

Tamil Arasu

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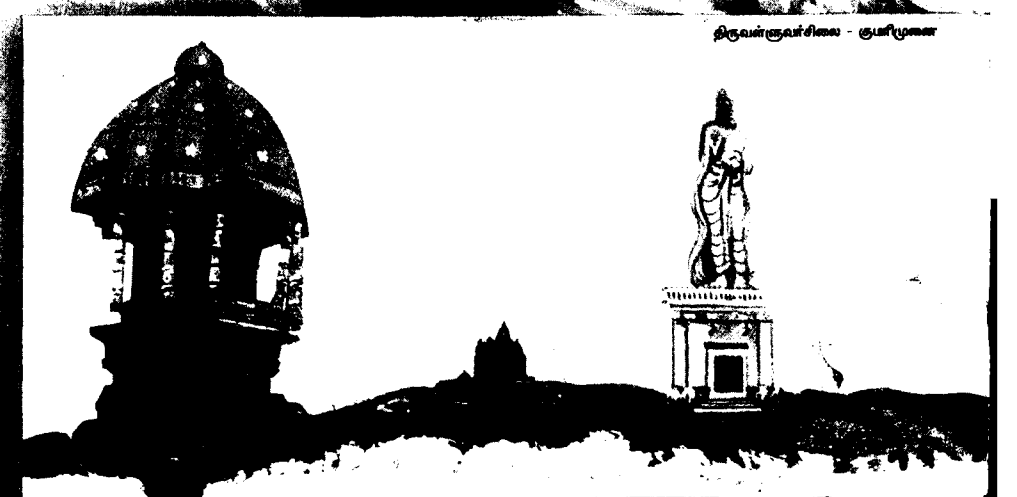
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நமக்கு நாமே



அண்ணா மறுமலர்ச்சி



திருவள்ளூர் - குமரபுரம்



TAMIL ARASU

Magazine of the Government of Tamil Nadu
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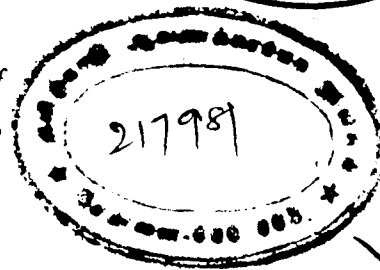
ARIGNAR ANNA on Pongal Festival

I have visited several metropolitan cities not once but thrice. Festivals are conducted there but never they can match our Pongal festival. Feasts, Festivities, Gaities, Orgies are there. But none of those can come anywhere near our 'Pongal'. Reveries in dance halls haste on the roads resulting in accidents, noisy scenes in shops are the part and parcel of their festivities. Here in our houses rise the sweet slogan of Pongal-O-Pongal chanted by the young and the old; by the boys and the girls.

It is festival for every member of the household. Other countries cannot have the pride of having such festival. First of all there is no such social structure in other countries.

Ages ago, before the boundaries of Nations were born, we had the treasure trove of thoughts, the pride of our race. Just to think of that heritage inspires us, thrills us and helps to keep our heads high.

On this pongal day, we can proclaim to the world that we have given our Mother land the sweet name Tamil Nadu. Our joy is redoubled at the thought that we have been responsible for this.



There is a new thrust in Tamil Nadu on Industrial development

I am very happy to extend a hearty welcome to all of you.

The Confederation of Indian Industry has been organising this Partnership Summit since 1995. I am extremely happy that Chennai has been chosen as the Venue of this Summit this year, when the country celebrates the Golden Jubilee of Independence. Therefore, this Summit assumes special significance. We, in Chennai, feel privileged to play host. On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I extend my warm greetings to Mr. I.K. Gujral, Prime Minister of India and other distinguished personalities from different parts of the world present here today. It is also a matter of great satisfaction to us that Chennai will be playing host to the Prime Minister of Italy, the President of Poland and several Ministers from around the world.

Chennai has been a major centre for trade and International co-operation. This city, and in fact the entire State, has a rich history of Global Trade. Strong links have existed with different parts of the World and this Partnership Summit once again emphasises the dynamic role of Chennai and Tamil Nadu in Globalisation.

- Chief Minister KALAI GNAR
at the inaugural session of
the Partnership Summit
held at Chennai on 8.1.98

Tamil Nadu is now in the forefront of Industrialisation. Some of the most prestigious Industrial Units are located in this State. Many have achieved World class excellence. These Industrial Houses have made a name in India and abroad with a wide range of products and services being exported. Industry in Tamil Nadu has also displayed some other important qualities

- good corporate culture, smooth Industrial relations, sharp focus on Human Resource Development and strong customer orientation.

Today, as the country is transforming itself, there is a new thrust in Tamil Nadu on Industrial development. The State Government with its investor-friendly Industrial Policy has been able to provide a healthy and productive environment for foreign Investment. It is not surprising that Global players such as Ford Motors of USA and Hyundai of Korea are among those who are setting up major plants in Tamil Nadu. In keeping with modern times, the State is also becoming a star attraction for Information Technology players.

From a Geographical point of view, Tamil Nadu enjoys an excellent location; It is served by excellent coast, in which makes Global Trade much easier. The State is really



a Gateway for India's links with South East Asia and the Far East. Australia and New Zealand are also within striking distance of Chennai.

Infrastructure development has been on top of our agenda in Tamil Nadu. We also have placed considerable emphasis on developing a sound educational infrastructure with a good set of higher technical education colleges and training institutions. The engineering colleges, the polytechnics and the Industrial Training Institutes in the State produce excellently trained manpower every year.

Similarly, the primary education system in the State serves the population well. It gives the needed essential input to the growing child.

At another level, we have in this State some of the best health care institutions. We believe health-care is a basic need of the population.

As I mentioned earlier, Tamil Nadu has been no stranger to international trade. This is amply reflected in the large number of foreign collaborations existing in the industrial and infrastructure areas. The automotive industry, the chemicals and textile sectors, the electronics industry are just a few examples, where foreign collaborations have been welcomed and partnerships have been totally successful.

The products from these industries not only travel to every nook and corner in our country. They have also been widely accepted around the world.

Tamil Nadu looks to the future with great optimism. I am confident that our State will continue to witness the emergence of new global partnerships in many areas.

I am happy that Industrialists, Entrepreneurs and Business men from all parts of the country are here in Chennai to participate in the Partnership Summit. They will be networking with a strong group of Industrialists and Businessmen from many Countries. I am glad that the city of Chennai has this great opportunity to act as the host for the Summit.

Let me once again welcome all of you, to the ancient, yet, modern State of Tamil Nadu. I wish you all a very pleasant and useful stay in Chennai.

★

“Some of our strengths are our business - friendly policies supported by a responsive State administration”

**Chief Minister Kalaingar at the Plenary Session - X
“Focus on Tamil Nadu” at the Partnership Summit,
held at Chennai on 10.1.98.**

I am extremely happy to be with you, once again, at the CII Partnership Summit.

There is one significant advantage that the host State derives from the Summit. It gets an opportunity to focus on its economic development and growth plans.

economic development. In fact, even the founding fathers of the Constitution had envisaged a prime role for the States in industrial development. It is another matter that the situation in the last five decades has turned out to be different. But I am confident



e Partnership Summit



A lot has been said about the role of the States in the process of economic development of the country. I will only add here that India will witness a changing scene, where the States will have pride of place in

that in future the States will be leading the process of economic growth and development in the country.

Speaking about the Government of Tamil Nadu, I can say with confidence that

we are committed to playing a very active role in moving the State forward. We shall take initiatives to create an environment for larger investments, stronger growth and speedier benefits to the people of the State and the country as a whole.

Traditionally, Tamil Nadu has pursued a progressive policy of industrial development. This is reflected in the maturity and quality of the industrial base existing in the State. For example, we have been leaders in the automotive industry with vehicle manufacturers, tractor manufacturers and auto component manufacturers playing a significant role.

Similarly in the field of petrochemicals, we have much to talk about.

The textile machinery industry, the textile industry and the foundry and

forging industry have also been important players. In recent times there has been an impressive growth and development of services industry, particularly Information Technology based industry.

Attracting investments has become a very competitive business today amongst the States. Each State is competing with the other to attract foreign capital, technology and know-how. Competition is not a bad thing. I am happy with the successes of other Chief Ministers and wish them well. Of course, I do believe that Tamil Nadu has many advantages. An investor can make use of these advantages.

Some of our strengths are our business-friendly policies supported by a responsive

State administration; an excellent network of railways, ports, roads, and telecommunications; availability of labour and peaceful industrial relations. We will ensure that investments in our State are made productive quickly and profitably.

Highway is an important infrastructure for Industrial development. Therefore we have already taken useful steps to widen the two National Highways, namely, Chennai to Bangalore and Chennai to Kanniyakumari. We have also planned to convert them to Industrial corridors of the State.

Some of our strengths are our business-friendly policies supported by a responsive State administration; an excellent network of railways, ports, roads, and telecommunications; availability of labour and peaceful industrial relations.

The physical infrastructure is always a prime concern of any investor. We fully understand and appreciate this. We are devoting considerable time and energy to ensuring a high quality of adequate infrastructure. The indicators are encouraging. For example, in the field of power, installed capacity has been growing at 8.35%; Transmission and distribution losses are very much below the national average; The plant load factor is 76.1%.

We have twelve ports in the State. They rank high in terms of the share in cargo handled and percentage of cargo transported. The social infrastructure is also sound. It has an excellent combination of primary schools, secondary schools and higher technical education institutions. Some of the best health care facilities in the country are available in the State. The physical location of Tamil Nadu is ideal to promoting

trade with the entire South East Asian countries and also with Australia and New Zealand.

Let me now emphasis the philosophy of my administration. We wish to provide speedy and transparent decisions. We want to provide an encouraging environment and ensure a work culture. These will guarantee productivity and profitability. We present

to you a fine blend of tradition and modernism. We promise you stability in policies.

I am happy to recall that according to a survey conducted by the 'Business Today', Tamil Nadu is in the third rank among the best States to invest in.

Even while this Partnership Summit has been busy with its sessions, the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation has entered into Joint Sector Agreement with several promoters.

On 7.1.98 in my presence agreements have been signed for five projects for an investment of over hundred and fifty crores of rupees;

- ◆ a Chicken Processing Project, which is a 100% export-oriented unit with Pioneer Breeding Farms Limited.
- ◆ a new Auto Component Project with Sriram Group of Companies.
- ◆ a French Frozen Fries Project with RC Suresh & Associates of Kuwait.

◆ a Project to manufacture Paper and Paper board machinery with Marquip India Private Limited.

◆ a Project to manufacture Auto Components, Aluminium Dies Castings and Green House Accessories with Dynamatic Group of Companies, Bangalore.

We wish to provide speedy and transparent decisions. We want to provide an encouraging environment and ensure a work culture.

On 9.1.98 three agreements have been signed in my presence,

◆ an Oil Refineries project with Nagarjuna Group at a project cost of Two thousand six hundred and fifty crores of rupees.

◆ a Coil Centre Project with POS Hyundai Steel Manufacturing India Private Limited at a project cost of Forty Four crores of rupees.

This news items has been published in all dailies today except in English dailies.

◆ a Mando Brake Systems India Private Limited with Anand Group with an initial investment of Thirty crores of rupees.

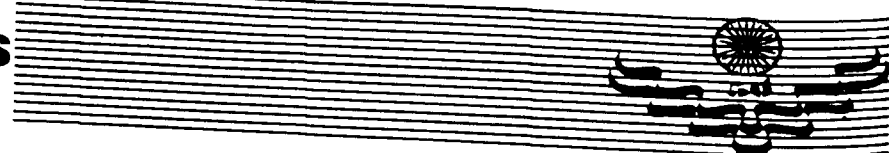
This news items has been published in all dailies today except in English dailies.

Thus, Tamil Nadu State is marching ahead in Industrial Development.

I am sure that businessmen and industrialists from many countries are here in Chennai to participate in this Summit. We also have Industrialists from other parts of the country. Let me conclude by inviting all of you to come and invest in Tamil Nadu. I request you to become a part of the exciting journey, we have undertaken.



REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS IN CHENNAI



March past of the Armed forces, Spectacular, breath taking air display by IAF aircrafts, colourful presentation of song and dance programme by school and college students, a rich pageantry highlighting the achievements of the Government in various departments marked the 49th Republic Day Celebrations held at Chennai.

The place near the Gandhi Statue on Kamarajar Salai wore a festive look with people thronging on either side of the road. The Chief Secretary (incharge) Thiru A.P. Muthusamy welcomed the Chief Minister Kalaignar on his

arrival to the venue. Her Excellency the Governor, Justice M.Fathima Beevi was extended a warm welcome by the Chief Minister and commandants of the three armed services, the DGP Thiru F.S.Sharma, Addl.DGP Thiru V. Kumarasamy and the Chennai City Commissioner (incharge) Thiru P. Kalimuthu were introduced to her.

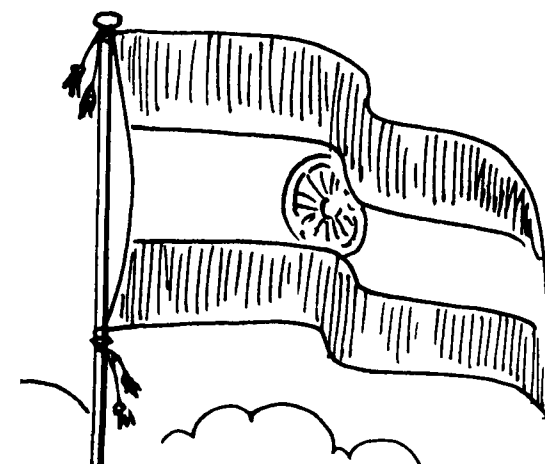
Her Excellency the Governor hoisted the National Flag to the recital of the National Anthem. She took the salute at the specially erected dais and inspected the march past by the Armed Forces, Police Force and other security forces.



The Chief Minister Kalaignar awarded the Anna Medals for Bravery to 6 persons for their brave deeds and honoured renowned freedom fighters.

The song and dance programme by school and college students was followed by a pageantry of floats highlighting the achievements of the Government in various departments.

Cabinet Ministers, Members of the Parliament, MLAs, Higher Officials of the Government and Public in large number attended the function.



**When there is Courage of Conviction,
difficulties in the path of progress
vanish like bubbles**

Presidential address of the
Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam
at the Youth Festival held at Chennai.



To begin with, I extend a warm welcome to all of you. My hearty greetings. I wish you all the best in life. I am very happy that you have assembled in an ancient and famous State called Tamil Nadu. Two thousand years ago, this State gave the world the idea of universal brotherhood. It is here that a Tamil Poet by name Kanian Poongundranar declared to the world 'Every Place is my Native Place; Every Man is my Kinsman.

(புராதன நாடு பழம்பெரும் நாடு
நீரதன் புதல்வர், இந்தினை வகற்றாதீர்)

It is here that the great Thiruvalluvar announced to the world "The learned make each land their own; in every city find a home".

(புராதன நாட்டினால் ஊராடால் என்னொருவன்
சாந்துணையும் கல்லாத வாறு)

In history and legend, the heroes are remembered for their achievements, only while they were young.

Pandian Nedunchezhan, only when he was young, fought with seven Kings simultaneously at Thalayaalanganam (தலையாலங்கானத்துச் செருவென்ற பாண்டியன் நெடுஞ்செழியன்) and won the battle.

In 'Kurukshetra' war, Abhimanyu, a young man, exhibited more valour than Arjuna.

Arjuna, only when he was a student of 'Dhrona', became a glorious warrior.

A young hero called 'Indrajith' in Ramayana is more heroic than any other character in Ramayana.

Please take for example, the modern heroes like, Dr. Ambedkar, Pandit Nehru, Periyar, Anna,

**We have achieved liberty through
selflessness and sacrifice.
We should guard this hard earned
freedom and re-establish the glorious
position of the past**

Kamarajar they all entered public life, when they were very young.

Let me recall a story from Ramayana. Rama, Lakshmana, Baratha, and Chathrukhna, as boys, were playing with bow and arrow using "cloth ball" as the missile. While they were playing so, a cloth ball hit at the back of Kooni. The boys laughed at this. Because of this shameful incident, Kooni started nurturing hatred for Rama.

All of you know, the tit-for-tat attitude of Kooni and the rest of the epic. Based on this incident, a proverb was coined, "Play is foul" (விளையாட்டு விளையானது).

But play is not always foul. It is aimed at health and growth. That is why the poet Bharathi called upon children

"Run and Play; Don't stop and rest".

(ஒடிவிளையாடு பாப்பா - நீ
ஒய்ந்திருக்கலாகாது பாப்பா)

Youths from all over India are here. You have come to reaffirm our commitment to United India. You have buried the differences of caste, creed and language. In you, I see a little and beautiful India.

It is very fitting that the National Youth Festival is launched on the Birthday of Swami Vivekananda. He had great faith in the youth to take India to greater heights.

Civilisation had taken deeper roots in India. In fact, our Mother-Land has taught civilisation and culture to others. Ancient seafarers from Tamil Nadu had travelled far and wide, to the East and the West. Tamil is one of the classical languages. It was born thousands of years ago. It stands proof to our intellectual development. India had excelled in different fields of Science and Arts. We can be very proud of our heritage.

**"You are the children of India, an ancient
Land; Please always have this in mind".**

(புராதன நாடு பழம்பெரும் நாடு
நீரதன் புதல்வர், இந்தினை வகற்றாதீர்)

These are the golden words of Bharathi, a Poet of freedom-fighter. These words should remind us of our task. The task is to bring India back to its position of pre-eminence.

All of you assembled here belong to the post-independence. You have been enjoying the fruits of liberty. We have achieved liberty through selflessness and sacrifice. We should guard this hard earned freedom and re-establish the glorious position of the past. It requires untiring efforts. Let us calmly and in a manly fashion go to work. Let us not waste our energy and time in unnecessary things.

Like the birds from different parts of the world flocking at Vedanthangal in Tamil Nadu, delegates from all over India, have assembled to promote the aims of the festival. The aims are friendship, peace and development. These ideals are possible only when we treat all human beings in the same manner. Lasting friendship cannot be achieved, unless the basic human values are given importance. A festival of this type should bring out oneness among all Indians.

Benefits of development should flow to all sections of the society. Particularly to the down-trodden. My sincere request to all of you is to help such down-

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Lasting friendship cannot be
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“Freedom fighters have handed over the torch of freedom to the younger generation. This should not be considered a candle; It is a torch to light the lives of the millions. Let us swear at this hour of Golden Jubilee of Independence to work to achieve this task.”

trodden people. Your energy and efforts should be channelised with constructive activities. This will supplement the efforts of the governments to improve the welfare of the poor.

Youth have tremendous energy and potential. You should engage in useful steps in building up the Nation. When there is courage of conviction, difficulties in the path of progress vanish like bubbles. Temporary attraction should not divert you from your journey to progress. Temporary gains do not lead to peace and development. It is my strong desire that young people should committedly work towards the goal of making India as a powerful and soulful nation.

Out of the total youth in India, the per centage of rural youth is Seventy Eight point four (78.4%). That is why our Tamil Nadu Government has been implementing several schemes for the welfare of the rural youth.

In the last two years, more than twenty five thousand young teachers have been employed.

Tenthousand young people have been employed for the maintenance of Roads.

Thirteen thousand youths have been employed as 'Makkal Nala Panialargal'.

Six hundred young doctors have been employed in Government Hospitals.

About one thousand youths have been employed as technical assistants in Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

More than ten thousand young men and women have recently joined the Tamil Nadu Police Force in our State.

Another ten thousand young men and women are going to be taken to our police force.

15 per cent reservation has been made for the rural Students in professional courses like Engineering, Medicine, Dental, Agriculture, Veterinary, Law and Siddha medicine.

Freedom fighters have handed over the torch of freedom to the younger generation. This should not be considered a candle; It is a torch to light the lives of the millions. Let us swear at this hour of Golden Jubilee of Independence to work to achieve this task.

On this happy occasion, I am glad to mention that our Government is formulating "Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare Policy"

I wish you all assembled here a pleasant stay during this festival.

As today is Vivekananda's Birthday, I want to conclude my address by recalling his famous words: "Arise, Awake, Stop not till the Goal is reached" ☺

II WRAPPER

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaignar after assuming office announced that the Perarignar Anna Memorial (Anna Square) which has not been renovated for a long time would be modified, and accordingly modification works have been undertaken at a cost of Rs.275 lakhs. A bust size statue of Arignar Anna installed at the entrance of the memorial was unveiled by the Chief Minister on 3.2.98.



Thanjavur, the ancient capital of the Chola dynasty is known for some of the finest examples of embossed work. The beautiful Thanjavur Plates, bowls, napkin rings, powder boxes etc. made of copper and brass with motifs drawn from Hindu mythology and encrusted in silver against a finely engraved background, exemplify both superlative skill and mastery of material.

The Thanjavur Art Plates are the skillful handiwork of the traditional craftsmen. Thanjavur Art Plates are famous throughout the world.

Thanjavur Art Plates is made from copper and silver sheet, reliefs are encrusted of the base brass of Art Plates. This process gives a three dimensional effect and looks superb as an ornamental piece.

The Art of making Thanjavur Plates is extremely intricate and calls for a perfect team of experts in hard and soft metal jewellery and diamond settings.

Thanjavur Art Plate work is used throughout the world for doorway panels, sports trophies, mirror frames, chandan bowls, rose water sprinklers, powder boxes, pencil boxes, cigar boxes, napkin rings, and flower pots. This art is practised in Thanjavur.

Other objects cast in copper, brass, bronze and bell metal are puja items, different types of lamps, chembus, bowls, and bells, special utensils, paperweights, ash-trays etc.

Poompuhar

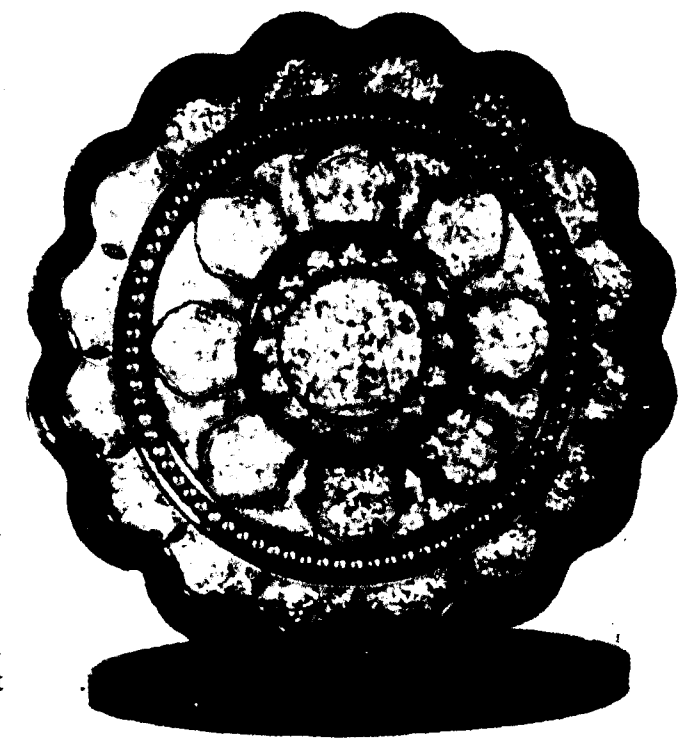
Poompuhar was a fabled Chola sea-port from which the crafts and the culture of the Tamil kingdom went out to all the world.

Today, Poompuhar is a repository for the best of the handicrafts of Tamil Nadu. Poompuhar showrooms have been set up by the Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, to promote and market the traditional crafts of Tamil Nadu.

The Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited, popularly called 'POOMPUHAR' is a Government owned Public Limited Company. The handicrafts are produced under technical direction by craftsmen, by Co-operative Societies and Training and Production Units of Poompuhar.

Poompuhar is a recognised 'Export House' for handicrafts by the Government of India. Poompuhar's handicrafts are sold throughout India through Exhibitions and showrooms.

★ ★ ★



“Tamil Nadu is becoming the most preferred State for investments”

Chief Minister Kalaingar at the foundation stone laying function of Saint Gobain Float Glass Plant at Sriperumbudur near Chennai on 22.1.98.

This is a pleasant occasion. I am very happy to lay the foundation stone for this project. Saint - Gobain is more than Three Hundred Years old. Today, the Saint - Gobain Group has spread over Forty Two Countries, with its Five hundred and Eighty Seven Companies. It is employing more than one lakh people. It has a turn - over of about Sixteen Billion U.S. Dollars. Saint - Gobain is the world leader in five of its eight businesses. The Flat Glass Division is its oldest business. Saint - Gobain was founded to produce glass for the "Hall of Mirrors" in King Louis Fourteenth's Royal Palace of Versailles. I like to recall my visit to the "Hall of Mirrors" on 8-7-1970. I enjoyed the beauty of the Hall. Saint - Gobain has become a part of the History of France. I am glad about all these facts.

I am really happy that such a big and famous company is putting up a Float Project in Tamil Nadu. This has become possible because of the transparent policy of our Government - because of the excellent co-operation of the Industries Department, SIPCOT and TAMIN. I personally thank the Saint - Gobain for their investment of about Thousand Crores of rupees here. I am specially happy that this is the largest French investment in India.

Tamil Nadu is self - sufficient in all the raw - materials required for the Glass Industry. This should open up new areas for developing more such Industries in our State. I request the TAMIN Chairman to do his best to organise full exploitation of the Silica sand in our State. Promoters may please take note of the availability of Silica sand in Tamil Nadu.

This Industrial Park of SIPCOT located near Sriperumbudur will become an important land - mark in the Industrial Map of India. This Industrial Park is proposed on an area of about Two Thousand Acres. About hundred Large, Medium and Small Scale Industries are going to be located in this Park. So far lands have been allotted to Fifteen Industries :-

1. Hyundai Motor India
2. Matsushita Electric
3. Lumax Samlip

4. Marquip India
5. JBM Sungwoo
6. Iljui Automotive
7. JKM Daerim Automotive
8. Dynamitic Technologies
9. Sharda Motor
10. Mando Brake Systems
11. Valeo Friction Materials
12. Pos-Hyundai Steel Manufacturing
13. PHC Manufacturing
14. Donghee Vision
15. Yamko JKM Enginnering

So far so good. I request the Industries Secretary, Officers of the SIPCOT and TIDCO to reach the Hundred Mark at least before the end of this year. Here I like to mention the fast progress made by Hyundai. Other Industries should follow this example of Quality and Speed.

As you all know, Tamil Nadu is becoming the most preferred State for investments. According to a survey, Tamil Nadu is in the third rank among the best States to invest in. The share of Tamil Nadu in exports has gone upto sixteen percent. This has become possible

because of our transparent policies, cordial industrial relations, keen-ness in human resources development, investor - friendly attitude and natural resources.

Tamil Nadu, in the last Eighteen Months, has attracted an investment of about Thirty Five Thousand Crores of rupees

- Twenty Thousand and Seven Hundred Crores

- Two Hundred Crores of rupees in Food Processing.

During this month alone, agreements have been signed for ten projects for an investment of over two thousand nine hundred crores of rupees. Even yesterday, agreements were signed for two projects - Toll Road Management Project and Non Asbestos Friction Material Manufacturing Project with French Companies.

These investments will generate employment to One Lakh and Twenty Five Thousand people directly and Two Lakh and Twenty Five Thousand people indirectly.



of rupees in power generation.

- Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Five Crores of rupees in infrastructure
- Five Thousand and Hundred Crores of rupees in Automobile
- Eight Hundred and Twenty Crores of rupees in Information Technology and

Therefore, I use this occasion to extend an invitation to the Promoters, Investors and Businessmen all over the world to come and invest in Tamil Nadu. I assure all necessary co-operation and assistance.

I congratulate the management of Sain-Gobain. I wish them all the best. One kind request to the Saint - Gobain Management. We want each of their businesses to have a plant and investment in Tamil Nadu.

I thank you all for this opportunity.

□ □ □

AN ERA OF SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENTS

TAMIL NADU IS NOW IN THE FORE FRONT OF INDUSTRIALISATION

★ Industry in Tamil Nadu has also displayed some other important qualities - good corporate, culture, smooth industrial relations, sharp focus on human resources development and strong customer orientation. With this, by the exemplary efforts of the **Chief Minister Kalaignar**, the foreign investors are attracted towards Tamil Nadu since the State is becoming a 'Star'

★ The Government of Tamil Nadu with its investor - friendly industrial policy has been able to provide a healthy and productive environment for foreign investments, since, the State is to witness the emergence of new global partnership in many areas such as :

★ **Single Window Clearance System** was introduced by the **Chief Minister** for speedy decision without delay in providing basic infrastructure.



attraction for Information Technology Players.

**Rs.35,000 crores investment within
18 months**

	Rupees (in Crores)
1. Power generation	- 20,700
2. Infrastructure facilities	- 7,285
3. Automobile industries	- 5,100
4. Information Technology	- 820
5. Food Processing Industries	- 200

★ Korean - **Hyundai Car** factory at a cost of **Rs.2,950 crores** at Irungattukottai.

★ St.Gobain of France - **Float Glass Factory** at a cost of **Rs.450 crores**, near Sriperumbudur.

★ **Kumho tyres of Korea** establishing a tyre factory at a cost of **Rs.600 crores**.

★ **Mitsubishi of Japan and Hindustan** as Joint Venture to produce '**Lancer Car**' at a cost of **Rs.320 crores**.

★ **Pennar - Petroleum Refinery** at Cuddalore District by TIDCO and Nagarjuna Associates



as Joint Venture at an estimated cost of **Rs.2,650 crores**.

★ **High Tech Park** at a cost of **Rs.6,000 crores** near Nangunery of Thirunelveli District.

★ **A Computer Software Technology Park** at a cost of **Rs.320 crores** in Tharamani and Nandanam of Chennai.

★ **Petro-Chemical Park** near Ennore at a cost of **Rs.720 crores**.

★ **Power Plants** at a cost of **Rs.8,000 crores**.

★ **Lignite-Mining and Power generation** at a cost of **Rs.6000 crores** near Jayamkondam.

★ **Liquified Natural Gas based projects** at a cost of **Rs.7,500 crores**.

★ **Automotive safety glass factory** at Singaperumalkoil by **Philkington of England** at a cost of **Rs.115 crores**.

★ **Matsuisita's air conditioning unit** at a cost of **Rs.59 crores**.

★ **Transroot of France** taking up **Highways Projects** at a cost of **Rs.2000 crores**.

★ **Chicken processing factory** at a cost of **Rs.31 crores** at Pongalur in Coimbatore District by TIDCO and Pioneer.

★ India's first **Potato french fries factory** at Mettupalayam near Coimbatore by TIDCO with a Quwait company at a cost of **Rs.32 crores**.

★ By these new factories 3.5 lakh persons will get employment.

★ **Auto spare parts manufacturing factory** near Chennai by TIDCO and Sriram as Joint Venture at a cost of **Rs.21 crores**.

★ **Carbon block industry** at Gummidipoondi by Hi-Tech at a cost of **Rs.115 crores**.

★ A factory to manufacture machineries of paper and paper boards at Irungattukottai by **Markyub** at a cost of **Rs.46.10 crores**.

★ Factory to produce **auto spares** by the Government of Tamil Nadu and Bangalore Dynametic Technology as Joint Venture at Irungattukottai at a cost of **Rs.23 crores**.

★ **Auto spare factory** at Irungattukottai by Tamil Nadu Government and **Bose Hyundai Steel Company** with an initial cost of **Rs.44 crores**.

★ '**Manto Break Systems India**' by the Government of Tamil Nadu and Anand Group of Mumbai at Irungattukottai with an initial estimated cost of **Rs.30 crores**.

★ **Rs.588 crores** have been distributed as loan to **7,755 small scale industries** by TIIC during the past 1½ years. **75,000 persons** gained employment.

★ **195 industrial sheds** costing **Rs.7.41 crores**; **263 upgraded industrial plots** costing **Rs.2.02 crores** have been created by SIDCO

during the past 1½ years. 45,000 metric ton of raw materials costing **Rs.100 crores** have been distributed.

- ★ A sum of **Rs.31.24 crores** have been released as **subsidy** and disbursed to **5,248 beneficiaries**. It is noteworthy to mention that the total amount sanctioned by the present Government exceeds the total subsidy sanctioned by the **previous Government in 5 years time**.
- ★ During the past 1½ years **45,866 small scale units** have been granted permission thus creating an employment opportunity for about **2.75 lakh persons**.
- ★ The **District Single Window Committee** and **District Advisory Committee** have been merged to act efficiently in getting the statutory clearances pending with various departments and has been named as **Single Window Clearance Committee / SSI Grievance Redressal Committee**.
- ★ To encourage and guide educated unemployed men and women, the Government have established **Entrepreneur ship Development Centre at Guindy**.
- ★ To encourage the **first generation women entrepreneurs** a subsidy of 10% margin money support to the project cost subject to a ceiling of **Rs.50,000** is provided.
- ★ An **industrial co-operative estate** on an area of 289 acres costing **Rs.5.52 crores** at Kittampalayam in Coimbatore District.
- ★ The **TIIC** has so far provided financial assistance to 81,148 units to the tune of **Rs.3,430 crores**. 71,617 employment opportunities have been created.
- ★ The **Tamil Nadu Leather Development Corporation Limited** has produced leather products costing **Rs. 5.11 crores**. Works are on to achieve the target of **Rs.5.76 crores**, during the current year.
- ★ 15 **Industrial Co-operative tea factories** have achieved a sales turn-over of **Rs.44.14 cores**. 14,011 persons have been provided direct employment. The new factories at Ebbanad and Pitherkad are nearing completion at a cost of **Rs.2.30 crores** and **Rs.2.40 crores** respectively. A new **Industrial Co-operative Tea factory** will be constructed at Thummanatti in Nilgris District at a cost of **Rs.1.80 crores**.
- ★ An **Information Technology Park** over 200 Acres of land at Kelambakkam near Chennai at an estimated cost of **Rs.1,000 crores** is being established.
- ★ Elcot is also executing a project in the escort sector with M/s.Hyundai Electronics Ltd., for manufacturing car radios and stereos etc.
- ★ The Chief Minister has announced a new 'Information Technology Industrial Policy of Tamil Nadu' which would boost up the development of Software and Hardware industries in Tamil Nadu.
- ★ There are 34 sugar mills functioning in the State. (15 in Co-operative sector, 3 in public sector, and 16 in private sector.) Two more Co-operative sugar mills are being established at a total cost of **Rs.100 crores** at Kallakurichi and Gummidipoondi. New letters of intent have also been issued for establishing sugar mills in Thirukoilur, Kilpennathur, Aathur, Thiruvaidaimarudhur, Sankarapuram, Aranthangi and Valangaiman.
- ★ In view of the acute shortage of developed industrial sites for medium and major industries, new industrial estates are being set up in Irungatturkottai, Sriperumpudur, Nemili, Vadamangalam, Ranipet, Hosur, Coimbatore and Tuticorin at a total area of 5870 Ha.
- ★ **TACIP** which is mostly involved in development of growth centres is also acquiring 6756 Ha. of lands in Orangadam, Mamandur - Palamathur, Varadarajapuram, Erumaiyur and Palanthandalam, Silambimangalam and 3 other villages and Oothukottai.
- ★ **SIPCOT** is also in the task of development of minor ports at Cuddalore and Colachel.
- ★ The procedure for grant of leases for minor minerals has been streamlined and tender cum auction system has been introduced, ensuring substantial increase in the revenue.

Humanitary Assistance from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund

- ★ As per the **Chief Minister's** request, the contribution by the public towards the collection for disbursement of **Rs.10,000** to beneficiaries under **Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage assistance scheme**, till date is **Rs.5,19,12,009**.
- ★ The **Chief Minister** has disbursed **Rs. 3,08,22,160** for life saving surgeries to benefit 1935 persons.
- ★ **Rs. 2.47 crores** has been disbursed as relief to the affected people by natural calamities;



relief to the flood affected people in Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry on humanitarian grounds; and from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund.

- ★ **Rs. 90.6 lakhs** was given away to 3,286 persons as relief to the families affected by communal clash and families of persons who had died in police custody. **Rs.43.53 lakh** was disbursed as relief to benefit 2.91 lakh fishermen.
- ★ **Rs.2.14 crores** disbursed as ex-gratia to 36,500 unemployed employees of lock out factories.

- ★ **Rs. 7.5 lakhs** was granted as subsidy to Adyar Cancer Institute for the treatment of poor patients. **Rs.37 lakhs** provided to Madurai Rajaji Hospital for the purchase of equipments needed for conducting heart surgeries to infants.
- ★ A house costing **Rs.3.5 lakhs**, was given free to Thiru. Balu, a close associate of the former Chief Minister, Thiru. Bakthavachalam, who served him till his death.
- ★ **Rs.2 lakhs** provided to care for the Sri Lankan Tamil Children in the Indira Gandhi International School at Bangalore.

★ **Rs.1.65 crores** given to 3000 families affected by fire for installing non - flammable roofs for their houses.

★ **Rs.2.98 lakhs** provided for taking care of the children at Sivananda Gurukulam at Kattankulathur.

★ **Rs.71.43 lakhs** given as grant to the families of those who died in the fire accident at Arulmighu Pragatheeswarar Temple at Thanjavur during temples' Maha Kumbabishekam and to carry repairs in the temple.

★ Apart from this **Rs.12.65 lakhs** was disbursed for various other relief measures.

NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

★ Ninth Five Year Plan of Tamil Nadu was finalised at **Rs.25,000 crores** (at 1996-97 prices) in the meeting of **Hon'ble Chief Minister** and the Deputy Chairman, Union Planning Commission at New Delhi, which is **37.42% more than the Eighth Five Year Plan's agreed outlay**.

- ★ The main objectives of 9th Five Year Plan are such as; improving the water resources, economic development of the people below poverty line, education for all, upgradation of integrated health services, improving roads using modern machineries, upgradation of small ports, industrialisation, women development programmes with the

assistance of institutional finance. Basic amenities to the interior rural habitations in par with the urban areas are being provided by implementing **Anna Renaissance, Self Help Programmes etc.**, With the able and charismatic leadership of **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam**, Tamil Nadu will no doubt become the foremost State in India.

SALES TAX EXEMPTION

- ★ Tax exemption has been given to the tune of Rs.450 crores.
- ★ Tax exempted to dhal, turmeric, chillies etc. so as to benefit middle and low class people.
- ★ Tax has been reduced to Computer, TVset, Paper, Ordinary Biscuits, Ready-made garments etc.,
- ★ Tax completely exempted on vests.
- ★ 3% Tax reduced on raw materials.
- ★ A Commercial Tax regulatory committee has been formed with a retired IAS officer as Chairman and MLAs and representatives of traders organisation to regulate the levying of commercial tax.

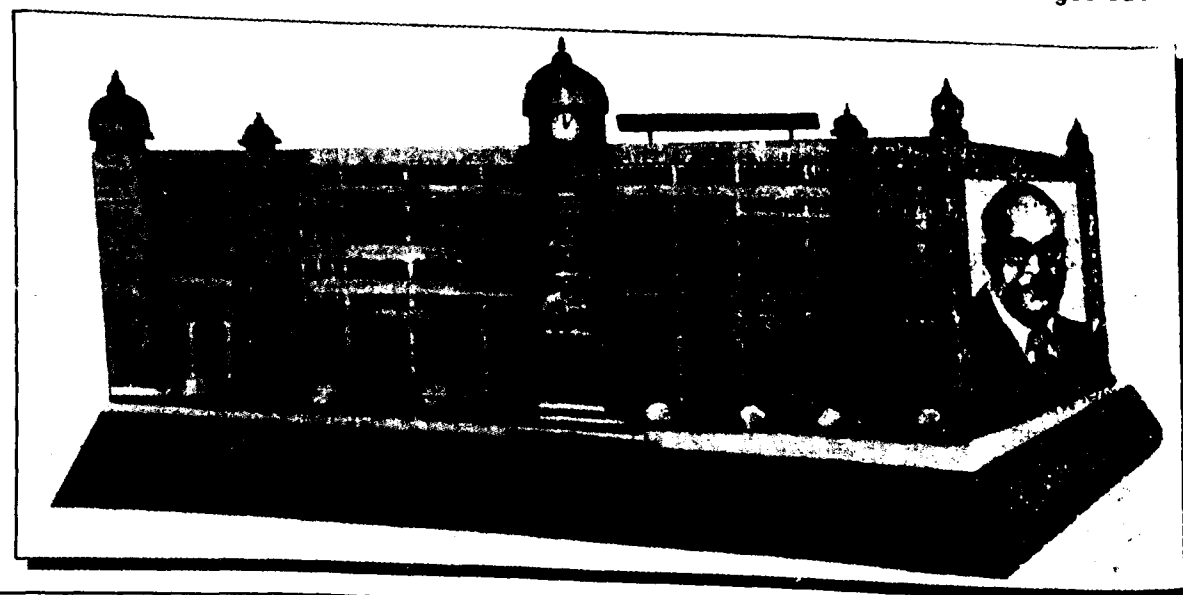
A NEW ERA IN EDUCATION

A separate department for higher education was instituted by the **Chief Minister Kalam**.

- ★ A novel scheme called **Single Window System** in admission of students in

Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu was introduced and well received and appreciated by the students, parents and general public, under which without any intermediaries, nearly 17,000 students were allotted branches in the first year itself as per their options along with the Colleges of their choice; it may also be noted that, for the first time, all the Engineering applicants were given admissions.

- ★ **Chief Minister Kalam** has granted permission for 59 self financing Arts and Science Colleges and 49 self financing engineering colleges so as to give admission for more than 10,000 students.
- ★ A new Medical College in the name of **K.A.P. Viswanatham**, the Tri-Tamil Protector, was inaugurated by the **Chief Minister Kalam** at Trichy. 4 more new Medical Colleges would be opened next academic year.
- ★ The **Chief Minister** has ordered reserving 15% of the seats for the students coming from rural areas to get admission in Engineering Colleges. This scheme would be extended to other professional courses also from next year.
- ★ 28 endowments at a total cost of Rs.7 crores in the name of great leaders in all the 15 Universities have been made. The Government have provided for the expenses for the higher education to 100 students, who secured top ten ranks and got admissions in professional colleges such as



Medical, Agriculture, Veterinary, Dental, Engineering hailing from the families where there are no graduates. **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam** has announced apart the above 5 Professional Courses, Siddha and Law would also be included in this scheme from the next academic year.

Women Education

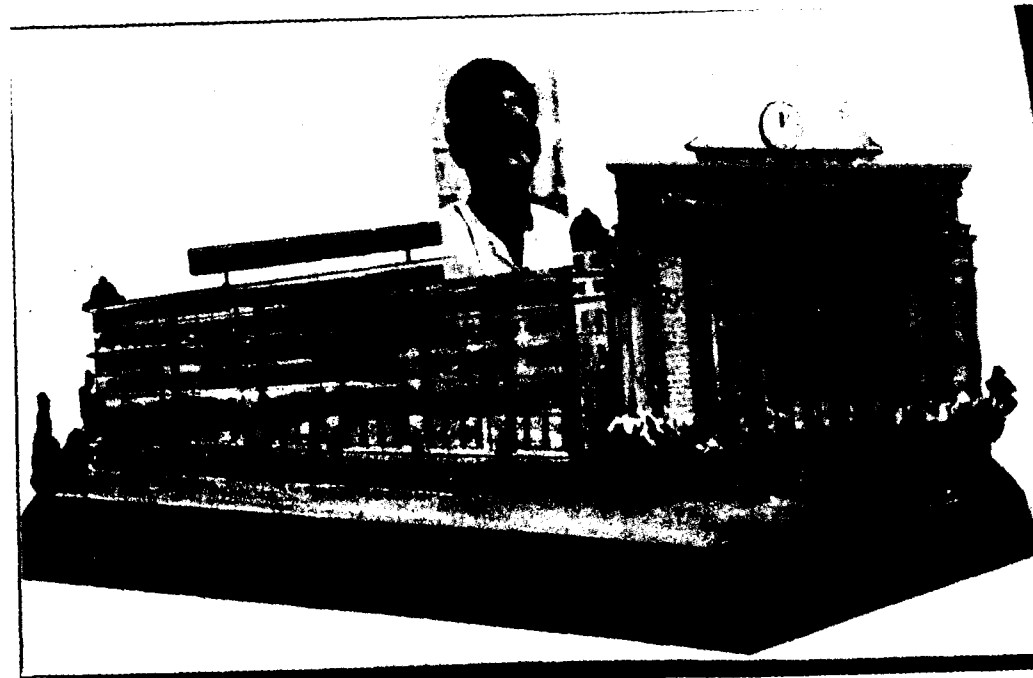
- ★ **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has announced that **30% reservation** would be made for women in the Government Colleges where there is no separate Arts and Science College for Women.
- ★ Under **EVR. Nagammiyar Memorial Financial Assistance Scheme** for women graduation, poor girl students whose parental income is **below 24,000** will be provided financial assistance upto their graduation studies by the Government.

New Universities - endowments

- ★ At a function presided by Her Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Justice Selvi M.Fathima Beevi, Thanthi Periyar**

Dr. K.R.Narayanan at Chennai on 25.9.97. The function was presided over by **Her Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Justice Selvi M.Fathima Beevi**. The **Chief Minister Kalam** laid the foundation stone for the University buildings.

- ★ Rs.5 crores sanctioned to construct additional buildings in Government Arts and Science Colleges.
- ★ A law enacted prohibiting ragging in schools and colleges.
- ★ The MCA course facility which was available only in the Presidency College of the Government Colleges was extended to three other Government Colleges.
- ★ B.Sc., Micro - biology and MSC applicable Sciences courses were started in Salem Government Arts and Science College for women. Post graduate studies viz MA and applicable sciences were started in Dharumapuram Government Gnanambigai Government Arts and Science college for women.



★ Courses like Computer Graphics, Software Engineering and Hardware systems, Multimedia, Telecommunications, Information technology, digital technology have been introduced by establishing Tamil Nadu Institute of Information Technology (TANITEC) in

University was inaugurated by the **Chief Minister** at Salem on 17.9.97.

Chennai, for the first time in the whole of India.

- ★ **Ambedkar Law University** the first University of its kind in India was inaugurated by **His Excellency the President**,

- ★ The name of the 'Best Teacher Award' was renamed as 'Dr. Radhakrishnan Award'.

- ★ 330 Asst. Professors have been given postings who were recruited and left without postings in the previous regime. Orders have been issued to appoint 500 Assistant Professors in colleges during the current year.

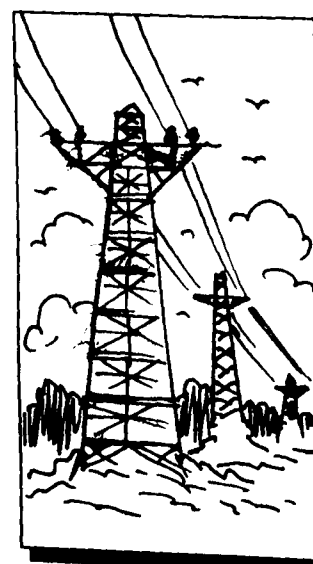
SCHOOL EDUCATION

- ★ During the past 2 years 253 new primary schools were opened, 62 primary schools were upgraded into Middle Schools, 170 middle schools and 160 High Schools were upgraded into High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools respectively. Works are being carried out for the construction of class rooms at a cost of Rs.13 crores and Laboratories at a cost of Rs.14 crores in High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools - **18,750 Primary Schools** have been **electrified** at a cost of **Rs.3.75 crores**. 1000 Primary and Middle Schools have been provided with furnitures at a cost of Rs.4.75 crores.
- ★ A district level Stadium has been constructed at Vizhupuram at a cost of Rs.27.50 lakhs. Rs.11.60 lakhs have been sanctioned for the construction of a hockey field and basket ball court at Thirunelveli. Rs.11.87 lakhs for the construction of weight lifting indoor hall at Sathuvacherry, Rs.10 lakhs sanctioned for the construction of hockey and tennis courts in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium at Chennai.
- ★ Rs.1.44 crores have been sanctioned for the construction of toilets in 200 girls Government High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools.
- ★ With a view to improving the quality of education under Special Scheme, the Government would meet the educational expenses of the three top rankers at the state level in the Higher Secondary Public Examination. This scheme has also been extended to all the district level top three rankers.
- ★ **25,000 teachers** have been recruited without intermediaries according to their employment seniority.
- ★ Free Medical - health check - up was carried out to all students of primary schools throughout the State.

- ★ Orders to enable the secondary grade teachers enabling them to seek transfers within the Government, Corporations, Municipality and panchayat schools.
- ★ Priority is being given to widows and handicapped in the recruitment of teachers.
- ★ 55 lakh children studying from 1st to 8th standard were given uniforms at a cost of Rs.45.36 cores. Free text books were also distributed to 75 lakh children at a cost of Rs.32.5 crores.
- ★ The free transportation in Government buses enjoyed by students studying up to 8th standard was extended upto 12th standard.

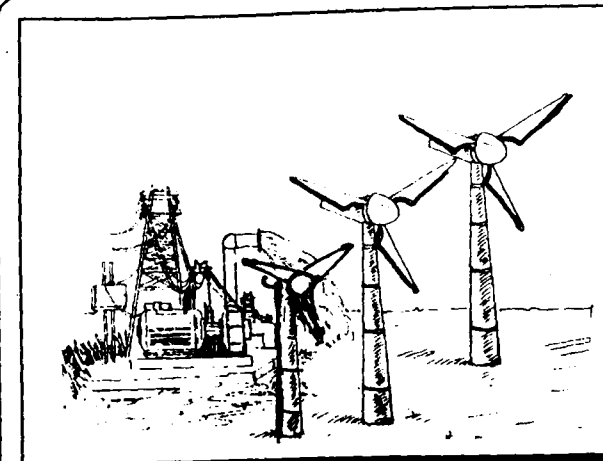
TAMIL NADU CONTINUES TO BE WITHOUT ANY POWER CUT

- ★ 7 private power generation schemes have been signed so as to produce 5,355 MW of power by the efforts of the Chief Minister Kalaignar.



Generation -133 MW of energy has been added.

- ★ Free power supply for agriculture purposes is being continued.
- ★ 311.160 MW additional power has been generated by non conventional energy resources.
- ★ 71,046 street lights have been energised in Panchayat and Municipal areas.
- ★ Tamil Nadu leads in Wind Power
- ★ 1000 youths have been given postings as Technical Assistants in the Electricity Board.
- ★ Co-generation plants have been successfully set-up in 5 sugar mills, with an installed capacity of 76 MW. Tamil Nadu leads the other States in this field also.
- ★ Paper, Textile, Chemical and Sugar Industries were granted exemption from payment of



electricity tax on the energy generated and consumed by them through their captive generators irrespective of the fuel they use initially for a period of 5 years. The concession was also extended for the generation of energy through non-conventional energy sources like solar, windpower etc.

- ★ Power purchase agreements have been concluded and signed for North Chennai Thermal Power Project - State III - 500 MW; Pillai Perumal Nallur Combined cycle gas turbine project - 330.55 MW., Basin Bridge Diesel engine power project - 200 MW
- ★ Tenders for 20 power generation schemes to produce 2,230 MW of power have been approved.

