hopeless struggle. He stressed that once they started this course of action they would have to continue indefinitely. He emphasized that if they gave up or slacked off, David would go backwards and all the work they had done would have been in vain. Yes, the battle for David against his Goliath affliction had really begun. The Lofchicks now had hope and the hope had believability. They headed for home with a lighter step, a lighter heart and prepared for the battle ahead.

A physical therapist and a body builder were hired and a small gym was built in the basement. Physical effort and mental toughness became the order of the day.

After months of excruciating



TAMIL ARASU



and dedicated effort, small rays of hope began to appear. David acquired the ability to move. Even though it took him a long time, he was able to move the length of his own body. A giant milestone had been reached.

Still another one was reached with a phone call from the therapist who excitedly told Bernie he should leave his office and come home. When Bernie reached home, the Stage was set and David was ready to prepare for a supreme effort. He was going to attempt a pushup. With an effort seldom equalled by an adult, much less by a six-year old boy, David called on all his reserves. As his body started to rise above the mat, the emotional and physical exertion was so great there was not a dry inch of skin on his little body. The mat looked as if water had been poured on it. When that one pushup was completed, David, the therapist, Mother

and Dad all freely shed the sweet tears that clearly prove *happiness is not pleasure, it is victory.*

The story is even more remarkable when you understand that one of America's leading Universities had examined David and found that he had no "motor connections" to the right side of his body. That his sense of balance was such he would have serious difficulty learning to walk and he would never be able to swim, skate, or ride a bicycle. Yes, the disease, Goliath, was taking a licking. More importantly while whipping his Goliath, David was learning from experience and teaching by example, some of the truly great lessons in life. His progress was steady and according to the medical experts even spectacular. David is truly a remarkable boy who has made enormous progress, which is not surprising because his parents

saw David as a vibrant growing boy who was going all the way to good health.

Today, this "LittleBoy" has virtually discarded his forth bicycle except for those occasions when it is either too warm for him to iceskate or when he's not driving his car. Learning to ice skates was painful. Even though it took nearly a year just to learn to stand on those skates with the aid of a hockey stick, he went at it day after day. He did what was necessary to overcome his obstacles and succeeded so well he played left wing on the local hockey team. Even after these successes, the doctor still said it would probably take him two years to float, but he was floating in two weeks and swimming before the first summer was over. David has done as many as 1,000 pushups in a single day and once ran six miles without a break. At age eleven, he took up golf and applied the same enthusiasm and determination to it that he applied to every thing he has tackled. Result - he has already broken ninety.

It's exciting to watch David grow and to know that all of the characteristics he is developing and principles he is applying to succeed physically and academically, will take him just as far in his chosen field of endeavour. It is also exciting to know anyone can develop the

same characteristics, apply the same principles and succeed in life to the same degree that David is succeeding.

Mentally, David is in as good shape as he is physically. In September of 1969, he was accepted at the St. John's Raven Court School for Boys. It is one of the most demanding private schools in Canada. While in the 7th grade, David did quite well in 9th grade mathematics. That's not bad for a little boy who the doctors said was never going to count to ten. On October 23, 1971, my wife and I had the privilege of attending the convocation of Mitzvah of David Lofchick. I wish you could have been there to see David take that

giant step into manhood. With clear eyes a steady voice and unfaltering steps, David amidst a large group of loving friends and relatives from the United States and Canada, became a man. His performance was understandably outstanding since he'd been preparing all his life for the occasion.

Yes, Goliath is clearly on the deck, but just as clearly he hasn't been knocked out and probably never will be. David must exercise extensively and regularly for the rest of his life. Even a few days off takes a toll. Like any active 19-year-old there are times he would much prefer to be with his friends. However, when exercise time comes, David understands what

he must do and heads for the gym. Of course, it's not all work because in addition to his parents he has those two big sisters, a host of friends, and a large number of relatives who represent a lot of companionship and quite a cheering section.

One of the high points for David occurred in February, 1974, when a \$ 100,000 whole life insurance policy was issued on David's life. The policy was issued on a standard basis which, to the best of my knowledge, marked the first time a victim of cerebral palsy has ever qualified for such a contract.

(Courtesy: Zig Ziglar's 'See you at the Top'.)



Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi called on his Excellency the Vice President Thiru K.R. Narayanan at Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 24.11.'96

We present a G.O. every month, for the benefit of readers.