PUBLIC HEALTH

- ★ To improve the Bed Strength in the Hospitals, Government have sanctioned Rs.613.75 lakhs during the year 1996 -97 and Rs.880 lakhs during the year 1997-98 to construct the new hospital buildings.
- ★ Rs.900 lakhs and Rs.500 lakhs have been sanctioned towards repair and maintenance of Hospital Buildings during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.
- ★ A Lumpsum provision of Rs.250 lakhs has been sanctioned during the year 1997-98 for improvement of Hospitals such as Construction of OP Block, Operation Theatre etc.,
- ★ For the improvement of TB Control programme a sum of Rs. 424 lakhs has been

provided specially out of which Rs.330 lakhs have been allotted for Building Components towards construction of 11 District TB Centres.

- ★ The Government having decided to provide ambulances in all Hospitals, have supplied 127 New Ambulances for Rs.445 lakhs to Government Hospitals. These facilities are proposed to be extended to other Government Hospitals also in the coming years.
- ★ 600 Medical graduates have been posted in Government Hospitals; the long pending demands of Medicos are being accomplished in enhancing the study allowances at a cost of Rs.6.34 crores.



- ★ Government having decided to improve the diagnosing facilities by augmenting the laboratories have supplied modern equipments - 'Semi Auto Analyser' to 38 Government Hospitals at a cost of Rs.92.50 lakhs.
- ★ Modern equipments have been distributed to Government Hospitals at a cost of Rs.5. crores.



- ★ New buildings are being constructed in the Government hospitals at a cost of Rs.14.94 crores so as to increase the bed strength.
- ★ Rs.14 crores sanctioned for improvement works in the Government Hospitals and works are on.
- ★ Rs.2.50 crores sanctioned for improvement works especially the outpatient section and operation theatres during the current financial year.
- ★ The Government considering the problem of Intensive Cardiac Care units patients in the rural areas has sanctioned 6 ICCUs in the Taluk level hospitals.
- ★ A new medical college in the name of K.A.P. Viswanatham was opened in Trichy. 4 more medical colleges are to be opened. The Chennai medical college has been upgraded to deemed University.
- ★ Modern equipments and accessories have been distributed to hospitals in the control of Medical education, at a cost of Rs.20 crores.
- ★ A scheme to adopt 100 primary health centres by the big industries in rural areas for the first time in India, started.
- ★ To accomodate all primary health centres in Government buildings, Government has sanctioned construction of own buildings for 300 primary health centres during 1996 - 97 at a cost of Rs. 18 crores and 352 primary health centres during 1997-98 at a cost of Rs.31.68 crores.
- ★ The Government has taken policy decision to establish round the clock services in the villages by converting block level primary health centres into 24 Hours primary health centres and first referral units. Accordingly 250 primary health centres are functioning round the clock. This will be extended to remaining block level primary health centres in future.
- ★ 224 ambulances at a cost of Rs.8.34 crores have been provided to Primary Health Centres, during the past two financial years.
- ★ Rs.31 crores sanctioned during the past 2 financial years for providing medical facilities to Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani, Homeopathy, Naturpathy Medical practices.
- ★ Chief Minister Kalaigmar has enhanced the old age pension of hereditary Siddha Medical practioners from Rs.150 to Rs.500.

- ★ Rs.70.76 crores sanctioned for the family welfare during the current financial year to reduce the birth rate and to take care of the children.
- ★ The monthly assistance given to medicos have been enhanced. Chief Minister Kalaigmar has issued orders enabling the doctors in the Government service to get full pay with DA while pursuing higher education.

REVENUE

- ★ 'Manu Neethi Thittam' a mass contact programme was introduced for the first time in India, only in Tamil Nadu by this Government. This programme is being conducted in the second Wednesday of every month by the gazetted officers of each district in all composite villages.
- ★ For tuning up the district revenue administration and effective implementation of the Government schemes, 'Revenue Department Administrative Reforms Commission' has been constituted by this Government.
- ★ 6 new districts have been created for the effective administration. New Taluks viz. Thirukkuvalai, Ettayapuram, Kundha and Pandalur have also been created.
- ★ Rs.26.44 crores spent for drought relief. 5,383 bore wells and 619 open wells were dug, 4,946 hand pumps were repaired and several motors were repaired. Drinking water was provided through water tankers at a cost of Rs.1.58 crores.
- ★ Rs.54 crores were disbursed as flood relief.
- ★ The financial assistance of Rs.10,000 given to the familie affected by natural calamities have been enhanced to Rs.15,000. The cash dole for the fully damaged huts has been increased to Rs.1,000 and partly damaged huts Rs.500.
- ★ During floods in June and December 1996, a sum of Rs.217.47 crores sanctioned for various flood relief works.
- ★ Rs.58.95 crores sanctioned as flood relief during the heavy rains during October-December 1997.

- ★ Rs.50,000 is being given as relief to the family of person who dies in communal clashes.
- ★ The relief given under family welfare relief schemes for the poor has been increased from Rs.5,000 to Rs.7,000.
- ★ Orders were issued for the sanction of pension of Rs.175 per month with attendant benefits to the living ex-village officers, who lost their services on 14.11.1980 and Rs.100 per month as family pension to the family of deceased ex-village officers with effect from 5.12.1986. Each of them were benefitted to the tune of Rs.23,000, by this 12,000 ex-village officers benefitted.
- ★ Chief Minister Kalaigmar has sanctioned Rs.1.05 crores in the first phase to provide relief to those persons who had lost thier sheep in the 'blue tongue' disease in the districts of Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Virudhunagar and Tuticorin.
- ★ 2,66,855 poor persons who does not own house, were provided free lapd pattas.
- ★ 7,14,254 persons are being provided old age pension without any ceiling.
- ★ On the basis of industrialisation, the Government grants permanent exemption under Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act for Industrial units.

PRIORITY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL WORKS

ELECTIONS TO LOCAL BODIES

- ★ Local body elections, which had not been held for 10 to 15 years were conducted and 1,62,681 representatives were elected and assumed charges. Bringing the ideals of Mahatma, Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna to reality - 44,143 women have been elected and have assumed office.
- ★ 2,62,255 works of developmental schemes have been completed during the past 1½ years at a cost of Rs.435 crores including 1.5 lakh group houses - This is an all India record.
- ★ 5000 KM length of roads have been converted to 'Tar Road'.

- ★ Financial assistance for **12,018 Agriculture Wells** so as to benefit poor agriculturalists and Adi-draavidars.

- ★ **2,60,868 persons** have benefitted by providing **Rs.125.13 crores** as financial assistance under **Integrated Rural Development Programme**.

- ★ **16,758 rural youths** have been given training for **self employment** at a cost of **Rs.10.12. crores**. Presently, **14,056 rural youths** are undergoing training.

- ★ **Rs.4.91 crores** sanctioned to provide employment to **14,277 poor women of rural areas** including 6,182 Adi - draavidar Women under DWCR schemes.

- ★ **32,045 works** under **Anna Renaissance Scheme** created by the **Chief Minister Kalaignar** in 234 Legislative Constituencies are being carried out at a cost of **Rs.156 crores**.

- ★ **3,263 schemes** are being implemented under **Self Help Programme** in **1,958 villages** with

the enthusiastic participation of the benefitting public, at a cost of **Rs.19.8 crores**.

- ★ **12,044 ousted Makkal Nala Paniyalargal** during last regime have been reinstated in service. Of this 4814 are women.

- ★ Developmental works are being carried out at a cost of **Rs.58.75 crores** under the new scheme of development of the Legislative Constituencies with an allocation of **Rs.25 lakhs** to a Legislative Constituency.

- ★ Rural panchayats have been empowered by this Government to exercise their power in

17 developmental works directly such as rural roads-bridges, poverty eradication, drinking water, electrification, public distribution, library, rural electrification, panchayat union schools etc.

A committee with representatives from various parties have been constituted by the **Chief Minister Kalaignar** with a view to go into the devolution of powers already given to the local bodies and to study the powers, rights and responsibilities of the local bodies and recommend necessary improvements.

- ★ **384 new vehicles** were distributed to 384 Panchayat Unions at a cost of

Rs.12.97 crores, for speedy implementation of the developmental works.

- ★ Economically backward rural habitations have been illuminated by installing **20,000 street lamps** at a cost of **Rs.7.28 crores**.

- ★ District Planning Commissions have been constituted in all the 28 Districts to prepare the plan schemes by integrating the developmental activities.

★ The rural panchayats are provided **Rs.1,408 crores** per annum by the Government as equalisation fund, grants for electricity consumption, grant for maintaining the comprehensive rural water supply schemes, grant for the economically weaker panchayats for implementing development schemes in panchayats, etc.

- ★ **76,000 electric posts** have been erected and given power connections in Corporation, Municipalities, Town Panchayats and Panchayat areas.

- ★ On the recommendation of the state finance commission, the finance allocated to the



Local bodies have been increased from 60% to 90% in the total entertainment tax.

- ★ For the first time in Tamil Nadu, excepting the entertainment tax, 8% income from other taxes have been given to the local bodies.

- ★ The subsidy given in the Revenue to the local bodies have been increased for **Rs.646 crores** to **1,174 crores**.

- ★ **Rs.790 crores** sanctioned for providing additional fund and for 10 basic works as Central and State grant. A subsidy of **Rs.364.44 crores** sanctioned 8% of the States revenue. Apart from this **Rs.360 crores** was also sanctioned as subsidy from the States tax revenue collections.

TOWN PANCHAYATS

- ★ **Rs.64 crores** is being spent for 24,968 works to provide basic facilities like installing sodium vapour lamp, National slum improvement programmes etc in town panchayats.

- ★ 5036 works to provide drinking water, street lamps, roads, drainage, etc are being carried out at a cost of **Rs.20.76 crores** in town panchayats.

- ★ The Government has decided to increase the share of entertainment tax given to town panchayats from 65% to 90%, so as to increase the financial resources.

- ★ **Rs.96.23 crores** and 15% equalisation fund amounting **Rs.15.11 crores** have been sanctioned as per the direction of State Finance Commission to town panchayats and works are being implemented.

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- ★ **Rs.50 crores** sanctioned in the Budget estimates for the second phase of the Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS).

- ★ **20,000 dwelling houses** have been constructed at a cost of **Rs.247 crores** in the outskirts of the city during 1996-97. 31 towns have been identified as developing centres and 9,000 dwellings are being constructed in 13 such developing centres.

- ★ The Master Plan of Nilgris has been modified. The minimum ceiling area for the construction of houses have been reduced so as to benefit low income group and the poor.

- ★ The powers to permit construction of building in Ooty has been transferred from the Government to the District Collector and local bodies.

- ★ **Rs.200 crores** and **Rs.5 crores** sanctioned for the developmental works of Chennai Corporation and for the other 5 corporations respectively.

- ★ Actions are being taken for 15 developmental works in Chennai like construction of over bridges, sub-ways, commercial complex, renovation of super-market, renovation of park, construction of musical fountain, three floor building for parking facilities, development of George Town Bus-stand, Broadway etc.,

- ★ Orders have been issued to provide pension benefits to the employees of municipalities calculated from the date of their joining date.

- ★ Actions have also been taken to install 550 water tanks in Chennai city.

- ★ In commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of Madurai Corporation, developmental schemes, are being implemented at a cost of **Rs.50 crores**.

- ★ **2,500 additional sodium vapour lamps** are being installed in town panchayats during the year.

PROTECTED DRINKING WATER TO ALL

- ★ Krishna water has been brought to Chennai, the drinking water problem of Chennai and Sub-urban areas is being solved by the efforts taken by the **Chief Minister Kalaignar**.

- ★ The Mega Schemes were not fruitful due to the lack of maintenance by the previous regime. **Chief Minister Kalaignar**, soon after assuming in 1996 tuned the official machinery to rejuvenate, on war footing 3,200 rural water supply schemes, 225 comprehensive water supply schemes with an estimated cost of **Rs.39 crores**, so as to

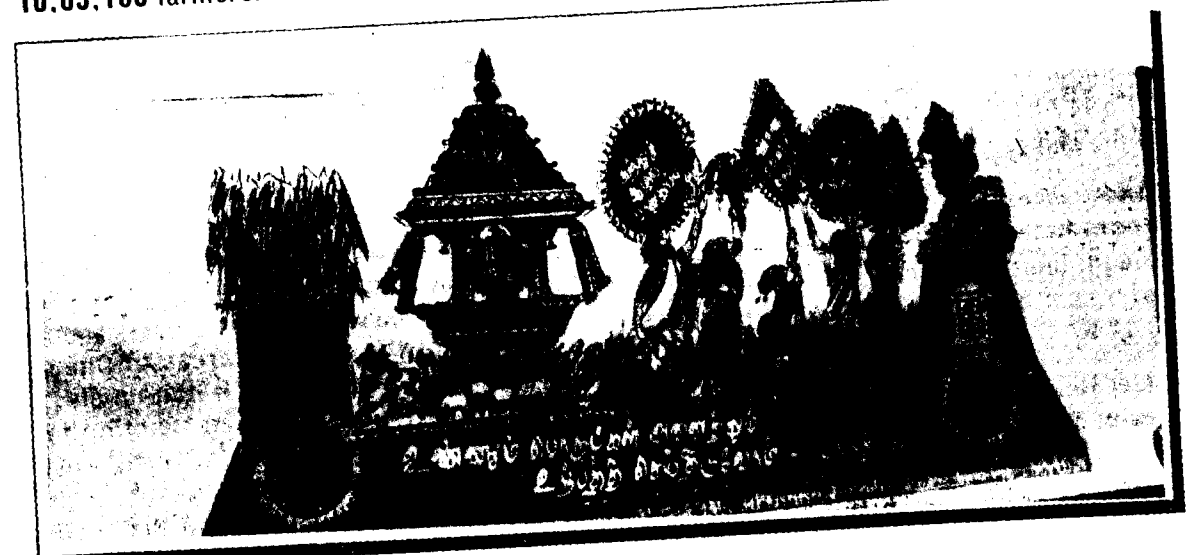


provide sufficient water supply to the masses of these rural areas.

- ★ The **Chief Minister Kalaingar** has enhanced the budget allocation for water supply schemes doubling the previous allocation. In Ninth Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.2,200 crores has been earmarked for the drinking water supply schemes.
- ★ Speedy actions are being taken to provide 40 litres of water per head in 10,000 habitations in two years time (1997-98, 1998-99) which are presently provided only with 10 litres per head. The remaining 20,000 habitations which are presently provided with 11 to 39 litres per head will be provided with 40 litres per head within three years.
- ★ Incomplete spill-over schemes of urban water supply are being taken up on priority basis; during this financial year, five municipal water supply schemes and 18 town panchayats water supply schemes will be completed.
- ★ The coastal Ramnad villages exist with only saline water. To convert the saline water to potable, 11 schemes had formerly been entrusted to BHEL. The implementation has been tuned up and it is expected that these schemes will be completed on or before March 1998.
- ★ To rectify the damaged overhead tanks and also to construct new overhead tanks on need basis, an amount of Rs.10 crores has been released to complete such 970 schemes during this financial year.
- ★ Rs.3 crores sanctioned under National River Water Pollution Control Schemes and works have been taken up and are being implemented in Erode, Pallipalayam, Kumarapalayam and Trichy.
- ★ The investigation projects are being taken up under Japanese aid to provide protected water to the rural habitations of Dharmapuri District with an expected estimation of Rs.630 crores.
- ★ 1,828 habitations are to be provided with protected water supply at an estimated cost of Rs.60.90 crores under Anna Renaissance Scheme.
- ★ Under Education-Mass communication scheme an amount of Rs.1.36 crores has been allocated to organise 'Protected water-rural cleaning camps' in Erode, Dharmapuri, Ramanathapuram and Dindigul Districts during this financial year.
- ★ The **Chief Minister Kalaingar** has released an amount of Rs.98.75 crores for a mega comprehensive water supply scheme which would be implemented to provide protected water supply 5,47,000 persons of 8 coastal unions which exist with only saline water of Nagapattinam District by getting the water resource from Kollidam.
- ★ 154 dwellings without drinking water have been provided with drinking water facilities.
- ★ Rs.30 crores was sanctioned as a special allocation and 2770 electric motor schemes in rural areas upgraded and works completed.
- ★ Rs.450 crores sanctioned in 1997 - 98 to provide protected drinking water all the rural areas before the end of the 9th five year plan.
- ★ Drinking water schemes like Thiruverumbur - Dhuwakudi costing Rs.12.5 crores, Thuraiyur Municipality drinking water schemes at a cost of Rs.33 crores are being implemented.
- ★ 2000 persons have been given employment for the maintenance of joint drinking water schemes.

AGRICULTURE

- ★ During 1995-96 the food production was 67.96 lakh metric ton, but after assumption by **Kalaingar** in 1996, it was increased to 76.45 lakh M.T. in 1996-97 due to the imposition of high technology and timely provision of inputs by the Government. Eventhough the crops were damaged in many districts by the continuous rain in November 97, the food production had gone up to 84.66 lakh metric ton as on 5.1.98. With the harvest of Samba and Navarai yet to come the food production will definitely go up and cross the targetted quantum of 95 lakh metric ton.
- ★ To alleviate the sufferings of the farmers affected by floods during December '96 **Rs.47.987 Crores** were distributed in cash to **10,05,166** farmers.



- ★ To alleviate the sufferings of Small/Marginal Farmers in the delta districts affected by flood situation caused by excessive rains in November '97, **Rs.15.81 Crores** have been sanctioned as a relief at **Rs.1,000/-** per Hectare for fully damaged area to be disbursed in cash.
- ★ To ensure normal rains by preserving agro-eco system, a massive tree planting programme along the pass ways has been launched at a total cost of **Rs.7.35 crores** in 75 Panchayat Unions of

the State. Trees were planted to a distance of 882.06 K.M. at a cost of **Rs.208.94 lakhs** up to November '97.

- ★ To eradicate the menace of the ipomea weeds clogging the irrigation channel of delta districts of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur, 2384 Hectares were sprayed with 2-4-D weedicide and the dried leaves were removed and burnt at a total cost of **Rs.102.13 lakhs**.
- ★ A new system at a cost of Rs.404.68 lakhs to reclaim saline and alkaline soils in Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Kanchipuram, Thiruvallur, Vellore, Thiruvannamalai, Salem and Namakkal.
- ★ Fertiliser identity cards are to be distributed in Mathurantagam, Salem, Musiri, Tiruvarur and Melur Agricultural Divisions - 30,000 per division in

First Phase. Steps are being taken to cover other divisions also.

- ★ A comprehensive study has been entrusted to an Isreali Consultancy Company on drawing an optimal plan for production of high value crops and blue print for the production of value added products in four districts of Dharmapuri, Ramnad, Virudhunagar and Sivagangai at a total cost of **Rs.2.30 crores**.



- ★ Under Integrated Cereals Development programme (Rice) 500 Nos. of Power Tillers were distributed at a total subsidy of Rs.150 lakhs - Rs.30,000 per power Tiller.
- ★ Under Integrated Horticulture Development Scheme, an area of 4707 Ha. under fruits, 11,716 Ha. under Vegetables, 277 Ha. under spices, 109 Ha. under plantation crops, 40 Ha. under Flowers were covered and a sum of Rs.117 lakhs was spent under this scheme till the end of 30.11.97.
- ★ Under Western Ghats Development Programme an area of 1345 Ha. were brought under perennial Horticultural Crops and a sum of Rs. 55 lakhs was utilised till 30.11.97.
- ★ Under Hill Area Development Programme, an area of 102 Ha. was brought under Tea and other Spices and Plantation Crops and a sum of Rs. 165 lakhs was spent till 30.11.97.
- ★ Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, an area of 804 Ha. was brought under Cashew, 1165 Ha. under Fruit Crops, 410 Ha. under Spices, additionally and a sum of Rs. 108 lakhs was utilised till the end of 30.11.97.
- ★ The Agriculture Department has been provided with 25 bulldozers and 5 trucks to transport them.
- ★ Chief Minister Kalaigarnar has fixed the minimum price of sugar cane at Rs.660 per tonn. Including the vehicle subsidy they will be getting a minimum of Rs.695 and a maximum amount of Rs.881/- an average of

Rs.765, so as to benefit 2.5 lakh sugar cane growers.

- ★ A high - Tech Financial Insitution has been started by National Rural Development Agriculture Bank and the Government of Tamil Nadu, to enable entrepreneurs to export processed vegetables, mushrooms and flowers.
- ★ A fruit processing industry will be set up in Dharmapuri at a cost of Rs.1.25 crores as a joint venture by Tamil Nadu Agricultural Industries Corporation.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS

- ★ 200 irrigation tanks are being desilted in Chennai, Madurai, Pollachi and Trichy regions at a cost of Rs.19.91 crores.
- ★ Rs.7.5 crores have been sanctioned to provide irrigation facilities to 22,000 acres of land in Kamuthi in Ramanathapuram District and Mudukulathur.
- ★ Works are being implemented by PWD to improve the water resources in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.807.49 crores with World Bank aid.
- ★ The coastal reach of Buckingham canal between Coovum river and Adyar river for a distance of 7.2 km serves as a flood moderator between the two rivers and flood carrier of the adjacent areas of Chepauk, Triplicane, Mylapore, R.A. Puram etc. The Government has accorded sanction for an amount of Rs.190 lakhs for the removal of sludge and silt upto the original bed level of canal for a distance of 0-4 km from the confluence of Coovum to RK Mutt Road bridge, Luz.
- ★ Buildings have been constructed to 296 Primary Health Centres at a cost of Rs.18 crores during the previous financial year.
- ★ Cataract wards are being constructed in District Hospitals at a cost of Rs.10.60 crores in 7 places with the World Bank aid.
- ★ 7 court complexes are under construction costing Rs.23.32 crores
- ★ Class rooms, laboratories are being constructed in schools and colleges at a cost of Rs.12.34 crores.

- ★ Large schemes of constructions are being implemented in the head quarters of Karur, Perambalur, Nagapattinam Districts at a cost of Rs.7.5 crores and at a cost of Rs.3 crores in Vizhupuram.
- ★ Memorials and renovation of monuments have been completed at a cost of Rs.1.71 crores.
- ★ 241 construction works are being done at a cost of Rs.37.10 crores under Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Scheme, during the current financial year.
- ★ Works of water resources scheme are at various stages implemented at a cost of Rs.49.34 crores.
- ★ A project report for rehabilitation of 2,500 rainfed tanks with ayacut between 40 to 400

Hectares, each at a cost of Rs.270 crores was prepared and an agreement was signed with Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF), Japan.

- ★ Water resources consolidation project with an investment cost of Rs.1140 crores spanning over a period of 7 years under World Bank loan assistance is being implemented in the State from October, 1995.
- ★ It is remarkable to mention that the estimates for 13 works pertaining to various projects to a value of Rs.137.91 crores were cleared. The budget allocation for this project during 1997-98 alone is Rs.173 crores.

- ★ For the new Veeranam Project Rs.60 crores was sanctioned initially for improvements to the Vadavar channel which bring

water from Coleroon, anaicut to Veeranam tank; removal of shoals in the tank and raising its F.T.L; to increase the existing capacity. Provision for modernisation of the command conveyance system of Vadavar and also Veeranam tank - Rs.110.95 crores sanctioned.

- ★ Under the Water resources organisation, Water Management in this state has been decentralised along basin lines and the entire State has been divided into 4 regions, viz. Chennai, Tiruchy, Pollachi and Madurai. Each Basin is headed by a basin Manager in the rank of Chief Engineer.

- ★ Rs.464 crores sanctioned to provide 190 million litres of water every day under Chennai Metro Water schemes.

During 1996-97

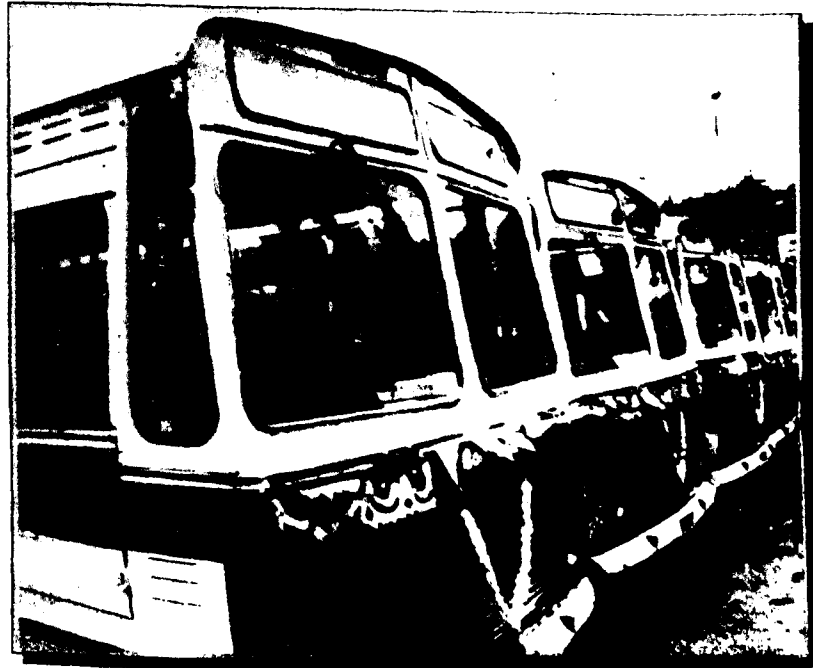
- ★ Shenbaggathopp Reservoir Scheme at Vaniambadi
- ★ providing irrigation facilities to villages in Usilampatti Taluk



- ★ Andiappanoor Odai scheme
- ★ Reservoir across Varattar and Kuppathu Odai
- ★ Rs.8,220 lakhs sanctioned for the above 4 schemes and 4495 Hectares of land will come under irrigation.
- ★ Besides the above 4 schemes 13 SMIP schemes at an ultimate cost of Rs.292.67 lakhs for benefitting 412 Hectares has been sanctioned.

During 1997-98

- ★ Varattur - Vallimadurai Reservoir scheme-Harur, Dharmapuri District.
- ★ Pandalapalli-Malattar Reservoir scheme-Guditham.
- ★ Kuppanatham Reservoir Scheme, Chengam Taluk.
- ★ Sadayaneri channel widening and extension scheme, Sathankulam.
- ★ Formation of a new tank across Kallaru river near Malayalappatti village, Perambalur.
The Government has sanctioned Rs.106 crores for the above 5 schemes so that 5,213 Hectares of land come under irrigation.
- ★ Construction of Rubble mound sea wall at Tharangambadi, Nagapattinam District at an estimated cost of Rs.56.06 lakhs.
- ★ Construction of ruffle mound sea wall at Poompubar, Nagapattinam District at an estimated cost of Rs.86.54 lakhs.
- ★ Under Part II Schemes for the year 1997-98 the Government has sanctioned 12 Numbers of SMIP schemes at an ultimate cost of Rs.354.30 lakhs for benefitting 1641 Hectares.
- ★ The Government has provided Rs.10 crores during 1997-98 for removal of silt and ipomea (Neyveli Kattamanakku) in the Cauvery Delta and the works have been completed.

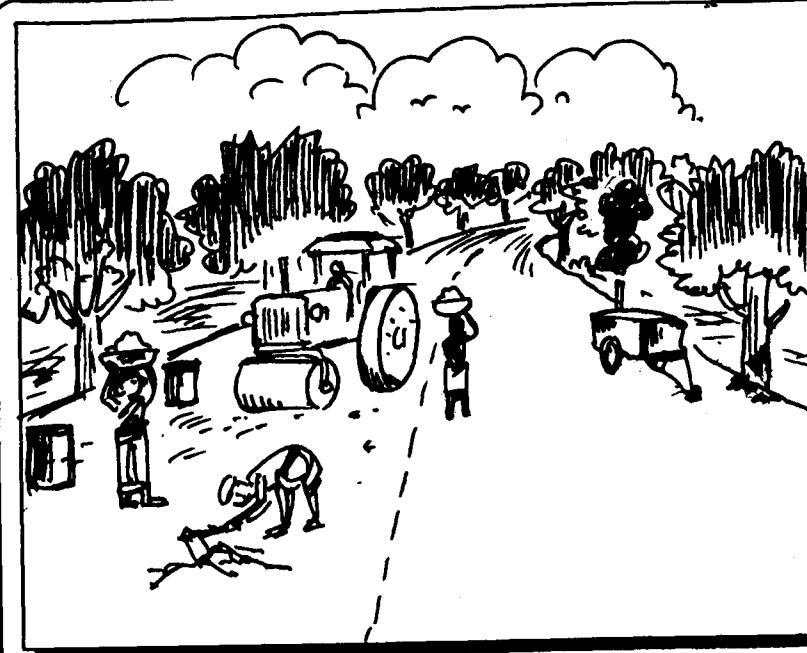


TRANSPORT

- ★ 100 buses have been introduced during Peak Hours in Chennai City. 50 Super Delux Buses were introduced with audio/video facility to be operated to distant places. Under the new schemes two new routes per MLA in the Constituency was introduced and so far 340 new routes have been introduced. The Government decided to amalgamate 21 State Transport Undertakings as seven STUs as a measure of restructuring of STUs. 2,215 new buses have been introduced upto 30.11.97 for replacement and augmentation.
- ★ 3,600 new buses are to be purchased during the current year at a cost of Rs.292 crores.
- ★ A new corporation formed to upgrade minor ports.

HIGHWAYS

- ★ On the commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Highways Department 50 new bridges will be constructed at a cost of Rs.150 crores in Tamil Nadu. Roads leading to Chennai city will be widened to a length of 50 KM at a cost of Rs.150 crores. A by-pass road will be constructed from Tambaram to Maduravoyal at a cost of Rs.75 crores. Actions are being taken to lay 4 lane road from Tindivanam to Madurai.



- ★ The Chief Minister has announced that road repair works are being undertaken at a cost of Rs.400 crores, that include Rs.250 crores from NABARD and Rs.150 crores announced in the Budget.
- ★ 108 villages have been connected by road in 1997-98; and 409 villages will be provided with connecting roads in 1998-99; of the balance 517 villages left to be completed under a scheme to provide the villages with a population of more than 1000 with connecting roads, started in 1990.
- ★ The East Coast Road connecting Chennai and Cuddalore, constructed with international standard as a two way road, at a cost of Rs.102 Crores, financed by Asian Development Bank was declared open to service on Pongal day (14.1.98).
- ★ Rs.55 crores was sanctioned to carry out the repair works of the roads damaged by floods and are nearing completion.
- ★ A scheme to provide road facilities to all villages with a population of more than 500 per village before 2001 is being implemented.
- ★ 5,500 road workers have been newly appointed.

FOR THE CAUSE OF TAMIL DEVELOPMENT

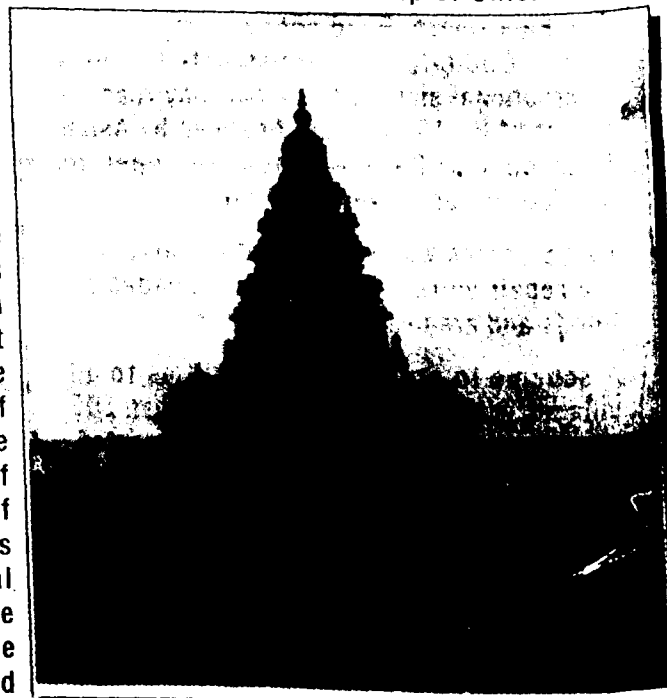
- ★ Actions are being taken to publish four more books on the History of Tamil Nadu which

was started by this Government and left unfinished by the successive Government.

- ★ A ministry of - 'Tamil as Official Languages' has been created so as to include tamil language in all spheres of life.
- ★ A law has been enacted to call Chennai city as 'Chennai' in all languages.
- ★ Rs.50 lakhs has been sanctioned as first instalment for establishing a Dravidian University at Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh.

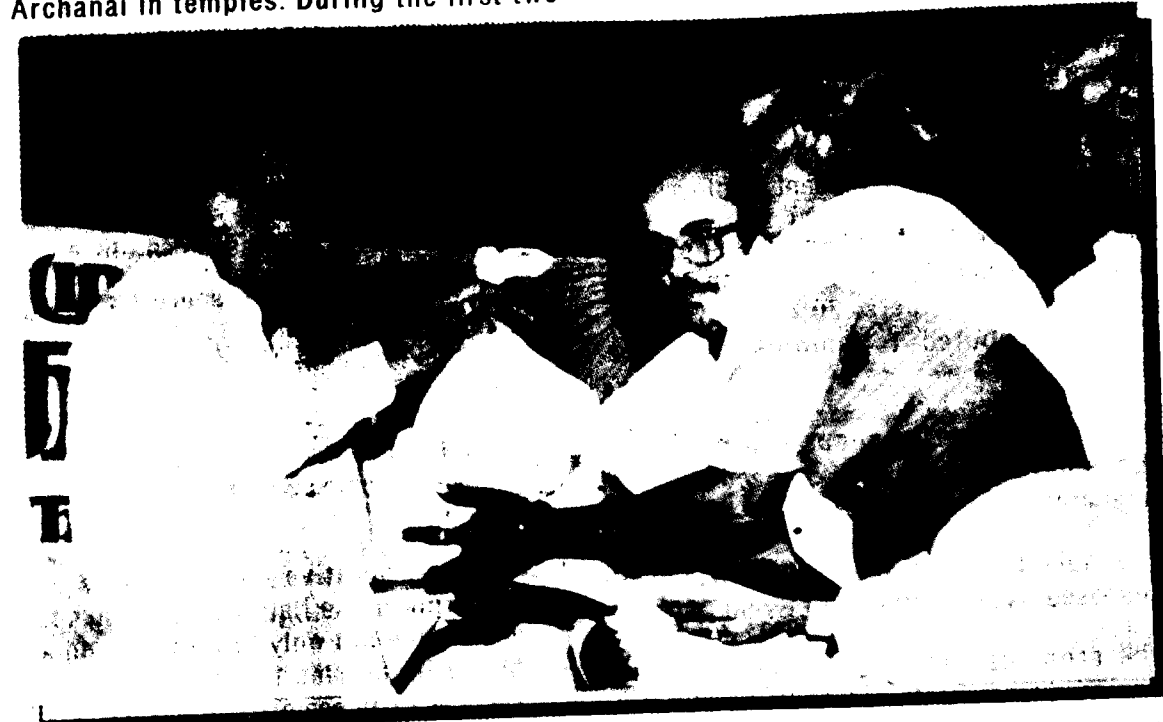
- ★ A scheme to translate great works of Tamil literature and vice versa has been initiated in 1996-97. According to this scheme, a sum of Rs.25,000 or 60% of the cost of the publication, whichever is less is sanctioned. For this purpose a sum of Rs.5 lakhs has been provided. And till now Rs.1,13,141 has been disbursed.
- ★ The Government has enhanced the amount of financial assistance given to aged Tamil scholars and indigent artistes from Rs.400 to Rs.500 per month.
- ★ Under the scheme for financial assistance for Tamil stalwarts the amount given to them has been enhanced from Rs.500 to Rs.1500. This amount has been further increased to Rs.3000 per month.
- ★ All the literary works of Devaneyapaavaanar and Maraimalai Adigalar have been nationalised and Rs.20 lakhs and Rs.30 lakhs were given to their families respectively.
- ★ For the implementation of 'Tamil as official language' 500 Tamil typewriters were purchased at a cost of Rs.50 lakhs in the Secretariat.
- ★ This Government has sanctioned Rs.43.75 lakhs to the International Institute of Tamil studies.

- ★ Rs.19.57 lakhs and Rs.20 lakhs has been provided as subsidy during 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively to the Asiatic Research Institute for undertaking Tamil research.
 - ★ Accepting the request of 'Thevar Peravai' the Government has provided Rs.45 lakhs for the development of 'Madurai Thamizh Sangam'
 - ★ The subsidy given to the Marai Malai Adigal Library has been enhanced from Rs.10,000 to Rs.1 lakh.
 - ★ The subsidy given to Vu.Ve.Saminatha Iyer Library in Thiruvannamiyur has also been enhanced to Rs.1 lakh from Rs.60,000.
 - ★ Rs.10 lakhs has been granted to Tamil Sangam in New Delhi for providing additional facilities to the Thiruvalluvar Auditorium being constructed by them.
 - ★ In commemoration of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Chennai, the Government has sanctioned Rs.14.42 lakhs as special grant to the Institute.
 - ★ Under the Etymological Dictionary Project, the first and second parts of the first volume of the alphabets, commencing with the letters from 'a' to 'ee' have been published. The third part relating to the other vowels 'u' to 'au' is to be released shortly.
 - ★ The grant given to the International School of Dravidian Linguistics at Thiruvananthapuram was increased to Rs.10 lakhs from Rs.5 lakhs from the previous year.
 - ★ An International seminar on Marine Archaeology of Indian Ocean Countries with special references to under sea exploration off Poompuhar was held at Chennai in February 1997, jointly by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology and the society of Marine Archaeology, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa. This seminar, first of its kind, has facilitated to get the views and technical advice of International scholars to expedite the exploration and the kind of new technologies that could be the revival of the artefacts, that are found under the sea of Poompuhar. This seminar also enabled the foreign and Indian scholars to understand the importance of the findings of this exploration and the ancient glory of Poompuhar.
 - ★ A micro film unit will be set up in the Government oriental manuscript library at a cost of Rs.25.66 lakhs.
 - ★ Music schools were started in 5 districts, viz. Thiruchy, Pudukottai, Thirunelveli, Thiruvannamiyur and Salem at a cost of Rs.25 lakhs. 5 more music schools will be started in District headquarters during 1998-99.
 - ★ Jawahar Bal Bhawans have been started in Thirunelveli, Ooty, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Salem, Thiruchy, Sivagangai and Kancheepuram. A Bal Bhavan will be started very soon at Kanniyakumari. 5 more Bal Bhawans will be started in 1998-99.
 - ★ With a view to save the folk arts and artistes and to encourage them, Arts and Culture Centres were established at Kancheepuram, Salem, Thanjavur and Virudhunagar.
- RENOVATION OF TEMPLES**
- ★ In order to streamline the administration of religious institutions under the control of the CTRE Department, an Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister



with religious scholars has been constituted. Based on the suggestions of the Committee, efforts have been taken to enhance the revenue from the immovable properties of the temples. As a result of this, the demand of the department has risen from Rs.2231.67 lakhs in Pasli 1405 to Rs.3501.92 lakhs in Pasli 1407. Efforts are on to utilise the immovable properties for the benefit of the religious institutions.

- ★ A Committee consisting of Tamil scholars has been constituted to familiarise Tamil Archanai in temples. During the first two



meetings of the committee 108 salutations have been drafted for various deities and they are under the consideration of the committee.

- ★ Efforts are on to compile and publish the history of 70 temples as a first phase in Tamil Nadu.
- ★ Orders have been issued for sanction of grant for renovation work to the needy temples in rural areas located in Adiravidars and Most Backward Class people; as announced in the Assembly during the demands for grant to Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department for the year 1997-98. Rs.25,000 for each temple will be released for 50 temples from the

Temple Renovation and Charitable Fund.

- ★ Retired village poojaries who are 60 and above are given an assistance of Rs.500. The pension given to 'othuvars' has been enhanced from Rs.300 to Rs.500.

Achievement in public distribution system

- ★ At present there are a total of 23,492 regular and 2580 part time ration shops besides the mobile ration shops and sub retail outlets run by women.

- ★ 1½ crores new family cards will be distributed throughout this State in June 98 and Targeted Public Distribution System can be implemented in this State from 1.7.1998 onwards.

- ★ The Government have launched an innovative scheme of establishing Kerosene retail bunkers in the State, the first of its kind in the country. Under this scheme, about 8000 to 10000 family cards will be attached to a bunk exclusively for distribution of Kerosene.

- ★ The Chief Minister Kalaignar has announced that 500 more Kerosene bunkers would be opened next year.

- ★ The Government has increased the consolidated pay of salesman from Rs.800 to Rs.900 per month.



★ Labourers who are engaged in loading and unloading of rice bags in Civil Supplies Corporation, who have put in 10 years of service, were made permanent employees.

★ Actions have been taken to supply all essential items in fair price shops on all days to ration card holders. 20 Kilos of rice is being distributed to families with three members.

★ 2000 new fair price shops and part time shops have been opened on need basis in rural areas.

★ The individual jewel loan ceiling has been increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.50,000.

★ The crop loan for sugarcane has been increased from Rs.45,000 to Rs.55,000 and for other crops the loan has been increased to Rs.35,000 from Rs.25,000.

PARTICIPATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOCAL BODIES IN PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

★ The Government have ordered that the M.Ps, M.L.As, Mayors, Chairmen & Members of Municipal Councils, Presidents and members of Panchayats, Union/Town Panchayats Village Panchayats shall have the right to visit the shops within their jurisdiction and may bring any shortcomings found in fair price shops to the notice of the District and Revenue Divisional Committees.

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENTS

★ Chief Minister Kalamnagar soon after

assuming office ordered to conduct elections to Co-operative Societies and accordingly, elections were held to 23,185 Co-operative Societies in 1996. 2,31,850 elected representatives have assumed office.

★ The rate of interest for short term loan have been reduced from 13% to 12% so as to help the farmers.

★ The Family Welfare Fund on par with the Government servants been increased to Rs.1 lakh to employees of co-operative institutions.

★ The Co-operative Central Banks will be modernised like Nationalised Banks to give assistance not only to farmers and agro-based industries but also to extend it's services to all sectors.

★ The ceiling of the individual jewel loan in the Co-operative Banks has been increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.50,000/

★ The loan given for growing sugar cane has been increased from Rs.45,000 to Rs.55,000. for other crops the loan amount has been increased from Rs.25,000 to Rs.35,000.

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

★ 16.4 lakh litres of milk is being produced per day through 10,446 primary milk producers societies and 17 district unions during the past 1½ years.

★ The Government of India has approved a sum of Rs.336.63 lakh as subsidy for implementing Integrated Dairy Development

Project in Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai and Kanniyakumari Districts during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97.

★ Under Adi - dravidar Welfare Scheme and Special Central Assistance, Milch animals subsidy scheme, the Adi - dravidar members of Milk Producers Co-operative Societies are granted subsidy for the purchase of milch animals.

★ Rs.400 was given as relief to the employees of lock - out industries / factories on the occasion of Deepavali festival. This relief has been extended to Pongal Festival also by the Chief Minister Kalamnagar, from 1997. 19,574 employees have been benefited to the tune of Rs.78,29,600 from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

★ The minimum wages has been fixed by the



Government for the labourers of 60 unorganised industrial establishments. A welfare scheme for the construction labourers has been started from 15.6.97 in Tamil Nadu. 48,000 employees have registered their names in the scheme. Orders have been issued to pay Rs.50,000 on the demise of a construction worker on duty and Rs.500 for

SLUM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES

★ Rs.35 crores has been sanctioned for slum clearance and slum improvement and other programmes in Chennai and Municipalities.

★ Repairs and renewal works have been undertaken for the tenements constructed before 25 years at a cost of Rs.9.50 crores.

★ The Chief Minister Kalamnagar has announced that those poor people who live in the Slum Clearance Board tenements, if they wish the tenements could be owned by them by paying easy instalments.

LABOUR WELFARE

★ Three lock - out textile mills have been reopened and 3,251 labourers have gone back to duty by the open approach and arbitration of the Government.

conducting the last rights.

★ 439 houses are being constructed as a first phase in Melapalayam in Tirunelveli District for the Beedi Workers. This scheme will be extended to other Districts also.

★ Surveys were conducted to eradicate Child Labour. A State Level Vigilance Committee has been constituted and works are on progress to provide education awareness etc. 25,214 factories have been registered under Factories Law, by this safety and their welfare has been assured to them. 5000 persons employed in the manufacturing of crackers have been trained, regarding safety measures Rs.9.5 lakhs given to 19 families under Accident relief scheme.

★ Provisions have been made to avail ESI facilities for the labourers who are engaged in the labour of Hand Pulled Carts, Stone Cutters and Coolies.

- ★ This Government have already taken a policy decision to promote starting of Industrial Training Institutes in 218 Blocks where there is none in a phased manner over a period of three years starting from 1996 - 97. In keeping pace with rapid Industrialisation of the State, this Government have sanctioned schemes worth Rs. 12.24 crores to be spent over two years starting from 1997 - 98 for modernisation of 21 Industrial Training Institutions with World Bank loan assistance.

STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

- ★ A State Human Rights Commission has been constituted in the State in order to protect the human rights in Tamil Nadu.
- ★ The citizenship act to make provision for securing the right to information in the State of Tamil Nadu, so as to make the Government's action transparent to the public, was passed in the assembly.

IN THE JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

- ★ Rs.21.25 crores sanctioned for creating new posts, for constructing new buildings and for the purchase of furniture.
- ★ 3 additional courts established at a cost of Rs.49.32 lakhs to take up the cases regarding the corruption charges during the previous regime.
- ★ Works are on at a cost of Rs.31.50 lakhs to provide basic facilities and libraries to all the Bar Associations in Tamil Nadu.



KALAINAR'S GOVERNMENT - 'PROTECTOR OF THE POLICE'

- ★ Rs.18.33 crores sanctioned by the Chief Minister Kalaignar for modernisation of police force.
- ★ The Chief Minister has enhanced the grant to Tamil Nadu Police Benevolent Fund from Rs.10 lakhs to Rs.25 lakhs.
- ★ Travelling allowance, uniform allowance, food allowance etc. have been increased; The food subsidy, award money and monthly allowance have been increased; An amount of Rs.10 lakhs has been allotted to police-family group insurance scheme.
- ★ The Chief Minister has also sanctioned ex-gratia of Rs.2 lakhs to the police personnel who died under heroic circumstances - Rs.50,000 to the disabled; Rs.10,000 to the seriously injured; Rs.5000 to those who sustained minor injuries. This scheme is being extended to the personnels of prison.
- ★ The Government has sanctioned Rs.13 crores to the Police Housing Corporation for the construction of 2500 police quarters; 2751 flushout latrines at a cost of Rs.5 crores are being constructed. Sanction has also been accorded for providing 13,932 separate E.B.Meters to every house in police quarters.
- ★ Out of 10,000 police persons recruited and not been posted during the last regime, 6553 were posted as Grade II PCs in the first phase and in the second phase 5700 Police

Personnels are undergoing training. Likewise 1023 police personnel recruited during 1989-90 are undergoing training. Out of 1100 personnels selected for SI post and not posted by the last regime, 500 were posted as S.I.'s and the 600 personnels are being trained.



- ★ 10,000 PCs are to be recruited by the Police Recruitment Board.
- ★ 500 new vehicles have been purchased for the police department costing Rs.8.80 crores during the past 1½ years to maintain law and order intact.
- ★ New Police Commissionerates at Trichy, Salem and Thirunelveli have been created at a cost of Rs.8.04 crores. A new Police DIG Range has also been formed with Dindigul as headquarters. 45 Mahindra Jeeps have been purchased.
- ★ Renovation of DGP office at Chennai, construction of office buildings of DIG, SP, Vellore, Commissionerate at Coimbatore, SP office of Nagarcoil including 81 police stations throughout Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.21.34 crores.
- ★ Recently, 10,000 constables including head constables have been selected for receiving Chief Minister Medal for their meritorious services. 74 fire service personnels, 20 prison personnels have also been selected for receiving Chief Minister Medals. These selected personnels will get special pay ranging from Rs.40 to Rs.50 per month according to their grade from February 1998 onwards.
- ★ 26 police stations have been newly created during the past 1½ years. 36 outposts have been upgraded to police stations.
- ★ For effectively implementing the dry law, concerted action is being taken on notorious bootleggers and prohibition offenders. Awarding of Uthamar Gandhi Medal is being introduced from last year to encourage the police personnel engaged in this task. 8 Police Personnel have been awarded this medal for their meritorious service in curbing illicit menace. They were also given Rs.10,000 each.
- ★ The Government has increased the feeding charges by 50% and special pay by 100% to the police personnel upto the rank of Inspectors during emergent occasions. The subsidy given to essential commodities like Toor dhal, Uri dhal, Rava and Maida under food subsidy scheme has also been revised and increased.
- ★ The police personnel will be issued with separate ration card for getting kerosene.
- ★ The Government has also sanctioned special allowance to the policemen who have rendered unblemished service, varying from Rs.15 to Rs.35 per month.

- ★ This Government have already taken a policy decision to promote starting of Industrial Training Institutes in 218 Blocks where there is none in a phased manner over a period of three years starting from 1996 - 97. In keeping pace with rapid Industrialisation of the State, this Government have sanctioned schemes worth Rs. 12.24 crores to be spent over two years starting from 1997 - 98 for modernisation of 21 Industrial Training Institutions with World Bank loan assistance.

STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

- ★ A State Human Rights Commission has been constituted in the State in order to protect the human rights in Tamil Nadu.
- ★ The citizenship act to make provision for securing the right to information in the State of Tamil Nadu, so as to make the Government's action transparent to the public, was passed in the assembly.

IN THE JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

- ★ Rs.21.25 crores sanctioned for creating new posts, for constructing new buildings and for the purchase of furniture.
- ★ 3 additional courts established at a cost of Rs.49.32 lakhs to take up the cases regarding the corruption charges during the previous regime.
- ★ Works are on at a cost of Rs.31.50 lakhs to provide basic facilities and libraries to all the Bar Associations in Tamil Nadu.



KALAINAR'S GOVERNMENT - 'PROTECTOR OF THE POLICE'

- ★ Rs.18.33 crores sanctioned by the Chief Minister Kalaignar for modernisation of police force.
- ★ The Chief Minister has enhanced the grant to Tamil Nadu Police Benevolent Fund from Rs.10 lakhs to Rs.25 lakhs.
- ★ Travelling allowance, uniform allowance, food allowance etc. have been increased; The food subsidy, award money and monthly allowance have been increased; An amount of Rs.10 lakhs has been allotted to police-family group insurance scheme.
- ★ The Chief Minister has also sanctioned ex-gratia of Rs.2 lakhs to the police personnel who died under heroic circumstances - Rs.50,000 to the disabled; Rs.10,000 to the seriously injured; Rs.5000 to those who sustained minor injuries. This scheme is being extended to the personnels of prison.
- ★ The Government has sanctioned Rs.13 crores to the Police Housing Corporation for the construction of 2500 police quarters; 2751 flushout latrines at a cost of Rs.5 crores are being constructed. Sanction has also been accorded for providing 13,932 separate E.B.Meters to every house in police quarters.
- ★ Out of 10,000 police persons recruited and not been posted during the last regime, 6553 were posted as Grade II PCs in the first phase and in the second phase 5700 Police

Personnels are undergoing training. Likewise 1023 police personnel recruited during 1989-90 are undergoing training. Out of 1100 personnels selected for SI post and not posted by the last regime, 500 were posted as S.I.'s and the 600 personnels are being trained.



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- ★ 500 new vehicles have been purchased for the police department costing Rs.8.80 crores during the past 1½ years to maintain law and order intact.
- ★ New Police Commissionerates at Trichy, Salem and Thirunelveli have been created at a cost of Rs.8.04 crores. A new Police DIG Range has also been formed with Dindigul as headquarters. 45 Mahindra Jeeps have been purchased.
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- ★ The police personnel will be issued with separate ration card for getting kerosene.
- ★ The Government has also sanctioned special allowance to the policemen who have rendered unblemished service, varying from Rs.15 to Rs.35 per month.

- ★ The Government sanctioned the formation of one more Tamil Nadu Special Police Battalion in Virudhunagar district with headquarters at Rajapalayam and also sanctioned one more additional platoon to Madurai city, at a cost of Rs.9.5 crores and Rs.37.46 lakhs respectively.



- ★ The office of the Commissioner of Police is being built at a cost of Rs.2 crores in Coimbatore.
- ★ The DGP office on the Kamarajar Salai at Chennai is being renovated at a cost of Rs.1.35 crores.
- ★ Construction works are on for the District Police Office and DIG office at a cost of Rs.1.88 crores and Rs.19.50 crores respectively.
- ★ The S.P office is being built in Nagercoil at a cost of Rs.62 lakhs.
- ★ New buildings are being constructed for 81 Police stations at a cost of Rs.15.29 crores.
- ★ 10,106 Grade II Police personnels who have put in 10 years of service have been promoted as Grade I Police; 9,000 Grade I Police Personnels who have put in 5 years

of service have been promoted as head constables.

- ★ A 'Swift Action Force' has been created by Chief Minister Kalaingar to rush to the spot to thwart the Law and Order situation and to maintain peace and amity in the area.

- ★ Orders have been issued to install separate EB meters to all the police quarters.
- ★ The prize money of Anna Medals: given to constables and head constables has been enhanced from Rs.1,500 to Rs.2,000; for Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors from Rs.2500 to Rs.3000; for the DSPs the prize money has been increased from Rs.4000 to Rs.5000. A special allowance of Rs.100 per month is being given to the Anna medal awardees.

HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES

- ★ The Government has announced a 20% rebate on sale of handloom cloth produced by Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies throughout the year without any ceiling. Rs.75 crores has been sanctioned to provide for the rebate and to economically uplift 5 lakh weaver families. Wages have been increased 10% to the handloom weavers.
- ★ Weavers who are above 60 years of age are given a monthly pension of Rs.150. The ex-gratia paid to the family of deceased Weaver has been increased from Rs.3000 to Rs.5000.
- ★ Savings and Insurance Scheme for handloom Weavers has been increased to Rs.25,000 from Rs.15,000.
- ★ 72.75 lakh free sarees and 68 lakh free dhotis have been distributed to the poor at a cost of Rs.95 crores for the Pongal festival.
- ★ Production of fabrics for meeting the supply of free uniform to school children under Nutritious Meal Programme will be completed before March, 1998 so that the tailored uniforms will be ready for supply to children during the beginning of the academic year, 1998-99 itself.

- ★ A new handloom marketing complex has been started in the co-optex premises at Egmore, Chennai with effect from 27.10.1997.

WELFARE OF THE BACKWARD CLASS AND MOST BACKWARD CLASS PEOPLE

- ★ The 69% reservation policy to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in employment and educational institutions is continued by the protector of social justice Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi.
- ★ In 1996-97, Rs.64.32 crores sanctioned for the welfare of BCs and MBCs. This year the amount has been enhanced to Rs.80 crores.
- ★ Three middle schools were upgraded as High schools, three High schools were upgraded as Higher Secondary Schools; 107 new hostels were opened; the food charges were enhanced from Rs.135 to Rs.180 per month; the food charges for college/ITI boarders were enhanced to Rs.300. The annual parental income ceiling for admission of students in hostels enhanced from Rs.15,000 to Rs.50,000.
- ★ The annual parental income limit for availing scholarships has been enhanced from Rs.12,000 to Rs.25,000. The student's strength in respect of computer training has been increased from 175 to 1000 and in respect of heavy vehicle driver training, the number of trainees has been enhanced from 250 to 2000.
- ★ The Chief Minister has enhanced the allocation for acquisition of house sites to MBCs/Denotified Communities from Rs.2 crores to Rs.10 crores in addition. The scheme of issue of free house sites has also been extended to BCs and FCs who are living below the poverty line in rural areas and a sum of Rs.8 crores has been sanctioned.
- ★ The Government have also enhanced the Ulema pension from Rs.400 to Rs.500 per mensem.
- ★ The annual allocation towards welfare of Backward Classes, Most Backward classes and denotified communities was enhanced to

Rs.64.32 crores during 1997-98 and this has been further enhanced to Rs.80 crores in the first Supplementary Estimates for 1997-98.

- ★ The monthly assistance given to B.C/M.B.C students who stay and study in the special training centres for IAS/IPS examinations has been increased from Rs.250 to Rs.500.
- ★ All the text books are supplied free to BC/MBC and Denotified Community students studying Xth standard.
- ★ Rs.86 lakhs sanctioned to benefit 115 Backward Class people for the purchase of 6 bulls, each for cart pulling and ploughing purposes. Rs.2.6 crores sanctioned to benefit 2000 BCs for the purchase of 2 bulls each.

CONSERVATION OF FOREST

- ★ Tamil Nadu has a forest cover of 22,699 square kilometers. This is 17.45% area of the total area of Tamil Nadu.
- ★ Forest schemes have been implemented in an area of 51,456 Hectares at a cost of Rs.6110.42 lakhs.
- ★ Upgradation work of water storages in Tamil Nadu has been taken up at a cost of Rs.716.57 lakhs in an area of 5,281 Hectares.
- ★ Forest productivity schemes are being implemented in an area of 17,405 Hectares, at a cost of Rs.1104.41 lakhs.
- ★ Social barren land development scheme to plant trees has been taken up in an area of 6,885 Hectares at a cost of Rs.2241.71 lakhs.



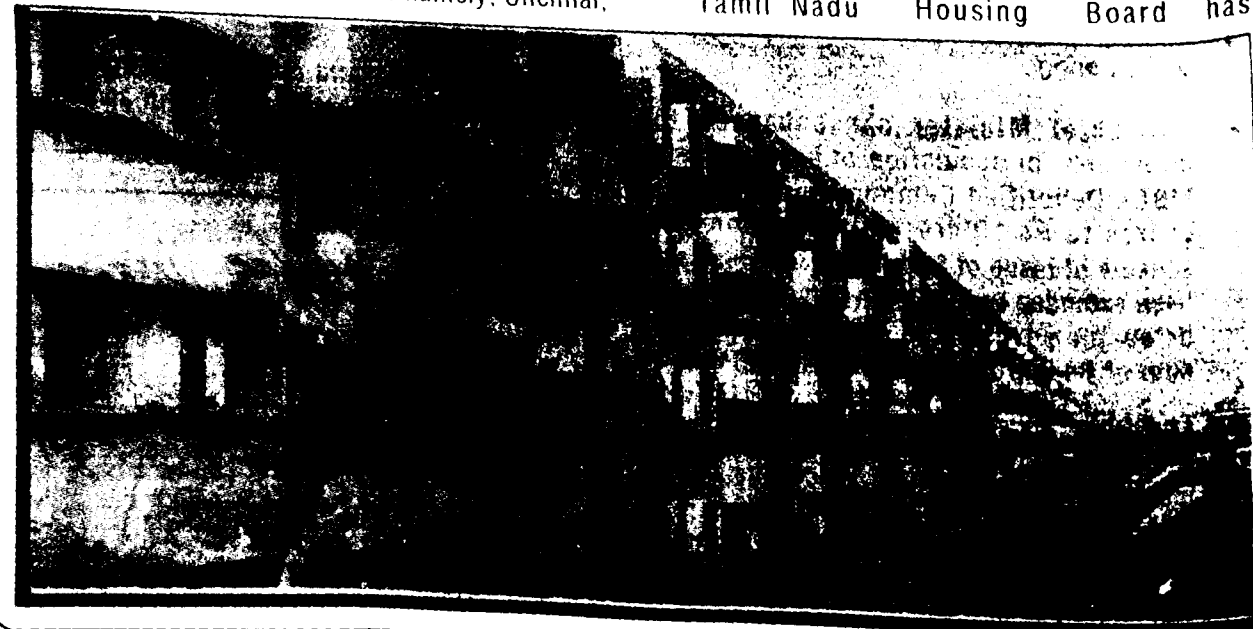
- ★ Forest cover has been measured and boundary marking stones have been planted. For the conservation and to protect the forest wealth necessary actions were taken and modern equipments were provided and actions taken at a cost of Rs.105.07 lakhs.
- ★ Forest Research being carried out so as to meet the ecological changes in future at a cost of Rs.126.56 lakhs.
- ★ Rs.289.17 lakhs has been spent for the maintenance of 5 National Parks, 6 Wildlife sanctuaries and 9 bird sanctuaries which occupies a total area of 2833 Sq.K.M. of the total area of Tamil Nadu.
- ★ Tribal Welfare Schemes are being implemented in an area of 418 Hectares at a cost of Rs.125.73, so as to provide them employment opportunities, education and basic facilities.

EACH FAMILY EACH HOUSE

- ★ Tamil Nadu Housing Board has done a remarkable work and has constructed 20,500 houses in a year. Chief Minister Kalaingar has announced that Houses will be constructed at a cost of Rs.700 crores with an aim of providing 'one house to a family'.
- ★ Under Tamil Nadu Urban Development Scheme, the Tamil Nadu Housing Board is implementing the 'sites and services scheme' with the financial assistance from the World Bank in 10 towns namely, Chennai,

Madurai, Coimbatore, Thiruchy, Salem, Vellore, Erode, Tuticorin, Thirunelveli and Thirupur with a target of 70,000 serviced units at a cost of Rs.246.41 crores.

- ★ As this original target of 70,000 units has been achieved well ahead of the schedule, additional units of 18,728 were later added making the total target as 88,728 units.
- ★ 31 Urban Centres were identified as growth pole centres. In these 31 centres, works were in progress to generate 10,234 dwelling units of these, 7561 dwelling units have been completed.
- ★ 4503 dwelling units will be completed in 12 small and medium towns in the State at a cost of Rs.40.83 crores.
- ★ 10,000 dwelling units in an area of 500 acres in Sholinganallur and 2,500 dwelling units in an area of 250 acres in Mahabalipuram are to be constructed.
- ★ The allotment of houses constructed under subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme (SIHS) at Thiru.Vi.Ka.Nagar and Sharma Nagar in Chennai have been done at the concessional rate of Rs.9,600 and sale deeds were issued to 210 allottees. The sale deed of such houses in other towns will be issued based on the willingness of allottees.
- ★ In order to decongest the Chennai City, Tamil Nadu Housing Board has



developed a concept of creating Satellite Towns around Chennai along the various transport corridors leading to the City.

- ★ On the southern side 3 Satellite Towns are proposed to be formed at Sholinganallur (525 acres), Mahabalipuram (220 acres) and Zamin Pallavaram (416 acres). On the Western side, in Thirumazhisai circa, 5 towns are proposed to be formed at Chempampakkam 526 (acres), Kuthampakkam (873 acres), Parvathirajapuram (165 acres), Vellavedu (64 acres) and Narasingapuram (85 acres). On the North-west side a Satellite Town is proposed to be formed at Paruthipattu (683 acres). Land acquisition process is going on.
- ★ Provision of Developed house sites at concessional rates for the E.W.S. and L.I.G. families at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Thiruchy, Salem, Erode, Vellore, Tirunelveli, Tiruppur and Tuticorin, have been completed.
- ★ Dwelling units will be constructed to benefit 70,000 families in 36 Small and Medium Towns with financial assistance from Asian Development Bank.
- ★ The scheme for construction of 240 flats in 4 blocks of 10 storeyed building at a cost of Rs.45 crore has been commenced.

★ During 1997-98, a major land development scheme at Periyarayanakkalpalayam 20 km from Coimbatore has been taken up at cost of Rs.26.91 crore. The works are in progress.

★ It is proposed to construct 738 flats in the newly formed District Head Quarters at Karur, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Namakkal, Perambalur and Villupuram and also at Thiruvannamalai at an estimated cost of Rs.2368 lakhs during 1997-98.

★ The structural design and detailed estimates for the construction of 250 Multi-storeyed flats at Government Estate Chennai for Government officials has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.16 crore are being prepared by the Board.

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence in Tamil Nadu

The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Independence through-out the State for a period of one year from August 1997 to August 1998.

The Government of Tamil Nadu constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi, with 32 members. Six Sub-Committees have also been constituted to



suggest various programmes for (i) Ceremonial Functions (ii) Sports and Intellectual Interactions (iii) Core Programmes (iv) Release of Souvenir (v) Cultural Programmes and (vi) Exhibition on Freedom Movement, to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of our Independence. A High Level Implementation Committee has also been constituted under the Chairmanship of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** with Ministers, Secretaries and Heads of Departments as Members to co-ordinate the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in Tamil Nadu.

Similarly District level Committees under the Chairmanship of Collectors concerned have also been constituted with official and non - official members to chalk out the programmes and functions at the district level :



Based on the suggestions and decisions of High Level/Sub-Committees, several events, functions have been organised to commemorate the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence in Tamil Nadu as detailed below :-

Archives Exhibition was organised from 1.1.97 to 12.7.97 by the Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research at Lalith Kala Academy.

Audio Cassettes and patriotic songs were released by **Her Excellency the Governor, Justice M. Fathima Beevi** on 15.7.97 at Raj Bhavan.

'Salt Satyagraha remembrance March' from Tiruchirappalli to Vedaranyam was inaugurated by the **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi** on 8.8.97.

'Freedom March' in memory of **Quit India Movement** was organised on 9.8.97 at Chennai with the participation of 5000 students. Freedom fighters who participated in the Quit India Movement were honoured by the **Hon'ble Minister for Education, Prof. K. Anbazhagan. Thiru. V. Mullaivendan**, **Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity** presided. Pledge for national integration taken by all.

The Freedom Fighters of Tamil Nadu selected for participation in the **March of the Nation at Delhi** were sent off by **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi** at a function held at Rajaji Hall on 11.8.97. Freedom Fighters were honoured with shawls, khadi dress and a Porkizhi of Rs.1,000/- each by the Chief Minister. The freedom fighters were sent off at Central Railway Station by **Hon'ble Ministers**.

Massive Cleaning Campaigns were organised throughout the State on 14.8.97. At Chennai, the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in Tamil Nadu was inaugurated by **Her Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Justice Selvi M. Fathima Beevi** at Nehru Stadium with Nadaswaram, folk songs and music concert by eminent artistes. **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi**, presided over the function. **Hon'ble Minister for Education, Prof. K. Anbazhagan**, **Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru V. Mullaivendan**, The Worshipful Mayor of Chennai, **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, **Thiru. Sivanthi Adithyan** also participated.

Ceremonial function of flag hoisting ceremony was held at Fort. St. George, Chennai on 15.8.97. **The Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar unfurled the National Flag** at the Fort, Chennai and the District Collectors unfurled the flags in all district head quarters. The freedom fighters were honoured on behalf of the Government.

Archaeology Exhibition was inaugurated by **Thiru S. Rajarethinam**, IAS, Secretary, I. & T. Department at Fort. St. George, Chennai on 15.8.97 (organised by the Archaeological Survey of India).

"Massive Cultural Programme"

A Massive Cultural Programme depicting the Freedom Struggle was organised by the South Zone Cultural Centre in the Evening with a participation 5,000 Students **Her Excellency The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Justice M. Fathima Beevi** presided over the function. **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi** participated as the **Chief Guest** and **Hon'ble Ministers** and dignitaries also participated.

"Eradication of untouchability Week" was organised throughout Tamil Nadu from 15.8.97. to 31.8.97. **Community feasts** were organised in the temples and areas adjacent to Adi-dravidar dwellings.

Poets symposium, lectures on freedom struggle were organised during these days by the Corporation of Chennai. The Worshipful Mayor, **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presided over the functions.

On 19.8.97, **Hon'ble Chief Minister** laid foundation stone for the **Golden Jubilee Memorial Pillar at Ripon Building**, Chennai. **Hon'ble Minister for R.D. & L.A. Thiru. Ko.Si.Mani** participated. The Worshipful Mayor, **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presided. Freedom fighters of Chennai were honoured.

Symposium on the Role of Mass - Media during the Freedom Struggle was organised at Madras University on 25.8.97. **Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity, Thiru. V. Mullaivendan** presided over the function. The eminent writers who have participated in Freedom Movement were honoured.

Rural Sports were organised from 29.8.97 to 30.8.97 by Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu at Madurai.

A 'Human Chain' was organised from Thiruparankundram to Madurai for a distance of 15 kms. to emphasis on 'communal and religious harmony' on 31.8.97, in which students, labourers, women, government employees,



common public, political party members participated largely. **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar**, **Hon'ble Ministers**, all party leaders, religious leaders participated.

'Community feasts' were arranged at **Arulmigu Meenakshi Amman Temple - Melamasi Church - Koripalayam Mosque** at Madurai in the afternoon. **Hon'ble Chief Minister**, **Hon'ble Ministers**, all party leaders, religious leaders participated in the community feast.

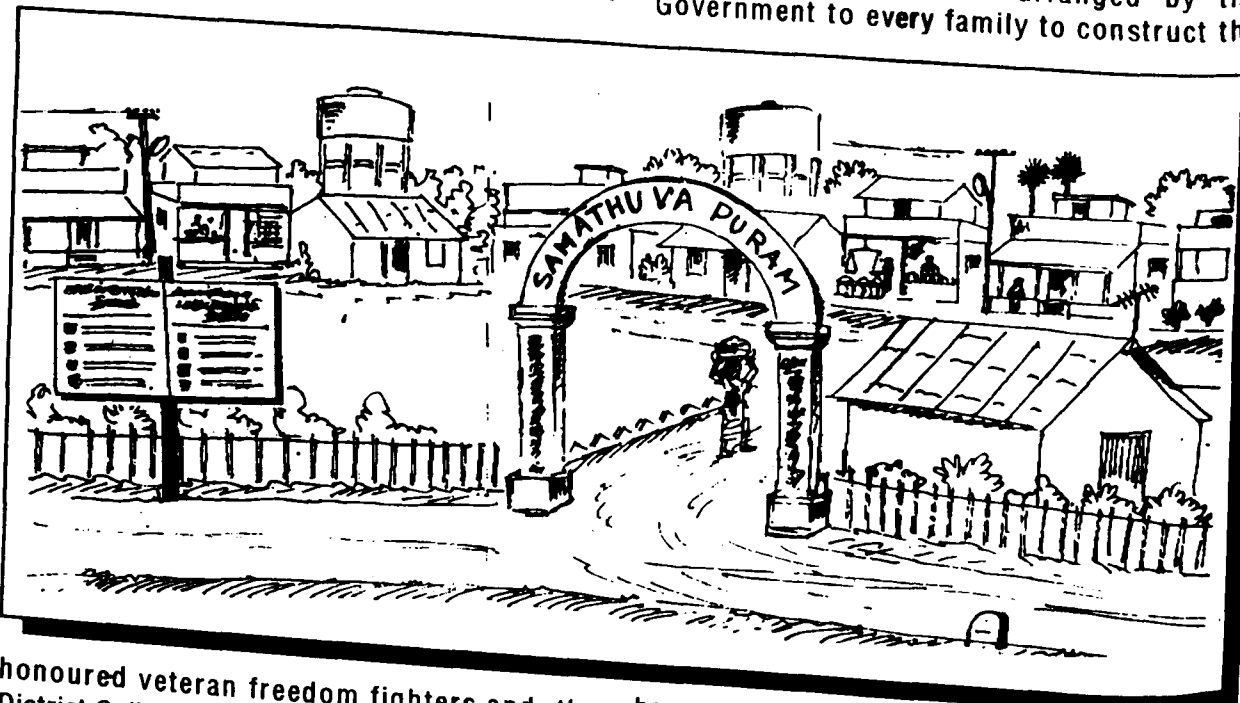
Renowned Freedom Fighter Kakkan's Statue at Madurai was unveiled by **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi** in the evening.

A Conference on "eradication of Untouchability" was also held at Thamukkam Grounds. **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar** presided, **Hon'ble Ministers**, All Party Leaders, Religious Leaders participated in the conference.

In this conference, **Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi** announced that a committee would be constituted to watch the filling up of the vacancies reserved for Adi-dravidars, Scheduled Tribes and the increase of Incentive under Anjugam Ammaiyaar Inter Caste Marriage Scheme, from Rs.10,000 to Rs. 20,000 if the bride or the bridegroom belongs to Adi-dravidar and Scheduled Tribes.

Aurobindo's 125th Birthday was celebrated at Kalaivanar Arangam on 19-12-97. Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru V. Mullaivendan, Thiru. Venkatasubramaniam, Former Vice-Chancellor, (Central University), Pondicherry, Thiru Malan participated.

Her Excellency the Governor, Justice M.Fathima Beevi unfurled the national flag near Gandhi Statue at Chennai on 26.1.98, the Republic Day. In commemoration of 50th year of Independence a pageantry consisting of decorative tableaux, highlighting freedom struggle and developmental activities of Government of Tamil Nadu was organised in a fitting manner. On the glorious occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister



honoured veteran freedom fighters and the District Collectors honoured the freedom fighters in the Districts.

The Government of India has agreed to release a Special Stamp in the memory of the Salt Satyagrahi Vedanayagam Pillai of Vedaranyam based on the request of Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam.

The New Announcements by Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam M. Karunanidhi in Commemoration of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence :-

Samathuvapuram :

The Chief Minister Kalam M. Karunanidhi has announced that, Samathuvapurams would be established in 50 places, in which people belonging to Various Communities, religions including a minimum number of 40 of Adidravidar and Scheduled Tribes and the remaining 60 to other castes so as to live **unitedly with communal harmony**. Thus, every Samathuvapuram will have 100 houses for which Government will provide a sum of **Rs.35,000 as full subsidy** to every selected individual for which an amount of **Rs.5 crores** has been sanctioned as 1st phase and loan amounts with minimum interest would also be arranged by the Government to every family to construct the

house as per their wishes. Each house site would be in 5 cents. All the basic amenities such as, Protected drinking water supply, Street Lights, Community Conveniences with water supply, Hospital Facilities, Schools, Ration shop, Community Hall, Common burial and cremation places would be provided by the Government. Samathuvapuram "The Brain Child of Kalam" will definitely be adored throughout India to unite the people with Communal & Religious Harmony.

1785 Tribal Villages and habitations would be provided with all basic amenities under a "three years special scheme"



The slum areas in Municipalities and Town Panchayats would be uplifted with all the basic amenities, under National Slum development programme with a financial out lay of **Rs. 38.46 crores**.

Enhancement of Pensions to Freedom Fighters

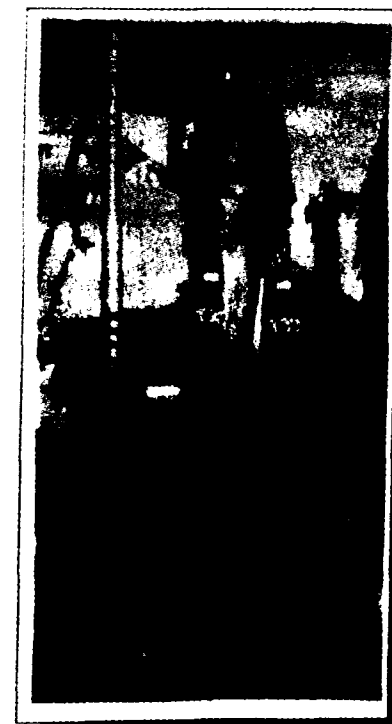
In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalam has ordered to enhance the monthly pension received by the freedom fighters on par with the Central Pension. Accordingly, those freedom fighters receiving Central Pension has been increased from Rs.250 to 500 as State Government's share. The pension given by State Government has been enhanced from Rs.1500 to Rs.3000 and the continuance of State pension for dependents of State pensioners have also been enhanced from Rs.750 to Rs.1500 per month.

The monthly pension paid to the legal heirs of Marudhupandiar brothers have been enhanced from Rs.150 to Rs.500. Likewise the monthly pension paid to the legal heirs of Veerapandia Kattabomman has also been enhanced from Rs.300 to Rs.500. A new township costing Rs.1 crore is being constructed with the all basic amenities for the legal heirs of Veeran Sundaralingam at Governagiri near Ottapidaram in Thoothukudi District.

Statues - Memorials for freedom fighters

- ★ Golden Jubilee Memorial was opened by the Chief Minister Kalam, near War Memorial at Chennai on 31.12.97.

- ★ The statue of Nethaji Subash Chandra Bose was unveiled by the Chief Minister on 15.12.97.
- ★ Bust size statues of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar and Bharath Rathna Dr.MGR were unveiled at the entrance of their memorials by the Chief Minister.
- ★ Memorial houses of Bakthavachalam, Comrade P.Jeevanandam, Thiagi

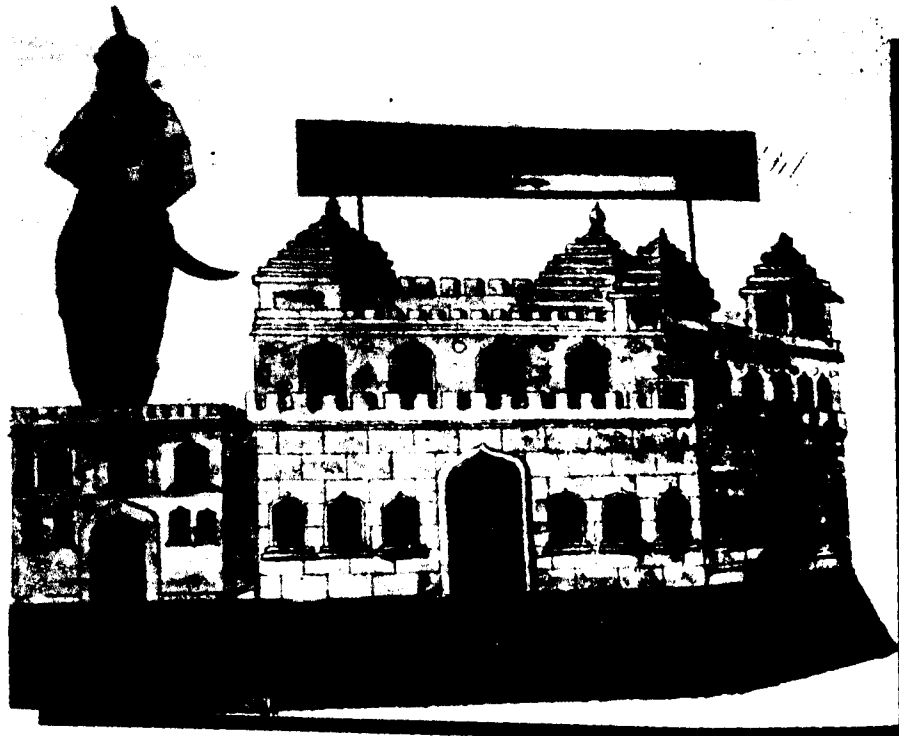


Viswanathadas and Poolithevan are being constructed at Guindy, Nagercoil, Madurai - Thirumangalam and Nelkattum Seval of Tirunelveli District respectively.

- ★ **Mahakavi Bharathiar's Memorial House** at Triplicane have been renovated without changing its old architecture and **Bharathiar Memorial House** where he was born at Ettayapuram is being renovated.

Other achievements of the Information Department

- ★ If a stunt artiste is fatally injured in a film shooting, his family will be provided Rs.1 lakh and if the artiste is disabled, he will be given an assistance of Rs.50,000.
- ★ The subsidy given to the low budget decent films has been enhanced from Rs.3 lakhs to Rs.5 lakhs. Entertainment tax is exempted for these films for a period of 4 weeks.
- ★ The film shooting charges given by the producers have been reduced from Rs.5000 to Rs.1000; and from Rs.2,500 to Rs.500.
- ★ Valluvar Kottam at Chennai has been renovated at a cost of Rs.1 crore.
- ★ Anna Square has been renovated with marble stones at a cost of Rs.1.5 crores.
- ★ The works of the installation of 133 ft Thiruvalluvar statue has been expedited.
- ★ The journalist pension has been increased from Rs.250 to Rs. 400 and was again increased to Rs.500 and further increased to Rs.1000.
- ★ An assistance of Rs.20,000 is being provided to the family of a journalist on his death, who has put in 20 years of service in the journalistic field.



- ★ **Chief Minister Kalaingar** has announced that a 'Manimandapam' for freedom fighters will be constructed in Chennai at a cost of Rs.30 lakhs.

TOURISM

- ★ Kattapomman's Fort at Panchalakurichi is being renovated.
- ★ Actions have been taken to conduct sound and light programme on the life of Raja Raja Cholan.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- ★ To create more facilities for the health cover of livestock and poultry 10 Veterinary dispensaries were upgraded to veterinary hospitals and 10 veterinary dispensaries were opened in 10 places and one Animal Husbandry Division at Virudhachalam, Cuddalore District was created.
- ★ To have effective health cover during the year 1997 new veterinary dispensaries were opened in 60 places, 20 veterinary dispensaries were upgraded as veterinary hospitals and 3 veterinary hospitals were upgraded as clinician centres. To have effective administration and supervision in the implementation of Animal Husbandry



books free. A massive programme of organising the rural women into self-help groups, forming thrift and credit societies of women and to get institutional finance to the needy for income generating activities was launched to cover the entire State.

- ★ The cash assistance given to pregnant women under Dr.Muthulakshmi

programmes 6 regions were formed in the State.

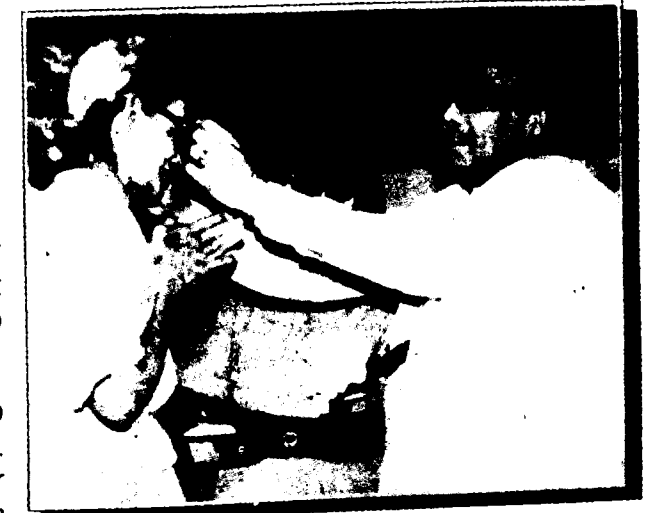
- ★ Due to intensive vaccination campaign under NPRED the State has become free from Rinderpest disease, a dreaded disease of cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats.
- ★ The DANIDA assisted Livestock Development Programme have been expanded to 46 Blocks in the districts of Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar and Tuticorin as phase-II at a cost of Rs.27.50 crores from the District of Pudukottai.

SOCIAL WELFARE

- ★ Till 1995-96 text books and note books were given free to Children of 4000 poor widows every year. From 1996-97 Children of all poor widows would get text books and note books free without any target ceiling.
- ★ Under Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Marriage Assistance Scheme, during the past 1½ years Rs.48 crores were spent so as to benefit 48,000 poor women.
- ★ Text books and note books were given free to children of 4000 poor widows till 1995-96. From 1996-97 onwards children of all poor widows will be given text books and note

Reddy Ammaiyar Ninaivu Mahaperu Udhavi Thittam, has been enhanced from Rs.300 to Rs.500.

- ★ 3000 women below poverty line, widows, deserted wives and destitutes and physically handicapped were provided with sewing machines to take up regular tailoring work as self employment and enhance their income, at a cost of Rs.57.67 lakhs.
- ★ Under Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme, a grant of Rs.10,000 is given to girls from poor households who have completed 8th



standard on the occasion of their marriage. 48,000 poor women have benefited at a cost of Rs.48 crores.

- ★ Poor parents having two girl children if they undergo family planning operation, Rs.1500 is provided as fixed deposit. Poor parents undergoing family planning operation, if they have only one girl child Rs.5000 is placed in the fixed deposit and the chellans are given to the parents.
- ★ Rs.10,000 provided for fixing artificial limbs.
- ★ The group wages given to blind wire workers has been increased from Rs.800 to Rs.1000.
- ★ Physically handicapped and deaf persons have been allowed free travel in Government owned buses upto 100 KM.
- ★ Physically handicapped students studying from 1-5th standard are provided Rs.25 per month. Like wise handicapped students studying from 6-8th standard are provided Rs.75 per month. By this 12,096 physically handicapped students have been benefited at a cost of Rs.51.45 lakhs.

Rehabilitation of the Physically handicapped

- ★ The monthly maintenance allowance to the severely disabled persons was increased from Rs.100 to Rs.150, so as to benefit 2900 physically handicapped persons. A scheme of financial assistance of Rs.5000 to a normal person marrying a person without a leg or a hand has been introduced. Rehabilitation homes are being created in all the districts at a cost of Rs.1.38 crores.

ADI-DRAVIDAR WELFARE

- ★ Necessary actions have been taken for distribution of free land pattas at a cost of Rs.17 crores to benefit 70,000 Adi-dravidars and Scheduled Tribes.
- ★ Actions are being taken to issue 70,000 house site pattas to Adi dravidars and Tribals at a cost of Rs.17 crores. During the past one and a half years, as an all India achievement, 1,50,000 group houses have been constructed.



- ★ Various welfare measures for the welfare of Adi-draviars are being implemented with an allocation of Rs.334 crores.
- ★ The Government has ordered to fill all the vacancies meant for Adi dravidars in the Government and Public undertakings with immediate effect. A committee has been formed to monitor the filling up the vacancies with the Minister for Adi dravidar Welfare as Chairman and members of the Legislative Assembly as members of the committee.
- ★ Buildings will be constructed for lab facilities and dormetries for Adi Dravidar Higher Secondary schools in 3 years time. Permissions have been granted for the construction of 80 new hostels of so as to benefit 2500 Adi-dravidar students. A Hostel has been constructed for the Post Graduate Adi dravidar students for the first time. The parental income ceiling, so as to benefit the hostel facilities has been increased from Rs.14,000 to Rs.50,000.
- ★ Adi dravidar training schools have been opened with an allocation of Rs.5 crores so as to fill the teaching posts meant for them.

Samathuvapuram

- ★ In comemoration of the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence the Chief Minister announced that Samathuvapuram consisting of 100 houses would be created in 50 places in which 40% will be allocated to Adi-dravidars. Every habitant would be sanctioned Rs.35,000 as subsidy and minimum interest loan will also be arranged. Each Samathuvapuram would be provided with basic amenities such as road facilities, street light, community hall, elementary schools, hospitals, cremation and burial ground. The Chief Minister sanctioned Rs.5 crores in the first phase.
- ★ The assistance given under Anjugam Ammaiyar memorial inter-caste marriage scheme has been enhanced from Rs.10,000 to Rs.20,000, if the bride or the bridegroom belongs to Adi-dravidar community.

Other activities to uplift Adi-dravidar and Tribals

- ★ The Chief Minister had announced that all basic amenities would be provided to all tribal habitations. Accordingly 1785 tribal habitations are to be provided with water supply, street lights, link roads, elementary education, medical facilities, noon meal sheds and rations shops.



- ★ Under TAHDCO's rehabilitation scheme for scavengers 14,489 beneficiaries have benefitted. A total subsidy of Rs.962.09 lakhs and margin money of Rs.336.53 lakhs have been utilised. 5,367 youths benefitted under training scheme at a cost of Rs.113.27 lakhs.
- ★ 5000 landless Adi-dravidars would be given each 1 acre free of cost for agricultural purposes.
- ★ Rs.456.65 lakhs have been sanctioned in the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance Development Corporation for creating entrepreneurs out of which Rs.409.90 lakhs has been released to 124 beneficiaries for the purchase of tractors, lorries etc.
- ★ 1000 youths living near by sugar mills would be given financial assistance with subsidy to purchase one lorry each.

- ★ With an intention of **preventing dropouts among school going girls** belonging to Adi-dravidar / Scheduled Tribes, in the rural areas, an incentive of **Rs.500** per annum is given to the girls who are studying in from III to V and **Rs.1000** per annum is given to the girls who are studying in VI Std. Till date 69,520 students have benefitted at a cost of **Rs.447.40 lakhs**.

- ★ **Rs.152.48 crores** would be spent **exclusively for education** this year for the Adi-dravidar and ST students. Out of which **Rs.36 crores** are earmarked for scholarships, incentives, prize money; **Rs.8.14 crores** for free uniforms; **Rs.8 crores** for providing free text books and note books. For free boarding **Rs.8.5 crores**.

- ★ With a view of forming a casteless society the **Chief Minister Kalaingar** has increased the marriage assistance given under Anjugam Ammaiyar Memorial Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme from **Rs.10,000** to **Rs.20,000** if the bride or the bride-groom belongs to the Adi-dravidar community.

TAMIL NADU KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

- ★ 9th Plan documents have been prepared to the tune of **Rs.5013.21 lakhs** and sent to State Planning Commission and to the Government for which orders are awaited.
- ★ A sum of **Rs.50.75 lakhs** has been earmarked under Part II schemes for the year



1998-99, by the State Planning Commission for the implementation of Sericulture schemes in the potential districts.

- ★ A "Textile Policy" for the State of Tamil Nadu has been crafted as per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar during the 1997-98 Budget session.

- ★ During 1997-98 the Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board has a production target for Khadi and Village Industries products worth **Rs.46 crores** and **Rs.404 crores** respectively and it has also been programmed to produce Khadi and Village Industries products for **Rs.50 crores** and **425 crores** respectively during 1998-99.

- ★ The Board has sold Khadi and Village Industries Products (upto 30.9.97) worth **Rs.4.16 crores** and **Rs.180.16 crores** respectively, and it plans to sell products to the tune of **Rs.55 crores** and **Rs.450 crores** respectively during 1998-99.

- ★ The Board has provided employment opportunities to **16 lakh persons** upto 30.9.97.

- ★ As the designs have been modernised in silk, there is a good demand for the silk sarees and the production has increased to **Rs.644.81 lakhs** upto 30.9.97.

- ★ In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of India's independence, the State Government has sanctioned a special rebate of **15%** on the sale of all Khadi varieties for one year from 15.8.1997.

FISHERMEN WELFARE

- ★ A special scheme for the construction of free houses for fishermen with an electric light named as "Tamil Nadu Ma.Singaravelar Memorial Fishermen Free Housing Scheme" was announced by Chief Minister Kalaingar during 1996 - 97. **20,000 houses** are proposed to be constructed spread over a period of five years. Based on this announcement, the construction of **4000 houses** with one electric light had been sanctioned by the



Government during 1996 - 97. During 1997 - 98 also, the Government has sanctioned a sum of **Rs. 12.80 crore** for construction of **4000 houses** to the fishermen.

- ★ The Government has sanctioned a sum of **Rs.1 crore**, during the year 1996 - 97 at the rate of **Rs.5,000** per house for carrying out repairs to the houses of fishermen constructed in the earlier years. This work will be executed by the concerned beneficiary Fishermen Co-operative Society Work is in progress.

- ★ In order to help the fishermen to ensure quick transport of their fish catches to the nearby markets, the Government has sanctioned a sum of **Rs.1 crore** for formation of **34 link roads** in fishing villages.

- ★ It is proposed to implement phase II of the Integrated Marine Fisheries Development Project at a block cost of **Rs. 48.23 crores**. The Project envisages distribution of **5000 units** of fishing inputs consisting of traditional crafts viz. catamaran, vallam of different types, Marine Plywood boats. Different types of nets and outboard engines involving **16,350 fishermen** in **13 coastal districts** of Tamil Nadu covering **100 fishing villages**. It is expected that this project will be cleared by the NCDC shortly.

- ★ A Techno Economic Feasibility Project at a cost of **Rs.38.30 crores** for the construction of a fishing harbour at Rameswaram has been prepared and sent to Government of India.

- ★ With a view to provide the basic infrastructural facilities to the down trodden fishermen community, the Government has sanctioned a sum of **Rs. 1 crore** for provision of **2248 street lights** in **323 fishing villages**.

- ★ The Government has enhanced the relief amount given to fishermen families under the group accident Insurance Scheme from **Rs.35,000** to **Rs.50,000**.

- ★ The Government sanctioned **Rs.8.57 crores** to benefit **1,19,087 fishermen** during heavy monsoon period (4 months) under the savings - cum - relief scheme.

- ★ **8151 engines** had been distributed to be fitted to the traditional crafts, at a subsidy of **11 crores**.

- ★ **Rs.75 lakhs** sanctioned towards **25% subsidy** to purchase and distribute **1500 VHF sets** to fishermen of Chennai, Cuddalore and Chinnamuttam.

- ★ The ex-gratia amount given to the families of Fishermen who loose their lives in the shoot -



out of Sri Lankan Naval Forces has been enhanced from Rs.25,000 to Rs.1 lakh.

- ★ The diesel subsidy provided to fishermen has been increased from 7 to 17 paise.



WELFARE OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

- ★ The family welfare fund has been increased from Rs.60,000 to Rs.1 lakh.
- ★ Rs.4000 given to Government servants as interim relief from the arrears of the pay commission.

- ★ The 25 days salary given to 'C' and 'D' group Government employees as bonus last year has been revised to 27 days salary. The bonus for A and B Group employees was increased from Rs.625 to Rs.725. For the pensioners the bonus was increased from Rs.100 to Rs.150. Employees of local bodies, Government aided educational institutions, those getting consolidated, fixed wages including those employed as daily wages for more than 240 days are also eligible for availing bonus.

- ★ As announced for the Government employees, interim relief would be provided to college professors getting UGC, AICIT. Pay from the pay commission arrears.

- ★ For the pensioners and family pensioners Rs.1000 will be provided in advance from the pay commission arrears.

- ★ Rs.500 will be paid in advance to workers of nutritious meal programme who are getting consolidated pay, fixed wages and daily wages from the pay commission arrears.
- ★ Under the family benefit scheme Rs.20 is collected from the pensioners so as to give their families Rs.25,000 on their event of their death.



THIRUKKURAL

- THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE MANKIND



TO HAVE LOVE

Ahimsa or Universal Love being the basis of the Code of Morals both for the householder and the ascetic, the author points out that the householder must have love towards others in order to satisfactorily discharge his duties according to the householders Dharma. In the case of the householder he must have love towards his kith and kin first and also towards others. He must be kind to his wife and children, he must be kind to his servants, he must be kind to his cattle and, in general, he must be kind to all others whether men or animals, whether related to him or not. This is in accordance with the general principle enunciated in the phrase. Daya Mulam Dharma, the root to all Dharma is Daya and Love.

அன்பிற்கும் உண்டோ அடைக்குந்தாழ் ஆர்வலர்
புன்கனீர் பூசல் தரும்.

anbirkum undo adaikundhal arvalar
punganir pusal tharum

What bold one is there to restrain and conceal love? One tear drop in the eyes of those thou lovest will draw a flood from thine.

COMMENTARY:

This couplet emphasises the fact that if we love one who is in distress it would automatically rouse sympathy in the person who loves him. A heart filled with love towards other persons must necessarily respond to those who are in distress and attempt to remove such distress from the loved ones. This intrinsic nature of love that it could express itself plainly is evidently intended as a criterion to distinguish between genuine love and heartless lip sympathy. Genuine love will express itself quite plainly whereas the other one has no such chance.

அன்பிலார் எல்லாம் தமக்குரியர் அன்புடையார்
என்பும் உரியர் பிறர்க்கு.

anbilar ellam dhamakuriyar anbudaiyar
enbum uriyar pirarku.

Persons lacking in love towards others will utilise all their wealth themselves. But those loving persons will utilise all their property for the benefit of others. Nay, they will consider their own body as intended for service to others.

அன்போ டியைந்த வழக்கென்ப ஆருயிர்க்கு
என்போ டியைந்த தொடர்பு.

anbo diyaindha vazakenba aruyir (ku)
enbo diyaindha thodarbu.

The association of soul with the human body of bone and flesh is declared by the wise to be the result of love.

COMMENTARY

According to the Jaina view it is a very rare occurrence for Jiva or soul to be born as a human being. In the world of Samsara, human birth is considered to be the rarest. Such a good fortune which a Jiva has, is considered to be the result of its past good deeds based upon love and mercy towards all creatures. Here it is implied that his human birth is not only a rare privilege but the human being is expected to make the best of this rare acquisition by living a life of love and sympathy towards others.

அன்பினும் ஆர்வம் உடைமை அதுதானும்
நன்பென்னும் நாடாச் சிறப்பு.

anbinum arvam udaimai adhu inum
nanbennum nada jirapu

From love springs affection to all. That bond of affection yields real friendship.

அன்புற் றமர்ந்த வழக்கென்ப வையகத்து
இன்புற்றார் எங்குச் சிறப்பு.

anbu tramardha vazakenba vaiyaha(thu)
inbutrar eidhun jirapu.

Happiness on earth and bliss above are certainly the fruits of living the life of love.

அறத்திற்கே அன்புசார் பென்ப அறியார்;
மறத்திற்கும் அஃதே துணை.

arathitke anbusar penba ariyar;
marathirtkum ahdhe thunai

The ignorant say that love can sustain only virtue.
It also helps man to restrain evil.

COMMENTARY

Generally ordinary people believe that virtuous conduct proceeds from a feeling of love and affection towards all beings. But this attitude of love is also a source of help in fighting out evil. Ordinarily ones attitude to an evil-doer is a feeling of hatred and disgust. A person who has committed a crime or sin is not considered worthy of love and such a person evokes a sense of ill-feeling and disgust in you. But such an attitude is considered to be inconsistent with life according to true love. Hence you have to change your attitude towards the evil doer and extend affection towards him. Thus you will be able to get rid of the undesirable emotion of hatred from your mind and thus help yourself to keep along the straight path of virtue, but you will also be able to set right the life of the evil-doer because he will also respond to your affection and try to reform himself. The attitude contemplated towards the evil-doer in this couplet is best illustrated by the famous verse of Jesus Christ addressed to the prostitute,

Neither do I condemn thee,
Go, sin no more.

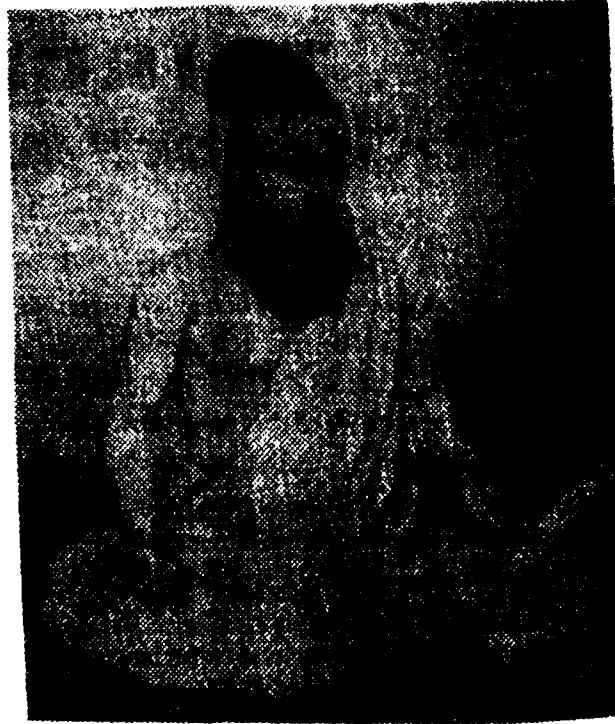
என்பி லதனை வெயில்போலக் காயுமே
அன்பி லதனை யறம்.

enbi lathanai veyilpola kayume
anbi lathanai yaram.

Just as boneless living beings are dried up to death by the fierce rays of the sun, so loveless persons will be destroyed by the power of virtue.

COMMENTARY

Happy and successful life in the world must be associated with love and affection towards the environmental beings. Otherwise, the springs of his



heart will be dried up and his life would be a barren one doing no good to himself or to others.

அன்புத் தில்லா உயிர்வாழ்க்கை வன்பாற்கண்
வற்றல் மரந்தனிர்த் தற்று.

anbaha thilla uyir vazkai vanbarkan
vatral marandhalir thatru.

A loveless person enjoying the joys of life would be as rare and impossible as a dead tree in a desert soil attempting to put forth a glorious foliage and to bloom with flowers.

COMMENTARY

This terrifying comparison brings out the importance of love in the householders life if his life is to be really fruitful. Otherwise it is as useless as a dead tree in a barren soil.

அன்பின் வழிய துயிர்நிலை அஃதிலார்க்கு
என்புதோல் போர்த்த உடம்பு.

anbin vazhiya dhuyir nilai ahdhilar(ku)
enbuthol portha udambu.

The changeless abode of the soul is reached by the path of love. Those that are devoid of love are just the skeleton covered with skin.



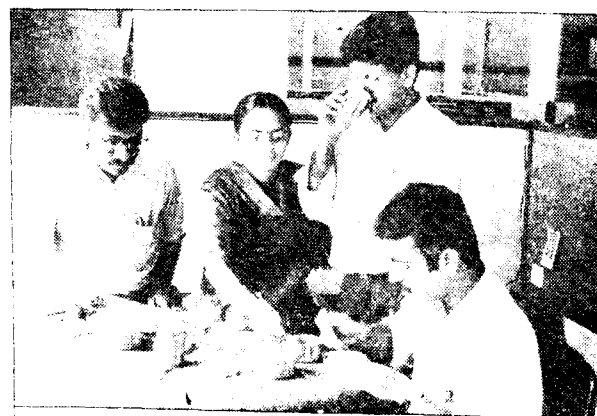
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Royal purples...
daring reds...
bright yellows...
exquisite silks
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imaginable hue.
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**நமது அன்றாட
பழக்கவழக்கங்களால்,
எய்ட்ஸ் வராது.
அதற்கு நீங்களே
ஒரு உதாரணம்.**

காலையில் எழுந்தது முதல் ராத்திரி படுக்கப் போகும் வரை நீங்கள் எத்தனையோ பேரைச் சந்திக்கிறீர்கள். ஓட்டலுக்குச் செல்கிறீர்கள், சினிமா பார்க்கிறீர்கள், நெரிசலான பஸ்ஸில் பயணம் செய்கிறீர்கள், பலருடன் கை குலுக்குகிறீர்கள்.

இவர்களில் யாருக்காவது எச்ஐவி/ எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்து இருக்கலாம்.

சாதாரண பழக்கவழக்கங்களின் மூலம் எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதாக இருந்தால், உங்களையும் எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்திருக்க வேண்டும்.

ஆனால் அப்படி இல்லையே...

ஏனெனில், கை குலுக்குவதாலோ, உணவைப் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வதாலோ, தொடுவதாலோ, தும்மலினாலோ, கழிப்பிடத்தை அனைவரும் உபயோகிப்பதாலோ, எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதில்லை.

எனவே எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்தவரைக் கண்டு நீங்கள் ஒதுங்க வேண்டியதில்லை. உங்களுக்கு எந்த ஆபத்தும் இல்லை.

அவர்களும் நம்மைப் போன்றவர்கள்தான். அவர்களுக்கு எப்பொழுதும் போல நாம் அன்பும், ஆதரவும் காட்டுவோம்.