FINANCE (PENSION) DEPARTMENT

G. O. No. 462, Dated 31st July 1996
(Thadhu, Aadi 16, Thiruvalluvar Aandu 2027)

INTERIM RELIEF - Grant of Interim Relief to the State Government pensioners / family pensioners including pensioners / family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions - Revised Orders - Issued.

READ - the following :-

G O Ms.No.763, Finance (Pension) Department, dated 27.9.1995.

ORDER:-

In the Government Order read above, orders have been issued sanctioning the payment of Interim Relief to the State Government pensioners/family pensioners including the pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions at a flat rate of Rs.50/- (Rupees fifty only) per mensem and in addition, 10% of basic pension/family pension with effect from 1.10.1995.

2. The Government have now decided to grant Interim Relief sanctioned in the Government Order read above with retrospective effect from 1.4.1995 as in the case of Central Government pensioners / family pensioners. Accordingly, the Government direct that the Interim Relief sanctioned in the Government Order read above to the State Government pensioners/family pensioners including the pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies and aided educational Institutions be given retrospective effect from 1.4.1995.

3. In respect of pensioners/family pensioners for whom expenditure is met from State funds the expenditure shall be debited under the sub-detailed head "2. Interim Relief" under the detailed head "27. Pensions" under relevant minor sub-head under the major head "2071. Pensions and other Retirement Benefits." In respect of pensioners/family pensioners of local bodies for whom expenditure is met from the fund maintained by the Director of Local Fund Audit or Municipal Fund, as the case may be, the expenditure shall be met from the respective funds referred to above.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

S. GURUMURTHI,
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT



A Small and Medium Enterprises Trade Mission from Japan called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi at Secretariat, Chennai on 15.11.96.

PHOTO
FEATURE

Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi held discussions with the management of Binny Mills and representatives of Trade Union of Binny Mills at Secretariat, Chennai on 18.11.96. Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy, Minister for Health and Thiru A. Rahmankhan, Minister for Labour were also present.



The Tamil Nadu Flag Day Standing Committee met on 18.11.1996 at Raj Bhavan. His Excellency the Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy presided. Prof K. Anbazhagan, the Minister for Education, Thiru K.A. Nambiar, the Chief Secretary and other members participated in the meeting.

Prof. Chidambaram, a Member of State Planning Commission and a Member of the panel to improve the languishing American Diamond industry in Tamil Nadu explained the details on the Diamond Industry to the Hon'ble Chief Minister at Secretariat, Chennai on 15.11.1996. Earlier, the three member panel that also included Thiru S. Murugaiah, General Manager, SIDCO and Thiru Manivannan, Development Officer, TIDCO submitted a report to the Chief Minister.