**சிறிதளவு ஆதரவு பெருமளவு
சுமையைக் குறைக்கும்.**

**குழந்தை பிறப்பைத் தடுப்போம்
எய்ட்ஸ் வந்தோரைக் காப்போம்**



தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு
417, பாந்தியன் ரோடு, சென்னை - 600 008.
தொ.பே.: 8255467, 8255261, 8254917,
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தொ.பே.: 600 002

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WRAPPERS

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“Tamil Nadu has the distinction of implementing Plan Programmes competently and effectively and achieving all targets”

- Justice Selvi. M. Fathima Beevi, Her Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, at the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 18th March 1998.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I am pleased to meet you for the first time after my assumption of charge as the Governor of this State, in the fifth session of this Eleventh Legislative Assembly. I hope this year will prove to be one of all round economic development for the State, bringing further prosperity to Tamil Nadu and its people.

2. The conferment of the country's highest honour, the “Bharat Ratna”, on the great scientist Dr. Abdul

Kalam, the doyen of music Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi and the elder statesman Thiru C. Subramaniam, who has held the positions of Minister in the Central and State Governments and of the Governor of Maharashtra, all hailing from Tamil Nadu is a matter of pride for all of us. On behalf of all of you and on my personal behalf, I convey our felicitations to them.

3. The results of the elections to both the Legislative Assembly Constituencies held recently have provided an encouragement to the Government to

continue its good work. As far as the Parliament is concerned, it is clear that the people of Tamil Nadu have given their mandate with an expectation of a stable Government at the Centre. This Government will extend its full cooperation to the Centre in maintaining cordial Centre - State relations.

4. While upholding India's sovereignty, unity, integrity and secularism, this Government has been advocating since long, autonomy for the States with more powers, federalism at the Centre, making of the official languages of all States the official languages of the Union and pending the implementation of this language policy, to give that status to Tamil to begin with. This Government will continue to strive for these ideals.

5. The communal clashes and the bomb blasts at Coimbatore have caused deep anguish to all those who cherish communal harmony and human dignity. A sum of Rs.28 lakhs has been paid as a first instalment as compensation to the families of persons who lost their lives and for those injured in the weeklong clashes that started on 29th November 1997. The Government has constituted a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice Thiru P.R. Gokulakrishnan, Retired Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court, to inquire into the circumstances and causes leading to these clashes, to recommend measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future and the compensation to be paid for the damages caused to public and private properties. Since it was considered that the bomb blasts that occurred in Coimbatore on 14-2-1998 may have some connection with the clashes

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★ As against an outlay of Rs.10,200 crores for the Eighth Five Year Plan, an expenditure of Rs.10,563 crores has been incurred. The Union Planning Commission has approved and enhanced outlay of Rs.25,000 crores for the Ninth Five Year Plan.

that took place in November 1997, Government has appointed the Justice Thiru P.R. Gokulakrishnan Commission of Inquiry to enquire into these incidents also. With the prior permission of the Commission a total sum of Rs.1.50 crores has been sanctioned as compensation at an enhanced rate of Rs.2 lakhs per person to the families of persons who lost their lives in these bomb blasts and in the November clashes. Pending receipt of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, an amount of Rs.5 crores has been sanctioned by the Government for providing interim relief to the people who sustained loss and damage to their properties in both the occurrences. If necessary, the Government will sanction additional funds.

6. The inquiries into the explosions in Coimbatore and seizure of gelatine sticks and other explosives there and in other parts of the State have revealed that explosives intended for bonafide uses like digging of wells have been diverted to extremist organisations. The Government is determined to curb this and has decided to enforce rigorous statutory control on all wholesale and

retail sale points of explosives in the State.

7. Realising that peace and tranquillity are absolutely essential for implementing development schemes for achieving economic progress, this Government attaches the highest priority for the maintenance of law and order in the State. In order to study and identify the causes for the caste clashes which have been periodically occurring in the southern districts for the past several years and recommend appropriate measures to prevent the recurrence of such clashes, this Government constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Thiru S. Mohan, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government in January 1998 and has made several recommendations such as formation of peace committees at various levels in all districts, making law and order machinery perform with vigil, caution and without lapse, etc. These recommendations are under the active consideration of the Government for necessary action.



★ *The Government continues its efforts to usher in a second green revolution. The aim of this Government is to achieve self-sufficiency in food production, economic stability, rural development and eradication of poverty.*



8. This Government has made determined efforts to curb the sandalwood smuggling that has been going on for the past many years. Due to effective measures taken by the Government machinery sandalwood valued at Rs. 34.80 crores has been seized from the time this Government assumed office till December 1997. Besides, 33 Sandalwood smugglers have been detained under the Goondas Act. This Government intends to further intensify efforts to prevent sandalwood smuggling. A Special Task Committee will be constituted soon as per the judgement of the High Court.

9. Tamil Nadu has the distinction of implementing Plan programmes competently and effectively and achieving all targets. As against an outlay of Rs.10,200 crores for the Eighth Five Year Plan, an expenditure of Rs.10,563 crores has been incurred. The Union Planning Commission has approved an enhanced outlay of Rs.25,000 crores for the Ninth Five Year Plan. The annual growth rate during the Eighth Plan was 5.96 percent. During the Ninth Plan period efforts will be made to increase the annual growth rate to above 7 percent.

10. This year there was excess rainfall all over the State. Several districts, particularly the coastal districts of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur were severely affected due to these rains. The Government has incurred an expenditure of Rs.58.95 crores in granting relief for the loss of human life and livestock, damages to huts and crops caused by rains and lightning.

11. The Government continues its efforts to usher

in a second green revolution. The aim of this Government is to achieve self-sufficiency in food production, economic stability, rural development and eradication of poverty. The effort to desilt the irrigation channels in the Cauvery delta and in tanks in various districts during last year has yielded good benefit to the farmers. This scheme will continue to be implemented during the next year to tap the full benefits of irrigation sources. Following a good monsoon, the State has had a good crop. Even during the period of parallel procurement, accepting the request of the farmers, the Government has sanctioned Rs.35 per quintal of paddy over the minimum support price fixed by the Central Government which is higher than the price offered in any other State. With a view to ensuring that the farmers do not face any marketing problems on account of the increased production, the Government has opened 926 Direct Purchase Centres. These centres have been opened also in the districts outside the Cauvery delta areas for the first time. A record quantity of 17 lakh tonnes of paddy is expected to be procured this year.

12. The transparent and entrepreneur friendly policies of this Government have started yielding tangible results. Large numbers of industrial entrepreneurs from other Countries and other States are coming forward to invest in Tamil Nadu. The Government machinery has been geared up to provide the facilities required by them without delay. As a result of this, during the past 22 months, Foreign Direct Investment in Tamil Nadu amounting to Rs.4040 crores has been approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. Besides this,

under the delicensed sector 655 industries with an outlay of Rs.9639 crores have been registered. Among the industries requiring licensing, 141 industrial projects with an investment of Rs.1897 crores have obtained Letters of Intent. In short industrial investments amounting to Rs.15,576 crores have been committed in this State within a short period of 22 months which is the highest ever in the history of Tamil Nadu. During the current year the Nylon fibre factory of Du Pont, the Metal Halide lamp factory at Chennai Export Processing Zone, the Karur Yarn Links factory near Karur, Taurus Novelities Dolomite factory at Chokkarasannapalli in Dharmapuri District, the Bharat Garment factory at Chettipunniyam Village in Kancheepuram District and the S.G. Iron Casting factory at Mayeleripalayam near Coimbatore have commenced production. Hyundai company's motor car factory will commence production by October 1998.

13. The Government has realised that only good quality infrastructure required for industrial development can attract entrepreneurs from other Countries and States



★ *Industrial investments amounting to Rs.15,576 crores have been committed in this State within a short period of 22 months which is the highest ever in the history of Tamil Nadu.*



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★ The State has decided to provide protected drinking water supply to all the rural habitations before the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan Period.

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to our State. The Government will create industrial growth centres, industrial parks and satellite towns in various areas of the State. The Government will vigorously develop infrastructural facilities like power, roads, water and ports. As huge investments would be required for this, the Government has taken steps to attract private sector investment in areas such as power, highways, etc. which were developed till now only by the Government.

14. The State Government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Harvard Institute for International Development** for undertaking research on various aspects of Tamil Nadu economy with a view to providing policy advice on increasing export oriented production in the State, attracting foreign investment in infrastructure and industries in the State and for accelerating the rate of growth of the State's economy. Based on this Memorandum of Understanding, research work on the State's economy has since commenced.

15. During the next year, the first private sector

works, this Government conducted elections to all the local bodies in 1996 with reservation of 33 1/3% of the seats for women for the first time. Further, the Government devolved substantial funds to both urban and rural local bodies in 1997. To delegate more powers to the local bodies, a committee with the Minister for Local Administration as Convenor and representatives from all political parties in the legislative assembly as its members has been constituted. The Government will take early decisions on the recommendations of this committee. As assured in the Governor's Address for 1997, a common Urban Local Bodies Bill was introduced in the last budget session of the Assembly. The Bill is now under the consideration of a Select Committee. This Legislation will enable delivery of urban basic services in a more efficient and effective manner.

19. Under the 'Namakku Naame' and 'Anna Marumalarchi Schemes', basic amenities required for villages have been taken up. Under the 'Namakku Naame' Scheme, 3658 works at a cost of Rs.24.61 crores have been undertaken. Under the 'Anna Marumalarchi Scheme' 33282 works with an outlay of Rs. 224 crores are being executed.

20. As announced during the last budget, out of 10,000 rural habitations getting less than 10 lpcd water, schemes to provide water at the rate of not less than 40 lpcd to 4500 rural habitations have been taken up during the current year and would be completed by the end of this month. The State has decided to provide protected drinking water supply to all the rural habitations before

power project with a capacity of 196 MW will be commissioned in Chennai. This Government has also given an "in principle" approval for setting up a joint venture company with Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited for cogeneration of power by the co-operative and public sector sugar mills. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is taking action to establish a 1,000 MW thermal power station at Ennore and a 500 MW thermal power station at Tuticorin.

16. The Government accords high priority for the development of the road sector. During the last two years, projects at a cost of over Rs.450 crores have been taken up with the assistance of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development from the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund. The Government proposes to take up upgradation of roads and bridges with an outlay of Rs.1416 crores with financial assistance from Housing and Urban Development Corporation and the World Bank.

17. The State Maritime Board, which was set up by this Government, is involved in the development and regulation of minor ports. Government proposes to take up the development of Cuddalore, Cheyyur and Colachel ports with private sector participation. To train seamen for the merchant navy and to provide job opportunities in this profession to the youth of this State, Government has decided to set up a Maritime Academy.

18. With a view to undertaking development

the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan period. In order to achieve this goal, allocation for rural water supply will be substantially stepped up in the coming years. A number of schemes are also proposed to be implemented for improving urban water supply. A scheme to provide water supply to the urban areas and the wayside habitations in Cuddalore and Villupuram districts utilising the water from the enhanced capacity of the Veeranam lake has been drawn up for implementation. The Third Chennai Water Supply Project with World Bank assistance would be taken up during the next year for upgrading the distribution of water and improving solid waste management in Chennai.

21. Out of 517 villages with a population exceeding 1000 without link roads, 216 villages are being provided with link roads during the current year. In the next year the remaining 301 villages will be provided with link roads. Black topping of 5420 kms of Panchayat Union roads during the last year and 6580 kms in the current year has been taken up under various schemes.

22. For providing health care for all, all efforts

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will be made to provide necessary equipment and facilities to all the Primary Health Centres. District and taluk hospitals will be strengthened and upgraded in a phased manner, to become referral units to provide emergency and essential services round the clock. Functioning of Government hospitals and dispensaries will be improved by increasing financial allocations and streamlining the procedures.

23. An extensive eye camp programme for restoring the eye sight of the blind was started when this Government was in power in 1972 and several lakhs of poor persons benefited. The slackness in this programme which occurred in the intervening period will be removed and the eye camp programme will be implemented with renewed vigour.

24. The Government has been consistently attaching importance to the development of the education sector. Steps are being taken to make all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years attend schools regularly. Additional funds will be allocated for augmenting the facilities in schools to improve the standard of education.



★ *To train seamen for the merchant navy and to provide job opportunities in this profession to the youth of this State, Government has decided to set up a Maritime Academy.*



concerned States on 30.9.1997. This Government has been repeatedly insisting that the Government of India finalise and notify the Scheme so as to give effect to the Tribunal's order and has also been forcefully arguing its case in the Supreme Court.

26. As the Central Government introduced the Targeted Public Distribution System from 1.6.1997, the allocation of rice to this State was reduced from 1.65 lakh tonnes to 84,230 tonnes. Due to the sustained urging by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the allocation of food grains was increased to 1,19,230 tonnes from December 1997. In view of the procurement of 7 lakh tonnes of paddy during the Kuruvai season, the distribution of rice through the Public Distribution System is being done without any interruption. To eliminate problems such as long wait to get kerosene, the Government started a new system of distribution through kerosene bunks in Chennai. These bunks have been designed on the lines of petrol and diesel bunks with the technical assistance of Indian Oil Corporation. As this scheme has had a good response from the public, it has been decided to extend the scheme of setting up these bunks to other urban areas in the State.

27. It was stated in the last year's Governor's Address that the Public Distribution System would be restructured and three colour family cards would be distributed. After conducting the field survey for this purpose, printing of family cards is in progress. At this stage, this scheme has been reviewed and it has been decided to issue cards in two different colours only. Pink

Action has been taken to start computer courses in more Government Higher Secondary Schools. Realising the importance of quality higher education for the economic development of the State, steps are also being taken to increase the financial aid to the universities. During the current year, Periyar University at Salem, Dr. Ambedkar Law University at Chennai and K.A.P. Viswanatham Medical College at Trichirapalli have been inaugurated and have started functioning. For the first time, fifteen percent of the seats have been reserved in the Engineering Colleges for the students from rural schools. From the next year onwards such reservation will be extended to all professional courses. By this, students educated in rural schools will get an opportunity to acquire professional education and progress in life.

25. The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal after giving its interim order, is now engaged in final adjudication of the dispute. Following the cross-examination of the expert witnesses of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, the cross-examination of the expert witnesses of Karnataka is now in progress. In the meantime, during the course of hearing of the Suit filed by this Government in 1992, the Government of India on 9.4.1997 submitted to the Supreme Court that it would frame a Scheme under Section 6-A of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 and notify the same to ensure implementation of the said Tribunal's order. Accordingly, the Government of India framed a draft Scheme on which the party States also offered their comments. The Union Minister for Water Resources held a meeting with the



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colour family cards will be issued to the poor families whose monthly income is below Rs.1250/- For the remaining families yellow colour family cards will be issued. For people with Pink colour cards, all commodities which are presently being distributed through the Public Distribution System would continue to be issued. For others with yellow cards, based on their option, either rice or in lieu of rice, additional quantity of sugar or additional quantity of kerosene will be issued. The distribution of these family cards will start from 1st of May of this year in Chennai Corporation and belt areas and commodities will be distributed from the month of June onwards on the basis of these cards. Subsequently, the two colour family cards will be issued in other municipal corporation areas, municipalities, town panchayats and panchayats in a phased manner and on completion, the new pattern of distribution implemented.

28. The implementation of the Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project has been started in 194 Panchayat Unions in 14 districts in the State. At present 9000 self help groups having 2 lakhs women members

are functioning in the State. In the coming year, this will be extended to seven more districts and an additional 3 lakhs women will be benefited by becoming members in the self help groups.

29. The World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project II was completed in December, 1997. This scheme will continue to be implemented with funds from Central and State Governments. With the allocation of additional funds for the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Thirumana Udavi Thittam, 53,145 girls belonging to poor families will be benefited in this financial year.

30. With the noble objective of creating an egalitarian society without caste differences Government is setting up 'Samathuvapurams' in 50 places in the State where all communities can live in harmony. These Samathuvapurams will be developed as model villages with all basic amenities like drinking water, electricity, schools, dispensaries and community halls so that Adi

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Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Thiru G. Ramanujam (Retd) to recommend measures for simplification of government procedures and prevention of corruption in government offices. The recommendations of the committee are under the consideration of the government. Decisions will be taken on these recommendations soon and implemented. With a view to providing information on the functioning of the Government required by the public, the Tamil Nadu Right to Information Act has been enacted. Rules under this Act will be notified shortly.

35. When an agreement was reached between Governments of India and Sri Lanka in the year 1974, it contained a clause which provided for the fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen near Katchatheevu and the rights of pilgrimage to Katchatheevu for the people of the Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu Government has continued to press the Government of India to enforce this clause, which has not been enforced from 1977 and find a solution to the problems of our fishermen, who are subjected to frequent harassment and loss.

36. The cooperation of the government employees, teachers, policemen and the employees of the local bodies, is essential for the proper implementation of the programmes of the government and for ensuring that the benefits of the schemes reach the beneficiaries in time, for the development of human resources and for the effective maintenance of law and order. The Officials Committee constituted to examine the pay scales given to Central Government employees based on the

Dravidars, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and other communities can live harmoniously and peacefully.

31. Schemes are being implemented by the Government for the development of Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes with increased allocation of funds every year. Training schemes for professions having immediate employment opportunities like training in computers and plastic technology which are being implemented during the current year will be further extended.

32. This Government is keen on the welfare of socially weaker sections like handloom weavers and landless agricultural labourers. For this purpose new schemes are under consideration. The decision of the Government on these schemes will be announced soon.

33. This Government is committed to providing 69 percent reservation in education and employment for Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes. The cases relating to this issue are pending in the Supreme Court of India. The stand of this Government in this case is clear and convincing. Honourable members are aware that this Government has been consistently pressing for amending the Constitution to vest with the States the power to decide the policy of reservation determined by the concept of social justice.

34. This Government has been functioning with a commitment to providing an honest and responsive administration. The government had constituted a High

recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission and to make suitable recommendations on extending the pay scales to the State Government employees has submitted its report. The decision of the Government on the Committee's recommendations will be announced during the current session.

37. Many representations have been received from the traders requesting for reduction of the rate of profession tax and removal of some of the provisions in the new Profession Tax Act enacted in 1992 by the previous Government. The receipts from the Profession tax being an important source of revenue for the local bodies, the Government has decided to appoint a Committee to review the Profession Tax Act. After receiving the recommendations of the Committee, the Government would make suitable amendments to the Act.

38. **This Government has taken an important policy decision to focus on schemes which will provide basic facilities needed by the public such as food, clothing, shelter, drinking water, roads, education, public health and storm water drainage quickly rather than according priority to grandiose schemes which require many years for implementation.**

39. I have outlined the important activities, achievements, future programmes and policies of this Government. The Government is making all efforts to continue and speed up the implementation of the schemes for growth and development. I conclude my address seeking your full cooperation in these endeavours.

VANAKKAM

**"WOMEN IN TAMIL NADU SHOULD COME FORWARD TO
FOLLOW THE PATH OF TRUTH - TO ACT WITH AWARENESS
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TAMIL NADU**

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Kalaignar's message
on the occasion of the World Women's Day

8.3.1998 - World Women's Day. A day of thought provoking about women development who occupy nearly half of the world's population. A day of introducing many welfare schemes for the women, thereby stabilising their prestigious position in the society.

Somany conferences had been convened by **'Thanthai Periyar** and **Perarignar Anna** to stress the need for Women education, widow remarriage, etc and spent their entire life for the development of women.

Since 1967, after assuming office, this Government has been implementing many important schemes for the welfare as well as for the awakening of women folk with speical care. The welfare schemes formulated for the development of women by this Government are as follows :

★ In 1973, for the first time in India this Government appointed Women Police.



★ Scheme of distributing sewing machines to the destitute women, free of cost.

★ Doctor Dharmambal Memorial Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme.



★ E.V.R. Nagammaiyar Memorial Free Education Scheme for Women for graduation from 1989.

★ Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyar Memorial Maternity Assistance Scheme.

★ 30% reservation for women in employment opportunities in Government services and private Institutions from 1990.

★ Orders have been issued by this Government for the appointment of teachers exclusively reserved for the women upto third standards in primary schools. Gradually this has been extended upto to Fifth standard.

★ In 1989 a grand scheme called "Tamil Nadu Women Development Scheme" was introduced by this Government in which poor rural women get employment opportunities and earn additional income. These schemes are being extended every year by this Government.



★ 33% reservation was earmarked for women in the elections conducted for Local Bodies in 1996. Approximately 40,000 women were given the posts of Ward Members or Mayor of the Corporation as

representatives of the public, which is a magnificent opportunity offered to women by this Government.

★ This Government introduced a new scheme of sanctioning Rs.50,000 to

sanction the assistance to all the eligible women who apply for this scheme without any target.

Likewise, this Government has implemented many welfare schemes for the development of women in education, economy, thereby uplifting their status in the society.

This Government is very much duty bounded as a Mother, in providing the essentialities of life, including to those who were unaware of it.



the first generation woman entrepreneur as incentive. So far 250 such women benefitted by this scheme.

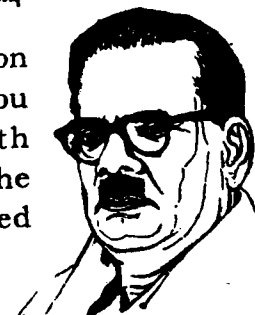
★ During this regime, more than 2600 women police have been appointed by the Government and 5000 more women police are to be appointed shortly.

★ Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance was enhanced from Rs.5000 to Rs.10,000. During the past two years 46,145 poor brides were given Rs.10,000 each by this Government. It is noteworthy that actions are being taken to

On this **World Women's Day** I extend my blessings whole - heartedly to all women, to achieve a high status in education and employment by availing the welfare schemes of this Government and I hope that they do not rely on gossips as was said by Thiruvalluvar.

"எப்பொருள் யார்யார் வாய்க்கேட்பினும் அப்பொருள்
மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்பது அறிவு"

(When another person makes a statement you must accept it with caution and discover the subtle truth contained therein.)



'BHARAT RATNA' C.SUBRAMANIAM

Father of Green Revolution

Elder Statesman and former Governor of Maharashtra **Thiru. C. Subramaniam**, or 'CS' as he is affectionately known, has been awarded the nation's highest civilian award, the **Bharat Ratna**. An able administrator, Thiru. C. Subramaniam during his political career, held several posts with distinction and launched important schemes. He was the moving spirit behind **India's Green Revolution** of the 1960's. His significant contribution in the agricultural development made him the "**Father of Green Revolution**".

Noble Laureate Thiru. Norman in his message to Thiru. C.S. had said that his policy decisions helped India to come out from the grip of acute food shortage during 1965-66 and the Green Revolution brought in by him had increased the food production in India.

The multi-faceted Personality Thiru. C. Subramaniam was born on January 30, 1910 at Senguthupalayam near Pollachi in Coimbatore District. He secured his law degree from the University of Madras and became a practicing advocate at Coimbatore. His involvement in the freedom struggle brought him imprisonment. He was elected to the constituent Assembly and had a hand in the framing of the constitution of the Republic.

He became a member of the Tamil Nadu Cabinet in 1952. He handled the portfolios with acumen under the leadership of **Mootharignar Rajaji**, **Karma Veerar Kamaraj** and elder statesman **M. Bhaktavatsalam** and led the state to all-round development.



He became the Union Minister in charge of steel in 1962 and held portfolios of Mines and Heavy Engineering, Food and Agriculture; Food Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation. As Minister for Food and Agriculture, he played a decisive role in the "Green Revolution", when India was facing a serious crisis on the food front. Thiru. C. Subramaniam sought the help of his experts Dr. B.P. Pal and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and brought both of them direct into policy making levels in the Ministry of Agriculture.

He became the interim president of the Indian National Congress in 1969 and assumed office as the Governor of Maharashtra in 1990. In recognition of his contribution involving agricultural development policies and programmes he was elected to the Board of Governors of the International Rice Research Institute, Manila, and the International Maize and Wheat Research Institute, Mexico, which positions he held for six years.

As an elder Statesman, his views are often sought on political and constitutional issues. His forthright and candid opinions are always received with respect. The Government has honoured itself by honouring **Thiru C. Subramaniam** with the award of **Bharat Ratna**.

'BHARAT RATNA' Dr. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM

Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931 to a modest family in Rameshwaram. He had his primary school education at a local school in Rameshwaram and continued his education at St. Joseph's College, Trichy, and went on to specialise in aero-engineering at the Madras Institute of Technology. He joined Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and then the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and later became director of the Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-3) Project. His several defence ventures are well known, especially his Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP). Dr. Kalam and his team launched the guided missile programme's components viz. the surface to Air - 'Trishul' and 'Akash'; 'Prithvi', Anti-tank missile - 'Nag' and the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile - 'Agni'. He also contributed to the India's Main Battle Tank, the Light Combat Aircraft and to the development of India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-3).

Dr. Kalam, with a strong commitment to social causes has suggested ways in which technology can be used effectively for the betterment of humanity. He has used the power of missile technology for medical research, showing how even life-threatening applications of science can be used to save lives.



The DRDO, under Dr. Kalam had joined hands with the Ministry of Welfare and the Department of Science and Technology to implement the Caliper Project. The Calipers produced weighed only 400 grams instead of the 4 kg. Normally weighed for the use of polio affected children. The callipers were made of carbon composite that had been developed by DRDO that was used to build 'Agni' missile. The technology used for defence imaging system can be used for medical imagery, another value product. Dr. Kalam wishes to promote the application of indigenous technology which will contribute to the overall growth of the Nation.

This soft spoken genius is the 'Scientific Advisor' to the Defence Ministry and Director General of DRDO. Many degrees have been conferred on him. He did not seek an overseas degree and his academic career was spent entirely in India.

In his personal life he has remained a bachelor. He speaks good Tamil and writes poetry in Tamil. He loves classical music and even plays the 'Veena'.

The Technology Mission 2020 envisaged by him will transform our Nation from a developing one to a developed Country meeting the rest of the World with confidence and achievement. He advocates team spirit and hard work for attaining success.

His academic honours include; Vice-President, Astronomical Society of India; Fellow, Indian National Academy of Engineering; Fellow, Indian National Science Academy.

He has been awarded 'Bharat Ratna', the highest Civilian Award in India for his contribution to scientific research and modernisation of defence technology. India is proud of her son as he represents the hopes and aspirations of all Indians. It is only befitting that he has been awarded 'Indian (Man) of the Year'.

Dr. Abdul Kalam is the recipient of 'Bharat Ratna' (1997); **Padma Vibhushan** (1990); **Padma Bhushan** (1981); **H.K. Firodia Award** (1996); **G.M. Modi Award** (1996); **Aryabhata Award** (1994).



'Bharat Ratna' M.S.SUBBULAKSHMI

The World acclaimed when Sangeeta Kalanidhi Tmt. M.S. Subbulakshmi the 'doyen of music' and the 'Genious of song' was awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. M.S. had devoted her entire life for the cause of music and her performances have raised several crores of Rupees for endowing religious, educational, medical, scientific and art institutions.

The quality of her music made M.S. a legendary figure in the country and it made Mahatma Gandhi to request her to sing during evening prayers at Sabarmati.

In 1941, M.S. and her husband Thiru. T. Sadasivam on their way to Calcutta, got down at Nagpur and went to Wardha Ashram and met Gandhiji. M.S. was requested by Gandhiji to sing in the prayer which M.S. obliged by singing bajans, enthraling the audience.

In April 1944, Mootharignar Rajaji met the couple at their residence. He informed them that he was returning from the Sevagram after meeting Gandhiji and said he had assured Gandhiji that he would meet them and get their consent to perform five musical concerts for raising fund for the Kasturba Memorial Trust. Thiru. Sadasivam readily agreed.

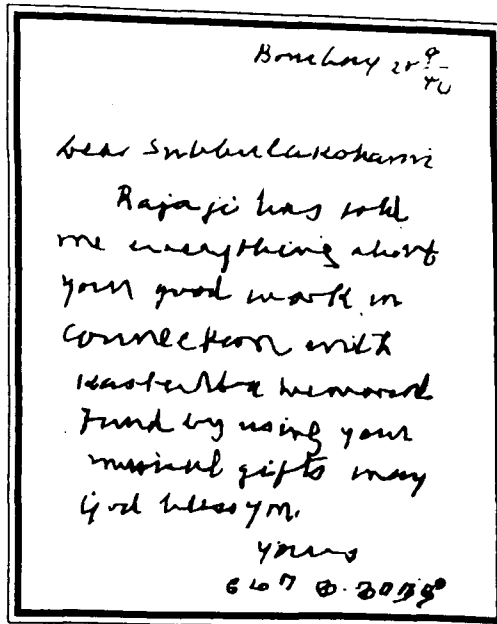
M.S. participated in various concerts organised to raise fund for schools, including for the National Poet



Mahakavi Bharathi Mandapam at Ettayapuram, Thamil Sangam, etc.

In 1947, the All India Radio contacted Thiru. Sadasivam and asked him if M.S. could sing bajans on the occasion of Gandhiji's birth anniversary on October 2, for which Thiru. Sadasivam sent the M.S. recordings of Thulasidas, Kabirdas, Meera bajans. Kanchi Paramachariyar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Mootharignar Rajai, Dr. Radhakrishnan had applauded her simplicity and in her involvement in music and social service.

Her performance as saint poet Meerabai in the 1947 film produced by her husband made her household name throughout India. She also played Naradha in the film 'Savithri'. She also won western audiences at the Edinburgh Festival in 1963, at the UN in 1966, New York, Great Britain and Soviet Union. Though she had been honoured with 'the Padmavibhushan,' the Masaysay Award, the Kalidas Samman, Sangita Kalanidhi, etc. the highest Civilian Award of India viz. Bharat Ratna crowns her glory. Her simple lifestyle is well known and she believes that it is her duty to do as much as she could to improve the lot of others. Her husband T. Sadasivam had devoted himself to guide her in her pursuit of excellence. M.S. Subbulakshmi is a fine teacher of values, kindness, of devotion and restraint. Bharat Ratna is definitely a jewel in the crown of her effortless journey in the pursuit of perfection in her musical career.



The letter written by Mahatma to M.S.

THIRUKKURAL - THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE MANKIND

KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATURE OF MUNIFICENCE

Thiruvalluvar speaks about the positive virtue, what ought to be done by the householder. Valluvar throughout, maintains the principle that the householder lives more for society than for himself and his family. According to this principle he emphasises the importance of munificence and points out that the householder must be fully aware of what is right munificence and what would be considered as sheer waste. Therefore correct knowledge must guide his conduct even while he helps the needy with his own resources.

கைம்மாறு வேண்டா கடப்பாடு மாரிமாட்
டென்னாற்றுங் கெடல்வே உலகு

kaimmaru venda kadappadu marimat
tennatrun gollo ulagu.

"Real help rendered to others expects no reward in return. What is the recompense that is offered by the world to the clouds?"

COMMENTARY

Here Thiruvalluvar emphasises the principle, 'Doing duty is its own reward'. The clouds pour forth rain for the benefit of the world at large. This spontaneous help to the world is never recompensed by the people who are benefited by rain. Similarly, a noble householder is expected to help the indigent without the thought of any return.

தாளாற்றித் தந்த பொருளெல்லாந் தக்கார்க்கு
வேளாண்மை செய்தற் பொருட்டு

thallatri thandha porulellan thakkarku
velanmai seithar poruttu.

"The wealth that is acquired by the householder by toil and effort must be set apart for helping those that are fit to be recipients".

COMMENTARY

The term 'fit to be recipients' is interpreted to mean all the ascetics who are given priority in society to receive the help from the householder. All the other needy persons come after the holy saints.

ஊருணி நீர்நீரைத் தற்றே உலகவாழ்
பேற்றி வாளன் திரு.

Ooruni nimirain dhatre ulagavam
perari valan thiru.

"The Wealth of that person who lives with the higher knowledge of the true nature of mankind is useful to all, like the village tank that is full of water".

COMMENTARY

The drinking - water tank in the village supplies water to all people of the village. Similarly, the riches acquired by a householder who is fully alive to his duty to humanity will be at the disposal of all the fit and needy around him. The knowledge of the essential nature of man that he has to live in the spiritual and moral environment above the natural environment in which he is placed is designated as great knowledge by the author to distinguish it from the ordinary knowledge of things in the natural environment. A person who is equipped with such a great knowledge, who is alive to the heritage of man will certainly live for others also and make use of his resources to promote the general welfare.

பயன்மரம் உள்ளூர் பழுத்தற்றால் செல்வம்
தயனுடை யானகட் படின.

*payanmaram ullur pazhuthatral selvam
nayanudai yankat padin.*

"Wealth in the hand of such a wise man is
as universally beneficial as a fruit - tree full
of fruits in the centre of a village".

COMMENTARY

Here Thiruvalluvar gives another
example to show how a wise man's wealth
is useful to all. Here we also have a glimpse
of the ancient village life. How the village
as a whole had certain common rights to
enjoy fruit - trees which were kept up as the
common property of the whole village. Even
now we have in some villages such common
institutions enjoyed by all the people of the
village.

★ ★ ★

மருந்தாகித் தப்பா மரத்தற்றால் செல்வம்
பெருந்தகை யானகட் படின.

*marundhagi thappa marathatral selvam
perunthagai yankat padin.*

"A wiseman's wealth serves as a useful
remedy for various ills of man, just as a
medicinal tree yields unfailing remedy for
man's various diseases."

★ ★ ★

GIVING ALMS

This Chapter deals with giving alms to
the needy who come to beg at the door of the
householder.

வறியாகர்கொன் றீவதே ஈகைமற் றெல்வாம்
குறியெதிர்ப்பை நீர துடைத்து.

*variyaikon reevathe igaimar trellam
kuriyethirpai nira thudaithu.*

"A real gift is that which is given to needy
men. All else is clever bargaining for greater
recompense'.

★ ★ ★



இன்னா திரக்கப் படுதல் இரந்தவர்
இன்முகம் காணும் அளவு.

*inna thirakkap paduthal irandhavar
inmuham kanum alaavu.*

"To be in the situation of being begged is
really painful until you see the smiling face
of the satisfied beggar."

COMMENTARY

To have a needy person at your door
naturally evokes sympathy in you and you
yourself feel for the wretchedness of the
needy beggar. If you are able to satisfy him
by giving him something, his face indicates
his satisfaction and you feel sympathetically
the pleasure that you derive from giving.

★ ★ ★

பாத்தூண் மரிஇ யவனைப் பசிவென்றுத்
தீப்பிணி தீண்டல் அரிது

*Pathun marie yavanai pasiyennum
dhipini theendal arithu.*

"A person who has cultivated the habit of
first feeding the hungry before eating will
never be affected by the cruel disease of
hunger."

COMMENTARY

Thiruvalluvar says that he who realises
the immense potency of hunger for evil and
removes such an evil in others, will always be
free from any such pain of hunger himself and
secure the peace of mind necessary.

★

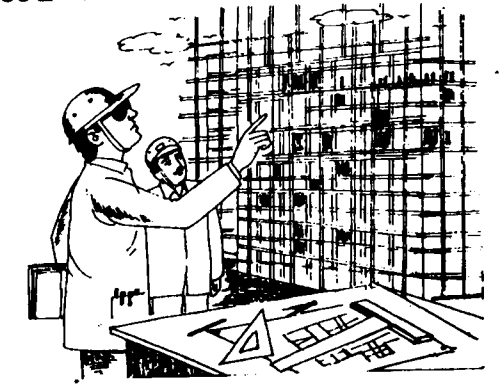
The Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar, issued orders for the construction of 3527 tenements at a cost of Rs.36 Crores by the Slum Clearance Board for the sake of lower income group families

CHENNAI - Sathiamoorthy Nagar - Phase 4 -
208 tenements, Chennai - Singaravelan Nagar -
Phase 4 - 201 tenements and Phase 5 - 170
tenements, Chennai - Dr.Thomas Road - Phase
4 - 96 tenements, Chennai - Gothamedu - Phase
1 and 2 - 560 tenements, Chennai - Chitra Nagar
- Phase 3 - 160 tenements.

CHENNAI - Thiruvottiyur - Phase 1 - 96
tenements, Chennai - Thiruvottiyur - Phase 2 -
72 tenements, Chennai - Thiruvottiyur - Phase 3 -
72 tenements, Chennai - Thiruvottiyur - Phase 4
- 96 tenements.

COIMBATORE - Rajiv Gandhi Nagar - Phase
2 - 72 tenements, Tirupur - Chellandiamman
Temple - 240 tenements, Tirunelveli - 272
tenements.

THANJAVUR - A.V.Pathi Nagar - Phase 1 -
192 tenements, Thanjavur - A.V.Pathi Nagar -
Phase 2 - 180 tenements.



SALEM - Salethanpatti - Phase 1 - 240
tenements, Salem - Salethanpatti - Phase 2 -
600 tenements.

In total 3527 tenements are to be
constructed. ★

**INCENTIVE PRIZES
TO THREE
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED
STUDENTS
WHO OBTAIN
TOP THREE RANKS
IN THE STATE**

Government of Tamil Nadu have
introduced a new prize awarding scheme to
the top three rankers of physically
handicapped, blind and deaf students in
public examinations of 10th and 12th
standards from 1996-97 academic year.

The students of 10th standard will be
awarded as follows:

First rank Rs.1500, second rank Rs.1000
and third rank Rs.750 as prize amount.

Similarly in 12th standard, the student
obtaining first rank will get Rs.1500, second
rank Rs.1000 and third rank Rs.750 as prize
amount.

The award is named as 'Tamil Nadu
State Special Incentive Award' for top three
ranks for the physically handicapped.

An Inquiry into Cartoons

- Cartoonist RANU (S.K.Ramanujam)

Introduction :

Who can ever hate that lively animated figure on the screen, the figure which provides entertainment, never before heard of. That's just a tiny portion of the fantasy world of cartoons. Cartoons are something rich, full, lively and are a clause of their own. They are something par excellence. While most people trace back the origin of cartoons to Walt. E. Disney, the facts highlighted below later as back even further on the machine of time. Through intensive research it has been shown that the art of cartoons was known in India, even during ancient times. Through this paper, I wish to put forth some facts before the artists' community and commoners, facts that have been gleaned through years of intensive research. Most of us attribute as associate cartoon with countries abroad. But surprisingly, what I have found through my work, relates cartoons with our own country. "Surprising!" - you may think. But I have example to show you. For instance, in the famous "Manimegalai" written about some 2,000 years ago, by Seethalai Sathanar there is a mention of Cartoon-like drawings, which gives considerable proof about the origination of cartoons in India.

Cartoon can be equalized to stick or line drawings. In fact, stick or line drawings are the basis for cartoons, for they facilitate the drawing of various movements of a body, 'say a man for instance.

When I approached a common man and asked him to give me an exact synonym for cartoon, he readily gave me quite a few. But, I found nothing of use to common people. So, let me

explain the forthcoming facts using the more known term CARTOON.

In fact, the very art of drawing and painting evolved among humans in the form of cartoons. Tracing back history, we find that even cave man's drawings are reasonable cartoons.

Observing these drawings closely, we find that they are reasonably stick or line drawings (you may recall that I have related line drawings to cartoons). So, the cave-man practised more and more of stick drawings, which paved way for more refined forms of drawings as he progressed. This triggered off his imagination which made him think that he could have some sort of fun by exaggerating cartoon feature in the drawing. So, these can be very well classified as cartoons.

DEMONS

In our temples, we find that the demons perched atop "Gopuram" have exaggerated



craftmen. Another example can be cited here.

Probably many of us have seen the representation of dragons in the old copper and bronze plates. Don't they show exaggerated features of both a lion and an elephant? Such dragon representation can be seen in many temples and Palaces such as the Kapaleeswar temple in Chennai and Thirumalai Naicker Mahal in Madurai. Thus, the art of cartooning was established in Indian temples (though in the form of sculptures) long ago, as temples were a place where the true talents of a craftsman could be exhibited.

We also came to know that temple and its workmanship were patronized by the early rulers, thus showing the flourishing of cartoons in ancient India. In fact, it has been discovered that ancient treatises an act give procedures to draw "cartoon-like" drawings.

SIMPLE

In spite of all this complicated history, cartooning is relatively simple! Surprising, Isn't

features, say big eyes, big nose, short lips, protruding belly, etc. Similar exaggerated features are shown by the various "Vahanas" or mean of transport (usually animate) of gods and goddesses.

The various features have been exaggerated purposely to make them catchy. So, the art of exaggeration (cartooning) was certainly known to the ancient craftsmen.

These works of exaggerated art can be seen even today. For example, the Vahana Garuda of Lord Vishnu, has a protruding, sharp nose. The vahana Nandi of Lord Shiva has a Cow's head with a human body. There are many number of examples that can be cited. In Mahabalipuram, certain sculptures show cartoonistic features- for example a lion's body with a man's head. The various movements of the same figure of demon suggests the present animated cartoon film sequence. These can be very well classified as cartoons too. These sculptures also show the "cartoonistic" instincts of ancient



it? We all know the time old habit of painting a face on the pumpkin (usually demon-like) and hang it in front of the house for protection from the evil-eyes of the passers-by. The face once again, show exaggerated features. And one cannot forget the scare crow's truly animated face, which definitely is a cartoon. This just shows the natural human inclination for cartoon. So, anybody who can create such drawings is called a cartoonist and as this is basic human nature, anybody (provided his or she wills it!) can become a cartoonist. Today cartooning has spring into fame due to various media especially the press. But still, some people are under the impression that this is an imparted art. This is quite wrong. As I

have already stated, cartoons origin can be traced back to ancient India. But as it was presented in a religious form, the art got stagnated. But the people abroad used it in a different form and put it to use in children's entertainment, films, news-magazines, etc.

thereby giving it a new meaning. So, we have lagged behind. But if we progress with speed and determination, we can certainly surprise our foreign counterparts. In countries abroad, children are taught lessons using cartoons and various other forms of animation.

ANATOMY

Any good cartoonist can create a good cartoon character. But as cartoon also has got its own "anatomy" common people cannot easily do it due to lack of practice and technique. Cartoons are very much necessary in India, in

various advertisements, health, welfare organisation, etc. if put in cartoons, people can actually grasp it even better.

Well, let's finally categorise cartoons. They can be broadly divided into 3 types:

1. Drawing cartoons according to jokes, statements.
2. Framing statements on jokes in accordance to cartoons.
3. Silent cartoons, which may be in the form of a single cartoon as a series. Progressing even further "comics" can be brought about.

And of course, it is needless to mention the impact of political cartoons on the common people. A single, well-defined cartoon is powerful enough to represent a whole essay in writing.

But why cartoons? It is not a question of how to make more money; Improve

living standards. Such a powerful media as this, when put to good use, can certainly do wonders. If a famous cartoon character could actually teach children lessons they can grasp it better. Same is the case with any other important information more be imparted to people. As cartoon appeals to people of all ages and classes, it is for betterment that this be put to good use. Thus, have is an ideal art that can improve society as never before, provided it is presented in the way it should be. So, good-luck to all budding artists, has more specifically, cartoonists.



மக்கு திரைப கடற்கோட் புருமிதும்
வந்தாற் றுவதிற் கிணற்றின்கட் சென்றன்பர் :
செவ்வப் பெரிதுடையர் ஆறினாற் சென்ற
தஞ்சாவர் கட்டெ நகர.

Though men live on the curved shore of the sea with its multitudinous waves, they go and drink at the well, with its perennial fountain of fresh water from the rock; so even if those (who are neighbours) are vey wealthy, the desire (of the poor) is towards the liberal, though these may be far to seek.

The sea is great, but its water is not good even to wash in; the little runlet near affords water to drink also.

முனர்கடற்குழ் லையத்துப் முன்னரியளோ வேறே!
உணர்வ துடையர் இருப்பு, - உணர்வின
வட்டும் வழிதுணையும் பொல்வாரும் வாழ்வரே
பட்டுத் துறியும் உடுத்து

In the world surrounded by the (all) embracing sea, merit is quite an indifferent matter! Understanding ones are (poor); and even those of no understanding - who are like mere palm tree tufts and brinjals - live prosperously, clad in silks and rich garments.

அறிவுடையார் தம்மொடு நட்பார் செய்த
தீமையைப் பொறுத்துக் கொள்ளல் வேண்டும்.

பெரியார் பெருநட்புக் கோடறஞ் செய்த
அரிய பொறுப்பான் றன்றோ? - அரியளோ -
ஒல்லென் அருவி உயர்வரை நன்னாட! -
நல்ல செய்வார்க்குத் தமர்?

Forbearance cements friendship

Is not the reason why the close friendship of the great is sought, that they will bear even with faults hard to endure? Lord of the good land of high mountains with resounding waterfalls! - to good people are intimate friends rare? *

DO NOT BE TAKEN FOR A RIDE ARE YOUR STONES REALLY GEMS?

The Department of Geology and Mining, Guindy, Chennai - 32 has a Gem Testing Laboratory where Rough and Polished Gemstones are tested for the public. A Nominal fee of Rs.100/- is charged for ONE sample for testing and issue of certificate. Fee may be remitted by Demand Draft drawn in favour of the Director of Geology and Mining, Guindy, Chennai - 32, payable at Chennai. For further details contact the Gem Testing Laboratory of this office.

Telephone No. : 2341873 & 2341874

DIRECTOR
Department of Geology and Mining
Government of Tamil Nadu
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.

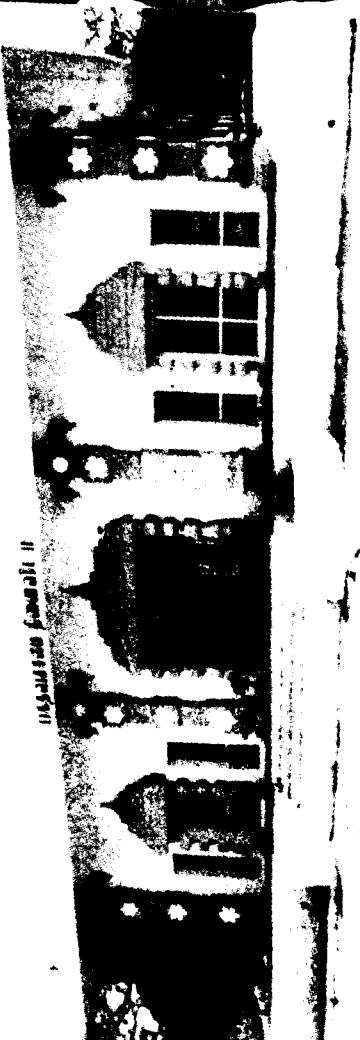
DIPR 740/ADWAVE/23.3.98



Chief Minister K. Janaki Devi introduced the deluxe bus (volvo) services for the Chennai City Transport Corporation and travelled in the bus upto War Memorial on 4.3.98.



Chief Minister K. Janaki Devi declared open the Memorial for elder statesman and former Chief Minister, B. K. Rajagopalachari, constructed at a cost of Rs.25 lakhs near Kamarajar Memorial, Guindy on 13.3.98.



RESULTS OF TWELFTH GENERAL ELECTIONS TO LOK SABHA - 1998

1. CHENNAI NORTH

KUPPUSAMI C. (DMK) ELECTED			
Electorate	.....	18,80,926	
Votes polled	.....	8,76,109	
Rejected votes	.....	24,262	
Kuppusami C.	DMK	...	4,01,322
Sabapathy Mohan R.T.	MDMK	...	3,32,229
Soundararajan A.	CPM	...	50,590
Bharathi G.K.J.	INC	...	47,147
Devanathan T.	BSP	...	12,085
Kumarasamy S.	CPI (ML)	...	4,100
Kalaiselvan K.	IND	...	1,608
Ganesan J.	IND	...	1,331
Baskar N.	IND	...	757
Moorthy T.K.	SAP	...	678

2. CHENNAI CENTRAL

* MURASOLIMARAN (DMK) ELECTED			
Electorate	.....	12,06,719	
Votes polled	.....	5,97,170	
Rejected votes	.....	15,721	
Murasolimarani	DMK	...	3,00,774
Jayakumar D.	AIADMK	...	2,29,047
Anbarasu R.	INC	...	44,061
Natarajan S.	PT	...	1,385
Sudarsan	IND	...	1,161
Swaminathan	IND	...	973
Sava Mustafa (Tmt)	IND	...	888
Sivakumar V.	IND	...	798
Sivagnana Sambandan T.	RJD	...	714
Ranganathan S.	IND	...	622
Loganathan V.G.	IND	...	493
Jagannathan E.	IND	...	299
Ramachandran S.	IND	...	234

3. CHENNAI SOUTH

BAALU T.R. (DMK) ELECTED			
Electorate	.....	19,36,542	
Votes polled	.....	9,17,040	
Rejected votes	.....	18,242	
Baalu T.R.	DMK	...	4,32,913
Jana Krishnamurthi K.	BJP	...	4,12,899
Subramanyam M.P.	INC	...	44,549
Nagappan M.	IND	...	3,294
Kanakasabai N.	IND	...	2,012
Mohanraj J.	TLJ	...	1,276
Vivekananda S.	IND	...	744
Srinivasan S.	IND	...	574
Ganesan P.S.	IND	...	537

4. SRIPERUMBUDUR (SC)

VENUGOPAL K. (AIADMK) ELECTED			
Electorate	.....	12,66,643	
Votes polled	.....	7,24,858	
Rejected votes	.....	28,531	
Venugopal K.	AIADMK	...	3,26,528
Nagarathinam T.	DMK	...	3,02,733
Jayakumar Dr. K.	INC	...	64,944
Vyasarrajan S.	SHSP	...	1,345
Jayaraman S.T.	IND	...	777

5. CHENGALPATTU

KANCHI PANNEER SELVAM. (AIADMK) ELECTED			
Electorate	.....	11,48,117	
Votes polled	.....	6,96,499	
Rejected votes	.....	25,913	



Kanchi Panneer Selvam	AIADMK	...	3,29,239
Parasuraman K.	DMK	...	3,06,323
Muruganandam T.N.	INC	...	24,968
Krishnan Parayanar M.U.	IND	...	5,419
Jagaveerapandian K.	RJD	...	2,754
Srinivasan S.K.P.	IND	...	765
Ramesh M.K.	IND	...	588
Ethiraj Brigadier	IND	...	530

6. ARAKKONAM

GOPAL C. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,72,687
Votes polled	.....	7,20,670
Rejected votes	.....	23,592
Gopal C.	AIADMK	... 3,59,431
Velu A.M.	TNC (M)	... 3,09,943
Damotharan R.	INC	... 24,519
Kandappan A.	IND	... 1,120
Natarajan S.M.N.	SHSP	... 1,078
Maniezhiyan, Pulavar	SAP	... 987

7. VELLORE

SHANMUGAM N.T. (PMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,01,147	
Votes polled	.....	6,93,560	
Rejected votes	.....	19,631	
Shanmugam N.T.	PMK	...	3,31,035
Mohammed Saqhy T.A	DMK	...	3,04,630
Akber Pasha B.	INC	...	18,885
Padmanabhan M.	IND	...	17,837
Sathiyamoorthy J.	SAP	...	836
Dharanivasan B.S.	IND	...	706

8. TIRUPPATTUR

VENUGOPAL D. (DMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,93,837
Votes polled	.....	6,99,805
Rejected votes	.....	25,250
Venugopal D.	DMK	 3,22,990
Krishnamoorthy S.	AIADMK	 3,22,716
Kannabiran R.	INC	 28,095
Ajeez B.	IND	 844

9. VANDAVASI

DURAI M. (PMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,75,770
Votes polled	.....	6,67,287
Rejected votes	.....	21,751
Durai M.	PMK	 3,27,010
Balaraman L.	TMC (M)	 2,61,935
Krishnaswamy M.	INC	 34,827
Kuppusamy (alias)		
Arattavadyar R.	IND	 21,219
Chandrabose G.S.	IND	 545

10. TINDIVANAM

RAMACHANDRAN M. GINGEE (MDMK) ELECTED

Electorate			
Votes polled	-----	10,65,034	
Rejected votes	-----	6,74,617	
	-----	26,335	
Ramachandran M. Gingee	MDMK	----	3,20,112
Venkatraman, G.	DMK	----	2,88,380

Ramamurthee K.	INC	...	29,898
Jayabalan R.	BSP	...	4,837
Paramasivam D.	IND	...	1,892
Ramachandran V.	IND	...	827
Ismail N.M.	IND	...	640
Palani P.S.	IND	...	575
Lakshmanan G.	RJD	...	443
Iniyadayalan G.	IND	...	332
Mohamed Ali Jinna M.	IND	...	189
Munusamy R.	IND	...	157

11. CUDDALORE

DAMOTHRAN M.C. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,76,136
Votes polled	.....	6,58,340
Rejected votes	.....	23,596
Damotharan M.C.	AIADMK	... 3,09,985
Venkatesan P.R.S.	TMC (M)	... 2,82,856
Eramadass Dr. R.	INC	... 40,603
Nambiyar K.	RJD	... 1,300

12. CHIDAMBARAM (SC)

ELUMLAI ALIAS EZHILMALAI R. (PMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,54,642
Votes polled	.....	6,84,155
Rejected votes	.....	17,561
Elumalai alias		
Ezhilmalai R.	PMK	... 3,05,372
Ganesan V.	DMK	... 2,97,417
Vallaperuman Dr. P.	INC	... 43,214
Nagappan P.	BSP	... 19,922
Jayaraj S.	IND	... 351
Janakiraman V.	IND	... 318

13. DHARMAPURI

PARYMOHAN K. (PMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,75,234
Votes polled	.....	6,39,529
Rejected votes	.....	18,288
Pary Mohan K.	PMK	... 3,41,917
Theertharaman P.	TNC (M)	... 2,42,490
Venkatesan P.	IND	... 14,788
Pattabiraman P.K.	UCPI	... 10,018
Jayaseelan C.	BSP	... 5,693

Gopal Inamurasu A.	RJD	...	3,185
Thiyagarajan N.R.	IND	...	1,222
Padmarajan Dr.K.	IND	...	999
Mehendiran D.	IND	...	559
Manickam K.	IND	...	370

14. KRISHNAGIRI

MUNUSAMY K.P. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,15,876	
Votes polled	.....	6,48,144	
Rejected votes	.....	25,455	
Munusamy K.P.	AIADMK	....	3,15,762
Rajaram Naidu D.R.	TMC (M)	....	2,66,413
Krishnamurthy AGA	INC	....	35,229
Muniraj R.	BSP	....	5,285

15. RASIPURAM (SC)

SAROJA V.DR. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,08,243
Votes polled	.....	6,06,487
Rejected votes	.....	28,103
Saroja V.Dr.	AIADMK	 3,02,801
Kandasamy K.	TMC (M)	 2,48,424
Thenmozhi	INC	 18,178
Arul Mani V.	PT	 5,338
Sadasivam P.	BSP	 1,159
Palaniappan K.	IND	 928
Subramani R.	IND	 510
Prabakaran K.	IND	 360
Veera Babu V.	RJD	 323
Ramasamy R.	IND	 205
Dharmarajan A.	IND	 158

16. SALEM

RAMAMURTHY K. (IND) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,78,177
Votes polled	.....	6,79,486
Rejected votes	.....	20,513
Ramamurthy K.	IND	 3,65,557
Devadass R.	TMC (M)	 2,29,677
Thangabalu K.V.	INC	 48,027
Sampathkumar P.	IND	 10,311
Kesavarajan S.	AJBP	 2,091
Padmanabhan A.G.	BSP	 1,710
Marimuthu P.	IND	 550

Palanisamy K.	IND	...	495
Singaravelu C.	IND	...	405
Periasamy T.	IND	...	150

17. TIRUCHENGODE

PALANISWAMY K. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	14,60,247
Votes polled	.....	7,81,520
Rejected votes	.....	22,895
Palaniswamy K.	AIADMK	... 4,14,992
Ramalingam K.P. Dr.	DMK	... 3,10,183
Palanisamy P.	INC	... 28,421
Backiyam D.	PT	... 2,442
Selvam S.V.	IND	... 1,483
Thillaikkarasi Pon. S.	IND	... 622
Sengodan R.	IND	... 482

18. THE NILGIRIS

MATHAN M. (ALIAS) MASTER MATHAN M. (BJP) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	12,94,110
Votes polled	.....	7,18,202
Rejected votes	.....	23,844
Mathan M. (alias)		
Master Mathan M.	BJP	... 3,22,818
Balasubramanian S.R.	TMC (M)	... 2,62,433
Prabhu R.	INC	... 1,06,588
Bhaskaran M.	IND	... 1,416
Ramesh C.	IND	... 1,103

19. GOPICHETTIPALAYAM

CHINNASAMY V. K. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,21,268
Votes polled	.....	6,27,372
Rejected votes	.....	24,917
Chinnasamy V.K.	AIADMK	... 3,29,753
Ramasamy N.	DMK	... 2,15,111
Elankovan E.V.K.S.	INC	... 48,531
Suresh L.	IND	... 7,836
Bannari	IND	... 615
Murugan V.A.	IND	... 609

20. COIMBATORE

RADHAKRISHNAN C.P. (BJP) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	14,95,355
Votes polled	.....	8,26,652
Rejected votes	.....	22,167

Radhakrishnan C.P.	BJP	 4,49,269
Subbian K. R.	DMK	 3,04,593
Krishnan R.	INC	 40,739
Kalyanasundaram S.T.	BSP	 4,596
Rangasamy R.	IND	 1,431
Krishnaswamy R.	IND	 1,181
Santhi C.	IND	 1,091
Saminathan M.	IND	 666
Ramaswamy O.	SAP	 405
Lakshmana Narayanan R.	IND	 220
Elangkumaran R.	IND	 161
Raghavendra K.S.	IND	 133

21. POLLACHI (SC)

THIYAGARAJAN M. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,26,056
Votes polled	.....	5,78,887
Rejected votes	.....	24,612
Thiyagarajan M.	AIADMK	... 3,06,083
Kovai Thangam	TMC (M)	... 2,10,682
Eswaravelu R.	INC	... 31,967
Jothiraj M.	PT	... 4,926
Mani K.	IND	... 617

22. PALANI

GANESHAMURTHI A. (MDMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,17,611
Votes polled	.....	6,26,656
Rejected votes	.....	18,606
Ganeshamurthi A.	MDMK	... 2,86,300
Kaarvendhan S.K.	TMC (M)	... 2,58,863
Venugopal K.S.	INC	... 61,089
Palanisamy N.	IND	... 1,084
Ponnusamy S.	IND	... 714

23. DINDIGUL

SREENIVAASAN C. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,43,880
Votes polled	.....	6,11,642
Rejected votes	.....	18,469
Sreenivaasan C.	AIADMK	... 2,76,106
Chitthan N.S.V.	TMC (M)	... 2,60,907
Latha	MAIADMK	... 35,119
Santhanakrishnan C.	PT	... 19,176
Baskaran R.	IND	... 808
Kalimuthu S.	IND	... 540
Shankar P.	IND	... 295
Palanisamy K.	IND	... 222



24. MADURAI

SUBRAMANIANSWAMY (JP) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	13,49,265
Votes polled	.....	6,76,204
Rejected votes	.....	18,553
Subramanianswamy	JP	... 2,66,202
Rambabu A.G.S.	TMC (M)	... 2,45,305
Mohan P.	CPM	... 1,10,862
Pandian D.	INC	... 17,507
Rajini, Thirumathi	IND	... 5,485
Ramachandran S.	IND	... 4,977
Palanisamy R.	IND	... 4,764
Seshachari R.V.	AJBP	... 967
Soundra Pandiyan K.R.	IND	... 663
Thalapathy Balu S.P.	IND	... 498
Dhanasekar T.	TLJ	... 421

25. PERIYAKULAM

MUTHIAH R. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,79,256
Votes polled	.....	6,16,663
Rejected votes	.....	14,422
Muthiah R.	AIADMK	... 3,19,594
Gandhimathy R.	DMK	... 2,48,931
Mookiah C.	PT	... 20,217
Deivendran P.V.K.	IND	... 5,549
Veeraprakash M.	INC	... 4,198
Murugan B.	IND	... 1,231
Palanichamy K.	IND	... 1,130
Murugaraj S.	IND	... 469
Elamurugan K.	IND	... 252

Kamatchi A.	IND	 223
Murugan V.	IND	 200
Moovendan A.	IND	 147
Veeraswamy R.	IND	 100

26. KARUR

THAMBI DURAI M. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,30,361
Votes polled	.....	6,75,172
Rejected votes	.....	25,292
ThambiDurai M.	AIADMK	... 3,27,480
Natrayan K.	TMC (M)	... 2,83,807
Shanmuga Sundaram K.P.	INC	... 30,157
Kamaraj S.	PT	... 5,449
Ramaswamy R.M.	IND	... 522
Kannan P.	IND	... 484
Sundarraj P.	IND	... 474
Marimuthu V.	RJD	... 411
Murugesan P.	IND	... 403
Manohar V.	IND	... 320
Selvaraju S.	IND	... 206
Asokan K	IND	... 167

27. TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (BJP) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,78,260
Votes polled	.....	6,47,499
Rejected votes	.....	16,694
Rangarajan Kumaramanglam	BJP	... 3,05,233
Adaikalraj L.	TMC (M)	... 2,93,778
Subbha Somu	INC	... 23,747
Sachidanandam K.	PT	... 4,979
Kaleel M.	IND	... 1,133
Alagia Manavalan	IND	... 749
Shanmuga Sundaram S.	RJD	... 612
Azhimudeen G.	IND	... 373
Ramu S.R.	IND	... 201

28. PERAMBALUR (SC)

RAJARETHINAM P. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,25,125
Votes polled	.....	6,61,506
Rejected votes	.....	22,306
Rajarethinam P.	AIADMK	... 3,41,118
Raja. A.	DMK	... 2,80,682
Subramanian P.V.	INC	... 16,579
Selvambal Selvi M.	RJD	... 821

29. MAYILADUTHURAI

KRISHNAMOORTHY K. (TMC) (M) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	9,90,364
Votes polled	.....	6,43,835
Rejected votes	.....	17,565

Krishnamoorthy K.	TMC (M)	...	2,86,098
Arulmozhi P.D.	PMK	...	2,43,642
Mani Shankar aiyar	IND	...	72,911
Thirunavukkarasu R.	INC	...	15,265
Balu Dr.	PT	...	2,189
Pandian K.	RJD	...	2,120
Balasundaram S.	CPI (ML)	...	1,965
Dhayalan A.	BSP	...	1,528
Sheik Dawood Dr. A.	IND	...	552

30. NAGAPATTINAM (SC)

SELVARASU M. (CPI) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,21,037
Votes polled	.....	6,61,129
Rejected votes	.....	22,063

Selvarasu M.	CPI	...	3,75,589
Gopal Dr. K.	AIADMK	...	2,44,286
Thiagarajan M.	INC	...	15,837
Jeevanandam G.	PT	...	3,354

31. THANJAVUR

PALANIMANICKAM S.S. (DMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,13,609
Votes polled	.....	6,45,683
Rejected votes	.....	19,603

Palanimanickam S.S.	DMK	...	3,24,344
Ganesan L.	MDMK	...	2,76,140
Mathiyalagan	INC	...	23,109
Uma S. Thirumathi	IND	...	1,296
Sozhamannar Kanakaraja K.	IND	...	1,191

32. PUDUKKOTTAI

PARAMASIVAM RAJA (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	11,84,609
Votes polled	.....	7,91,405
Rejected votes	.....	18,022

Paramasivam Raja	AIADMK	...	2,88,072
Siva P.N.	DMK	...	2,57,552

Thirunavukkarasu S.	MAIADMK	....	2,26,416
Chockalingam M.R.	IND	....	895
Velappan C.	IND	....	448

33. SIVAGANGA

CHIDAMBARAM P. (TMC) (M) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,76,206
Votes polled	.....	6,15,492
Rejected votes	.....	21,456

Chidambaram P.	TMC (M)	....	3,03,854
Kalimuthu K.	AIADMK	....	2,44,713
Gowrishankaran M.	INC	....	34,114
Santhi Udayappan Tmt.	IND	....	6,847
Nallasamy E.	RJD	....	3,839
Gunasekaran P.	IND	....	389
Annadurai G.	IND	....	280

34. RAMANATHAPURAM

SAHTIYAMOORTHY V. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,78,503
Votes polled	.....	6,13,150
Rejected votes	.....	22,328

Sathiyamoorthy V.	AIADMK	....	2,58,978
Udayappan S.P.	TMC (M)	....	2,34,886
Nazeeraparvin K (Tmt) Dr.	PT	....	53,542
Rajeshwaren V.	INC	....	24,942
Karthikeyan R.	SP	....	17,569
Muthu Ganapathy R.	IND	....	905

35. SIVAKASI

VAIKO (MDMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	12,03,627
Votes polled	.....	7,81,757
Rejected votes	.....	16,840

Vaiko	MDMK	....	3,87,694
Alagirisamy V.	CPI	....	2,52,771
Sathiyamoorthy S.	PT	....	1,06,726
Rajendran K.	INC	....	9,745
Mariappan K.	IND	....	1,922
Ponnusamy C.	IND	....	1,756
Manmathan M.	IND	....	1,021
Thiagarajan (alias)			
Yogakannan P.L.D.	IND	....	793
Gurusamy M.	IND	....	639
Rajasekar A.	RJD	....	627

Renganayagam S.V.	IND	...	583
Kannan V.	IND	...	369
Ramasamy R.P.	IND	...	271

36. TIRUNVELVELI

JANARTHANAN R. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,75,467
Votes polled	.....	6,09,616
Rejected votes	.....	11,602

Janarthanan R.	AIADMK	...	2,47,823
Sarathkumar R.	DMK	...	2,40,919
Savior Selva Suresh Dr. A.	PT	...	86,419
Edmund G.R.	MAIADMK	...	16,789
Krishnakanthan Yadhav	IND	...	3,795
Basker P.	IND	...	1,100
Nagaimugan K.	RJD	...	821
Velmurugan S.	IND	...	348

37. TENKASI (SC)

MURUGESAN S. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,14,494
Votes polled	.....	6,62,154
Rejected votes	.....	16,663

Murugesan S.	AIADMK	...	2,70,053
Arunachalam M.	TMC (M)	...	1,72,736
Krishnasamy Dr. K.	PT	...	1,23,592
Selvaraj V.	INC	...	77,285
Lakshmanan K.	IND	...	1,059
Balanmurugan D.	IND	...	716

38. TIRUCHENDUR

RAMARAJAN R. (AIADMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,14,366
Votes polled	.....	5,46,862
Rejected votes	.....	11,225

Ramarajan R.	AIADMK	...	2,64,290
Dhanuskodi Athithan R.	TMC (M)	...	2,17,435
Kumari Ananthan	INC	...	38,291
Packiaraj Sathai A.	IND	...	11,408
Chandrasekaran			
Kalanithi P.	BSP	...	3,166
Rajagopalan N.	IND	...	692
Devadasan Raja S.	IND	...	355

39. NAGERCOIL

DENNIS N. (TMC) (M) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	10,28,393
Votes polled	.....	5,99,670
Rejected votes	.....	6,494

Dennis N.	TMC (M)	....	2,96,611
Radhakrishnan P.	BJP	....	2,67,426
Stanislaus P.S.	INC	....	27,821
Ayyappan A.	IND	....	904
Nagoor Meeran			
Peer Mohammed U.	IND	....	287
Joseph P.	IND	....	127

BYE - ELECTIONS TO TAMILNADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 1998

No. of seats secured by Political Parties	DMK		2
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126. COONOR (SC)

RANGANATHAN M. (DMK) ELECTED

Electorate		1,69,753
Votes polled		99,268
Rejected votes	.....	5,140

Ranganathan M.	DMK	....	47,850
Karuppusamy S.	AIADMK	....	37,945
Arumugam P.	INC	....	7,189
Siddhan (alias)			
Guruswami Siddhan G.	ATMK	....	1,144

204. ARUPPUKOTTAI

THANGAM THENARASU (DMK) ELECTED

Electorate	.....	1,67,272
Votes polled	.....	1,10,183
Rejected votes	.....	7,269

Thangam Thenarasu	DMK	....	40,223
Panchavarnam V.S.	AIADMK	....	38,272
Manickam P.T.	IT	....	12,484
Palaniswamy K.	IND	....	9,525
Chandran K.	INC	....	1,329
Samayan A.	IND	....	386
Palmarajan Dr. K.	IND	....	262
Karutha pandian T.K.	IND	....	219
Malaichamy M.	IND	....	99
Thirunavukkarasu M.	IND	....	64
Boominathan E.	IND	....	51

Abbreviation	Full Name of the Political Parties	Abbreviation	Full Name of the Political Parties
DMK	Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	CPI (M)	Communist Party of India (Marxist)
TMC (M)	Tamil Manila Congress	CPI (ML)	Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)
AIADMK	All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	ATMK	All India Tamizhaga Munnetra Kazhagam
CPI	Communist Party of India	SP	Samada Party
PMK	Pattali Makkal Katchi	PT	Pudhiya Thamizhagam
INC	Indian National Congress	BSP	Bahujan Samaj Party
MDMK	Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	RJD	Rashtriya Janata Dal
BJP	Bharatia Janata Party	SHSP	Shivsena Party
JD	Janata Dal	SAP	Samajwadi Party

COMBINED DRINKING WATER SCHEMES AT A COST OF Rs.123 CRORES



About 6.62 lakh people will be benefited by the Combined drinking water schemes to be implemented through "Tamil Nadu Drinking Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD)"

In Coimbatore District 2 Combined drinking water scheme are proposed to be implemented. Under the first scheme the habitations in 28 rural panchayats belonging to Annur and Avinasi, 25 rural habitations of Suler Panchayat Union and 9 habitations of Muperi rural town panchayat will be benefitted.

Under the second scheme, 295 rural habitations belonging to Pollachi North, Pollachi South, Kinathukadavu and Kudiamangalam Panchayat unions are to be benefitted.

A combined drinking water scheme at a cost of Rs.6.14 crores will be implemented in Kundadam Panchayat Union of Erode District which benefit 85 habitations.

Besides these a scheme at a cost of Rs.6.8 crores benefitting 32 thousand people belonging to Nagalur, Chinnathambipalayam, Michael Panchayats of Andiyur Panchayat Union is proposed to be implemented.

To augment the water supply in Mayiladuthurai Municipality, an amount of Rs. 11 crores has been allotted.

A combined drinking water scheme at a cost of Rs.6.69 crores is proposed to be implemented in Thirunelveli District. Under this scheme, the areas of Senthamangalam, Alankulam, Manur, Melaneelithanallur, Kuruvikulam and Sankarankovil unions and Pethanadarpatti, Poolankulam and Andipatti panchayats - in total 72 habitations will be benefitted. ▲ ★



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Royal purples...
daring reds...
bright yellows...
exquisite silks
in almost every
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TAMIL ARASU

Magazine of the Government of Tamil Nadu
THIRUVALLUVAR YEAR 2029
PANGUNI - CHITHIRAI
APRIL - 1998

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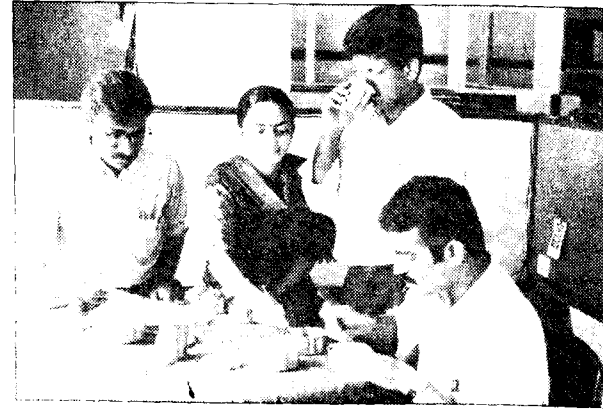
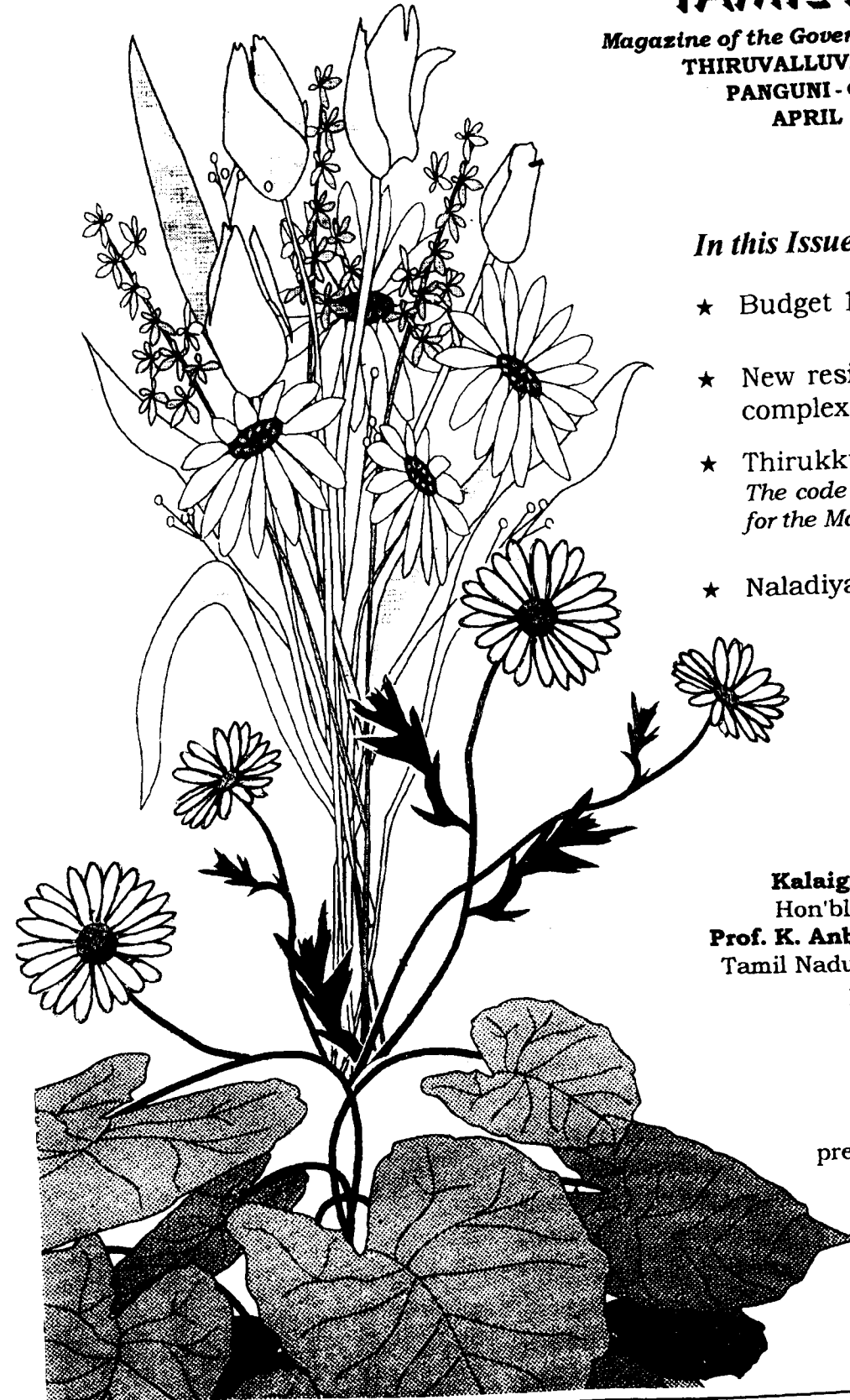
WRAPPERS

I - Wrapper

Hon'ble Chief Minister
Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi and
Hon'ble Minister for Education
Prof. K. Anbazhagan on their way to
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly to
present the State Budget
for 1998 - 99.

IV - Wrapper

Chief Minister **Kalaignar**
presenting the State Budget
to the Tamil Nadu
Legislative Assembly



**நமது அன்றாட
பழக்கவழக்கங்களால்,
எய்ட்ஸ் வராது.
அதற்கு நீங்களே
ஒரு உதாரணம்.**

காலையில் எழுந்தது முதல் ராத்திரி படுக்கப் போகும் வரை நீங்கள் எத்தனையோ பேரைச் சந்திக்கிறீர்கள். ஒட்டலுக்குச் செல்கிறீர்கள், சினிமா பார்க்கிறீர்கள், நெரிசலான பஸ்ஸில் பயணம் செய்கிறீர்கள், பலருடன் கை குலுக்குகிறீர்கள்.

இவர்களில் யாருக்காவது எச்ஐவி/ எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்து இருக்கலாம்.

சாதாரண பழக்கவழக்கங்களின் மூலம் எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதாக இருந்தால், உங்களையும் எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்திருக்க வேண்டும்.

ஆனால் அப்படி இல்லையே...

ஏனெனில், கை குலுக்குவதாலோ, உணவைப் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வதாலோ, தொடுவதாலோ, தும்மலினாலோ, கழிப்பிடத்தை அனைவரும் உபயோகிப்பதாலோ, எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதில்லை.

எனவே எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்தவரைக் கண்டு நீங்கள் ஒதுங்க வேண்டியதில்லை. உங்களுக்கு எந்த ஆபத்தும் இல்லை.

அவர்களும் நம்மைப் போன்றவர்கள்தான். அவர்களுக்கு எப்பொழுதும் போல நாம் அன்பும், ஆதரவும் காட்டுவோம்.

**சிறிதளவு ஆதரவு பெருமளவு
சுமையைக் குறைக்கும்.**

**குழந்தை பிறப்பைத் தடுப்போம்
எய்ட்ஸ் வந்தோரைக் காப்போம்**

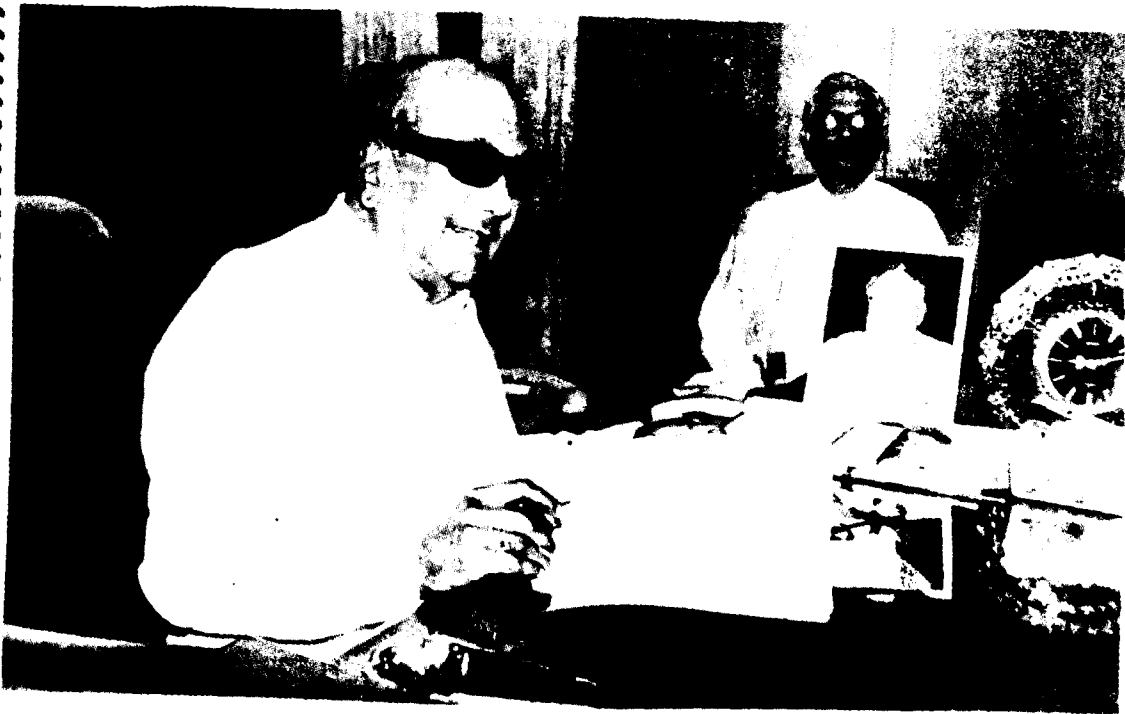


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BUDGET 1998-99

*Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi**,
presenting the Budget for 1998-99
to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 27th March, 1998.*

Hon'ble Speaker,

While presenting the budget before this House last year, while concluding my speech, I had stated thus:

“ In the southern part of India, Thanjavur was the capital of the mighty Chola empire where their imperial flag with the Tiger insignia was flying high. In this Thanjavur region, I was born and brought up in a village called Thirukkuvalai, in a most backward family engaged in agriculture with proficiency in music. Even as a young boy, I had a deep sense of self-respect and love for the Tamil language. I became a true disciple of Thanthai Periyar and then the affectionate younger brother of Arignar Anna and eventually a kin of the Tamil people dedicating myself to work for their betterment. In my 73 years, I have spent six decades in the cause of public service. In all these years of my dedicated public life, I have made this long journey with a vow that “Even if I were to fall, let Tamil live”. My sense of duty is such that even if I am thrown into the sea, I shall stay afloat like a catamaran for the Tamil



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Plan
outlay for
1998 - 99
at Rs.4500
crores
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people to ride upon. In my whole life I have had only one thought foremost in my mind, day in and day out, that is the right of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes to live with dignity. I have considered myself fortunate to be a humble soldier in their formation. I have identified persons among the forward communities who have the ability and concern for the rights and progress of these people. With their help, I have striven for the prosperity of the downtrodden. Even in my dream my yearning is to fulfil my vow to see God in the smile of the poor. This budget was prepared to transform that dream into reality and out of my unquenchable zeal to see in my lifetime a peaceful, prosperous and intellectually vibrant Tamil Society. I place this Budget before this august House with the assurance that when the people, leaders of parties and the Hon'ble members comment on this Budget, I shall in accordance with the Kural,

“ To discern the truth in everything, by whomsoever spoken, this is wisdom”

welcome the comments, rectify the defects and strive for perfection”. With the same determination, I hereby place before this House, the Revised Estimates for the year 1997-98 and the Budget Estimates for the year 1998-99.



2. Since the policies of this Government have been elucidated in the Governor's address, this budget contains concepts, new schemes, targets and activities to be implemented based on those policies.

3. In commemoration of the great author of Thirukural, Thiruvalluvar of world wide fame, this Government, which had built “Valluvar Kottam” in the State capital, had decided in the cabinet meeting held on 31st December, 1975 to instal a statue of Thiruvalluvar in the southern tip of the country at Kanyakumari and after having overcome the setbacks in the intervening period, the function to commence the construction work was conducted by this Government in 1990. I am very happy to announce that this work will be completed by the end of the next year.

This budget has been prepared without deviating from the important policy stated in the Governor's address:

“This Government has taken an important policy decision to focus on schemes which will provide basic facilities needed by the public such as food, clothing, shelter, drinking water, roads, education, public health and storm water drainage quickly rather than according priority to grandiose schemes which require many years for implementation”.

CENTRE STATE RELATIONS

4. Though the demand of this Government, which has been advocating autonomy for the States and federalism at the Centre, to devolve one third of the gross tax receipts of the Central Government to the States was not fully accepted, the United Front Government had agreed to devolve 29% of the gross tax receipts of the Central Government to the States with effect from 1.4.1996. We request the Central Government to implement this decision quickly.

5. It has been announced that the additional revenue to the Central Government on account of the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme (VDIS), would be about Rs.10,500 crores. The former Union Finance Minister had stated that 77.5% of this amount would be devolved to the States, of which Rs.4,400 crores will be shared with the States in the current financial year and the balance during the next financial year. I welcome the acceptance by the present Union Finance Minister of the request that, having regard to the financial position of the States, the entire receipts should be shared this year itself.

LOCAL BODIES

6. Government will take a decision on the recommendations of the committee constituted to consider transfer of additional powers to the local bodies quickly.

7. During the current financial year, this Government has devolved a sum of Rs.663 crores, being 8% of State's tax revenue, to the local bodies. During the next financial year this will be increased to Rs.839 crores. Besides this, the Tenth Finance Commission grant of Rs.100 crores has been distributed to the local bodies. Last year this Government set up an Urban Development Fund for the first time in India to provide loans to the urban local bodies. We are likely to get a line of credit to the tune of Rs.800 crores from the World Bank and the financial institutions for augmenting the resources of this fund.

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Exemption
of Sales
Tax on
Software.
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8. For the coming financial year, allocations of Rs.25 crores for Municipal Corporations other than Chennai, Rs.10 crores for Municipalities and Rs.25 crores for Town Panchayats have been made as was done in the past two years.

9. The changes introduced by this Government in the basis of levy of property tax in urban local bodies have provided a transparent, non-discretionary and equitable system of taxation. It includes a system of self assessment of their tax by the property owners. This new system will come into force from 1.10.1998.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

10. As announced in the last Budget, Government will take appropriate decisions after examining the recommendations of the commission constituted under the Chairmanship of the former Chief Secretary, Thiru Sabanayagam, to consider measures for avoidance of delays in revenue administration and delegation of powers to the officials functioning at different levels.

11. As announced in the last Budget, the High Level Committee on Prevention of Corruption constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Thiru Ramanujam (retired) has suggested a draft legislation for setting up an Inquiry institution after studying the Lokpal Bill and has also made several other recommendations. These are under the examination of the Government.

12. A Bill on transparency in tenders has been sent to the Central Government for obtaining the approval of the President. On its receipt, the Bill will be introduced in the Legislative Assembly during the current session.

13. Ours is the first State in the country which has enacted the Right to Information Act. This will enable the public to obtain information relating to administration easily. Rules under this Act will be notified soon.

14. Offices and departments with public dealings will set up one stop information counters in their premises to provide information and render assistance to Public.

15. A new Ettayapuram taluk in Thoothukudi district with headquarters at Ettayapuram, two new taluks, Kundha and Pandalur, formed out of Udthagamandalam and Gudalur taluks in Nilgiris district, a new taluk in Nagapattinam district with headquarters at Tirukkuvalai,

a new taluk in Salem district with headquarters at Vazhapadi, a new revenue division, Athur consisting of the two taluks of Athur and Gangavalli, formed by bifurcating Salem revenue division in Salem district, a new taluk with headquarters at Manamelkudi on bifurcation of Aavudaiyarkoil taluk, a new taluk with headquarters at Iluppur on bifurcation of Kulathur taluk in Pudukottai district, a new taluk on upgradation of Veerakeralampudur, the additional taluk in Tirunelveli district and a new taluk with headquarters at Alangulam in Tirunelveli district will start functioning from next year.

16. This Government has decided to merge 23 villages comprising 22 revenue villages in Sarugani sub taluk in Tiruvadani taluk and one village in Anandoor sub taluk in Ramanathapuram district with Devakottai taluk in Sivagangai district. By this, the long standing demand of the public in Sarugani area after the bifurcation of Ramanathapuram -Sivagangai districts has been fulfilled.

17. The Government had fixed a target of 75,000 free house site pattas to be distributed to the poor during the current financial year. On the occasion of Anna's death anniversary in February, 1998, it was planned to have a patta distribution week for issuing house site pattas to all unobjectionable encroachers of Government land. This could not be implemented because of the elections. Despite this, I am glad to announce that 2.03 lakh free house site pattas have been distributed to the poor till the end of February in the current financial year.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

18. A special financial allocation of Rs.52 crores was made for the 'Anna Marumalarchi Thittam' which was announced and is being implemented by this Government during the current year. Under this scheme, 33,282 works at a total cost of Rs.224 crores have been taken up. Next year the special allocation for this scheme will be stepped up to Rs.75 crores. Similarly for the 'Namakku Naame' scheme, the current year's special allocation of Rs.5 crores will be increased to Rs.10 crores in the next year.

19. The 'Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme' with Rs.25 lakhs provided for each Constituency has been implemented in 1997-98 with an allocation of Rs.58.75 crores. The implementation of this scheme will be continued next year with an allocation of Rs.30 lakhs per Constituency.

20. There were 1,14,143 incomplete works started in 1995 and earlier years. By launching a special drive on a war footing 1,09,263 works

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**Exemption
of Sales
Tax on
Cooking
oils.**
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**Special
financial
allocation of
Rs.52 crores
made for
'Anna
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**Exemption
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comprising 80,610 group houses, 1,113 panchayat office buildings, 1,664 school buildings, 5,660 irrigation works, 1,517 noon meal centres, 2,135 road works and 16,564 other works have been completed.

21. The scheme for construction of free concrete houses for Adi-dravidars was started by this Government in 1974 for the first time in India. Only by following this "Indira Awaas Yojana" was formulated at all India level. During the last two years 1,27,832 houses have been constructed under Indira Awaas Yojana. But the Central Government has provided funds sufficient for construction of only 1,00,634 houses. However, this Government sanctioned Rs.45.40 crores for the completion of the additional 27,198 houses taken up under this scheme. Central Government's share towards this expenditure would be Rs.36.32 crores. We have requested the Central Government to release this amount. Next year, efforts will be made to construct 60,000 houses.

22. Employment Assurance Scheme implemented in 282 development blocks of the State has been extended to all the 385 development blocks in the State. During the current year, 4,668 black topped road works, 1,333 school buildings, 2,611 other buildings, 2,920 minor irrigation works and 5,930 water harvesting works have been taken up. The provision of Rs.34 crores as State's share for the Employment Assurance Scheme in 1997-98 has been increased to Rs.47.64 crores in 1998-99. The provision of Rs.46.78 crores as State's share in 1997-98 for Jawahar Velai Vaippu Thittam has been increased to Rs.55.09 crores in 1998-99.

23. During the current year under the Central Rural Sanitation programme, 48,000 household toilets and 700 toilets in schools are being constructed with an allocation of Rs.7.26 crores. Allocation for this scheme in the next year has been increased to Rs.13.26 crores.

24. The Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.7.28 crores to erect 20,000 street lights in village panchayats during 1997-98. This work will be completed before the end of this month.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY

25. As assured in the last Budget, 154 rural habitations not having protected drinking water supply have been provided with this facility.

26. 4500 rural habitations getting less than 10 lpcd water, will be provided with a minimum supply of 40 lpcd during the current year. Next

year the remaining 5398 habitations will be provided with this facility. For this purpose, the current year's outlay of Rs.250 crores for rural water supply is being increased to Rs.330 crores in next year.

27. A scheme to provide water supply to Kadayanallur area from Tamirabarani river, the Avinasi Athikadavu water supply scheme, the Nariyanur combined water supply scheme and Kollidam combined water supply scheme will be taken up for investigation next year.

URBAN WATER SUPPLY

28. The allocation for urban water supply schemes for towns other than Chennai would be increased to Rs.40 crores in 1998-99. Water supply schemes in 5 municipalities and 20 town panchayats will be completed during 1998-99. New water supply schemes will be taken up in 8 municipalities and 20 town panchayats.

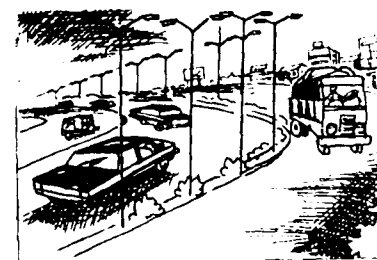
29. Work on the Tiruppur Town Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Scheme in the private sector at a cost of about Rs.700 crores will commence next year.

30. From July to November, 1997, 2.09 TMC of Krishna water was received in Chennai. Since the reservoirs of the city had received sufficient water during the North East monsoon, the flow of Krishna water was stopped. With a view to preventing the seepage which occurred in the canal reaches in Andhra Pradesh, the works for strengthening the canal by lining the banks with cement have been taken up by that Government. After completion of this work, the supply of Krishna water will commence again from July this year. We have so far paid Rs.512 crores to Andhra Pradesh Government for this project.

31. An allocation of Rs.135 crores has been made for the next year for the Second Chennai Water Supply Project being implemented with World Bank assistance. For upgrading the water supply and solid waste management, the Third Chennai Water Supply project with an outlay of Rs.1,181 crores will commence from next year. Further, an allocation of Rs.150 crores has been made for implementing the assisted Sewerage Renovation project assisted by Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan.

32. A scheme to provide underground sewerage facilities to the municipal corporations of Coimbatore, Madurai and Tirunelveli, municipalities of Alandur, Pallavaram, Tambaram and Ambathur around

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5398 Rural habitations getting less than 10 LPCD drinking water supply will be provided with a minimum of 40 LPCD by the end of 1998-99.
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Chennai and Erode and Karur municipalities at an estimated cost of Rs.269 crores will be implemented from the next year with assistance from Tamil Nadu Urban Development Fund.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

33. In order to reduce the traffic congestion in Chennai city, a traffic action plan at a cost of Rs.366 crores will be implemented from next year. The scheme will include traffic management schemes, improvement of road geometrics, traffic signals, pedestrian facilities, parking facilities, improved road lighting facilities and flyovers.

34. A scheme to upgrade important roads around Chennai at a cost of Rs.212 crores will be implemented with loan assistance from Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) during next year.

35. In the last Budget speech, I had mentioned that sanction had been accorded for schemes in Chennai Metropolitan area at a cost of Rs.326 crores. During the current financial year sanction has been accorded for additional schemes at a cost of Rs.60 crores. An expenditure of Rs.158 crores has been incurred and nine schemes have been completed so far.

36. The day to day life of the people, public health and the condition of the roads in Chennai city get badly affected during the monsoon. With a view to finding a solution to this problem, a major scheme has been taken up to enhance the utilisation of the city waterways, Buckingham canal, Coovum river, Adayar etc by desilting, deepening, prevention of the mixing of effluents, beautification of the surrounding environment, revival of transport in the waterways, establishment of recreational facilities and cleaning of the waterways using the sea water during high tides.

37. Tenders have been received from 13 consultancy firms to undertake consultancy work for preparing a master plan and implementation plan for this scheme. These offers are now under scrutiny by the evaluation committee. Decisions will be taken soon, after which implementation of this scheme will commence.

38. Apart from this, various flood control and drainage works in Chennai metropolitan area will be taken up at a cost of about Rs.300 crores.

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Upgradation of roads around Chennai at a cost of Rs.212 crores
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PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

39. As stated in the Governor's address the new two colour family cards system will be implemented from 1.6.1998 onwards in Chennai city and suburban areas and in a phased manner in other parts of the State.

40. Orders have been issued that all fair price shops should display the daily stock position and have a complaint book to enable registration by cardholders of complaints like underweighment and non supply of commodities.

41. Government has issued orders that Members of Parliament, Legislative Assembly, Mayors and members of Municipal Corporations, Chairmen and members of Municipalities, Chairmen, Presidents and members of all other local bodies shall have a right to visit the fair price shops in their jurisdiction and to bring any deficiency to the attention of the District and Divisional Committees.



AGRICULTURE

42. The food grain production in our State which was 76.42 lakh tonnes in the last year is expected to increase to 94.92 lakh tonnes this year.

43. An allocation of Rs.82 crores has been made for the World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development Project and Rs.9.85 crores for the Agricultural Human Resources Development Project.

44. As announced in the last Budget, the Agriculture Development Finance (Tamil Nadu) Limited established by NABARD in Tamil Nadu has started functioning at Chennai. The State Government has contributed Rs.1.8 crores as share capital to this company so far. The credit flow to high tech Agro based industries like Floriculture, Horticulture, Mushroom culture will increase. Loan assistance of Rs.6.46 crores has been sanctioned by this financial institution for five projects so far.

45. The report of the High Level Committee headed by Dr. V.C. Kulandaisamy on waste land and watershed development has been received and is being examined in consultation with the State Planning Commission. On the basis of recommendations of this committee, a major project to increase the productivity of rainfed agriculture will be implemented in the State.



IRRIGATION

46. The Water Resources Consolidation Project for modernising the irrigation systems and facilitating farmers participation in irrigation management is being implemented with financial assistance from the World Bank with an outlay of Rs.1140 crores. A sum of Rs.186 crores has been provided for this scheme in the next year. 43 works at an estimated cost of Rs.80 crores have commenced so far under this project. In the next financial year, 152 works at an estimated cost of Rs.352 crores will be taken up.

47. The Tank Modernisation project Phase II is being implemented at a cost of Rs.115 crores with financial assistance from the European Economic Community. Under this scheme, 288 tanks have been modernised so far. Allocation in 1998-99 for this project is Rs.12.89 crores.

48. The work of desilting of irrigation canals of Cauvery which had been neglected for a long time has been executed very well this year at a cost of more than Rs.10 crores. Next year, an allocation of Rs.20 crores has been made for this work and it will be completed before the water is released from the Mettur Dam.

49. A scheme for taking up desilting and rehabilitation work on Narayana Cauvery, Raghunatha Cauvery and Sankarathevan irrigation channels in Ramanathapuram district will be implemented from next year at a cost of Rs.7.41 crores. Besides improving the irrigation facilities this scheme will augment the drinking water supply in Kamudhi, Kadaladi, Mudukulathur and Sayalgudi areas.

FISHERMEN WELFARE

50. The Government incurred an expenditure of Rs.8.57 crores in the current year on the Savings and Relief scheme providing financial assistance to coastal fishermen in the months when they cannot go for fishing, benefiting 1.19 lakh fishermen. This scheme will be implemented next year also.

51. During this year, construction of 4,000 houses under Ma. Singaravelar fishermen housing scheme has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.12.8 crores and works are in progress. Under this scheme 4,000 more houses will be constructed next year with an allocation of Rs.13.15 crores.

52. With a view to encouraging the fishermen to use modern

fibreglass catamarans, 100 fishermen will be given modern fibreglass catamarans costing Rs.50,000 each at a subsidised cost during next year.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

53. During the current year, 60 new veterinary dispensaries have been opened at a cost of Rs.1.48 crores. 20 Veterinary dispensaries have been upgraded as veterinary hospitals and 3 veterinary hospitals as clinician centres. Next year 30 more veterinary dispensaries will be opened at a cost of Rs.81 lakhs.

ROADS

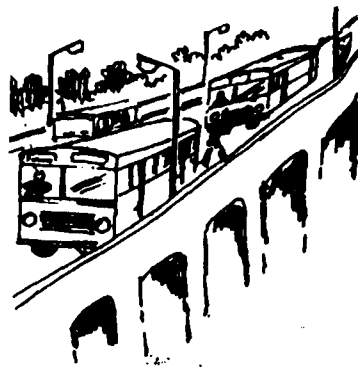
54. During the current year, 216 villages are being provided with link roads at a cost of Rs.83.49 crores. During the next year, 301 villages will be provided with link roads at a cost of Rs.101.73 crores. With this, all the villages in our State with a population of more than 1,000 would have been provided with link roads. In the next phase, works to provide link roads to 4986 villages having a population of 500 to 1000 will be taken up.

55. The project for developing 750 kilometers of high traffic density highways with World Bank assistance at a cost of Rs.750 crores and the project for construction of 104 bridges with loan assistance from HUDCO and NABARD at a cost of Rs.360 crores will be implemented from next year.

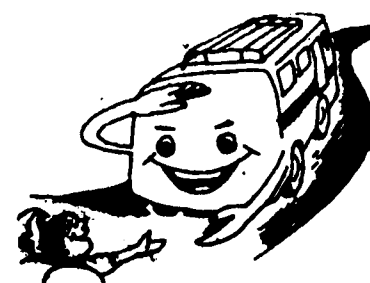
56. In tune with the policy of the Central Government, under the scheme for widening, upgrading and maintenance of national highways, through the joint efforts of private sector and the Government, the following works will be taken up.

- * Four laning of 55 KM of national highway between Mamandur and Tindivanam at a cost of Rs.200 crores.
- * Four laning of 61 KM of national highway between Krishnagiri and Hosur at a cost of Rs.250 crores.
- * Coimbatore bypass road at a cost of Rs.92 crores.
- * New bridge at Karanodai at a cost of Rs.20 crores.

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Commence-
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57. Work on the 19 KM long Chennai bypass road from Tambaram to Maduravoyal will commence in the coming year at a cost of Rs.43 crores. With a view to reducing traffic congestion in Madurai, the work on forming a bypass road connecting Madurai-Tiruchi road and Madurai-Kanyakumari road at a cost of Rs.36 crores will commence in the next few months. The construction work on a new bridge in Karur across the Amaravathi river at a cost of Rs.12 crores will commence shortly. The preliminary work on the Pulicat bridge which has been a longstanding demand will be taken up next year.

58. Accepting the request of this Government, the previous Government at the Centre had notified the conversion of 217 KM of the State highway from Nagapattinam to Karur, 150 KM of State highway from Salem to Ulundurpet and 171 KM of State highway from Pondicherry to Krishnagiri, totalling 538 kilometres of State highways as National highways.

59. Allocation of funds for maintenance of the roads in the State has been increased from Rs.228 crores in the current year to Rs.254 crores in the next year.

TRANSPORT

60. In the current year 3974 new buses have been purchased for replacing the old buses and operating buses in new routes. A provision of Rs.200 crores has been made as additional share capital to the State Transport Corporations towards the purchase of 3,600 buses next year.

61. In the last budget, I had announced the decision to permit plying of mini buses by private operators in interior rural areas where bus services are not operated. In pursuance of this decision, more than 300 applications have been received, 14 permits have been issued so far and the remaining applications will be considered and decisions taken soon.

62. The first phase of work on the Chennai Rapid Transit System from Chennai Beach to Luz at a cost of Rs.260 crores has been completed and the train services have commenced. The work on the second phase for a length of 10.3 kilometers between Luz and Velacheri at an estimated cost of Rs.605 crores will commence next year. The State Government will bear two thirds of the expenditure on this work.

63. Keeping in view the growing requirements of air traffic in

Chennai city, it is proposed to establish a new international airport as a joint venture with private sector investment. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation will be undertaking a detailed feasibility study in consultation with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

64. Additional land is required for expansion of the existing international airport at Chennai. Responding to our request, Ministry of Defence, Government of India has transferred an extent of 1.75 acres of land adjacent to the international airport to the Airports Authority of India.

ELECTRICITY

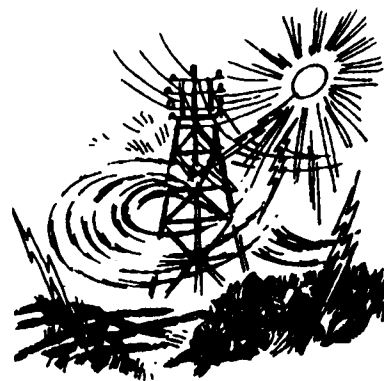
65. In the next financial year, the plan outlay of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board will be increased to Rs.903 crores. For this, the State Government will provide Rs.250 crores as equity investment to the Electricity Board. The Electricity Board will obtain the balance funding from financial institutions.