Kuyil

- Subramania Bharati

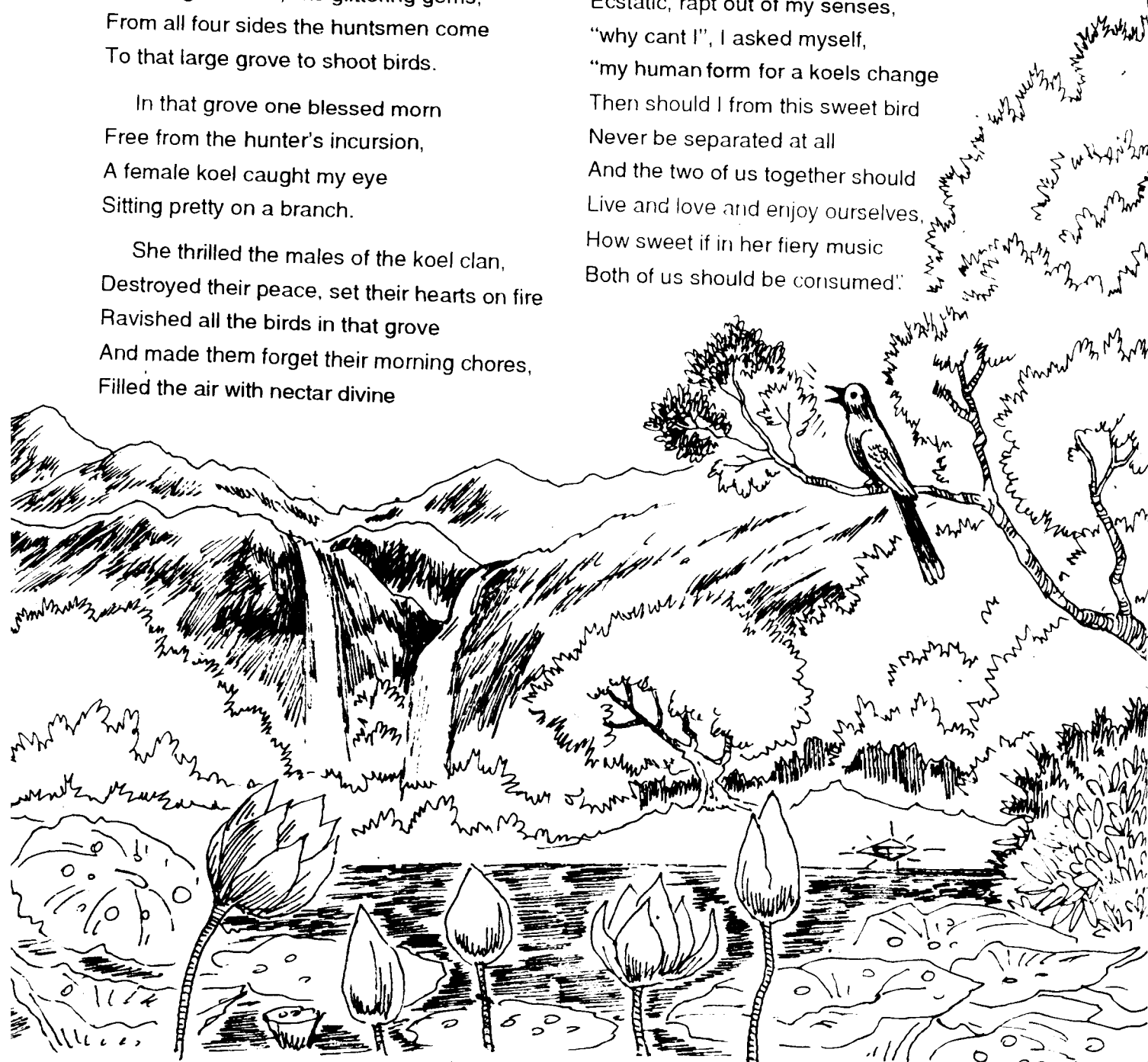
A little distance to the west
Of the famous town Pudukkottai
In Tamil Nadu in the South
May be seen a mango grove.
In the morning sun the blue sea-
Its billows hugging the opulent coast
Singing their regular Vedic chant-
Provides a combination of colours
Azure against red, like glittering gems,
From all four sides the huntsmen come
To that large grove to shoot birds.

In that grove one blessed morn
Free from the hunter's incursion,
A female koel caught my eye
Sitting pretty on a branch.

She thrilled the males of the koel clan,
Destroyed their peace, set their hearts on fire
Ravished all the birds in that grove
And made them forget their morning chores,
Filled the air with nectar divine

And scattered lightning in thin streaks
A koel in shape, a siren from heaven
With her enthralling music she was casting a spell.

Drunk already on poetry
I lost myself in this daydream
Which seemed to come quite out of this world
Hearing this koels pristine song
Ecstatic, rapt out of my senses,
"why cant I", I asked myself,
"my human form for a koels change
Then should I from this sweet bird
Never be separated at all
And the two of us together should
Live and love and enjoy ourselves,
How sweet if in her fiery music
Both of us should be consumed"



So I thought, mused much and yearned
The very gods could never have heard
Such sweet music as I heard that day
In the kuk-kuk of that koels song
A lot of meaning seemed enclosed.
That would I fain reveal to the world
But as for the wonderful voice, dear friends,
Where do you thing that I should go.

THE KOEL'S SONG

Love, love, love
Love departing, love departing
Death, death, death!

Light, light, light
Light obscuring, light obscuring
Blight, blight, blight.

Cheer, cheer, cheer
Cheer if ended, cheer if ended
Drear, drear, drear.

Tone, tone, tone
Tone enfeebled, tone enfeebled
Moan, moan, moan.

Time, time, time
Time if ill-kept, time if ill-kept
Crime, crime, crime.

Style, style, style
Style abandoned, style abandoned
Vile, vile, vile.

Fame, fame, fame
Fame if sullied, fame if sullied
Shame, shame, shame.