66. In a situation where, apart from the North Chennai Thermal Power Project started by this Government in 1989-90, no new projects for generating power have been established, power purchase agreements for 5792 MW of power have been signed with private power companies after this government assumed office again. Of these, Basin Bridge power project with a capacity of 196 MW will start producing electricity next year. The construction work on the 250 MW Lignite based power project at Neyveli, the 330 MW natural gas based power project at Pillaiperumalnallur, the 1050 MW North Chennai thermal power project phase II, the 525 MW thermal power project at Thoothukkudi and diesel power projects at Samayanallur and Samalpatti with a total capacity of 212 MW will commence during the next year.

67. Having regard to the fast growing demand for electricity and the fact that completing big power projects and generating power would take atleast a few years, it was decided to implement 20 liquid fuel power projects which could generate power within a short period. However, as the Central Government did not allocate the required liquid fuel to Tamil Nadu, only 5 projects generating 488 MW power are likely to be implemented. We will continue to urge the Central Government to allocate additional liquid fuel.

68. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board will be spending Rs.436 crores in the current year on transmission and distribution works as well as on works to stabilise voltage and reduce line losses. The allocation for these works has been increased to Rs.465 crores next year.

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Traffic
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69. The policies of this Government conducive to industrial development, transparent decision making and highly skilled human resources have attracted investors from other Countries and States to Tamil Nadu.

70. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation has been actively working on implementing several big projects jointly with private entrepreneurs.

71. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation is taking steps for setting up a petro chemical industrial park and 2.5 million tonnes per annum liquefied natural gas terminal cum 2000 MW power plant at Ennore, a 500 MW lignite power project at Jayamkondam and a petroleum refinery project at a cost of Rs.2650 crores at Cuddalore.

72. The high technology industrial park in Tirunelveli district at a project cost of Rs.700 crores with an anticipated investment Rs.7000 crores in new industries to be established in the industrial park will transform Tirunelveli district into a industrial growth centre. Land acquisition Work for this project is in progress.

73. With a view to providing lands to industrial entrepreneurs, 7156 acres of land are being acquired by Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation, 8,444 acres by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Infrastructure Development and 10,733 acres by State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu in Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Dharmapuri, Thoothukudi, Erode, Tirunelveli and Dindigul districts.

74. For encouraging the growth of computer software, computer hardware industries and allied activities, we have announced an “Information Technology Industry Policy”. TIDCO is taking steps jointly with ELCOT to establish a software technology park in 7.5 acres area at Taramani in Chennai. This project would provide world class facilities for software firms.

75. As announced in the last Budget speech, with a view to creating necessary infrastructure for information technology and becoming a pioneer in the world in the field of information technology in the 21st century, the ‘Tamil Nadu Institute of Information Technology’ has been established. The campus of this Institute will be located at Taramani. Till permanent buildings are constructed, this Institute will start functioning from the premises of Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu at Perungudi from the next academic

year. An allocation of Rs.5 crores has been provided in the next year for this project.

76. The Government has decided to develop Chennai as a major business-cum-financial centre of the country. For this purpose, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Industrial Infrastructure Development will establish a business-cum-financial centre at a cost of Rs.100 crores.

77. The construction work on a factory manufacturing optical fibre cables at a cost of Rs.24 crores in Maraimalainagar, an auto ancillaries industrial park with an outlay of Rs.150 crores near Maraimalainagar, a Particle Board Factory at a cost of Rs.125 crores in Villupuram district and a synthetic wood factory to be established at Irungattukottai at a cost of Rs.45.70 crores will commence during the next year.

78. The Hyundai car factory, with a production capacity of 1,20,000 cars per annum, will commence production in October 1998. 2800 persons will get direct employment in this factory and 9750 persons in the ancillary industries.

79. It is proposed to establish a Small Industries Technology Centre in Chennai at a cost of Rs.2 crores through the joint efforts of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Central Government and associations of Small Industries. This Technology Centre will assist small industries in the production of high quality products at low prices. As State Government's share, a sum of Rs.30 lakhs has been allocated in the next year for this scheme.

80. As announced in the last Budget session, a Textile Policy has been formulated for the first time. This policy will be effectively implemented for the integrated growth of handloom, powerloom and mill sectors and increasing exports and cotton production.

81. The co-operative spinning mills which were functioning well earlier suffered heavy losses during the previous regime. In order to restructure their functioning, a study was undertaken with the assistance of experts. I discussed this issue recently with the Minister for Handlooms and the officials. Based on this, schemes for the revival of these 18 spinning mills would be formulated shortly in consultation with NABARD. All efforts will be taken to make the cooperative spinning mills function well again with the cooperation of the workers and banks.

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Under-
ground
sewerage
facilities
for
Coimbatore,
Tirunelveli,
Alandur,
Pallavaram,
Tambaram,
Ambattur,
Erode and
Karur will
be taken
up at a
cost of
Rs.269
crores.
”**

**Free text
books for
all
students
in classes
I to V
studying
in
Government,
Local
Bodies
and Aided
Schools.**

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

82. Under the Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project, an allocation of Rs.50 crores was provided for afforestation works in 63,576 hectares in 1997-98. A provision of Rs.104 crores has been made for afforestation works in 86,030 hectares in 1998-99.

83. 56 common effluent treatment plants are being established benefiting 2504 polluting industrial units in various parts of Tamil Nadu. In order to obtain the views of the public before environmental clearance is given by the Government for industries, Government has ordered the setting up of "Public Hearing Panels" in the districts.

84. For the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of abatement of pollution in the Cauvery river in the towns of Bhavani, Kumarapalayam, Erode, Pallipalayam and Tiruchi, a provision of Rs.8 crores has been provided for the next year. Schemes for improving the environment of Kodaikannal and Udhamandalam lakes at a cost of Rs.47 crores have been sent to the Central Government. After obtaining the approval of the Central Government, they will be implemented in the next financial year.

EDUCATION

85. As announced in the last year's Budget, 168 new primary schools have been opened. Further, 41 primary schools have been upgraded as middle schools, 71 middle schools as high schools and 80 high schools as higher secondary schools. In the current year, Rs.11.50 crores for constructing additional class rooms in 297 Government high and higher secondary schools, Rs.10 crores for construction of laboratories in 119 Government higher secondary schools, and Rs.1.44 crores for constructing toilets in 200 Government girls high and higher secondary schools have been sanctioned.

86. Out of 700 hamlets without primary schools in Tamil Nadu, new primary schools will be opened in 300 hamlets in the next financial year and 400 in the following year thereby ensuring that there will be no hamlet without a primary school in Tamil Nadu. In the next financial year, it has been decided to upgrade 200 primary schools into middle schools, 80 middle schools into high schools and 40 high schools into higher secondary schools.

87. As against an allocation of Rs.2,938 crores in the current year, allocation for education in the next year has been increased to Rs.3,568 crores. A provision of Rs.3.52 crores has been made for starting computer courses

in 50 higher secondary schools. An allocation of Rs.10 crores has been provided for construction of additional class rooms in 500 schools and a provision of Rs.10 crores made for construction of laboratories in 300 schools.

88. Provision for supplying free uniforms to the students has been increased from Rs.45 crores in the current year to Rs.57 crores in the next year. At present free text books are being given only to students getting noonmeal. From the next academic year onwards, all students studying in Government, aided and local body schools from 1st to 5th standard will be given free text books. For supply of free text books to the students, a provision of Rs.25 crores has been made for the next year. The scheme of free bus pass to students introduced by this government continues to be implemented. A provision of Rs.66 crores has been made for this scheme in the next year.

89. Accepting the recommendation of Dr. Anandhakrishnan Committee on the functioning of self financing colleges, a novel single window system of admission of students to Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu has been introduced in the current year. The students, parents and the public have welcomed and appreciated the system. Under this system, the students are allotted branches in the first year itself on the basis of merit and options given by them along with admission to colleges of their choice. This system has brought an end to the commercialisation of allotment of branches in the beginning of the second year by self financing engineering colleges. This single window system will be introduced in the polytechnics also in the next year. The high level committee's other recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

90. The Technician Education project with World Bank assistance is being implemented in our State at a cost of Rs.95 crores. This project assists in modernisation of the Government and aided polytechnics in our State by providing buildings, hostels, laboratories, equipments, books, computers and new curricula. A provision of Rs.21 crores has been made for this project for the next year.

TAMIL OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

91. This Government commenced the work of writing of the history of Tamil Nadu and its publication in 1970. Till now, three volumes and a part of the fourth volume have been published. The Government has reconstituted the expert committee and expedited this project of writing the history of Tamil Nadu. A sum of Rs.5 lakhs has been provided for this scheme in the current year.

92. As announced by me last year, in order to cultivate interest in music and art in young students, music schools have been started at Salem,

Tiruchi, Tiruvarur, Tirunelveli and Pudukkottai in this year. They are imparting training to students in Vocal Music, Bharathanatyam, Nadaswaram, Thavil, etc. Music schools will be started in five more districts in the next year.



93. A department of Music was functioning in Raja's College, Thiruvaiyaru under the control of Thanjavur Chatram administration. This department has been separated and accorded the status of a college and is functioning as a Government Music College in Thiruvaiyaru.

94. As the Government had nationalised the works of Tamil scholars and paid appropriate amounts to their families in the past, this year also, the works of Tamil Thenral, Sentamil semmal and labour leader Thiru.Vi.Ka. will be nationalised and an amount of Rs.20 lakhs paid to his descendants.

95. On the eve of the centenary of Professor. Kalki, who wrote many works of fiction in Tamil about the history, art, culture and valour of Tamils, an amount of Rs.20 lakhs will be provided to nationalise his works.

96. Rs.2 lakhs will be granted by the Government for the welfare of the family of late Elangovan alias Thanikachalam who was a great writer and script writer for films.

97. A grant of Rs.5 lakhs is being provided for the publication of a 6000 page full Tamil translation of 'Das Kapital' and 'Surplus Value' of Karl Marx for the first time in an Indian language by Vellore K. Raghavan Jamadagni, one of the leading Tamil literateur who had undergone long imprisonment for Indian independence.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

98. The provision for the health sector has been increased from Rs.877 crores in the current year to Rs.1096 crores in the next year. Buildings with a new type design are being constructed for 652 Primary Health Centres at a cost of Rs.49.68 crores. Of these, 296 buildings will be completed by the end of this month. The remaining buildings will be completed in the next year. With this, all the 1408 Primary Health Centres in this State will function in permanent buildings. Besides this, new buildings for 200 health sub centres have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.9 crores.

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No hamlet
without a
school by
the end of
1999-2000.
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Permanent
building
for all
Public
Health
Centres in
the State.
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99. I had announced in the last Budget speech that Industrial houses had come forward to adopt Primary Health Centres for proper maintenance. In the meeting conducted by me with the Industrialists of Tamil Nadu on this, they have evinced keen interest to participate in this scheme. In the first phase, 40 primary health centres will be handed over to the industrial houses for maintenance.

100. The maintenance of Government Hospitals and Dispensaries has been given due importance and a sum of Rs.23.6 crores has been provided in the Budget. A sum of Rs.106 crores has been provided for medicines for the next year.

101. The Reproductive and Child Health project with World Bank aid of Rs.23.14 crores is being implemented in Madurai and Theni districts. The State Government has been taking several measures to reduce the infant mortality from the present level of 54 per 1000 live births.

102. It gives me great satisfaction to mention that Tamil Nadu has brought down the birth rate to 19.2 per 1000 persons on a purely voluntary basis and this achievement has become a model for the other States to emulate.

NUTRITION

103. The Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project implemented with World Bank assistance with an outlay of Rs.425 crores has come to an end in December, 1997. Under this project 14.31 lakh children in 318 blocks in 24 districts have benefited. Even after December 1997 this scheme is being continued with Central and State funds.

104. An allocation of Rs.464 crores has been provided in 1998-99 for the State Government's Nutritious Meal Programme. This scheme benefits 73.41 lakh children. Eggs which were given once a fortnight under the scheme will be given once a week from the next year onwards.

WELFARE OF WOMEN

105. The provision of Rs.55 crores allocated for the development of women in the current year will be increased to Rs.91.20 crores in the next year.

106. The State Women Development Project being implemented in

14 districts of the State this year will be implemented in another 7 districts next year. A sum of Rs.12 crores has been provided for this Project in the next year. As the Women's Development Project implemented in 8 districts with financial assistance from the International Fund for Agricultural Development will come to a close by the end of December, 1998, these 8 districts will also be included in the State Women's Development Project.



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Eggs will
be
provided
in noon-
meal
scheme
once in a
week here
after.”

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60000 brides
to get
assistance
under
Moovalur
Ramamirdham
Ammaiyar
Thirumana
Udhavi
Thittam with
an allocation
of Rs.60
crores
”

107. In the current year, the Government sanctioned Rs.53.15 crores under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Thirumana Thittam benefiting 53,145 brides. The allocation for the next year has been increased to Rs.60 crores to benefit 60,000 brides. In response to the appeal made by the Government, donations for Rs.5.16 crores have been received from the public for this scheme.

108. Like information technology, bio-technology is a developing technology capable of creating increased employment opportunities. This technology enables commercial production of a number of products through innovative processes at low cost. With a view to securing the benefits of this technology to our State within a short period and providing self employment opportunities to women entrepreneurs, a Biotechnology Park will be established exclusively for women entrepreneurs at Kelambakkam.

ADI DRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL WELFARE

109. Alongwith providing quality education to Adidraavidars, necessary steps will be taken to increase the number of beneficiaries under various welfare schemes for Adi draavidars. During the current year, the provision for Adidraavidar and tribal welfare is Rs.334 crores. This is being increased to Rs.434 crores in the next year.

110. Computer education has been started in 51 Adidraavidar higher secondary schools and 9 high schools at a cost of Rs.180 lakhs during the current year. 40 hostels have been opened benefiting 2000 students.

111. A provision of Rs.172 lakhs has been made in the current year to construct permanent buildings for Adidraavidar welfare schools. Further, for the construction of buildings for the Adidraavidar girls' hostels, a sum of Rs.8.50 crores has been provided.

112. Job oriented training in subjects like computers, typewriting and shorthand, legal practice, plastic technology, etc. is being given to Adidraavidar youth.

113. Next year 50 Adidravidar and tribal welfare residential primary schools will be upgraded with basic facilities at a cost of Rs.1.13 crores. Further 6 middle schools will be upgraded as high schools and 6 high schools as higher secondary schools.

114. The food charges given by the Government in colleges and polytechnic hostels have been enhanced from Rs.250 to Rs.300 per month per student with effect from 1-10-1997. This will be increased to Rs.400 per month.

115. Government has issued orders that the backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be filled up. It has now been assessed that there are 662 such unfilled vacancies and of this, appointments have been made for 54 vacancies so far. Action has been taken to fill up the remaining vacancies. To monitor the reservation, a High Level Committee of Members of Legislative Assembly has been formed. This committee has completed the review of 80 out of 110 departments with the Heads of Department, and the Secretaries. The Committee will help in proper implementation of the rule of reservation.

116. Efforts will be undertaken to arrange for loans at concessional rates of interest to Adi Dravidars for starting industries by developing THADCO on the lines of a bank.

117. An important objective of the Government is construction of quality houses and provision of house sites to all Adidravidars. A provision of Rs.68 crores has been made to different departments to provide necessary basic facilities. The Government will implement a three year plan to provide all basic necessities to the tribal habitations.

WELFARE OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND MOST BACKWARD CLASSES

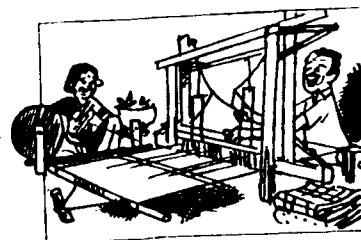
118. In the current year, a provision of Rs.64.32 crores has been made for the welfare of Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes. Next year this will be increased to Rs.90 crores.

119. During the current year, 40 hostels for Backward class students and 22 hostels for Most Backward class students have been started. During the current year new buildings with all facilities have been constructed for 13 hostels. Next year 25 hostels for Backward class students will be opened.



“ Connectivity to all rural habitations with population more than 1000 - 301 villages will be provided with link roads at a cost of Rs.101.73 crores. ”

“ Cleaning of City Water-ways project with flood control and drainage works at a cost of Rs.300 crores will be taken up. ”



Further 7 Backward classes hostels and 8 Most Backward classes hostels will be constructed.

120. The food charges given by the Government in colleges and polytechnic hostels has been enhanced from Rs.250 to Rs.300 per month per student with effect from 1.10.1997. This will be increased to Rs.400 per month. Annual income limit of parents for admission of students in hostels which was Rs.15,000 has been increased to Rs.50,000 in the current year.

121. Under the economic upliftment scheme, job oriented training programmes like computer training, heavy vehicle driving, typewriting and shorthand are being implemented. During the current year, the students strength for computer training has been increased from 175 to 1000 and for heavy vehicle driving from 250 to 2000.

WELFARE OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS

122. This Government has issued orders in the current year to implement a scheme for giving monthly pension of Rs. 150 to the members of the primary weavers co-operative societies who have completed 60 years of age. Under this scheme, 96,000 handloom weavers will get the benefit on attaining 60 years of age.

123. With a view to safeguarding the welfare of handloom weavers, the State Government has created an enforcement wing to enforce the Reservation of Articles for Production Act, 1985. This will function at Salem, Tiruchengodu, Erode, Tiruppur and Madurai.

124. On the 23rd, I had announced on the floor of the Assembly that a Committee would be formed to go into the problems arising out of the accumulation of stocks due to unsold handloom cloth and had stated that the said Committee would submit its report to the Government within one month. Accordingly, a Committee is being constituted. The Committee will consist of Thiru J. Suddhanandan from Erode, Thiru P.N. Subramanian, M.L.A., Arcot, Thiru. E.A.S. Raman, M.L.A., Pallipattu, Thiru N. Periyasamy, M.L.A., Perundurai, Thiru R. Thamaraikani, M.L.A., Thiruvilliputhur, Thiru S.S. Perumal of Vandavasi and the Additional Secretary, Finance Department. This Committee will submit its report to the Government before the first of May. Government will take appropriate action on the report.

WORKERS' WELFARE

125. The recommendations of the committees formed to study

the problems of unorganised sector workers as mentioned in the last Budget speech have been received. Unorganised workers do not get the benefit of various labour welfare schemes. Hence, with a view to providing welfare benefits like sickness insurance maternity grant and pension, a state level unorganised labour welfare board, with representation for employers, workers and the Government will be established next year and several welfare schemes implemented. About 25 lakh workers in 43 unorganised employments like head load workers, match industry workers, handloom weavers outside the co-operative fold, workers in power looms, brick making, dyeing, cashewnut processing, coir, construction of pandals, Appalam making, synthetic gem cutting, goldsmiths, haircutting, laundries, pottery, printing presses, cooks, hotel workers, workers in private shops and establishments, tailors, drivers of cycle rickshaws, autorickshaws and taxis and salt pan workers will get several welfare benefits under this scheme.

126. With a view to protecting the welfare of the workers of the factories under closure, like Binny and Dunlop, talks with their managements are continuing.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES

127. This Government has been implementing a number of social security schemes for the weaker sections. The monthly pension being given based on age to various disadvantaged sections like weavers, fishermen, landless agricultural labourers, widows, destitute women and the physically handicapped will be enhanced from Rs.100 per month to Rs.150 per month. For this purpose, an allocation of Rs.150 crores will be provided in the next year.

128. For the supply of free sarees and dhoties during the Pongal festival to families living below poverty line and Sri lankan Tamils living in the refugee camps, a provision of Rs. 100 crores has been made.

129. Awareness has been created about the rules relating to the abolition of bonded labour. A survey was undertaken with the assistance of voluntary organisations from January 1997 to identify bonded labour in all the districts and 25,008 bonded labourers have been identified. Government has sanctioned Rs.5 crores as State's share for their rehabilitation. The Central Government's share is awaited.

HOUSING

130. During the current year, Tamil Nadu Housing Board will

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Extension
of welfare
schemes for
unorganised
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workers -
constitution
of state
level un-
organised
labour
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board -
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25 lakh
workers in
unorganised
sector
covering
43 employ-
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Provision
of
Asbestos
roofs for
all
thatched
huts in
Municipal
Corporation
areas in
the State.
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complete construction of 14,840 houses. In the next year, it has been proposed to construct 15,000 houses at an estimated cost of Rs.252 crores.

131. With a view to providing housing facilities for the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court, this Government has decided to construct 30 Bungalows at a cost of Rs.13.7 crores.

132. During the current year, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board will complete the construction of 2,000 multi storeyed tenements for slum dwellers. In the next year, it has been proposed to construct 3,000 multi storeyed tenements at a cost of Rs.30 crores. Further, basic amenities will be provided to 30,000 families living in the slum areas in Chennai and other towns, at a cost of Rs.3 crores during the next year. With a view to relocating slum dwellers in objectionable slums in Chennai, 6,500 tenements are being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.60 crores at Okkiam Thuraipakkam near Chennai.

133. Damage to the lives and property of the poor is caused by the fire accidents which occur now and then in slums in urban areas. With a view to preventing the thatched roof huts catching fire frequently, the Government will undertake to provide asbestos roofs in place of thatched roofs, in the municipal corporations of Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Tiruchy and Tirunelveli in the first phase. Necessary funds will be provided from next year onwards.

GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

134. As announced by me, in connection with the Golden Jubilee of our Independence, with a view to creating a casteless society, Samathuvapurams are being established at 50 places all over the State as a first phase. A provision of Rs.17.5 crores has been made next year for this scheme.

135. In this Golden Jubilee year of Indian Independence, as a gesture of honouring the freedom fighters in our State, this Government has enhanced the monthly financial assistance from Rs.1,500 to Rs.3,000. After their demise, assistance at the rate of Rs.1,500 per month will be given to their wives or dependants. This will apply to Tamil Savants also. This scheme is being implemented from 15.8.1997.

136. In this Golden Jubilee Year of Indian Independence, with a view to remembering those who sacrificed their lives for social justice, an amount of Rs.1 lakh each will be granted to the families of the more

than 20 persons who lost their lives in the police firing during the agitation for 20 percent reservation for the Most Backward classes in 1987.

137. A sum of Rs.30 lakhs has been sanctioned for the construction of Martyrs Manimandapam near Gandhi Mandapam, Chennai to honour the martyrs in the Golden Jubilee year of independence. In commemoration of their memory, a memorial for the Golden Jubilee Year of Independence has been constructed near the War Memorial on Kamarajar Salai in Chennai.

138. Government has sanctioned Rs.50 lakhs for renovation of the house in which stage artist Tyagi Viswanatha Das lived and construction of wedding hall and a library in that building.

139. This Government has sanctioned Rs.50 lakhs for the renovation of the house where the freedom fighter Veeran Poolithevan lived at Nelkattumcheval village in Tirunelveli District, without affecting its heritage making it into a memorial and for construction of a marriage hall, park, etc.

140. For the descendants of the freedom fighter Veeran Sundaralingam who lived in Governagiri near Panchalankuruchi in Thoothukudi district the Government has implemented a scheme called "Veeran Sundaralingam Memorial Village, Governagiri" for the construction of 200 houses and providing facilities like road, park, library, electricity, etc. at a cost of Rs.1.05 crores.

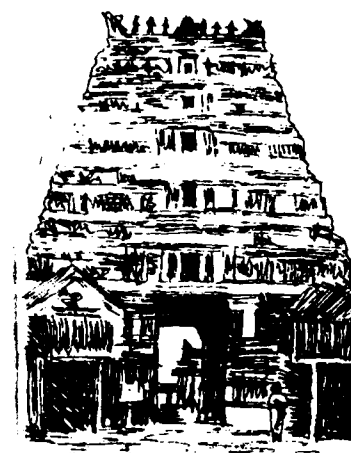
141. The work on the construction of a memorial at C.P.Ramaswamy park in Nagercoil to commemorate the memory of the communist leader Jeeva at a cost of Rs.15.50 lakhs has been completed.

142. In connection with the centenary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, a statue of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose has been installed in Chennai at a cost of Rs.7.40 lakhs and was opened on 15.12.1997.

143. After considering the judgement of the court on the construction of Dr. Ambedkar Manimandapam and taking expeditious decision, the work relating to the construction of the Manimandapam in Chennai will commence soon.

144. A sum of Rs.84.94 lakhs has been sanctioned for carrying

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Construction
work on
Tirupur
Water
Supply and
Sewerage
disposal
scheme in
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sector at
a cost of
Rs.700
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commence
in
1998 - 99.
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World
Bank
assisted
development
of 750
kilometres
to
Highways
at a cost
of Rs.750
crores.
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out the renovation and improvements in Valluvar Kottam which was in a dilapidated condition during the intervening period and the works are in progress.

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS ADMINISTRATION

145. Honourable Members may be aware that a Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister to tune up the administration of the temples. The Committee consisting of religious leaders and Tamil scholars has made several suggestions to improve the temple administration, protect the temple properties and to augment the income from these properties. Following the amendment made to the Act, by taking steps in the last year 316 grounds of house sites, 257.56 acres of vacant land and 1355.07 acres of cultivable lands have been recovered. The total value of such lands is Rs.125.43 crores.

HIGH COURT BENCH AT MADURAI

146. Land acquisition work taken up for establishing the High Court Bench at Madurai is nearing completion. After consulting the High Court construction work will commence soon.

WELFARE OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

147. You are aware that it was this Government, which is concerned with the welfare of its employees, extended the Central scales of pay to State Government employees for the first time in 1989. The report submitted by the Official Committee set up to consider extending the revised pay scales implemented by the Central Government for its employees based on the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission to the State Government employees including the Police Department and the teachers, was examined. I have had discussions with the associations of Government employees and teachers individually as well as jointly. Taking into consideration their demands and the financial position of the State Government, the following decisions have been taken.

148. The revised Central Government pay scales corresponding to the existing 25 State payscales will be granted. The 40 percent fitment benefit granted by the Central Government will be extended to all the full time and part-time State Government employees. These revised scales of pay will be given with effect from the same date, viz., 1-1-1996, as granted to Central Government employees.

149. State Government employees will be paid the same rates of City Compensatory Allowance as granted to Central Government employees.

150. As regards House Rent Allowance, larger number of employees are benefitted under the State Scheme as compared to the Central Government Scheme. According to the Central Government Scheme, employees working within city limits only are allowed city rates of House Rent Allowance. However, under the State Scheme, employees working within city limits as well as in the belt areas around a city are granted city rates of House Rent Allowance. Further, the prevailing rates of House Rent Allowance in the State Government are not based on the Central Government rates of House Rent Allowance. However, taking into consideration the demands made by Government Employees' associations, the present rates of House Rent Allowance will be doubled. The enhanced rates of these allowances will be paid from 1-4-1998.

151. The Central Government has classified Chennai as 'A-1' class city for the purpose of payment of City Compensatory Allowance and as 'A' class city for payment of House Rent Allowance. Since Chennai is considered as one of the four metropolitan cities in our country, we request the Central Government to classify Chennai as 'A-1' class city.

152. The State Government pensioners and family pensioners will be paid revised pension with effect from 1-1-1996 as granted to Central Government pensioners and family pensioners. They will be given 40 percent increase over the existing pension. The minimum pension and family pension will be Rs.1275 per month. Calculation of gratuity and the commuted portion of pension will be revised as in the Central Government. 60 percent of the arrears due to pensioners and family pensioners will be retained and will be repaid with interest after 5 years. The balance 40 percent will be paid in cash in two instalments.

153. The above decisions will result in an additional expenditure of Rs.1230 crores per annum to the Government. The arrears to be paid will be about Rs.2400 crores. Interim arrears of Rs.4000 to Government employees, Rs.1000 to pensioners and Rs.500 to employees on consolidated pay and honorarium have already been paid. This will be adjusted against the arrears to be paid to them. As the grant of arrears along with next year's expenditure will result in considerable financial strain and since the Government is not in a position to meet this expenditure in the present financial situation, it has been decided to credit 60 percent of the arrears to the employees' Provident Fund and the balance arrears will be paid in cash in two instalments. The amount credited to Provident Fund will be paid with interest after 5 years.

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Pension
for old
age
persons
and other
categories
enhanced

from
Rs.100 to
Rs.150
per
month.
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State
Government
employees
to get CCA
on par
with
Central
Government
employees.
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Present
rates of
HRA will
be
doubled.
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Pensioners
and Family
Pensioners
to get
revised
pension as
granted to
Central
Pensioners
and family
pensioners
with effect
from
1-1-1996.
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154. These decisions will also apply to the employees and pensioners of Local Bodies.

155. I wish to point out that Tamil Nadu Government is the first southern State government to grant the revised Central scales of pay to State Government employees.

156. A One Man Commission will be constituted to examine anomalies, if any, in the implementation of these revised scales of pay and submit its recommendations to the Government within three months.

157. In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee year of Indian Independence, a scheme will be implemented from the next year onwards for awarding medals, promotion, cash award, etc., then and there based on the circumstances and the deeds, for policemen and Government servants who perform their duty under dangerous and special circumstances with a sense of duty and sacrifice, risking their lives:

NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

158. Tamil Nadu is the one of the few States which has achieved the approved outlay of the Eighth Five Year Plan. For the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Union Planning Commission has accorded its approval for an outlay of Rs.25,000 crores. For the current year the outlay approved by the Union Planning Commission is Rs.4009 crores. The State Planning Commission has recommended an outlay of Rs.4,500 crores for the next year. This will be finalised after discussions with the Union Planning Commission. In anticipation we will implement the next year's annual plan based on a Plan size of Rs.4,500 crores.

FINANCIAL POSITION

159. When the budget for 1997-98 was presented to the House in March, 1997 the revenue receipts were Rs.12,641.05 crores and the revenue expenditure was Rs.14,377.62 crores. Due to this, the revenue deficit was Rs.1736.57 crores. In the revised estimates for 1997-98 the revenue receipts have increased to Rs.13,418.40 crores and the revenue expenditure to Rs.14,893.59 crores. Due to this, the revenue deficit has decreased to Rs.1475.19 crores.

160. In Budget estimates for 1997-98, it had been estimated that the overall deficit will be Rs.498.38 crores. But in the revised estimates for 1997-98 this deficit has decreased to Rs.3.31 crores.

161. In the Budget estimates for 1998-99, the revenue receipts are estimated at Rs.15,039.46 crores and revenue expenditure at Rs.18,048.04 crores. Due to this, it has been estimated that the revenue deficit will increase to Rs. 3008.58 crores. Provision of additional allocation in 1998-99 budget estimates for the pay revision to government employees and devolution of funds to the local bodies and payment of pension are the main reasons for this increase.

162. The overall deficit in respect of all accounts in budget estimates for 1998-99 has increased to Rs.876.67 crores.

163. It is essential to undertake suitable measures of taxation and expenditure control to bridge the revenue deficit.

MOTOR VEHICLE TAX

164. The tax on contract carriages (Omni buses) is raised from Rs.1,500 per seat per quarter to Rs.2,000 per seat per quarter.

165. The system of lifetime tax for two wheelers introduced to avoid the hassles faced while paying annual tax for motor vehicles has been working well. On the same lines it has been decided to introduce this lifetime tax system in respect of four wheel motor vehicles. New vehicles will be compulsorily subject to lifetime tax. Persons already owning such vehicles will have the option of paying the lifetime tax in lieu of annual tax. Necessary amendment to the relevant Act will be introduced.

COMMERCIAL TAXES

166. As you are aware, this Government has been granting tax concessions for essential commodities which are in daily use. It is the policy of this Government to reduce the tax burden on commodities used by the poor and the middle income group.

Accordingly

- * Tax on copra is reduced from 2% to 1%.
- * Tax on food products without brand name manufactured by bakeries is reduced from 8% to 4%.

**“
Pay
revision of
State
Government
employees
on the
lines of
Central
Government
scales with
effect from
1-1-1996.
”**

**“
Pay
revision to
apply to
employees
and
pensioners
of local
bodies
also.
”**



**“
Tamil
Nadu
the first
southern
Indian
State to
grant the
revised
central
scales of
pay to
State
Government
employees.
”**

- * Tax on masala powder without brand name commonly used for cooking is reduced from 16% to 4%.
- * Tax on branded masala powder is reduced from 16% to 11%.
- * Tax on branded icecream is reduced from 16% to 11%.
- * In order to encourage extraction of oil from rice bran exemption is granted for sale of de-oiled rice bran.
- * Tax on dust, husk splits and brokens of peas and peas dhal is reduced from 11% to 4% in line with similar commodities.
- * Exemption is granted for oils used for cooking like groundnut oil, coconut oil, ginger oil, refined oil and sunflower oil.
- * As this Government is reviving the eye camp programme, Intra Ocular Lens will be exempted from tax.
- * Kasini Keerai used for medicinal purpose will be exempt from tax.
- * Tax on cement hollow block is reduced from 16% to 4%. This would pave the way for economising construction material and reduction of the cost of construction.
- * Information Technology industry in Tamil Nadu is making rapid progress. At this juncture of many software companies commencing their operation in Tamil Nadu, Computer Software is granted exemption from sales tax.
- * Rubber industry has been seeking concessions under section 3(3) of the General Sales Tax Act for purchase of raw rubber. As the sale is made by planters who are non assesseees this concession is not available. To provide relief to the industry, it is proposed to allow to be set off in the tax liability of the products, an amount equal to the purchase tax paid on raw rubber above the concessional rate. The conditions of section 3(3) will be applicable in this case also.
- * Consequent on the concessions granted last year in local sales of notebooks made out of paper purchased within the State, exemption on inter State sales tax is not available. Based on

the representations received in this regard, it is proposed to exempt from tax inter-State sales of notebooks made out of paper which suffered tax in the State.

In the last two years, Government has taken several measures to simplify the taxation, structure, Rigors of taxation have been reduced for the honest tax payers by simplification of procedures. As a continuing step in this direction, it is proposed to accept accounts of traders with sales turnover above Rs.10 lakhs and below Rs.20 lakhs on basis of audit and certification by a chartered accountant. 10% of these cases will be test checked by the department. It is also proposed to raise the turnover limit for registration of traders from Rs.75,000/- to Rs.1,50,000/-. By these changes more than 19,000 small traders will be benefited.

167. Enhancement of the rate of tax of certain commodities is unavoidable to bridge the deficit in the Budget. Yet while making these changes in tax rate the welfare of the people and the tax burden on them will be kept in mind. Based on this policy, a few changes have been proposed this year.

168. The tax on Indian Made Foreign Liquor is increased from 30% to 40% and on Foreign Liquor from 60% to 70%.

169. Tax on pan masala is increased from 20% to 30%.

170. Due to the different rates of entry tax for dealers and nondealers purchase of vehicles outside the State is continuing. Therefore the entry tax for a nondealer is increased to the level of entry tax for dealers.

171. Two years ago certain changes in additional sales tax were introduced. The increase in the basic tax to compensate the reduction in additional sales tax has not been adequate. With this background, certain changes in the tax structure in additional sales tax payable by companies having their headquarters in Tamil Nadu have been proposed:

Companies with a taxable turnover above Rs.25 crores and upto Rs.50 crores will be subject to an additional sales tax of 1.5%.

Companies with a taxable turnover above Rs.50 crores and upto Rs.100 crores will be subject to an additional sales tax of 2%.

There will be no tax liability for companies with a taxable turnover upto Rs.25 crores.

172. To reduce evasion of tax and to increase sales within the State, certain reductions in tax were made last year. It was announced that if on review these changes did not lead to an increase in tax revenue, suitable changes will be made. Tax on sale of man made fibre and yarn was reduced from 8% to 2%. As the yield has fallen contrary to expectations, tax is raised to 8% again.

173. It is proposed to bring the amusement parks within the ambit of entertainment tax. Tax at the rate of 20% on the collections made from the visitors to the parks will be levied. 90% of the levy will accrue to the local bodies.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

174. We need more resources for providing essential facilities required by the public. Budgetary resources are insufficient for provision of these facilities. The Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Thiru S.Venkitaramanan, Member, State Planning Commission to advise the Government on mobilisation of extra - budgetary resources has given its recommendations.

175. The Committee has recommended that it will be possible to raise additional resources by implementing the small savings scheme intensively. By involving local bodies in this scheme, it is proposed to make available a part of the additional loan obtained by the Government based on additional net collection of small savings as an incentive amount to enable them to undertake investment in basic facilities in their areas.

176. As recommended by the Committee, State Government Undertakings will raise resources by issue of bonds in the capital market from next year onwards for investment in infrastructure projects. Other recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

177. Even after taking into account the anticipated additional resources of Rs.340 crores proposed to be mobilised through the above taxation measures, the final overall deficit will be Rs.536.67 crores. This is proposed to be bridged through effective collection of arrears of taxes and economy measures.

“
Hassle
free life
time tax
on four
wheelers.
”

“
Works on
MRTS
Phase - II
from Luz
to
Velachery
at a cost
of Rs.605
crores will
commence
in 1998-99.
”

178. Hon'ble Speaker Sir, as I present this Budget before this House, I express my heartfelt thanks to the Government officials who worked with me offering their suggestions and untiring cooperation in the preparation of this Budget, especially Thiru P.V. Rajaraman, I.A.S., the Finance Secretary.

179. This budget has been prepared seeking the support and good wishes of all kind hearted people of this Country for the success of the endeavour in formulating and implementing laudable schemes of an enlightened, sincere, corruption free and determined Government.

180. If all of us march together, pledged to preserve equality, fraternity, religious harmony and human dignity, with pride that this is a society full of love, peace and culture and where men of wisdom with hearts tormented by sharp differences on the basis of caste and religion, wipe the tears off their faces and beam with joy, then we will blossom as fragrant flowers in the garden of Indian democracy; we shall, like a bountiful river bring prosperity to Tamil Nadu; we shall remain one of the States adding strength to the Indian nation. With these words, I present this Budget before this august House.

VANAKKAM

M. KARUNANIDHI,
CHIEF MINISTER.

Chennai,
27th March, 1998,
Panguni 13,
Thiruvalluvar Aandu, 2029.



Her Excellency the Governor Justice Selvi M.Fathima Beevi administered the oath of office, to Thiru Pasumpon Tha.Kiruttinan as Minister for Highways and Ports at a simple function held at Raj Bhavan on 26.3.1998. Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaighnar M.Karunanidhi, Hon'ble Speaker Thiru P.T.R. Pazhanivel Rajan, Hon'ble Ministers and higher officials were present.

TAMIL NADU BUDGET 1998 - 99

Items	1996-97 Accounts	1997-98 Budget Estimates	1997-98 Revised Estimates	1998-99 Budget Estimates
(Rupees in Crores)				
I. CONSOLIDATED FUND				
Revenue Receipts	11,961.28	12,641.05	13,418.40	15,039.46
Expenditure met from Revenue	13,064.88	14,377.62	14,893.59	18,048.04
Surplus or Deficit on Revenue Account	(-) 1,103.60	(-) 1,736.57	(-) 1,475.19	(-) 3,008.58
Public Debt - Receipts	1,779.99	3,874.20	2,841.95	4,665.71
Public Debt - Repayment	337.73	1,835.67	1,029.19	2,144.50
Public Debt (Net)	(+) 1,442.26	(+) 2,038.53	(+) 1,812.76	(+) 2,521.21
Expenditure met from Capital excluding Public Debt and Including Loans and Advances (Net)	1,341.37	1,541.33	1,258.50	1,802.69
Deficit or Surplus on Capital Account	(+) 100.89	(+) 497.20	(+) 554.26	(+) 718.52
Total - Consolidated Fund (Net)	(-) 1,002.71	(-) 1,239.37	(-) 920.93	(-) 2,290.06
II. Contingency Fund (Net)	(-) 498	.....	.....	.....
III. Public Account (Net)	(+) 1,023.60	(+) 740.99	(+) 917.62	(+) 1,413.39
Total - Transactions (I+II+III)	(+) 15.91	(-) 498.38	(-) 3.31	(-) 876.67
Opening Balance	(+) 58.79	(-) 97.43	(+) 74.70	(+) 71.39
Closing Balance	(+) 74.70	(-) 595.81	(+) 71.39	(-) 805.28



A NEW RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

A new residential complex for the Members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly is under construction in the Government Estate, Chennai.

The estimated cost of this ultra modern complex is Rs.45 crores. This is a ten storeyed building consisting 240 tenements.

Parking area for cars, rest rooms for drivers and sumps for storing drinking water will be accommodated in the ground floor. Apart from this ten more floors will be constructed.

Each floor will have six apartments - totalling 60 tenements. Each tenement will have an area of 144.33 sq.mt. As such four blocks will be constructed. Each block will have 2 lifts.

Apart from these residential blocks there will be a separate building for hotel, laundry, health centre, library, telephone facilities, newspaper-periodicals mart, etc.

The Tamil Nadu Housing and Urban Development Corporation has agreed to sanction Rs.40 crores as loan, for the construction of this complex. Rs.6.54 crores has been sanctioned in the first phase.

Construction works have been started in the Government Estate, opposite to D. G. P. Office. The complex is expected to be completed within 2 years. The construction work is being undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board.

In Delhi, the Members of Parliament are allotted separate tenements for their residential purpose during their tenure of office. Likewise Members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly will be allotted residential flats throughout their tenure of office in this complex.

This complex is being constructed with modern architectural designs. It is noteworthy to mention that Tamil Nadu is the first State in constructing such a modern residential complex for the Members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. *

THIRUKKURAL

-The code of conduct for the mankind

சுதல் இசைபட வாழ்தல் அதுவல்ல
தாதியம் இல்லை உயிர்க்கு.

Idhal Isaipada vazdhal adhuvalla
thudiyam illai uyirku.

'Living a praiseworthy life just giving generously. A person, in life, can hope to gain nothing greater than this'.

COMMENTARY

The central virtue of a householder's life according to this couplet is magnanimous generosity. The householder who has this altruistic character will live a life of usefulness and achieve an enviable reputation worthy of a great man.

ஒன்றா உலகத் துயர்ந்த புறவல்லால்
பொன்றாது திற்படுதான்றில்.

Ondra ulaha thuyarntha puhazhallal
pondradhu nitpadhondril.

'There is nothing in the world which achieves undying permanency except the unique fame of the house-holder which soars high in the firmament'.

தோன்றிற் புறவோடு தோன்றல் அஃதிவார்
தோன்றலிற் தோன்றாமை தன்றி.

Thondrit puhazhodu thondruha ahdhilar
thodrali trondramai nandru

'If one is to be born at all, one should be born with that disposition as should enable him to achieve fame. Otherwise it is better not to be born at all'.

COMMENTARY

To be born a man as differentiated from lower animals means the capacity to live in a higher spiritual environment where life automatically achieves moral glory.

புகழ்பட வாழாதார் தந்தோவார் தம்மை
இகழ்வாரை நோவ தெவன்.

Puhazhpada vazhadhar thannovar dhammai
ihavarainova dhevan.

'Persons who are incapable of living a life of fame must condemn themselves for the defect. There is no use of condemning others who despise them'.

வசையென்ப வாய்தார்க் கொண்டி ஐயெய்தாரை
எல்லப் புறவா விட.

vasaiyenba vaiyathar kellam isaiyennum
ejam bera a vidin.

'If a person is incapable of creating glory to survive him, that would be considered as a great defect in him by the world at large'.

வசையென்ப வாழ்வாரே வாழ்வார் இசையென்ப
வாழ்வாரே வாழாத வர்.

vasaiozhiya vazhvare vazhvar isai ozhiya
vazhvare vazhadhavar.

'To live a blameless life is really a worthy life. But those who live without achieving any praise are not really living men'.

வாய்மை எனப்படுவ தியாதெனின் யாதென்றும்
தீமை இலாத சொல்.

*vaimai enapaduva thiyadhenin yadhondrum
theemai iladha solal.*

'What is meant by truth speaking? It is an assertion that will in no way produce pain to any living being'.

COMMENTARY

If veracity or truth-speaking is identified with a statement that does not produce any evil result, then it naturally follows that an assertion that results in causing pain to others is uttering falsehood from this point of view.



தன்னெஞ் சறிவது பொய்யற்கப் பொய்த்தபின்
தன்னெஞ்சே தன்னைச் சுழிம்.

*thannen jarivadhu poiyaartka poithabin
thannenje thannai judum.*

'Do not utter anything false which your heart knows to be such; for the after-effect of falsehood will be suffering caused by a burning conscience due to self-conviction'.



உள்ளத்தாற பொய்யா தொழுதி லுலகத்தார்
உள்ளத்து எவ்வள முளன்.

*ullathara poiya thozhugi lulagathar
ullathu lella mulan.*

'A person who avoids carefully even the thought of falsehood will find a place in the hearts of the wisemen of the world'.



பொய்யாமை யன்னபுகழில்லை யெய்யாமை
யெய்வா வறமுத் தரும்.

*poiyaamai yanna pugazhillai yeiyamai
yella varamun dharum.*

'There is nothing so praiseworthy as avoiding falsehood, because that will spontaneously bring in all virtues without any effort'.

COMMENTARY

Strictly avoiding falsehood is considered to be such an important course of conduct that it would automatically bring in all the other virtues for the individual, that is, a person who strictly observes the principle of truth-speaking will build up a character which will



spontaneously carry out all the other principles of virtue.



பொய்யாமை பொய்யாமை யாற்றின் அறம்பிற
செய்யாமை செய்யாமை தன்று.

*poiyaamai poiyaamai yattrin arambira
seiyamai seiyamai nandru.*

'If all your life be utter truth,
the truth alone,
'Tis well, though other virtuous
acts be left undone.'



புறத்தூய்மை தீரா னாயையு மகத்தூய்மை
வாய்மையாற் காணப் படும்.

*purandhuimai nira namaiyu mahandhuimai
vaimaiyart kanapadum.*

'The outward purity of the body water can give; but the inward purity of the heart truth alone can bestow'.



எவ்வா விளக்கும் விளக்கல்ல சான்றோர்க்குப்
பொய்யா விளக்கே விளக்கு

*ella vilakum vilakalla sandrorku
poiya vilake vilaku.*

'All light is not light for the wise sage. For him the only true light is the gloriously shining inner light that drives away the falsehood'.

COMMENTARY

All the light-giving objects in the environment such as the sun and the moon and the burning fire are material objects which do not interest the holy ascetic. The light that glows from loyalty to truth is the real light that he enjoys at heart.



Round the clock Primary Health Centres

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Electricity, Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy announced in the Assembly that 124 more Primary Health Centres will start functioning '24-hours' a day during this current year. Construction of own buildings for PHCs are in progress. Own buildings were constructed for 300 PHCs last year and the buildings for the remaining PHCs that function in rented buildings are under construction. When the construction for PHCs gets completed, the Government will take up the work of constructing living quarters for the doctors employed in the Public Health Centres.



B&C MILLS REOPEN ON 14TH JANUARY 1999

Hon'ble Minister for Labour, Thiru A. Rahmankhan announced that the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills will be reopened on January 14 next year following an agreement reached before the Labour Commissioner, due to the prolonged discussions between the Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar, management and the trade union leaders.

He said the management will take in 1000 permanent employees in the factory and those opting for voluntary retirement would be paid a compensation of Rs.1.25 lakhs. Rs.50,000 will be paid as compensation to the trainees. 15 days salary as ex-gratia payment will be given to all employees.

RARE TAMIL BOOKS TO BENEFIT TAMILS LIVING ABROAD

Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Culture, and Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments, Thiru M. Thamizhkudimagan announced in the Assembly that rare Tamil books worth Rs.5 lakhs would be sent to benefit Tamils living in various countries.

SLUM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES

★ Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar has announced that those people who live in the Slum Clearance Board tenements, if they wish could own the tenements by paying easy instalments.



★ Renewal works have been undertaken for the tenements constructed before 25 years at a cost of Rs.9.50 crores.

★ In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence slum improvement programmes are being implemented under National Slum Improvement Schemes by selecting a slum area which is backward in all aspects in the Corporation of Chennai, Municipalities and Town Panchayats at a cost of Rs.38.64 crores.



NALADIYAR

கற்றதூஉம் இன்றிக் கணக்காயர் பாடத்தால்
பெற்றதாம் பேதையோர் குத்திரம்; - மற்றதனை
நல்லார் இடைப்புக்கு நானாது சொல்லித்தன்
புல்லறிவு காட்டி விடும்.

*Without any learning of his own, the fool
has obtained one formula from overhearing
the lessons of a tutor (who was teaching
others), yet unabashed he enters the circle of
the good, speaks it out, and makes exhibition
of his mean understanding.*

நாப்பாடஞ் சொல்லி நயமுணர்வார் போற்செறிக்கும்
தீப்புலவற் சேரார் செறிவுடையார்; - தீப்புலவன்
கோட்டியுட் குன்றக் குடிப்பழி க்கும், அல்லாக்கால்
தோப்புடைக் கொள்ளா எழும்.

*Well - disciplined men come not near the
heretic (= man of evil learning, the teacher of
an evil system), who stores up (in his
memory certain formulas, comp.304) as
though he understood their worth, and
repeats them by rote (lit. as a tongue -
lesson)*

*The heretic, if worsted in the assembly,
will abuse the family (of his opponents); or
he will spring up and challenge them to
fight.*

மெய்ஞ்ஞானக் கோட்டி உறம்வழி விட்டாங்கோர்
அஞ்ஞானந் தந்திட்ட துவாங் கறத்துழாய்க்
கைஞ்ஞானங் கொண்டொழுகுங் காரறி வாளர்முன்
சொன்னாஞ் சேர விடல்!

*Decline entirely to utter words of wisdom
before heretics (காரறிவாளர் = men of
darkened knowledge, - men who professing
to be wise, have their understanding
darkened), who having forsaken the way
pertaining to the assemblies of true wisdom,
have there laid down propositions of*

*unwisdom, and propagating them
diligently, live in accordance with their own
shallow wisdom!.*

நட்டோர் இருவரில் ஒருவனிடத்துத் தீயவொழுக்
கங்கள் உண்டாயின், அதனை மற்றொருவனை
பொறுக்கும் அளவும் பொறுத்துப் பொறுக்கக்
கூடாதபோது பிறர்க்குரையாது நட்பை விடல்
வேண்டும்.

வேற்றுமை இன்றிக் கலந்திருவர் நடக்கால்
தேற்றா ஒழுக்கம் ஒருவன்கண் உண்டாயின்,
ஆற்றாந் துணையும் பொறுக்க! பொறான் ஆயில்
தூற்றாதே தூர விடல்.

*If a friend acts doubtfully, forgive or
quietly withdraw.*

*When two with strict accord unite in
friendship's bond, if one betray the other's
confidence by unkind act, this latter should endure
as best he may. And if he can't endure, he should
not divulge it, but withdraw himself.*

கிடைத்தமட்டில் திருப்தி அடைந்து அறஞ் செய்து
பொறையுடையவராய் வாழ்வோர்க்கு என்றந் துன்பம்
இல்லை.

அறிவ தறிந்தங்கி அஞ்சுவதஞ்சி
உறுவ துலகுவப்பச் செய்து-பெறுவதனால்
இன்புற்று வாழும் இயல்புடையார் எஞ்ஞான்றந்
துன்புற்று வாழ்தல் அரிது.

*The thoroughly disciplined and contented
man is happy.*

*Those who know what should be known, and
rule themselves thereby; who fear what should be
feared; who use all their faculties to bless the world;
and whose nature rejoices in all good gained: are
for ever free from woes.* *



PURE
silk

PURE
zari

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

Co-optex
TAMILNADU HANDLOOMS





**நமது அன்றாட
பழக்கவழக்கங்களால்,
எய்ட்ஸ் வராதது.
அதற்கு நீங்களே
ஒரு உதாரணம்.**

காலையில் எழுந்தது முதல் ராத்திரி படுக்கப் போகும் வரை நீங்கள் எத்தனையோ பேரைச் சந்திக்கிறீர்கள். ஓட்டலுக்குச் செல்கிறீர்கள், சினிமா பார்க்கிறீர்கள், நெரிசலான பஸ்ஸில் பயணம் செய்கிறீர்கள், பலருடன் கை குலுக்குகிறீர்கள்.

இவர்களில் யாருக்காவது எச்ஐவி/ எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்து இருக்கலாம்.

சாதாரண பழக்கவழக்கங்களின் மூலம் எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதாக இருந்தால், உங்களையும் எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்திருக்க வேண்டும்.

ஆனால் அப்படி இல்லையே...

ஏனெனில், கை குலுக்குவதாலோ, உணவைப் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வதாலோ, தொடுவதாலோ, தும்மலினாலோ, கழிப்பிடத்தை அனைவரும் உபயோகிப்பதாலோ, எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதில்லை.

எனவே எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்தவரைக் கண்டு நீங்கள் ஒதுங்க வேண்டியதில்லை. உங்களுக்கு எந்த ஆபத்தும் இல்லை.

அவர்களும் நம்மைப் போன்றவர்கள்தான். அவர்களுக்கு எப்பொழுதும் போல நாம் அன்பும், ஆதரவும் காட்டுவோம்.

**சிறிதளவு ஆதரவு பெருமளவு
சுமையைக் குறைக்கும்.**

**குழந்தை பிறப்பைத் தடுப்போம்
எய்ட்ஸ் வந்தோரைக் காப்போம்**



மேலும் விவரங்களுக்கு அணுக வேண்டிய முகவரி
தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு
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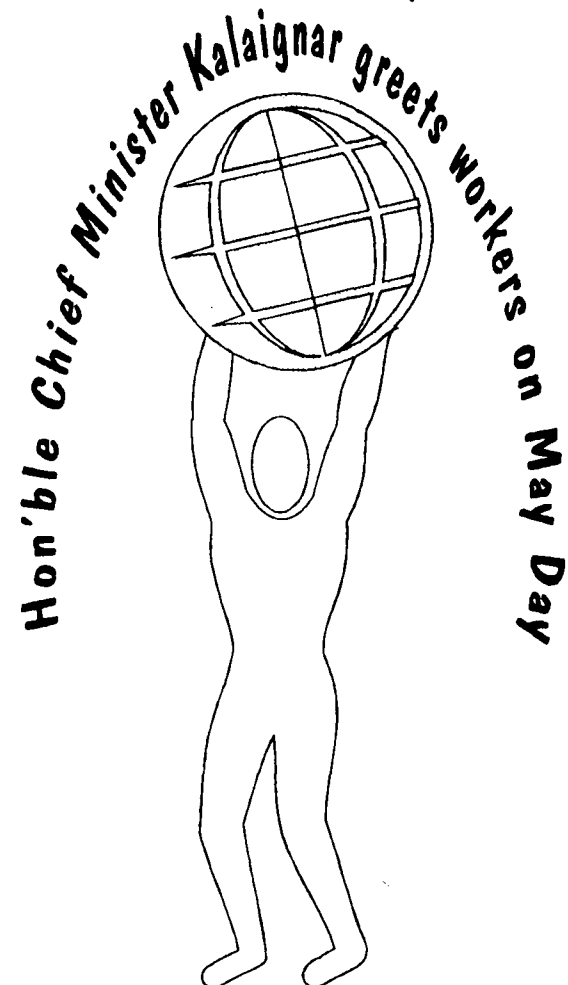
MAY DAY - a glorious day celebrated all over the world, is marked as the day of the working class. This festive day inspires the world to honour work and the worker and to think & act on the improvement of the life style of the working class.

May Day is the victorious gift to the sacrifices of innumerable workers of America who shed their blood, lost their lives, underwent physical and mental tortures and faced gallows in order to have 8 hours work a day. On this Day we pay our homage to those martyrs.

Tamil Nadu is the first and foremost state to celebrate the May Day in India.

Tamil Nadu also has the exclusive privilege of starting the first Labour Union in India for the welfare of the working people.

This Government has the reputation of declaring May Day as a paid holiday to enable the working class celebrate this day with great pleasure.



In 1969, a separate ministry was formed by this Government to promote the welfare of the working class.

In addition to these, the Government has taken many welfare measures for the well - being of the working class :

- Setting up of the Labour Welfare Board.
- Gratuity for retiring Labourers.
- Accident relief fund
- Labour Education Centres for the upliftment of the life styles of the labourers.
- A separate Act to protect the welfare of the contract labourers.
- The May Day Centenary Pillar.

A Committee has been constituted by this Government last year to find out solutions to the problems of the 43 kinds of unorganised labourers such as, washermen, pot makers, labourers engaged in cashew hulling, pandal works, coir making, appalam & vadam making etc. The Government has decided and recently made announcements to formulate the 'Unorganised Labourers Welfare Board' so as to benefit 25 lakhs of such labourers by extending insurance facilities during illness, maternity assistance, pension etc.

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, which evinces keen interest in the welfare of the working class by its epoch - making plans and schemes, I am happy to extend my heart felt greetings to the working class. ★



TWO YEARS OF GOVERNANCE WITH PROMISES KEPT

- KALAINAR

Two years ago we were elected to govern the State with a massive mandate given by the people of Tamil Nadu. Within a few months of assumption of office, this Government fulfilled its poll promise of conducting elections to the local bodies and the co-operatives; it has also delegated substantial powers to the local bodies. We are also planning to involve the elected bodies and the Grama sabhas in the process of plan formulation, implementation and monitoring so that there is genuine local self - Government in Tamil Nadu.

Policy initiatives

Putting the administrative machinery back on its rails has been our top priority. This Government has ushered in a number of policy initiatives, innovations and procedural changes. To mention a few:

1. The Right to Information Act has been passed to enable every citizen to have access to information available with the Government.
2. The State Human Rights Commission has been constituted.
3. The Citizens Charter concept known to the West is introduced for the first time in the State in our country. In the history of the State, Government departments have brought out citizens charter listing out the services provided, the schemes operated and the standards which each department tries to achieve. These measures have received wide acclaim from the people.

4. The tender procedures have been streamlined. To ensure transparency and fair decisions, a legislation on transparency in tenders is on the anvil.
5. Rule 39 of the Tamil Nadu Minor Minerals (Concession) Rules was deleted to ensure that quarrying rights are decided only through open tenders.
6. A High Level Committee on prevention of corruption was set up and its report containing recommendations for prevention of corruption in the transactions of the Government are under active consideration of the Government.
7. A Commission for streamlining the revenue administration was set up. Its recommendations are under active consideration and decisions will be taken soon.
8. The Sales Tax structure has been rationalised and simplified.
9. Industrial area development authorities for providing single window clearance to entrepreneurs setting up industries in industrial areas are being established.
10. A novel single window system of admission in engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu was introduced by this Government in the last academic year. It has been widely acclaimed and appreciated by students, parents and the public. This is being extended to polytechnics also from this academic year.

These are only illustrative of the earnestness of the Government to fulfil its promises.

Annual Plan outlays were Rs.3,700 Crores for 1996-97 and Rs.4,052 Crores for 1997-98 and in both these years the State has achieved the plan targets in full. Agriculture and Rural Development, Infrastructure and the Social Services Sectors received a fairly even distribution in the plan allocation in these two years.

The State Government has drawn up the Ninth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crores. The thrust of this Plan to ensure cent percent coverage of Basic Minimum Services.

Growth rate

We have been successful in reversing the low growth rate in 1995-96 and have been able to achieve six percent in 1996-97. Our aim is to achieve a growth rate of over seven percent during the Ninth Five Year Plan. There has been all round growth in the last two years in various sectors of the State's economy. Tamil Nadu was able to achieve a high level of foodgrains production of 94.92 lakh tonnes during 1997-98. Tamil Nadu stands third in the country in terms of FIPB approvals for foreign direct investments. There has been considerable growth in services sector as well, especially in areas like software.

An investment destination

We have been successful in making Tamil Nadu an attractive destination for investment in industrial and infrastructural sectors. Tamil Nadu has been ranked as the third most attractive State for investment by the BT-Gallup Survey. Our transparent, fast decision making process with investor friendly policies has created an environment conducive to investment in this State. We are paying focussed attention to the provision of quality infrastructure in industrial areas. We are involving the private sector in the provision of infrastructure in the State. Private

sector participation and accessing resources from the capital market and other extra budgetary sources for investment in infrastructure are major elements of our strategy.

Increased food production

The food production has gone up substantially during 1997-98. This has helped maintain stable price level of rice. Due to extension activities undertaken intensively, the State has been able to achieve a production level of five



tonnes of paddy per hectare on an average. Thanks to the incentive of Rs.35 per quintal over the Government of India fixed support price offered by the Government to farmers as well as taking up parallel procurement all over the State, a record procurement of 18 lakh tonnes of paddy was achieved during the 1997-98, while at the same time giving the freedom to the farmer to sell his paddy at the highest possible price in the open market. We have taken up the long neglected work of desilting irrigation canals and tanks at a cost of about Rs.40 crores. The desilting works taken up last year in the Cauvery system have received wide acclaim from the farmers.

Rural Development

In respect of rural development, this Government has launched two path-breaking initiatives for provision of basic minimum needs in rural areas. These two initiatives are "Anna Marumalarchi Scheme" (Anna Village Renaissance Scheme) and "Namakku Naame

Scheme" (Self Help Scheme). The former will develop villages with all facilities while the latter will promote an attitude of self-help among the people. The public response to these schemes has been over-whelming. With the noble objective of creating a society without caste differences, we are setting up "Samathuvapuram" (abode of equality) in 50 places in the State with all basic amenities where all communities can live in harmony as progressive and prosperous neighbours.

Shelter for the shelterless

This Government which started the scheme for providing concrete houses for the poor for the first time in the entire country has completed the construction of 1,27,832 houses during the last two years and has taken up 60,000 houses during 1998-99 for construction. We have taken up a massive programme of black topping of rural roads. In the last two years, 12,000 kms of rural roads have been black topped. In addition, availing assistance from NABARD under RIDF we are providing all weather road connectivity to all habitation in the state having a population above 1000. We have set ourselves a target of providing potable water supply of at least 40 LPCD to all rural habitations in the State which are presently having a coverage of less than 10 LPCD only. 4500 rural habitations have been covered during 1997-98 and balance 5500 habitations will be provided 40 LPCD coverage by the end of 1998-99.

Social safety net

We are committed to providing a social safety net for weaker sections of the society. Keeping this in mind, this Government is continuously providing substantial amount for social service sector. This year we have provided Rs.6,485 crores for the social service sector.

Women's development

We are vigorously implementing nutrition programmes for children, pregnant and lactating mothers and the aged poor.

Recently, we have enhanced the monthly pension of all categories of pensioners such as old age pensioners, the physically handicapped and destitute widows from Rs.100 to Rs.150. This will benefit more than 6.3 lakh poor.

We are implementing a Women's Development Programme covering the entire State helping women from self supporting groups to take up income generation activities as well as to inculcate self help through thrift.

Marriage assistance for the poor

With a view to promoting education of girl children, this Government introduced a scheme called "Moovalur Ramamirtham Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme for the under privileged" in 1989. We have liberalised the scheme by doubling the assistance from Rs.5,000 to Rs.10,000 and expanded the coverage to all eligible persons without any ceiling on numbers. Government grant for this scheme has gone up from Rs.10 crores in 1996-97 to Rs.58 crores in 1997-98. We have provided Rs.60 crores in this year's Budget to help 60,000 beneficiaries.



We have also introduced an improved scheme to support poor parents who adopt the small family norm with one or two girl children only and provide them financial support for the children's higher education and marriage through deposits made by the Government in the name of the girl children which will provide them a substantial lumpsum amount when they reach the age of 20.

Food subsidy

The Government has maintained the increased supply of rice at 20kgs. per month providing a subsidy to the tune of Rs. 1,000 crores per annum in the State budget. In the last two years, 2,000 new fair price shops have been established. The State today has the most efficient PDS delivery system in the whole country.

The Government has introduced a number of measures to keep the prices of essential commodities under control. It is the policy of the Government to reduce the tax burden on commodities used by the poor and middle class. Sales Tax exemptions/concessions have been granted for various items of daily use such as pulses, cooking oil, etc.

This Government is setting up a State level Unorganised Labour Welfare Board for the welfare of 25 lakh workers in 43 unorganised employment like road workers, match industry workers, brick making workers, tailors, workers in private shops and establishments with a view to provide welfare benefits like sickness insurance, maternity grant and pension.

Rural health

Special care has been taken by this Government to improve the functioning of the health care institutions in the State, particularly the Primary Health Centres and sub-centres and Government Hospitals. The Government has taken up a project to build 652 Primary Health Centres at a cost of over Rs.50 crores in order to ensure that all the 1,408 PHCs in the State function in permanent buildings. The support of the private sector has also been success

fully enlisted by this Government for the upkeep of the PHCs. Select PHCs have been ordered to function on a 24 hour basis to provide continuous medical facility to the rural people. As many as 167 PHCs have also been upgraded as the first referral centres so as to minimise the need to go over to the hospitals at a distance. Modern equipments have been added to the District and Taluk hospitals to upgrade their quality of service.

Annually, over Rs.100 crores are being allotted for the purchase and free supply of medicines by the Government hospitals and dispensaries. In order to mitigate the sufferings of the poor patients who may be required to undergo either heart surgery or kidney transplantation, this Government has introduced a scheme to provide assistance of Rs.25,000 from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The Government has successfully conducted massive pulse polio campaign and attained universal coverage.

Free eye camp

The scheme to restore eye sight was first introduced by this Government in 1972-73. The slackness in the eye camp programme which had crept in during the intervening period has been removed and eye camp programmes are being implemented now with renewed vigour.

No hamlet without a school

Universalisation of primary education has been accorded top most priority by this Government. There will be no hamlet in the State without a school by the end of the next year. While 253 new primary schools have been started by the Government this year, 62 primary schools have been upgraded as middle schools. 170 middle



schools have been upgraded into high schools and 161 high schools have been upgraded into higher secondary schools. This Government has stepped up allocation for distribution of uniforms and textbooks to the school children and from the current year all the students from I to V standards studying in Government. Aided and local body schools will be provided free textbooks. Uniforms have been provided to nearly 65 lakh children. More than 20,500 secondary grade teachers have been recruited on the basis of their seniority of registration in employment exchanges, thereby eliminating the scope for corrupt practices.

Reservations for rural students

For the first time 15 percent reservation in the professional college has been introduced by this Government for the students studying in rural areas. The Government has also undertaken to meet expenses for higher studies in respect of students who secure first three ranks in SSLC and +2 at the district level.

HRD initiatives

This Government has taken a number of initiatives for the development of human resource in the State and has provided the required focus in the higher education sector as well. Last year this Government set up a Committee headed by Dr. Ananthakrishnan, to streamline the functioning of self-financing colleges. The Government has established a new University named after Periyar in Salem and the Dr. Ambedkar Law University in Chennai. A new Law college has been set up in Tirunelveli. The Chennai Medical College has been given the status of a deemed university. A new medical college named after K.A.P. Viswanatham has been set up in Tiruchi.

Urban water supply

The Government attaches great importance to providing adequate drinking water supply to urban areas. The Tamil Nadu Water and Drainage (TWAD) which was set up in 1971 by this Government is being strengthened to take up



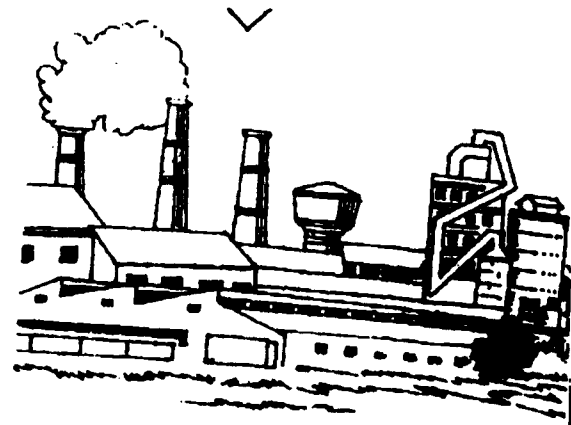
the increasing responsibilities for providing water supply in rural and urban areas of the State. The Government rejuvenated 228 combined water supply schemes at a cost of Rs.7.1 crores and 249 urban water supply schemes at a cost of Rs.10.2 crores. It completed 11 combined water supply schemes. Six municipal water supply schemes were completed at a cost of Rs.39.02 crores and 29 urban town panchayat water supply schemes at a cost of Rs.2.72 crores. The Tirupur Town Water Supply and Sewerage Disposal Scheme at a cost of Rs.700 crores has been formulated. Work will commence in this year.

This Government successfully brought Krishna water to Chennai in September, 1996. From July to November 1997, 2.09 TMC of Krishna water was received in Chennai. However, with a view to prevent the seepage which occurred in the canal reaches of Andhra Pradesh, the works for strengthening the canal by lining the banks with cement have been taken up by that Government. After completion of this work, the supply of Krishna water to Chennai will commence again from July 1998. This Government has taken up massive projects to lay the distribution network for the augmented water

supply and for sewerage disposal in Chennai Corporation with the assistance of the World Bank and the Overseas Economic Coop. Fund of Japan.

Nearly 4,000 tenements have been constructed by the Slum Clearance Board. About 1,66,115 house site pattas have been granted to Adi Dravidars in the State during the last two years and 44,000 pattas to people of the Backward and Most Backward Classes, who live below the poverty line. The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board was set up in 1970. It has built a large number of tenements for the slum dwellers in this State. As many as 40,000 slum dwellers will be benefited by this decision of the Government to transfer the ownership of tenements of the Slum Clearance Board to those who occupy them. While Rs.58 crores have been allotted by this Government for slum improvement in Chennai in the last two years and Rs.40 crores has been provided for the year 1998-99. Over one lakh slum dwellers were benefitted in the last two years and 45,000 families will be covered during 1998-99.

Ensuring social justice and equality is the prime concern of this Government and we have been pursuing various schemes towards that objective with total commitment. This Government has bestowed special attention to the welfare of Adi Dravidars and Tribals and has stepped up allocation for the welfare of Adi Dravidars and Tribals substantially. THADCO which was set up by this Government in 1974



will play an important role in formulating and implementing schemes for the welfare and development of Adi Dravidars in this State.

This Government has ordered the filling up of the backlog of vacancies in respect of posts reserved for SC/ST in an expeditious manner. To monitor the progress in this regard a committee has been set up with the Adi Dravidar Welfare Minister as Chairman. This Government has made arrangements for special training to the Adi Dravidars in teachers training institutions as a large number of vacancies reserved for them could not be filled up in the absence of qualified persons.

We realise the importance of availability of power for the economic growth of the State. Due to our vigorous efforts, Power Purchase Agreements have been signed for generation projects of 5792 MW capacity in the private sector. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) is also working actively for the setting up of an LNG Terminal with a 2000 MW LNG based power project for which we have received very encouraging response from leading companies in the world. The TIDCO is also working on the development of an integrated lignite mining cum power generation project at Jayamkondam.

As soon as we came to power we took the initiative of setting up short gestation liquid fuel power project to the tune of 2000 MW. Since the Government of India allocated only 800 MW of fuel linkage we have been constrained in this regard. One private sector power project with a capacity of 196 MW will be commissioned this year and construction work on 11 projects with a capacity of 2855 MW will commence during this year. We have also announced a captive power policy which encourages industries to set up captive power plants for their own use either individually or as a consortium. We have provided incentives for cogeneration of power. A joint sector company will be set up to install 200 MW of cogeneration capacity in the sugar units

in the cooperative and public sectors. As far as the long term scenario is concerned, the new power projects in the private sector including LNG and lignite-based power projects should be able to meet the demand. In respect of port development, TACID has already commissioned detailed feasibility reports for Cheyyur, Cuddalore and Colachel ports. The private sector will be invited shortly to develop the ports.

In respect of road development, the Government has initiated a number of major projects to provide and maintain a good network of roads throughout the State. A Rs.750 crores World Bank funded road development project will commence during this year. With the assistance of NABARD and HUDCO, we have taken up construction of about 100 bridges in the State at a cost of Rs.360 crores. The road network around Chennai City is being developed at a cost of Rs.212 crores with the assistance of HUDCO.

We have largely succeeded in our crusade against corruption and providing a transparent administration. In the crusade against corruption, signals from the top political leadership are very crucial and we believe that we have sent the right signals to the bureaucracy.

We have been advocating autonomy for the States and federalism at the Centre. Some progress has been achieved but much remains to be done. We will extend our full cooperation to the Union Government in maintaining cordial Centre-State relations.

We are committed to accelerating the pace of development of Tamil Nadu and to provide rapidly improving standards of living to our citizens, especially the poor and the deprived. To achieve this, we have focussed our efforts on infrastructure development, industrial programmes and provision of basic amenities. We shall redouble our efforts in these areas and make Tamil Nadu the foremost among the States of the Union.

Courtesy : 'The Hindu', dated 13.5.1998

Travel concessions are given by the Government to various categories of people as follows:

1. *Freedom fighters drawing Central/ State pension or both pensions and those who participated in border/ language stir - 100%*
2. *Cancer patients for their travel to the Hospitals recognised by Government for treatment and back - 75%*
3. *Physically handicapped/Deaf/Blind (except in SETC(TN.Dn.I) & SETC(TN.Dn.II)buses) - 100%*
4. *Mentally retarded and epileptic disease patients - 100%*
5. *Drama artistes - 50%*
6. *Accredited press correspondents-100%*
7. *Members of Legislature and Ex-members of Legislative Assembly & Council - 100%*
8. *Widows and Legal heir of freedom fighters drawing Central pension or State pension or both pensions - 100%*
9. *Wife or husband and minor legal heirs of those who participated in the language stir to protect the Tamil Language who are recipients of financial assistance from Government - 100%*

The cost towards the above travel concession is reimbursed by the administrative departments concerned.



NALADIYAR

வாழ்நாள் சில; அவற்றிலும் நோய்கள் பல; ஆதலால், யாவரும் இன்றியமையாத நூல்களையே கற்க வேண்டும்.

கல்வி கரையில், கற்பவர் நாள்சில,
மெல்ல நினைக்கிற பிணிபல;-தெள்ளிதின்
ஆராய்ந் தமைவுடைய கற்பவே,-நீர்ஒழியப்
பால்உண் குருகிற் றெரிந்து !

Discriminating study

Learning hath no bounds, the learner's days
are few. If you think calmly diseases many wait
around! With clear discrimination learn what is
meet for you, like the swan that leaving the water
drinks the milk.

★ ★ ★

கல்வி கற்றவனுடைய வருணத்தை நினைக்க வேண்டாம்

தோணி இயக்குவான் றெல்லை வருணத்துக்
காணிக் கடைப்பட்டான் என்றிகழார்,-காணாய் !
அவன் றுணையா ஆறு போயற்றே, நூல்கற்ற
மகன்றுணையா நல்ல கொளல் !

Never mind the boatman's caste if he take
you over!

As none condemn the ferryman, by old caste
rule to lowest rank assigned, but cross the stream
by help he lends; so take thou teachings good
and wise by help of him who is the learned man.

★ ★ ★

கற்றறிவுடையார்பலர் கூடி இருந்து அடையும் இன்பத்திலும்
மறுலோகத்தின்பஞ் சிறந்ததன்று.

தவலருந் தொல்கேள்வித் தன்மை யுடையார்
இகலிலர் எஃகுடையார் தம்முட் குழிஇ
நகலின் இனிதாயிற் காண்பாம் - அகல்வானத்
தும்பர் உறைவார் பதி.

The supreme enjoyment of the society of
learned and amiable men.

We shall see whether any greater bliss is found
in the city inhabited by the dwellers in the ample
heaven than is felt when men of natures formed by
old imperishable lore, from rivalries exempt, keen
as tempered steel, meet together and laugh.

★ ★ ★

கற்றார், கல்லாதவர் கொள்ளும் நட்பின் இயல்பு

கனைகடற் றன்சேர்ப்ப ! கற்றறிந்தார் கேண்மை
நுனியிற் கரும்பு தின்றற்றே; - நுனிநீக்கித்
தூரிற்றின் றன்ன தகைத்தரோ பண்பிலா
ஈரம் இலாளர் தொடர்பு.

The friendship of the learned ever grows
sweeter, that of the unlearned ever diminishes in
sweetness.

Lord of the cool shore of the resounding sea!
intimacy with learned people is like eating sugar-
cane from the (tender, juicy) tip; association with
graceless, sapless men is like leaving the (tender)
tip and eating it from the (hard,dry) root.

★ ★ ★

கற்றவரின் சாவகாசம்

கல்லாரே ஆயினும் கற்றோரைச் சேர்ந்தொழுகின்
நல்லறிவு நாளுந் தலைப்படுவர்; - தொல்சிறப்பின்
ஒண்ணிறப் பாதிப்பிற் சேர்தலாற் புத்தோடு
தண்ணீர்க்குத் தான்பயற் தாங்கு

The benefits of association with the learned.
The pot impregnated with odour.

Though themselves unlearned, if men live in
association with the learned they advance daily in
excellent knowledge. The new vessel, by contact
with the Padri - flower of old renown and lustrous
hue, imparts fragrance to the cold water it contains.

★ ★ ★

We do what we say!
We say what we do!!

★ **Two years of good governance**

★ **Fulfilling every promise made**

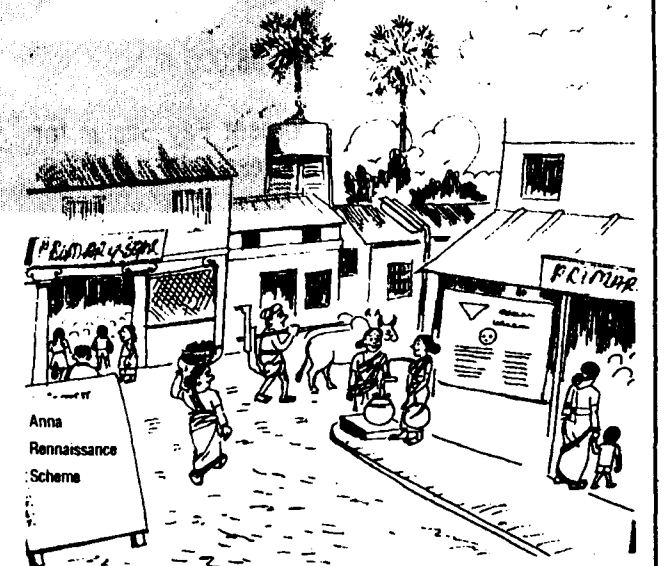
- ★ Rs.44 crores of Land Revenue waived this year for agriculturists. Penal interest on Co-operative loans for Rs.50 crores waived.
- ★ Free Electricity for agriculturists to be continued.
- ★ Electricity connection for 77,901 agricultural pumpsets.

Procurement Price for Paddy per quintal

	1995-96	1997-98
Coarse Variety	Rs.360	Rs.415
Fine Variety	Rs.375	Rs.445
Transportation & incidental charges	Rs.5	Rs.35
Procured Quantity	1.43 Lakh tons	18 Lakh tons

- ★ 1,27,832 free concrete houses constructed for Adi-Dravidars - Weaker Sections in 2 years (1996-98). 60,000 houses this year. Between 1991-96 during five years 1,20,700 houses constructed.
- ★ Monthly Pension given based on age for weaker section:
Rs.100 during 1995 - ceiling on number of beneficiaries.
Rs.150 during 1998 - no ceiling on number of beneficiaries.
- ★ Social Safety net for downtrodden at a cost of Rs.6485 crores - for providing food, clothing and shelter.

- ★ Free distribution of sarees and dhoties to 1 crore and 40 lakh poor people.
- ★ Marriage Grant for brides from poor families.
1989 - Rs.5,000
1996 - Rs.10,000
Between 1996-98 - Rs.68 crores marriage grants disbursed.
During the current year Rs.60 crores will be disbursed to benefit 60,000.
- ★ Ground Rent waived. Arrear dues also waived.
- ★ Stamp Duty and Registration Fee waived for property not exceeding Rs.3,000.
- ★ 20 kgs. rice per family comprising 3 members.
- ★ 2,000 new Fair Price Shops - complaint book at all fair price shops.
- ★ 2 colour new ration cards.
- ★ Local Body Elections and Election to Co-operatives held to upkeep Democratic Traditions.
- ★ A model village per Legislative Assembly Constituency every year under "Anna Marumalarchi Thittam". 33,282 works undertaken at a cost of Rs.224 crores.
- ★ Rs.15 crores fund allocated to "Namakku Naame Thittam".



- ★ Rs.35 lakhs for each constituency under 'M.L.A. Constituency Development Scheme'.
- ★ Monthly pension of Rs.150 to members of Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies who have completed 60 years of age.
- ★ 20% rebate throughout the year to remove the misery of Handloom Weavers'. 30% special rebate for three months for clearance of unsold stocks.
- ★ Rs.43 crores of rebate not paid for four years, being paid to Weavers' Co-operative Societies.
- ★ 25,860 Teachers appointed on seniority basis.
- ★ 10,302 Policemen including 2,600 Women Constables appointed.
- ★ 1,100 Sub-Inspectors appointed.
- ★ 8,000 road workers appointed.
- ★ 13,000 'Makkal Nala Paniyalargal' re-appointed.
- ★ 12,000 kms. of roads black topped.
- ★ New rural roads for a length of 10,000 kms.
- ★ Water supply increased for 7,227 rural habitations at a cost of Rs.285 crores.
- ★ 1,10,000 new street lights.
- ★ Electricity connection for 4000 over head tanks.
- ★ Electricity connection for 98,000 huts.
- ★ Revised Central Government Pay Scales for State Government Employees from 1.1.1996.
- ★ Sanction accorded for 5,792 MW power generation in association with private power producers.
- ★ Commercial-cum-Financial Centre at a cost of Rs.100 crores promoted by TACID.
- ★ New Hi-Tech Industrial Park at a cost of Rs.700 crores in Tirunelveli District. New Industries at a cost of Rs.7,000 crores to be set up in this park.



- ★ No hamlet without a school.
- ★ Free bus pass for students upto 12th standard.
- ★ 15% reservation in Professional Colleges for students from rural area schools.
- ★ Egg along with Nutritious Meal once a week for school students.
- ★ State Level Labour Welfare Board set up to benefit 25 lakh labourers in unorganised sector.
- ★ 8,000 free houses for fishermen at a cost of Rs.26 crores. 4,000 houses this year.
- ★ Link roads for all the villages with a population of more than 1000 at a cost of Rs.186 crores.
- ★ Panjab University at Salem, Dr.Ambedkar Law University at Chennai, K.A.P.Viswanatham Medical College at Tiruchirapalli, Law College at Nallai.
- ★ 167 Primary Health Centres to function round-the-clock.
- ★ 652 Primary Health Centre buildings at a cost of Rs.50 crores.
- ★ "Samathuvapuram" at 50 places to facilitate members of various communities live in harmony.

WELFARE OF POLICE PERSONNEL BEING PROTECTED IN KALAINAR'S REGIME

Modernisation of Police Department

In order to strengthen, to improve and to modernise the Police Department by providing vehicles, equipment and computers and by establishing coastal guard check posts, new police squads the Government have incurred an amount of Rs.47 crores in the past two years. In 1998-99 Rs.10 crores has been allocated. Apart from this an amount of Rs.10 crores is expected from the Central Government.

A Government order has been issued sanctioning Rs.20 crores to establish a "Police Academy" so as to give training to all the Police officials and newly recruited personnel of uniformed service. This Academy will function as a Head Quarter by integrating the district level trainings. To improve the training it has been proposed to utilise the grant of the Central Government. An area of 133 acres of land located at Vandalur, near Chennai, has to be transferred to Police department for the establishment of Police Academy. The Director General of Police is preparing an estimate to establish this Academy. This Academy will function at an early date with necessary infrastructure.

Three permanent Police Training Centres

As a first phase it has been proposed to establish three permanent Police Training Centres to give basic training to police personnel. For which at an estimated cost of Rs.1.80 crores, three hostels are to be constructed.

It is proposed to construct new buildings for 25 police stations at a cost of Rs.1 crore as a first phase, which are now functioning at private

buildings. An additional floor is to be constructed with an estimated cost of Rs.20 lakhs at Marudham Complex where the head quarters of Tamil Nadu Rapid Action Force is functioning.

An A/c.Conference Hall will be constructed at a cost of Rs.25 lakhs at the 2nd floor of the officers' canteen at commissionerate complex at Egmore, Chennai.

A new residential building is to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.16 lakhs for the Superintendent of Police of Virudhunagar District. A water supply scheme for Forensic and Science Department at a cost of Rs.1 lakh will be executed. A/c facilities will be provided at a cost of Rs.1.68 lakhs for anthropology, explosives, record sections of the Forensic and Science Department. The posts of Scientific Assistant Grade - I & Grade - II are to be upgraded as Scientific Officers, incurring an expenditure of Rs.2.75 lakhs. One Density Measuring Meter at a cost of Rs.5.50 lakhs will be purchased. D.L.C. Scannar at a cost of Rs.15 lakhs for Tirunelveli Range Forensic and Science Laboratory will be purchased. A total of Rs.3.76 crores will be spent for the above schemes during this financial year.

Workshops on 'Human Rights and Humanity'

To improve the image of Police among general public, it has been proposed to convene workshops on "human rights and humanity" everymonth through the District Superintendents of Police and Police Commissioners of respective districts and corporations with the participation of general public and police. This workshop will create an awareness among public as well as police personnel about human rights and humanity. It has been decided that these workshops should be conducted atleast once in three months. As a first phase, Rs.10 lakhs has been allocated for this purpose.

Out of 386 Police Stations functioning in private buildings, financial allocations were made last year to construct new buildings for 79 such police stations. The construction work is in progress.

This year, the Government have decided to construct buildings for 40 police stations, which are in possession of sufficient land for which Rs.60 lakhs will be allocated in addition to Rs.1 crore already allotted.

They are :

Kancheepuram District :

1. Kelambakkam
2. Maraimalai Nagar
3. Soonambedu

Cuddalore District :

4. Naduveerapatti

Villupuram District :

5. Thiruvennai Nallur
6. Kachirappalayam

Thiruvannamalai District :

7. Melachengam
8. Brahmesam
9. Vadavanakurupatti

Vellore District :

10. K.V. Kuppam
11. Vellore (Crimes-North)
12. Vellore (North) Women

Erode District :

13. Kangeyam
14. Dharapuram
15. Bhavani

Virudhunagar District :

16. Veerasozham

Sivagangai District :

17. Poolankurichi
18. Aaravayal

19. Devakottai

Karur District :

20. Thennilai
21. Pazhaviduthai

Thanjavur District :

22. Adiramapattinam

Madurai District :

23. Appan Tiruppathi
24. Samayanallur

Ramanathapuram District :

25. Ramanathapuram Bazar
26. Abiramam

Dharmapuri District:

27. Kalavoy
28. Singarapettai
29. Maharajakarai
30. Kaveripattinam
31. Adiyaman Kottai
32. Thoppur
33. Bommi
34. Eraiyur

Tuticorin District :

35. Nazareth
36. Koppampatti
37. Pasuvanthanai
38. Kovilpatti
39. Surankudi
40. Sayarpuram

In 1997-98, 320 new vehicles have been purchased at a cost of Rs.9.02 crores. Orders have been issued to purchase 69 new vehicles at a cost of Rs.2.34 crores under the modernisation scheme of police department. In 1998-99 an amount of Rs.10.35 crores have been sanctioned to purchase new vehicles, replacing 227 condemned vehicles. In addition to the allocation of Rs.4 crores of the budgetary allocation, an additional amount of Rs.6.35 crores is being allotted.

Additional vehicles for Patrolling

54 patrolling vehicles will be purchased at a cost of Rs.1.60 crores as follows:

Coimbatore Police Commissionerate 10 vehicles; Coimbatore District 5 vehicles; Chennai Commissionerate 10 vehicles; Chengai East Police District 5 vehicles; Madurai Commissionerate 3 vehicles; Madurai District 3 vehicles; Tirunelveli Commissionerate 3 vehicles; Tirunelveli District 3 vehicles; Salem Commissionerate 3 vehicles; Salem District 3 vehicles; Tiruchi Commissionerate 3 vehicles; Tiruchi District 3 vehicles.

At present there is no sufficient furniture in the Police Stations to accomodate the visiting public as well as the Police Personnel working in the police stations. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that there is no sufficient financial provision to provide such facilities. After considering this, it had been decided by the Government to provide Rs.20,000 to each Police Station for the purchase of chairs for the visiting public - chairs, tables for Police Personnel and almirah for keeping the records. Apart from this, it has been brought to the notice of the Government that there is no provision to meet out the contingency expenses. For the first time it has been decided to allocate Rs.5000 per annum to each police station to meet out the contingency expenses. For this an amount of Rs.69 lakhs will be spent as one-time expenditure. Likewise it has been decided to allocate an amount of Rs.10,000 per year to meet out the contingency expenditure of each of the Armed Reserve Camp.

Nagapattinam District Police Office is functioning in private building since 1971. Hence it has been decided to construct a new building at a cost of Rs.62 lakhs at Nagai - Velippalayam, so as to accomodate all the police offices in one place.

Welfare Schemes

This Government have done much for the welfare of Police Personnel. The amount spent for the welfare of the police personnel in 1991-92 was

Rs.89 lakhs; In 1992-93 Rs.12.80 crores; 1993-94 Rs.16 crores; 1994-95 Rs.20 crores and in 1995-96 it was Rs.14.50 crores.

After this Government assumed office in 1996-97, Rs.52 crores were spent for the welfare of the police personnel. In 1997-98 Rs.99 crores were spent. During the 5 years of the previous regime, only Rs.65 crores had been spent for the welfare of police personnel. Whereas in two years this Government have spent Rs.151 crores.

Food allowances are being sanctioned to the police personnel during emergency duties, while deputing them to control the Law and Order situations in other districts. This food allowance has been enhanced by this Government in 1997 as follows:

In 1997 it has been enhanced from Rs.16 to Rs.25 for Grade-II Police Personnel. For Grade-I Police and Head Constables from Rs.20 to Rs.30. For Sub-Inspector and Inspector Rs.30 to Rs.45. On the requisition made by police personnel to enhance the present rate of food allowance, it has been enhanced from Rs.25 to Rs.35 for Grade-II police and for Grade-I police and Head Constables from Rs.30 to Rs.40.

The police personnel from the ranks of constables to inspectors are being provided 12 kgs. of rice at subsidised rates and 8 kgs. of rice under public distribution system for every month. The Government has decided to provide 20 kgs. of rice at subsidised rate to the police personnel hereafter. 84,000 police personnel are benefitted under this scheme at a cost of Rs.1.50 crores per annum.

Uniform allowances

Three member committee is being constituted with the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Thiru Balakrishnan, Opposition Leader and the Senior Member Tmt.Ponnammal to select the design of the uniform for the women police personnel.

In 1996 after the assumption of office, this government had enhanced the uniform allowance from Rs.25 to Rs.30. At present, the uniform allowance will be enhanced again as follows; for Police Superintendents, Additional Police Superintendents, Deputy Police Superintendents from Rs.40 to Rs.60; For Inspector and Sub-Inspectors from Rs.30 to Rs.50; for Head-Constables and Constables from Rs.30 to Rs.40. This costs the Government exchequer Rs.1.18 crores per annum.

At present the uniforms are supplied as readymades. The Police Personnel are requesting to supply the unstitched uniform clothes instead of the ready-made ones, since the stitched uniforms are not fitted, due to the incorrect measurements which causes re-stitching. Accepting this request, the Government have decided to supply the uniforms either stitched or as clothes. If the uniforms are stitched by the women societies, the stitching charge is enhanced from Rs.65 to Rs.75.

Police Housing

The maintenance of the Police Quarters and Police Department Buildings formerly dealt by Public Works Department is being entrusted to the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation from 1.4.98 for the better maintenance and for renovation works. For this purpose an amount of Rs.5 crores is being allocated for this year and this amount will be distributed to each district. On the basis of the importance, this amount will be spent for the maintenance of the Police Quarters in the Districts.

1500 houses were constructed per year. It was announced to construct 2500 houses from last year onwards and are under construction. Likewise during 1998-99, 2500 houses are permitted to be constructed. In total 5000 houses are being constructed by the efforts of this Government for the police personnel. Rs.85 crores will be spent for this. Of the 28,792 police

quarters in Tamil Nadu, 17,652 quarters are fitted with fans; the Government have decided to allocate an amount of Rs.1 crore to provide fan facilities to the remaining 11,140 quarters.

Enhancement of Allowances

The grant amount given to police personnel under the Tamil Nadu Police Health Fund Scheme has been enhanced from Rs.30 lakhs to Rs.50 lakhs from this year.

The extra time remuneration of Rs.20 being paid to Head-Constables and other Police Constables have been raised to Rs.50. The Government will incur an additional expenditure of Rs.11.16 crores to benefit 77,473 police personnel.

Risk allowances are being paid to Police Personnel as they have to work in dangerous situations. Rs.20 is being paid as risk allowance to police personnel from the rank of Constables to Inspectors and Rs.30 to Deputy Superintendent and Additional Superintendent. Hereafter the risk allowance will be paid as Rs.50 for the police personnel from the rank of Constables to Inspectors and Rs.60 for Deputy Superintendent and Additional Superintendent of Police for which Rs.5.16 crores will be additionally incurred.

More promotions

55 promotions in the cadre of Additional Superintendent of Police have been given. 130 promotions in the Deputy Superintendent of Police cadre; 255 promotions in the Inspector of Police (Taluk); 53 promotions in the Inspector of Police (Armed Reserve); 173 promotions in Sub-Inspector of Police (Taluk); 208 promotions in the Sub-Inspector of Police (Armed Reserve); 1000 promotions in the Head-Constable cadre; 10106 promotions in Grade-I Police Constable; 400 promotions for the Women Head-Constables. In total 20,500 promotions have been given. Actual

strength - 80,322. Percentage of actual strength benefitted through promotion - 25.52%. That is 25.50% promotions have been given. Further 9000 Constables who have put up 15 years of service have been promoted as Head-Constables as announced by this Government last year. In consequence to this, the Head-Constables have requested to promote them as Sub-Inspectors. The Government have considered their requests sympathetically and decided to promote the Head-Constables who have put in 10 years of service as Special Sub-Inspectors and to pay salary on par with regular Sub-Inspectors. Based on this, the Police Personnel who join duty as Grade-II Constables will be promoted as Sub-Inspectors within 25 years of service.

The Ministerial Staff of the Police Department have been requesting for a long time, for creation of new posts, especially in the newly created districts and Armed Reserve Police. The Government will consider their requests and new posts will be created and orders will be issued by the Government after receiving the proposals from the Director General of Police.

Redressal of Grievances

There is a grievance among the Police Personnel for a long time that they are not in a position to express their grievances either to the higher officials or to the Government. The Government decided to introduce a new approach scheme to redress their grievances. Accordingly, the Government issued orders to the Superintendents of Police in all the Districts and Commissioner of Police to act speedily and take appropriate actions on the grievances of police personnel following prescribed procedures.

A separate section has been created at the office of the Director-General of Police, Chennai and Home Department at the Secretariat for redressing the grievances of the Police Personnel.

The prohibition wing was functioning separately. This wing was dissolved and brought under the control of the police department.

Fire Stations

During the previous regime of 5 years, only 29 fire stations were sanctioned. During this regime in the past two years, 47 fire stations have been opened. But during this year the Government will concentrate on providing all basic infrastructure facilities to all these 47 fire stations.

New police stations

- ★ Venganur, Perambalur District
- ★ Thevur, Namakkal District
- ★ Thalamuthu Nagar, Tuticorin
- ★ Mahendra -mangalam, Dharmapuri
- ★ Kanchikoil, Erode
- ★ Ponnur, Thiruvannamalai
- ★ Appakoodal, Erode
- ★ Traffic Police Station at Viruthachalam
- ★ Karambakudi
- ★ Traffic Police Station at Karur
- ★ Irumbulikulichi, Andimadam
- ★ Kengavalli
- ★ Kandachipuram, Vizhupuram
- ★ Kuttakoil, Madurai
- ★ Uthanahalli, Dharmapuri
- ★ Palamedu, Madurai
- ★ Thachampatti, Thiruvannamalai
- ★ Malli, Virudhunagar

Works will be initiated from this year onwards to upgrade the outposts into regular Police Stations based on the availability of funds, in stages.

★ ★ ★

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★ ★ ★

COLOSSAL STATUE FOR THIRUVALLUVAR AT KANNIYAKUMARI

- The efforts of Kalaignar highly commendable



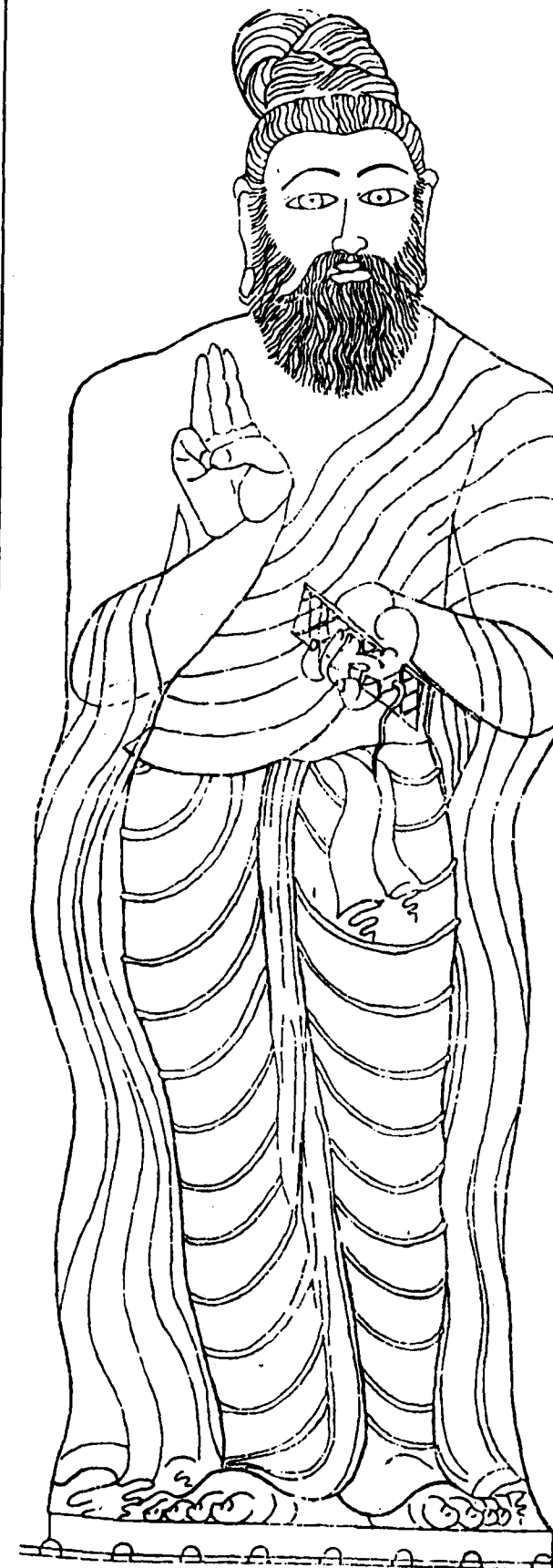
"In the South of Tamil Nadu there is a place after the name of Thiruvalluvanayanar and in the North at Mylapore there is a shrine dedicated to him. Thus the life history of Thiruvalluvanayanar connects the South and North of Tamil Nadu by his birth and death respectively. It is indeed highly commendable that Chief Minister Kalaignar has decided to erect a 133 - foot high statue of the Universal poet on the sea-girt rock at Kanniyakumari. The proposed statue is unique and colossal in size and has no parallel anywhere in the world. The memorial in the mid-sea will definitely enhance the beauty of the holy place and spread the message of the universal poet all over the world through the millions of tourists who throng Kanniyakumari".

**"Tamil Nadu gave Valluvar to the World;
And thereby gained everlasting fame".**

Thus glorifies the great Tamil Poet Subramanya Bharathi. Though Thirukkural is a mine of information and instruction it does not give the life history of its author direct. But one can get some glimpses of history about Thiruvalluvar from his immortal work Thirukkural if the text is dispassionately analysed with an absolute degree of objectivity. The words used by Thiruvalluvar in his work Thirukkural, the style of expression followed by him, the examples chosen by him for explaining things and the territorial unit Valluvanadu found in the inscriptions of Kanniyakumari clearly indicate that Thiruvalluva Nayanar was born at Thirunayanarkurichi in the erstwhile Valluvanadu now in Kanniyakumari district.

Stories are many regarding the birth place and life history of Thiruvalluvar. A Brahmin named Bhagavan and a pulaya woman named Adi are said to be the parents of Thiruvalluvar. The story goes that the Tamil poetess Avvaiyar was the sister of Thiruvalluvar and quite interestingly the parents left them alone and they became orphans. According to another legend Vasuki was his wife. Popular imagination has woven several legends around the personal life of Thiruvalluvar and Vasuki. Again, yet another legend has it that Thiruvalluvar was a weaver in profession. But then there are no authentic evidences to substantiate these claims.

- Dr.S.PADMANABHAN, General Secretary,
Kanniyakumari Historical and Research Centre, Nagercoil.



Leaving aside these fairy tales of popular imagination and considering the available linguistic evidences, epigraphic records and study of the local social customs, we can infer that Thiruvalluva Nayanar was born at Thirunayanarkurichi near Muttom of the erstwhile Valluvanadu in the present district of Kanniyakumari. He stayed some years at Madurai, the centre of Tamil culture and finally took eternal rest at Mylapore in the present city of Chennai where a temple was erected in his memory. Thiruvalluvar was neither a weaver nor an orphan but a ruler of Valluvanadu. Here are some available external and internal evidences from different sources to substantiate these claims.

Regarding the birth place of Thiruvalluvar there is one tradition that it was Mylapore which houses a shrine of Thiruvalluvar. Some scholars hold the view on the strength of a verse in Thiruvalluvamalai that Thiruvalluvar's birth place was Madurai. It is the custom in Tamil Nadu to erect a temple in memory of great men at the place where they died. The Thiruvalluvar shrine at Mylapore may at best help us to decide that Thiruvalluvar left this mortal world at Mylapore but it can't be an evidence to its claim of his place of birth.

The supporters of the Madurai theory, in the same vein, quote a verse in Thiruvalluvamalai which means that "Thiruvalluvar is the pivot of Punalkoodal while Krishna is the pivot of North Madurai". Thiruvalluvamalai cannot be considered an authentic record since it is an anthology of mediaeval period and not a contemporary work of Thirukkural. From Thiruvalluvamalai it can be claimed that Valluvar might have stayed in Madurai, which happened to be a centre of Tamil culture during his days. It does not mean that Valluvar was born at Madurai. There is another version that Punalkoodal is attributed to Kanniyakumari since it is the meeting place of land and sea and also the confluence of the three oceans. Madurai can only take credit for the flow of Vaigai river in its terrain but not the confluence of rivers.