Firm, firm, firm
Firmness cracking, firmness cracking
Worm, worm, worm.

Entwine, twine, twine
And later if the lad departs
Pine, pine, pine.

Flute, flute, flute
And if a rift should there appear
Mute, mute, mute.

Note: Koel is Kuyil in Tamil
Translated by: Thiru P.S. Sundaram

Academic Excellence encouraged

The Educational expenses of the first three Top Rankers of the S.S.L.C.Public Examination (State Board) for continuing their Higher Secondary Course will be met by the Government. Likewise, the Government will meet the Educational expenses of the first three Top Rankers of Higher Secondary Examination (State Board) for continuing their further College studies including Professional Courses like Engineering and Medical, as the case may be. Further, the Government will meet the Educational expenses of First Three Top Rankers of S.S.L.C.(State Board) and Higher Secondary Examination (State Board) at District Level also, from the year 1996-97 to those who appear for Examination during March / April 1997.

INSIGHTS INTO OUR ENVIRONMENT

SIGNS OF CRISIS IN WORLD AGRICULTURE

Agricultural policies in practically all countries have focused on output growth. Despite this, it has proved far more difficult to raise world agricultural output by a consistent 3 percent a year in the mid-1980s than it was in the mid-1950s. Moreover production records have been offset by the appearance of linked economic and ecological crises; Industrialized countries are finding it increasingly difficult to manage their surplus food production, the livelihood base of millions of poor producers in developing countries is deteriorating, and the resource base for agriculture is under pressure virtually everywhere.

IMPACT OF SUBSIDIES

The food surpluses in North America and Europe result mainly from subsidies and other incentives that stimulate production even in the absence of demand. Direct or indirect subsidies, which now cover virtually the entire food cycle, have become extremely expensive. In the United States, the cost of farm support has grown from \$2.7 billion in 1980 to \$25.8 billion in 1986. In the EEC, such costs have risen from

\$6.2 billion in 1976 to \$21.5 billion in 1986.

It has become politically more attractive, and usually cheaper, to export surpluses—often as food aid—rather than to store them. These heavily subsidized surpluses depress the international market prices of commodities such as sugar and have created severe problems for several developing countries whose economies are based on agriculture. Non-emergency food aid and low-priced imports also keep down prices received by Third World farmers and reduce the incentive to improve domestic food production.

The environmental consequences are:-

- ☆ Lower productivity as soil quality declines due to intensive soil cultivation and overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- ☆ The destruction of the countryside, through clearing of hedgerows, park belts, and other protective cover and the leveling, occupation, and cultivation of marginal land and watershed protection areas.

- ☆ Nitrate pollution of ground

water aquifers due to the often subsidized overuse of nitrate fertilizers.

A particular area of concern is the impact of the current incentive policies on developing countries. They depress international prices of products, such as rice and sugar, that are important exports for many developing countries and so reduce exchange earnings of developing countries. They increase the instability of world prices. And they discourage the processing of agricultural commodities in producing countries.

NEGLECT OF THE SMALL PRODUCER

The new technology behind increases in agricultural productivity requires scientific and technological skills, a system for technology extension and other services for farmers, and commercial orientation in farm management. In many parts of Asia, in particular, small farmers have shown a remarkable capacity to use new technology once they are given incentives and adequate financial and infrastructural support. Small cash-crop farmers in Africa have demonstrated the potential of the small holder

TAMIL ARASU

on that continent, and in the last few years successes have been recorded in food crops also. But ecologically disadvantaged areas and land-poor rural masses have not benefitted from advances in technology and will not until governments are willing and able to redistribute land and resources.

Agricultural support systems seldom take into account the special circumstances of subsistence farmers and herders. Subsistence farmers cannot afford the high cash outlay of modern inputs. Many are shifting cultivators who do not have a clear title to the land they use. They may plant a variety of crops on one plot to meet their own needs and are thus unable to use methods developed for large stands of a single crop.

Women farmers, though they play a critical role in food production are often ignored by programmes meant to improve production. In Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia they form a large agricultural labour force, while most of sub-saharan Africa's food is grown by women. Yet almost all agricultural programmes tend to neglect the special needs of women farmers.

DEGRADATION OF THE RESOURCE BASE

Short-sighted policies are

leading to degradation of the agricultural resource base on almost every continent; soil erosion in North America; soil acidification in Europe; deforestation and desertification in Asia, Africa, and Latin America; and waste and pollution of water almost everywhere. Within 40-70 years, global warming may cause the flooding of important coastal production areas. Some of these effects arise from trends in energy use and industrial production. Some arise from the pressure of population on limited resources. But agricultural policies emphasizing increased production at the expense of environmental considerations have also contributed greatly to this deterioration.

LOSS OF SOIL RESOURCES

Increases in cropped areas in recent decades have often extended cultivation onto marginal lands prone to erosion. By the late 1970's soil erosion exceeded soil formation on about a third of US cropland, much of it in the midwestern agricultural heartland. In Canada, soil degradation has been costing farmers \$1 billion a year. In the USSR, the extension of cultivation to the so-called Virgin Lands was a major plank of agricultural policy. But now it is believed that much of this land is marginal

In India, soil erosion affects 25-30 percent of the total land under cultivation. Without conservation measures, the total area of rainfed cropland in developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America will shrink by 544 million hectares over the long term because of soil erosion and degradation, according to a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) study.

Erosion makes soil less able to retain water, depletes it of nutrients, and reduces the depth available for the roots to take hold land productivity declines. Eroded topsoil is carried to rivers, lakes, and reservoirs; silts up ports and waterways; reduces reservoir storage capacity; and increases the incidence and severity of floods.

Poorly designed and implemented irrigation systems have caused waterlogging salinization, and alkalization of soils. FAO and the UN educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation estimate that as much as half the world's irrigation schemes suffer in some degree from these problems.

IMPACT OF CHEMICALS

Chemical fertilizers and pesticides have played a large role in production increases since the Second World War, but clear warnings have been raised against over-reliance

on them. The run off of nitrogen and phosphates from excess use of fertilizers damages water resources, and such damage is spreading.

Using chemicals to control insects, pests, weeds, and fungi enhances productivity, but overuse threatens the health of humans and the lives of other species. Continuing, long-term exposure to pesticide and chemical residues in food, water, and even in the air is hazardous, particularly to children. A 1983 study estimated that approximately 10,000 people died each year in developing countries from pesticide poisoning and about 400,000 suffered acutely. The effects are not limited to the area where pesticides are used but travel through the food chain.

PRESSURE ON FORESTS

Forests are crucial for maintaining and improving the productivity of agricultural land. Yet agricultural expansion, a growing world timber trade, and woodfuel demand have destroyed much forest cover. Although this destruction has occurred worldwide, today the greatest challenge is in developing countries, particularly in tropical forests.

Growing populations and the decreasing availability of arable land lead poor farmers in these countries to seek new

land in forests to grow more food. Some government policies encourage the conversion of forests to pastures and others encourage large resettlement schemes in forests. There is nothing inherently wrong with clearing forests for farming, provided that the land is the best there is for new farming can support the numbers encouraged to settle upon it, and is not already serving a more useful function, such as watershed protection. But often forests are cleared without forethought or planning.

Deforestation most severely disrupts mountainous areas and upland watersheds and eco systems that depend on them. The uplands influence precipitation, and the state of their soil and vegetation systems influence how this precipitation is released into the streams and rivers and onto the croplands of the plains below. The growing numbers and growing severity of both floods and droughts in many parts of the world have been linked to the deforestation of upland watersheds.

The process of desertification affects almost every region of the globe, but it is most destructive in the drylands of South America, Asia, and Africa; for these three areas combined, 18.5 percent (870 million hectares) of pro-

ductive lands are severely desertified. Of the drylands in developing countries, Africa's Sudano-Sahelian zones and, to a lesser extent, some countries south of this zone suffer the most. In their arid and semi-arid lands are to be found 80 percent of the moderately affected and 85 percent of the severely affected people.

Land permanently degraded to desert-like conditions continues to grow at an annual rate of 6 million hectares. Each year, 21 million additional hectares provide no economic return because of the spread of desertification.

Desertification is caused by a complex mix of climatic and human effects. The human effects, over which we have more control, include the rapid growth of both human and animal populations, detrimental land use practices (especially deforestation), adverse terms of trade, and civil strife. The cultivation of cash crops on unsuitable rangelands has forced herders and their cattle onto marginal lands. The unfavourable international terms of trade for primary products and the policies of aid donors have reinforced pressures to encourage increasing cash-crop production at any cost.

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