Nanjilnadu and Valluvanadu

Purananuru, an anthology of Sangham period says that Nanjilnadu, the nucleus of the present Kanniyakumari district was ruled by one Nanjil Porunan, praised by the Sangham poets Oru Chirai Periyannar, Maruthan Iyanaganar, Avvaiyar and Karur Kadapillai. The commentators of Purananuru describe Porunan as Nanjil Valluvan. There is little doubt that Nanjil Valluvan and Thiruvalluvar were of the same genealogical line and they were contemporaries. Valluvanadu was adjacent to Nanjilnadu and it was

ruled by a Chieftain called Valluvar, who happened to be a poet of genius.

The Huzur office plate of the Ay King Vikramaditya Varaguna of the 9th century AD mentions "Valluvanattu Merkodu". Merkodu is a village in Kanniyakumari district. One of the inscriptions belonging to the 18th year of the great Chola King Raja Raja I, found in the rock-cut-cave temple at Thirunandikkarai records the capture of the village Muttam in Valluvanadu and the name of the village has been altered to Mummudi Cholanallur by Raja Raja Chola. Another inscription which belongs to the period of 12th century A.D. found in Kailasanatha temple at Karuppukottai also mentions "Valluvanadu". From these epigraphical records we can conclude that Valluvanadu was in existence even in the 12th century A.D. In all probability Thirunayanarkurichi near Muttam which was in Valluvanadu was the birth place of Thiruvalluvar Nayanar. The very name of the places Vellimalai near Thirunayanarkurichi and Vilavankodu a taluk in Kanyakumari district are said to be derived from Valluvamalai and Valluvankodu respectively. Thus the very name Valluvar is closely associated with Kanniyakumari district.

Valluvar was a King

Presumably the Chieftain Valluvar like Lord Mahavira and Buddha one day renounced the world and entered the literary field as a sort of penance. The renunciation transformed the royal personage into a spiritual thinker, a great reformer and one of the greatest philosophers that the world has ever known. With the rich experience gained during his royal career he wrote the chapters on Love and Political Economy with a surety of touch and unmatched skill. After completing his triple treatise on Morality, Material Prosperity and Love in 133 Chapters of ten couplets each Thiruvalluvar might have moved to Mylapore, a part of the present Chennai city. And further on his way to Mylapore he might have stayed at Madurai, the seat of Tamil culture for a short spell

"anganathu luka vamizhdhatra tranganatha
rallarmut koti kolal"

- Kural (720)

"vilakatram barku mirulebot kongan
muyakatram barkum basapu"

- Kural (1186)

which had led to a lot of speculations clouding the fact from our view. On the basis of the evidences mentioned above, we can easily conclude then that Thiruvalluvar was born at Thirunayanarkurichi, stayed at Madurai for a short period and left the mortal world at Mylapore.

Words used in Kural

We have seen so far the external evidences to show that Thiruvalluvar hails from Valluvanadu, the present Kanniyakumari district. Now let us come to the internal evidences, several words that appear in Thirukkural are used as such only in Kanniyakumari district even today. In other places they are not in vogue. A few are quoted here. The word atram (Kural 1186) which means "last" is in current usage in Kanniyakumari district. The word orthu which is used in Kural (357) and Ormai (remember) are very common in Kanniyakumari. The word Ankanam (water outlet inside the house) referred to in Kural 720 is used as such only in Kanniyakumari. In Kanniyakumari the word "Sirappu" means special poojas in a temple. Thiruvalluvar used the word in the same sense in Kural 180. The word "Chevi" which means ear is commonly used only in Kanniyakumari district. Valluvar used this word in different places. The word "madi" which means laziness in Kanniyakumari is used as such in Thirukkural in ten verses under the chapter Madi-inmai which means not being lazy. The people of Nanjilnadu usually call their children as "Makka (1)". Thiruvalluvar used this word in the same sense in eight places in his work. The word "Cheruthu" which denotes "to block" used by the people of Kanniyakumari district appear in Thirukkural as "Cheruppa" in the same sense (1318). In Kanyakumari the word "Veyarthal" is used for sweating. Valluvar used the same word as "Veyarppa" in Kural (1328). The word "Thinnuthal" which means to eat appeared in Kural (252, 254 and 256) is commonly used by the people of Kanyakumari district while the word "Pasiattal" which denotes the same meaning found in Kural (225) is used by the people of Kalkulam taluk. It is interesting to note that Thirunayanarkurichi is in Kalkulam taluk of Kanniyakumari district.

In Kanniyakumari district the bullock cart is called "Chakkadavandi". Thiruvalluvar also used the same word in the same sense as Chakadam in Thirukkural (475). In other districts of Tamil Nadu the word "Vellam" denotes flood. But only in Kanniyakumari district vellam denotes ordinary water. Valluvar also used the same word in the same sense (595).

"idhanai yidhana livanmudiku mendrain
thadhanai yavangan vidal"

- Kural (517)

The tender coconut is called "Karukku" in Kanniyakumari district but it is known as llaneer in other parts of Tamil Nadu. Valluvar used the word "Karukkal" in the same sense in one of the verses in Thirukkural (1306). The word "Kolalakum" which means "acceptable" and good appeared in Thirukkural (134) is used as "Kollam" in Kanniyakumari district. The word okkum which denotes matching and possible appeared in Kural (972,1112) is used in the same sense by the people of Kanniyakumari.

The word "oppuravu" means an active social cooperation and the spirit of helpfulness behind it. One may quite commonly come across in the villages of Kanniyakumari district the usage of "oppuravu ozhugaventtam" which is obviously used to mean "Don't pretend to help". Thiruvalluvar used the same word "oppuravu" in the same sense in 5 verses (213,218,220,480,983). He also allotted one chapter (23) under the title "oppuravarithal" (complaisance). These are only a few among the several words which are still in vogue in the same sense exclusively in Kanniyakumari district. We cannot find these words in other parts of Tamil Nadu.

Normally the Tamil structure demands that an animate subject shall entail an animate predicate. But in Nanjilnadu Tamil although the subject is animate the ending may be non-animate or neuter gender. For instance Appa Varum instead of Appa Varuvanko (Father will come), Amma Pesum instead of Amma pesuvanko (Mother will speak), Mama mudikkum instead of Mama mudippanko (uncle will do). Thiruvalluvar used this typical expression in his Thirukkural which reads. "Ithanai ithanal ivan mudikkum" (517) instead of "Ithanai ithanal ivan mudippan".

He was not a weaver

In fact, Thiruvalluvar was not a weaver. If he was a weaver he would have mentioned weaving in his work. It is surprising to note that there is no single word about weaving in Thirukkural. On the other hand Thiruvalluvar gave much importance to Agriculture

(1031-1040). No other occupation was given as much importance as farming in Thirukkural. He used the word ulavu (ploughing) in 6 places and Aer (ploughshare) in 3 places. He made reference direct or indirect to several occupations like medical, (941-950) military (761-780), teaching (395), trade and commerce (113,118,496) ministry (631-640) etc. The occupation of capturing wild elephant and demesticating it was also mentioned in one Kural (678). From the very words udai (939,1012) udukkai (788) which denote dress and the word uduppathu (166,1079) which means dressing appeared in Thirukkural clearly indicate that weaving was prevalent in Tamil Nadu during the days of Thiruvalluvar. But he has not mentioned anywhere in Thirukkural about weaving. If Thiruvalluvar did the occupation of weaving certainly he would have mentioned it in Thirukkural directly. The very fact that he had not mentioned the trade weaving in his work clearly shows that he had not being a weaver in profession.

Agriculture in Nanjilnadu

The main occupation of Nanjilnadu from Sangham age to the present day has been Agriculture. The very word Nanjil denotes Aer (Ploughshare). Thiruvalluvar was an expert on agriculture and he knew the ins and outs of agricultural activities including the typical method of farming followed by the farmers of Nanjilnadu. The peculiar type of farming knows as "Podivithaippu" or "Pozhuthivithaippu" (paddy cultivation in the dry soil expecting the summer rain during the Tamil month of Chithirai) which is in vogue only in Nanjilnadu was mentioned by Thiruvalluvar. The same word "Thodipuzhuthi" is used in Thirukkural (1231). The word "Unankal" which means to make dry appeared in the same Kural is used as such by the people of Kanniyakumari even today. In Kanniyakumari district the peculiar custom of dressing particularly among the farmers is folding the dhoti above the knees. One can identify a person of Kanniyakumari from the model of wearing and folding his dhoti. This practice of folding the dhoti is also found in one Kural (1023).

Neithal (maritime) region

Thiruvalluvar used the word "Kadal" (sea) in 11 places. In one Kural he used the word "Kadal" in two places (496). He also mentioned various types of country boats and also some local technology of fishing in his Thirukkural. The fishermen in the Muttom area during fishing use the glittering golden lace in their hook to catch fish. The great poet

Thiruvalluvar mentioned this system as "Thoondil pon meen vilungiatru"(991). Even if one gets success he should not indulge in gambling. A gambler is compared to a fish attracted by the golden lace in the fishing hook and fall a prey to it. Now as the golden lace has increased its value the fishermen use glittering fibre thread locally known as "mins". This practice could not be found anywhere among the fishermen in Tamil Nadu. The very fact that Thiruvalluvar used the comparison of golden lace in the fishing hook is an ample evidence that he was a domicile of Thirunayanarkurichi near the coastal area of Muttom. Under these circumstances we can say that the profession of Thiruvalluvar was not Neithal (weaving) but he lived on the land of Neithal (maritime region). Tholkappiyam, the earliest available literary work in Tamil divided the land into five types namely Kurunchi (hilly region), Mullai (forest tracts), Marutham (irrigated areas), Neithal (maritime region) and Palai (parched up dry tracts). Valluvar lived on the land of Neithal combined with Marutham. That is why he gave much importance to agricultural and maritime activities.

Nayanar means King

In the Muttom area when children cry, parents will say "Ponnu Nayane Karaiyathe" meaning "O King; don't cry". In the dramas staged in the coastal area of Muttom the citizens submitted their grievance by saying "Ponnu Nayane oru sankadam" (O King; there is a grievance). Here the meaning of the word Nayanar is king or leader. Hence the place of birth of Thiruvalluvar Nayanar come to be known as Thirunayanarkurichi. Similarly the temple of Thiruvalluvar Nayanar at Mylapore where he was laid to rest was also called Nayanarkoil in the temple records. In his article "Nayanar temple" Jeevabandhu T.S.Sripal writes that "Thiruvalluvar temple in Mylapore is well known to many. Although the temple is now called Thiruvalluvar temple about 20 years ago it was known as Nayanar temple. It is also learnt that the images of Thiruvalluvar and Vasuki were erected only 500 years ago. (Gnanasambandam published by Dharmapuram Adheenam 56/8 page-308).

Embracing a corpse

The strong evidence of the theory that Thiruvalluvar was born at Thirunayanarkurichi in Kanniyakumari is the fare social custom of embracing a corpse, which was in vogue among the Nambudiris of the erstwhile Travancore state.

"The false embrace of whores is like That of a damned corpse in the dark (Kural 913)

It is a Kural under the head 'Prostitutes'. The prostitute pretends love when she embraces her customer; but in her heart she feels even as one who has touched a stranger's dead body in a dark room. This evil custom of embracing a dead body was in vogue among the Nambudiris of old Malainadu or Travancore near Nanjilnadu. If any virgin of this caste died then her body was left smeared with sandal paste and placed in a dark room. A person there was engaged to embrace the body of the corpse in return for a nominal amount paid to him as fee. The act of embrace is confirmed by the sandal paste seen on the body of the man, once the rite is over.

Thiruvalluvar knew well of this monstrous custom because he hailed from Kanniyakumari, adjoining to the country of Cheras. This peculiar custom was practically unknown to the rest of Tamil Nadu. The French author Abbe J.A.Dubois of the 18th century A.D. confirms the presence of this evil custom among the Nambudiris of old Travancore and mentioned it in his famous book "Hindu manners, customs and ceremonies". (Page 17) This social custom has also appeared in Edgar Thurston's Caste and Tribes of Southern India. (Volume V page 197) Here mention should necessarily be made of the fact that the present Kanniyakumari district was a part of the old Travancore state till 1956.

Thiruvalluvar in his work aptly refers to this evil and strange custom in the chapter on prostitutes. He compares a prostitute who embraces her customer for mere money, to a man who embraces the dead body of an unknown girl for monetary returns. This is another strong evidence to establish the fact that Thiruvalluvar was born and brought up in Kanniyakumari area. If Thiruvalluvar had been born at Mylapore or Madurai he would not have known this strange custom of embracing the corpse confined to a section of people in Malainadu adjacent to Nanchilnadu and there would not have been any special reference to this strange practice.

Thus the literary, epigraphic, linguistic and sociological studies confirm the view that Thiruvalluvar was born at Thirunayanarkurichi in the erstwhile Valluvanadu which is now in the district of Kanniyakumari and he was a King-turned-Philosopher-cum-Poet. ★



விசம்பின் துலிவிழின் அல்லால் மற்றுஆங்கே பசம்புல் தலைகாண்பு அரிது.

visumbin thulivizhin allal matrango pasumbul thalaikanbu arithu.

'If no rain-drops fall from the clouds it is difficult to see the shooting of the green grass on the earth'.

COMMENTARY

Here it is pointed out that not only will agricultural operations be impossible without rain but no grass or herb will sprout in the world of nature without rain. Without rain nature would be merely the dead expanse of parched earth. No rain, no life on earth.

நெடும்கடலும் தன்நீர்மையு குன்றும் தடிந்துஎழிலி தான்நல்காது ஆகி விடின்.

nedungodalum dhannirmayai kundrum dhadinduezhili thannalathu ahi vidin.

'If the clouds do not shower their gifts of rain, even the wide ocean would get deteriorated in its nature'.

சிறப்பொடு பூசனை செல்லாது வானம் வறக்குமேல் வானோர்க்கும் ஈண்டு.

sirapodu pusanai selladhu vanam varakumel vanorkum indu.

'If the sky gets clearly free of clouds then there will be no more festivals and religious offerings for the divine being here on earth'.

COMMENTARY

Here is an indication of the religious practices that were followed in the Tamil land in ancient India. Evidently there were temples and temple

Thirukkural

The code of conduct for the mankind



worship. Temple worship always implies festivals and offerings to the God in the temple. A starving population cannot afford to carry on these religious offerings and festivities. Hence the author wants to point out that not only will ordinary economic conditions break down in a society which is denied rainfall but even the spiritual life of man will have to disappear resulting in complete collapse of man's higher aspirations characteristic of culture and civilisation.

தானம் தவம்இரண்டும் தங்கா, வியன்உலகம் வானம் வழங்காது எனின்.

thanam dhavamirandum dhanga, viyanulaham vanam vazhangadhu enin.

'If the clouds deny their boon of rainwater there will be neither charity nor tapas in the wide world'.

COMMENTARY

It is pointed out that the householder cannot continue his ethical duties of offering charity and the ascetic cannot continue his life of renunciation and practice tapas. The gifts prescribed for the householder are of four kinds: charitable gift of food, gift of medicine, gift of books and gift of refuge, which are called technically, aharadhana, oushadha dhana, sastra dhana and abhaya dhana. The householder is expected to practice these four kinds of gifts and he cannot successfully carry out this duty without agricultural produce in plenty. If the producer of food fails in his occupation he can no more afford these gifts. The great ascetics who do not own anything as their own must obtain periodic sustenance from the householder to engage themselves in spiritual discipline for themselves and devote their time and energy for the spiritual uplift of mankind in general. Hence it is clearly pointed out that neither the householder nor the ascetic could carry out his legitimate duties in a famished land.

நீரின்று அமையாது உலகு; எனில் யாக்காக்கும்
வான்றின்று அமையாது ஒழுக்கு.

*nirindru amaiyadhuulagu enil yaryarkum
vaninindru amaiyadhu ozhuku.*

'It is clear that the world of living beings cannot get on without water. Hence without rain it is impossible for man to discharge his duties according to the ordained ethical code'.

COMMENTARY

Here the ethical code implies both the householder's duties as well as the duties prescribed for the ascetic. Thus this chapter emphasises the importance of rain for the carrying on of social activities in all its aspects, and failure of rain will mean complete paralysis of social activities in all its aspects.

நிறைமொழி மாந்தர் பெருமை, நிலத்து
மறைமொழி காட்டி விடும.

*niraimozhi mandhar perumai, nilathu
maraimozhi kati vidum.*

'The greatness of those Rishis whose word is truth is well illustrated by the scripture revealed by them for the benefit of the world'.

COMMENTARY

The great ascetics never indulge in vain talk. They speak only what is useful and true. The greatness of such saints is fully borne out by the works composed by them. The scripture which owes its existence to such great men exhibits the greatness of the author by its own characteristics which conform to the strict criterion of truth which means that they are never in conflict with accepted pramanas or the criterion of truth such as pratyaksha, the concrete world and reality and anumana, the inferential knowledge based upon such perceptual facts.

குணம்என்னும் குன்றுஏறி நின்றார் வெகுளி,
கணமேயும், காத்தல் அரிது.

*kunamennum gundreri nindrar vehuli
kanameyum gathal aridhu.*

'In the case of those who have climbed up the hill of excellence and stand firm, their anger cannot endure even for a moment'.

COMMENTARY

What is intended here is that the emotion of anger does not appear at all in the case of great ascetics who have climbed up the hill of righteousness by the method of strict self-discipline

leading to spiritual development. Occasionally it may appear in their consciousness, but it may flicker away in a moment. The anger which may disturb the ordinary man and influence his conduct deleteriously will just appear in the consciousness of a great ascetic and disappear in the same moment without in any way affecting the peace and harmony of his soul.

சிறப்புநனும் செல்வமும் நனும் அறத்தின்னங்கு
ஆக்கம் எவனோ உயிர்க்கு.

*sirapinum selvamum inum arathinungu
akam evano uyirku.*

'It yields eternal bliss of Moksha. It yields prosperity here. What gain, what benefit greater than virtue can man obtain?'

COMMENTARY

This emphasises the value and potency of virtue. There is nothing more valuable than this for man. By practising the code of morals ordained for man, he can obtain prosperity and happiness in the world by strictly observing the code of righteousness intended for the ascetic. He can reach the ultimate goal of liberation and self-perfection. Certainly therefore he cannot find anything more valuable than this which can be adopted by man as his guide in life.

கறத்துஇன்னா செய்துஅக் கண்ணும், மறத்துஇன்னா
செய்யாமமை மாசற்றாக் கோள்.

*karuthinna seidhaak kannum maruthinna
seyamai masattrar kol.*

'It is the considered belief of the sages of spotless purity that even when out of malice evil is done to a person he ought not to do in return anything evil'.

எனைத்தானும், எஞ்ஞான்றும், யார்க்கும், மனத்தானும்
மாணா செய்யாமமை தலை.

*enaiathanum, enzhanrum, yarkum, manathanam
mana seyamai dhalai.*

'Never to cause wilfully any kind of evil to any living being, this is the greatest virtue'.

COMMENTARY

Here the emphasis is laid on wilfully doing evil. That ought to be avoided. In an unconscious moment or involuntarily injury may be caused to living beings. Such an injury is not done wilfully and hence ought not to be considered as really sinful. The idea of doing evil is considered more important than the real action causing pain. *

HEALTH SERVICES

The provision under the Medical and Public Health Demands in Budget Estimate 1998 - 99 is Rs.1045.72 Crores as detailed below.

Directorate of Medical Education Rs.310.89 Crores, Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services (including E.S.I.) Rs.282.83 Crores, Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (including PHCs) Rs.303.05 Crores, Directorate of Family Welfare Rs.62.40 Crores, Directorate of Drugs Control Rs.3.95 Crores, Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy Rs.29.65 Crores, Danida Health Care Project Directorate Rs.11.54 Crores, Reproductive and Child Health Project Directorate Rs.0.53 Crores, Tamil Nadu State Health Transport Department Rs.6.17 Crores, C.E. (B) (Maintenance and Repair Work for Medical and Public Health Institutions) Rs.23.64 Crores, Others Rs.2.40 Crores, Add Recoveries Rs.8.67, Total Rs.1045.72 Crores.

Health is a critical investment for human resources development and poverty alleviation. That is the reason as to why the Government have taken upon themselves the responsibility of providing adequate health care facilities to all the residents in Tamil Nadu.

To give concrete shape to the objective of the Government to ensure "health for all by the year 2000" (that is, all the people of Tamil Nadu attain a level of health that will permit them to lead a socially and economically productive life as declared by the World Health Assembly in 1977), many programmes are being implemented by the Government. The most important among them are

- ✦ Education about the prevailing health problems and methods of preventing and controlling them;
- ✦ Immunisation against infectious diseases;
- ✦ Expansion of the hospital network to reduce the travel costs of the patients; and appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries;
- ✦ Provision of essential drugs
- ✦ Maternal and child health care, including family planning;
- ✦ Prevention and control of endemic diseases;
- ✦ Expansion and upgradation of the facilities in the hospitals; provision of modern equipment and upgrading the skills of medical officers;
- ✦ Upgrading the medical colleges and to improve the standard of medical education; and
- ✦ Encouraging the indigenous systems of medicine

Tamil Nadu has adopted the primary health care approach to provide free creative and preventive health services to a large section of the population. It has made considerable progress in the last several decades in expanding its public health system and in reducing the burden of disease. Smallpox has been eradicated. Prevention of a range of diseases such as measles, poliomyelitis, diphtheria and tuberculosis has greatly reduced childhood mortality. An extensive infrastructure has been developed during the last few years. Tamil Nadu has already achieved the targets set in the National Health Policy for improving the health status of the people. The infant mortality rate has been brought down to 54 per 1000 live births, the crude birth rate has fallen to 19.2 and the crude death rate has come down to 7.8

There is still an important unfinished agenda for addressing childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality, and communicable diseases. The leading sources of mortality and morbidity continue to be maternal and perinatal causes, respiratory infections, diarrhoea diseases and Tuberculosis. In addition, the risks of infection from communicable diseases, such as malaria and leprosy, remain. New health problems such as AIDS and drug resistant forms of several communicable diseases, including malaria and tuberculosis, have emerged. The State must deal with a rising incidence of non - communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases and cancers. For achieving these goals, numerous programmes are being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Primary Health Centres

The provision of minimum basic health facilities for the people especially in the rural areas is one of the main objectives of the Government. The Government have taken several steps to strengthen the services available in the Primary Health Centres. In



keeping with the norms of the Government of India, 1408 Primary Health Centres (including 26 upgraded Primary Health Centres and 37 Community Health Centres) and 8682 Health Sub - Centres have been established in the State. In addition to the basic facilities available in all Primary Health Centres, all the Block Level Primary Health Centres are provided with Ophthalmic equipment for the detection of Cataract cases and correction of refractive errors as well as treatment of minor eye ailments.

After the present Government came to power in 1996, it was decided to provide necessary infra - structure facilities by providing own buildings for all the Primary Health Centres and accordingly in the first phase, the Government sanctioned the construction of new buildings for 300 Primary Health Centres at a total cost of Rs.18.00 cores during 1996 - 97. It is expected that the construction of new

buildings for another 352 Government Primary Health Centres at a total cost of Rs.31.68 cores and the construction is in progress. The Government have also sanctioned the construction of these buildings will be completed soon. During 1997-98, the Government have sanctioned the construction of new buildings for 200 Government Health Sub - Centres at a total cost of Rs.9.00 cores during 1997 - 98.

The Government have issued orders for upgrading 424 Block Level Primary Health Centres as 24 hour Primary Health Centres and additional medical and para medical staff and equipment are being provided to 124 Primary Health Centres in the first phase. During 1997 - 98, additional staff, ambulances and laboratory equipment have been sanctioned to 126 more Government Primary Health Centres. Steps are being taken to sanction additional staff and equipment for the remaining Primary Health Centres in a phased manner. This effort has been appreciated by the Union Planning Commission as a novel one.

With a view to avoiding hardship and provide quick and immediate treatment to all Medico - Legal cases, the Government have ordered that all Block Level Primary health Centres will attend to such cases except conducting post - mortem. The medical Officers of Primary Health Centres have been given one day training in handling the Medico - Legal cases.

Strengthening of District Headquarters, Taluk and Non - Taluk Hospitals.

District and Taluk Hospitals will be strengthened and upgraded in a phased manner, to become referral units to provide

emergency and essential services round the clock. Functioning of Government Hospitals and Dispensaries will be improved by increasing financial allocations and streamlining the procedures.

During 1997 - 98, numerous steps are taken to strengthen the District Headquarters, Taluk and Non - Taluk hospitals.

- 1) 554 beds have been newly sanctioned in 30 District Taluk and Non - Taluk hospitals.
- 2) Accident and Emergency Services have been extended to 11 more hospitals situated in National Highways to treat the road accident cases.
- 3) To provide essential service, five X-ray blocks have been sanctioned.
- 4) To attend Accident and Emergency victims a Neuro - Surgery Block has been sanctioned.
- 5) To give hygienic food to the patients, gas kitchen has been sanctioned in 67 hospitals.
- 6) As a first step to modernise Lab facilities in the hospitals, Semi Auto Analysers have been purchased and supplied to 37 hospitals.
- 7) To give immediate care for various heart diseases, intensive Cardiac care Units in nine hospitals have been sanctioned.
- 8) To streamline the administration and to modernise, 15 Joint Director of Health Services Offices have been supplied with Computer, Modem, Printer and Xerox Machine.

- 9) Mortuary block with cold storage facilities have been sanctioned in 15 hospitals.
- 10) 22 Primary Health Centres have been upgraded as Taluk and Non - Taluk Hospitals.
- 11) 100 posts of Staff Nurses and 19 posts of Radiographers have been newly created.
- 12) The following special clinics have been sanctioned.
 1. Ophthalmic Clinics - 2
 2. Skin Clinics - 2
 3. ENT Clinics - 2
 4. Dental Clinics - 2

Besides the above schemes, to improve the functioning of Government Hospitals and Dispensaries by increasing the financial allocations, the following special schemes have also been sanctioned.

- 1) Two District Headquarters Hospitals have been provided with full body C.T. Scan worth Rs.1 Crore each.
- 2) For the benefit of In Patients 10,000 mattresses and 6,000 cots have been provided at a total cost of Rs. 5 Crores.
- 3) 127 Ambulances have been purchased at a total cost of Rs. 4.5 Crores.
- 4) A sum of Rs.5 Crores has been sanctioned for improvement of T.B. Control Programme.
- 5) A sum of Rs.10 Crores has been announced for improvement of maternal and Child Health activities which covers creation of 684 additional beds in 29

hospitals exclusively for Women and Children, construction of Operation Theatre with Air - conditioner in three hospitals, construction of X - ray Block in two hospitals and construction of O.P. Block in four hospitals.

- 6) A lump sum provision of Rs.2.5 crores has been made under capital outlay which covers creation provision of High Tension Supply to 3 Hospitals, provision of Air Conditioner facilities to the existing operation theatres in 5 hospitals, provision of generators to 5 hospitals, construction of Out Patient Block in 3 hospitals, Operation Theatre with Air conditioner in 2 hospitals and post - mortem block in 2 hospitals.
- 7) Blood bank improvement in 81 Hospitals has been made at a cost of Rs.1.00 crores.
- 8) A sum of Rs.5.00 crores has been sanctioned towards maintenance and Repair of Hospital Buildings.

Besides plan schemes, a sum of Rs.2.04 crores has been allotted towards machinery and equipment purchase, Rs.3.60 crores has been allotted towards Stores & Equipment and Rs.33.68 crores towards purchase of medicines. To make the doctors and other para - medical staff acquainted with sophisticated modern technologies in Health Care, a sum of Rs. 7.50 lakhs has been allotted for training.

The following special clinics have been proposed to be opened during 1998 - 99.

- 1) Orthopaedic Clinic - 2
- 2) Skin Clinic - 2

- 3) ENT Clinic - 3
- 4) Ophthalmic Clinic - 3
- 5) Blood Bank - 5
- 6) Dental Clinic - 10
- 7) Pediatric Clinic - 10
- 8) STD Clinic - 2
- 9) Clinical Laboratories - 18

Admission to Medical Colleges

The State Government have taken a number of measures to streamline the admission to Under - Graduate and Post - Graduate medical Courses and para - medical courses. The permanent Selection Committee created for this purpose has already borne fruits. The process for Post - Graduate admission has been started. Similarly, the process for M.B.B.S., admission will be started in time. The selection and allotment to the various Colleges will continue to be made on the basis of merit and community reservations and the college allotment will be published in newspapers at the time of announcements of selection to Medical colleges, as was done in the last year.

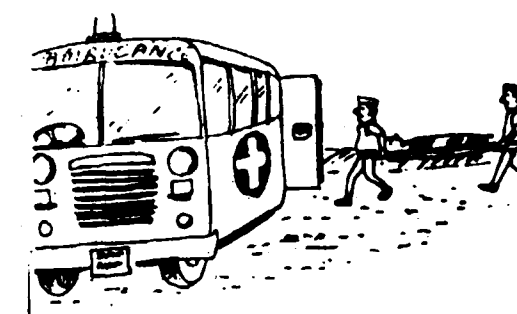
For the first time 15 percent of seats will be reserved for M.B.B.S. and B.D.S., admission for the students from rural schools. Government will continue to bear the full cost of medical education, (M.B.B.S., B.D.S., and B.S.M.S.) of the first 20 students in merit list from families which do not have any graduates.

A new medical college after the name of Thiru. K.A.P. Viswanatham has been opened at Trichy with an annual in - take of 100 students for M.B.B.S. course in order to cater the need of students community.

It is felt that there is an urgent need to increase the availability of trained man - power in the field of medicines, as recruitment of doctors, for the rural areas continue to pose a serious problem. The Government of India have therefore been addressed seeking their approval for increase of seats in Government Medical Colleges.

Provision of Ambulance to Government Hospitals

With a view to providing Ambulance services to the poor people to avail emergent medical treatment in Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres, it was decided to purchase



Ambulance from the sale proceeds of Air - craft used by the former Chief Minister. In anticipation of Sale of Air - craft, the Government sanctioned an amount of Rs.9.91 crores towards the purchase of Ambulances to Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres as detailed below

Name of the Department	No. of Ambulances allotted
Medical and Rural Health Services	127
Medical Education	26
Public Health and Preventive Medicine	124
Indian Medicine and Homeopathy	3

Another 100 Ambulances have been sanctioned for the use of 24 hour Primary Health Centres at a cost of Rs. 4 crores.

Adoption and Maintenance of Primary Health Centres and Government Hospitals by Industrialists :

During the meetings held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 1.11.97, many of the Industrialists came forward to adopt and maintain the Primary Health Centres and Government Hospitals in the State at their cost. A special cell has been formed in Secretariat to process their requests. The following three models of adoption have been suggested to the Industrialists :

- i) The total adoption by meeting full cost of running Primary Health Centre/Taluk Hospital/District Hospital viz., staff, cost of drugs, purchase of equipment, civil work and maintenance, repairs and construction of staff quarters.
- ii) Partial adoption involving meeting of all cost except staff cost of Primary Health Centre / Taluk Hospital/District Hospital.
- iii) Limited adoption involving provision of civil work, maintenance and repairs and provision of equipment if needed.

Fifteen Industrialists have sent their willingness to maintain 60 primary Health Centres. Others have been reminded.

Externally Aided Projects

The Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children, Egmore, Chennai has been chosen for receiving Rs. 21 crores grant-in-aid from the Government of Japan. The grant-in-aid form of medical equipment and instruments to the various departments of this Hospital.

The Government of India have cleared the Phase - III of the DANIDA Health Care Project at a total cost of Rs.59.10 crores. This project is being implemented in Dharmapuri, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur districts from 1997 - 98.

The Government of India have conveyed their administrative approval for implementation of Reproductive and Child Health sub project in Madurai and Theni districts (including eight Municipalities) with a World Bank aid of Rs.23.14 crores. This sub project will cover a period of five years from 1997 - 98 to 2001 - 2002. It seeks to provide in a comprehensive manner Reproductive and Child health care for Women, infant and child care including management of childhood illness and health support services for women and children during their life span.

Drug Distribution

Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation Limited has been entrusted with the responsibility of procurement and supply of all essential drugs to all Government Medical Institutions in the State. TNMSC has established Drug Warehouses at 23 District Headquarters for distribution of the drugs to the Medical Institutions through Pass Books given to each Institution. The availability of drugs in all the warehouses is being monitored on a day to day basis through a well - knit computer in order to ensure that all the required medicines are available in all the warehouses. This has helped to avoid the non availability of Drugs in any Warehouses. Apart from this, adequate funds are placed at the disposal of the heads of all medical institutions purchase of medicines locally, when some of the medicines not found in the list of medicines supplied by TNMSC, are urgently required.

In order to maintain high quality, only drugs which conform to the norms prescribed in the

Pharmacopoeia are being purchased and supplied. Samples of each batch of each drug are being tested through reputed laboratories located throughout India at different stages to ensure high quality. Tablets and capsules are being procured in aluminium strips and blister foils. The tablets and capsules are distributed with Government logo on them and the strips also carry the name of the Drug and a message that the item is for "Government of Tamil Nadu supply; Not for sale" print both in English and Tamil. This has received wide appreciation from public and also other State Government officials who have visited TNMSC for study purposes. The system of procurements and distribution in TNMSC has been commended at National level and by World Health Organisation (W.H.O.)

TNMSC has constructed its modern drug Warehouses at Chennai, Coimbatore, Tiruchy and Madurai. The construction of Warehouses at Tirunelveli, Nagercoil, Thanjavur and Kancheepuram is in progress. The Warehouses are provided with cold storage room so as to maintain the potency of some of the drugs, which require storage at low temperatures.

TNMSC has set up C.T. Scan Centres at six places namely Tirunelveli, Coimbatore, Salem, Trichy, Chengalpattu and Vellore. Till 28.02.98, 20,570 patients have availed of the facilities at these centres. The C.T. Scan Centres charge a nominal fee which just meets the cost of operation and this facility has received considerable public appreciation. The C.T. Scan centres also provide free services to up to 20% of the patients who are poor.

National Pulse Polio Immunisation

Under the National Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme, Tamil Nadu has successfully conducted three rounds of Pulse Polio Immunisation during 1995 - 96, 1996 - 97 and



1997 - 98 covering about 65 lakh children in each of the first two rounds and about 67 lakh children in the 3rd round. In each round, children below 5 years were immunised with additional two doses of OPV. This strategy needs to be adopted for one more year as per WHO guidelines. With the successful implementation of Pulse Polio Immunisation, the number of Polio Cases reported in our State has come down.

Important New Schemes

In order to satisfy the norms for staff pattern prescribed by the Medical Council of India, 80 posts of teaching staff in various categories are proposed to be created at an ultimate cost of Rs. 94.86 lakhs.

With a view to providing Emergency treatment facilities to the accident victims it is proposed to introduce Accident and Emergency Services in 4 Government Hospitals, (Thirumangalam, Kodaikanal, Palladam and Jayamkondam) at a total cost of Rs.277.20 lakhs.

It is proposed to open 6 new Primary Health Centres in the blocks where sufficient number of Primary Health Centres is not available as per the norms prescribed by Government of India as a first phase at a total cost of Rs.64.50 lakhs.

★

1300 years old artefacts from excavations

Thiru Natana Kasinathan
Director, Archaeology Department

The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology is conducting excavation at three important historical sites namely pumpuhar in Nagapattinam District. Alagankulam in Ramanathapuram District and Kodumanal in Erode District.

All the three sites have begun to yield excellent artifacts that are the invaluable source material for understanding the cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu.

Alagankulam which usually stands first in supplying the antiquities, has brought to light Sangam age Pandya square copper coin bearing the figure of elephant on the obverse and fish on the reverse, collected out from a well stratified position. These are datable to 3rd Century B.C. Other important artefacts of this site are the weight which seems to be made of a kind of soft stone beads made in different shapes of different semi-precious stones, shell bangle pieces and the black and red ware and rouletted ware shreds with archaic Tamil scripts. Of the beads the barrel type and the amlaka type beads are more fascinating. Among the potshreds which bear the legends one is more worth mentioning as the legend reads as follows:

TANIY TUVARAIMA (N)

It seems to have been written in archaic style. If the strokes found on vowels are taken only for short vowels except the last but one meaning of the above legend would be the "single or the probable unique Tuvaraman". Tuvaraman means the son of Tuvurai, the Tamilised form of Dwaraka. Hence the individual who possessed that vessel should have been the strong disciple of Lord Krishna.

In addition to the above finds a brick drainage has also been exposed.

Of the next two sites Kodumanal has yielded a considerable number of inscribed shreds, graffiti shreds and bone arrow heads while Pumpuhar has brought to light a few exquisite terraestta images and semi-precious stone heads. The archaie Tamil Character found on the ptshreds of Kadumanal appears quite similar to the famous Battiprolu inscription, dated to 2nd century B.C. This makes us to have a deep study of the archaic Tamil inscriptions of Tamil Nadu. Besides, a few terracotta pipes laid in a row have also been exposed in one of the trenches of Kadumanal. It appears that these pipes could have been used to bring fresh drinking water to the habitational area.



Terracotta figurines bearing the engraving in Archaic Tamil and Brahmi Script.

Of the terracotta figurines of Pumpuhar the head of a figure is the most outstanding. Though the head portion only has been found. It seems to be sufficient to imagine how beautiful the full figure could have been when it was produced. The face is so charming as of a solacing mother to a child. The mild smiles, the catching eyes, the elongated nose which is typical to the Late Pallava and early Chola images. Calm and tender all reflect the late Pallava or early Chola idiom. Other notable figures are the heads of a bull and yali.



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**நமது அன்றாட
பழக்கவழக்கங்களால்,
எய்ட்ஸ் வரது.
அதற்கு நீங்களே
ஒரு உதாரணம்.**

காலையில் எழுந்தது முதல் ராத்திரி படுக்கப் போகும் வரை நீங்கள் எத்தனைபோது டேஸைச் சுத்திக்கிறீர்கள். ஒட்டலுக்குச் செல்கிறீர்கள் சினிமா பார்க்கிறீர்கள், தெரிசலான பஸ்ஸில் பயணம் செய்கிறீர்கள். உயிருடன் உங்களுக்குக் குழைக்கிறீர்கள்.

இவர்களில் யாருக்காவது எச்ஐவி/ எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்து இருக்கலாம்.

சாதாரண பழக்கவழக்கங்களின் மூலம் எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதாக இருந்தால், உங்களையும் எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்திருக்க வேண்டும்.

ஆனால் அப்படி இல்லையே...

என்னில், உங்களுக்கு வதிகாலை உணவைப் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வதாலை, தெரிவதாலை, ஆம்மல்வதாலை, குழிப்பதில்.

பெரிதாய்சாலை எய்ட்ஸ் பரவுவதில்லை. என்ஐஎ எய்ட்ஸ் பாதித்தவரைக் கண்ணிங் ிங்கள் ஒதுங்க வேண்டியதில்லை. உங்களுக்கு எந்த ஆபத்தும் இல்லை.

அவர்களும் நமமைப் போன்றவர்கள்தான். அவர்களுக்கு எப்பொழுதும் போல நாம் அன்பும், ஆதரவும் காட்டுவோம்.

**சிறிதளவு ஆதரவு பெருமளவு
சுமையைக் குறைக்கும்.**



தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு
தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு
தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு
தமிழ்நாடு எய்ட்ஸ் கட்டுப்பாட்டு அமைப்பு

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We cannot forget that a country's export and import revenue and economic growth depend on the cattle wealth. The report of this University says that 3.33 lakh tonnes of meat production in the year 1989 has been increased to 4.4 lakh tonnes in 1997-98. The fish production in 1989 was 3.61 lakh tonnes. This has been increased to 4.49 lakh tonnes in 1997 - 98.

With regard to this University, 14 technological experts have been sent abroad for the Hi-tech training; 30 academicians have been sent to National Agricultural Research Institute for field training. Apart from these 450 officers have been given Computer training.

Tamil Nadu is the only State in India, which has implemented a novel scheme, to provide free education in professional colleges - such as Medical, Engineering, Veterinary, Agriculture etc. for the first 10 top rankers, hailing from families of first generation graduates from the year 1996. I should also point out that, the Government spends Rs.16,362 per year for each student selected to Veterinary studies, under this scheme.

Apart from these, in order to give opportunities to the rural students to join professional courses, a new scheme was introduced last year by reserving 15 percent of seat in Engineering Colleges. This scheme has been extended to other professional colleges like, Medical, Dental, Veterinary, Siddha, Law, Agriculture from this year onwards.

I wish to tell you that, 15 percent of rural students will also be admitted in this University, under this scheme.

I wish to inform that the term fees of the Veterinary College has been reduced to Rs.1,000 from Rs.1,500 as requested by the Veterinary Students.

An endowment in the name of Pattukottai Azhagiri was created with Rs.25 lakhs as fixed deposit. I am happy to announce that the interest accrued from this deposit will be utilised for the welfare of the outstanding students towards - college fee, hostel and purchase of text books.

The number of students of this university is above 1500 out of which 368 are women forming 34% of the total strength. Tamil Nadu is the very first State and the DMK Government is the first one to implement the 33% reservation for women in the whole of India. By admitting 368 women students and thereby allotting 34% of the seats to them, we have exceeded the reservation marks. This is a noteworthy feature and an appreciable one.

I once again express my happiness in extending my hearty welcome on my behalf and Government of Tamil Nadu to Her Excellency the Governor Justice Selvi. Fathima Beevi whose presence has crowned this momentous occasion and made the function a grand success.

★ ★ ★

மாஸ்டர் ஆபீஸ்த் தலைவர்கள் மாநிலப் பேரவைத் தலைவர்கள் காவல்துறை அதிகாரிகள் மாநிலப்

5-6-98 6-6-98



“A TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION IS THE PRIMARY OBJECT OF THIS GOVERNMENT”

- Inaugural Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi at the Conference of
Collectors and Police Officers on 5-6-1998.

have been drawn up.

It has been announced that the Government orders for these schemes will be issued before 15th June 1998. Necessary follow-up action in this regard is being pursued and orders are being issued.

Law and Order:

The fruits of schemes devised by the Government should reach the people as per their expectations. This Government feels that the perfect maintenance of Law and Order is of utmost importance to facilitate this.

In order to maintain Law and Order in the State, the District Collectors and the Police Officers should work in tandem. The District Collectors and Police Officers should not only share the information received from Intelligence Wing and the Revenue Department immediately but also take firm and co-ordinated action based on them.

We should keep in mind that for the mistakes committed by a few in the society, the Government and administration have to bear the blame.

Realising this fact, the District Collectors and the Police Officers who have the onerous responsibility of maintaining Law and Order in the State, should perform their duties with due diligence for enhancing the image of the Government and their own reputation and respect.

Law and Order is being well maintained in the State for the past

This Government which was formed in 1996 has completed two years. At this juncture, when we are poised to implement the schemes for 1998-99, we have assembled here to analyse our past performance and to plan for the tasks which we have to carry out in future.

The budget for the year 1998-99 was placed in the Legislative Assembly on 27th March 1998 and the schemes to be implemented

many months. I am very happy to note this.

This year, so far there have been five instances of police firing. When compared to the incidents of police firing in the last 10 years, this is insignificant. I will be very happy if this low figure is further reduced.

During the Conference of Superintendents of Police on 10th September 1997, I had appealed that death in police custody should be prevented. I had mentioned that the Police should give up the habit of torturing the accused even if this has to be at the cost of non-detection of a few crimes. Keeping in mind this appeal, the Police Department has functioned perfectly. I am very pleased to note that there have been no incidents of death in police custody in the last six months in Tamil Nadu.

I request the friends in Police department to strive to maintain this trend.

After August 1997, there had been no caste clashes in the Southern Districts. We were able to achieve this because of the efficient functioning of the District Collectors and Police Officers.

After the bomb blasts in Coimbatore, the police has performed more efficiently and Law and Order is being well maintained.

This Government will not tolerate extremism. We are determined to put down extremism from any quarter with an iron hand.

With this objective, we have passed the Anti-Terrorism bill recently in the Legislative Assembly.

I request the Police Officers to take action in an unbiased manner against all extremists irrespective of their religion.

At the same time, police officials should take due care to ensure that innocent people are not harassed.

It is the basic tenet of justice that even a criminal may escape from punishment but an innocent should not be punished.

Providing an administration which is corruption free, transparent and efficient is the primary objective of this Government. In these two years, this Government has been taking all steps to ensure that this objective is achieved. However, certain political parties and media have been alleging that though there is no corruption in this Government at the top, at the lower echelons of the administration, corruption has not been totally eradicated. This allegation cannot be dismissed as totally baseless.

If mistakes are committed at the cutting edge level, District Collectors and Superintendents of Police should consider them as a challenge to their efficiency and put an end to them.

I am not referring to all officers, but it has come to my notice that there is delay in decision making by some officers. Failure to take appropriate decisions at the right time can lead to various undesirable effects. Hence this lethargic attitude should be eschewed.

Similarly, whiling away the time without performing, out of fear that mistakes may occur is condemnable. Shirking one's responsibilities is more vicious and worse than corruption. Hence,

meetings with officials of TWAD Board, TNEB, Town Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, etc., at least once in a fortnight.

Group Houses for Adi-Dravidars:

Regarding group houses, as per the survey of pending works as on 13th May 1996, in 83,487 group houses, construction work had not even been started.

Because of the thrust given by this Government for construction of group houses, 1,66,420 group houses have been constructed in the last two years which is a record achievement.

Moreover, 44,899 group houses are being constructed. The District Collectors should take all steps to ensure that construction of these houses is completed before 30th September 1998.

I request the District Collectors to ensure completion of these houses before the stipulated time and also to take all necessary steps to complete on time the construction of the 60,000 group houses which have been planned this year.

Anna Marumalarchi Thittam:

With the view to develop villages with all basic amenities, this Government had introduced a new scheme this year called the Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. In this scheme, one Village Panchayat is chosen every year in each of the 212 rural Assembly Constituencies. In the last year, 36,289 works were undertaken in 212 Village Panchayats at the cost of Rs. 51.86 crores. Out of this, 18,970 works have been completed.

it is not important how long an officer is holding a post but how he functions and discharges his duties. Henceforth, performance assessment will be in this direction.

Developmental Schemes:-

Since 1996, when this Government assumed office, top priority has been accorded to provision of basic amenities to the people.

Drinking Water Schemes:-

Schemes for providing protected drinking water to all have been given priority by the Government. Schemes at an outlay of Rs.250 crores have been implemented for providing drinking water facilities to 154 rural habitations in 1996-97 and for providing atleast 40 litres drinking water per head per day in 4,500 habitations in 1997-98.

In 1998-99, this budget allotment has been enhanced to 330 crores to provide protected drinking water to 5,398 habitations.

Apart from according priority to provision of drinking water to rural areas, this Government in the last two years has implemented with great care many schemes to provide drinking water to urban areas.

District Collectors should identify in advance the areas where there is drinking water shortage and should take steps to fulfill the drinking water requirements immediately and quickly. Collectors should take necessary steps to remove the hurdles in proper implementation of the drinking water schemes by having consultative

Though the heavy rains in November and December last year and the temporary ban imposed by the Election Commission during the January, 1998 parliamentary elections are the main reasons for the delay in completion of works, District Collectors should pay special attention to complete these works early. Rs. 75 crores has been allotted this year for Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.

Hence, District Collectors should select the Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Villages for this year at the earliest and commence the work and strive to complete all the items of work before the stipulated time.

Namakku Namme Thittam:

Last year, under this scheme, 5,311 works were taken up in 2,698 villages, out of which 2,336 works were implemented with 100% public contribution. The balance 2,975 works were implemented with part public contribution and Government funds.

Of the 5,311 works taken up in total, 3,897 works have been completed till now.

The total outlay for these works is Rs. 23.90 crores. Out of this, Rs. 8.28 crores has been received as public contribution.

The Government has provided Rs.10 crores as the budget allocation this year for Namakku Namme scheme.

This scheme should not be taken as a routine scheme but as an instrument for bringing about socio-economic change in the village community and Collectors should try to implement this scheme effectively with the direct participation of the people.

Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme:

This is another new scheme announced by this Government in the last year's Budget.

Rs. 58.75 crores was allotted for this scheme last year.

Out of the 4,901 works taken up, 2,076 works have been completed. The balance works are in progress.

To complete this year's works entirely before the end of the financial year, a time schedule has been prepared.

District Collectors should take necessary action to complete all works as per this time schedule by paying special attention.

Similarly, District Collectors should pay special attention to complete the works taken up under the Members of Parliament Constituency Development Scheme with the funds allotted in the last year and ensure completion before 30-09-1998.

Mass Contact Programme:

Mass Contact Programme was formulated to redress the grievances of the Public.

This scheme is being implemented with an objective to cover all the villages within a period of three years.

I wish to remind the Collectors of the Letter dated 14th October 1997 of the Revenue Department in which instructions have been issued to have Mass Contact Programme by combining nearby villages to ensure that all the villages are covered on rotation basis

be taken into account and the Ration Cards should be distributed without any deficiencies and complaints.

There are complaints that all the commodities required by the card holders are not available in the fair price shops and that there is insufficient stock of required commodities. At times there are complaints of under-weightment, poor quality of rice and that the commodities are not supplied at the appropriate time due to paucity of funds in some Co-operative Societies and also that the shops are found closed.

In the Civil Supplies Godowns, there is enough stock to supply rice, wheat, sugar and other commodities to the Public.

There is also sufficient allotment of Kerosene.

As regards the Public Distribution System, the Government is very keen that it is implemented properly.

The important order issued is that all the required commodities should be available on all the days in all the fair price shops to the card holders.

No officer in any part of the state should delay the implementation of this order.

Facility should be provided to Public to lodge complaints about under weightment of commodities. Such complaints should also be looked into immediately.

Similarly, the shops should be kept open compulsorily on all

over a three year period in case it is not possible to cover all villages individually within three years. I also request the District Collectors to ensure that the Mass Contact Programme is implemented without fail and ensure that action is taken and final orders passed on the petitions presented by the petitioners within a period of one month from the date of the Mass Contact Programme.

I am aware that there are many demands which are repeatedly put forth, even though replies have been given many times that these demands could not be acceded. Therefore, it is imperative that such demands should be reviewed directly by an official not below the rank of a Deputy Collector to find out the actual position. No demand of the Public should be ignored, or rejected straightaway. The efficiency of the District Collectors will also be judged by the estimate of the number of demands of the public which have been fulfilled.

Public Distribution System:

The work of issuing new Ration Cards was started and is in progress in different parts of the state with a view to provide new Ration Cards to those who do not have Ration Cards and also to streamline the Public distribution system.

I request the District Collectors to be very careful while providing Ration Cards. They should ensure that all the eligible people are provided cards and the distribution is done in a fair manner without complaints and confusion.

Several newspapers have listed out the problems in the distribution of Ration Cards. Of them, the reasonable ones should

days except the notified holidays. There should be no slackness in this regard whatsoever.

The District Collectors should implement the Public Distribution system efficiently without giving any room for deficiencies, complaints and criticism.

The most important duty is to ensure that there are no leakages and deficiencies in the weight of the commodities at any point during the movement from the Civil Supplies Godown till it reaches the Fair Price Shops.

I am of the view that if this is implemented effectively, the other deficiencies will be controlled automatically.

The District Collectors should ensure that there is no defect in the functioning of the Public Distribution System by undertaking a detailed shopwise review once in a fortnight.

Small Savings Scheme:

Small Savings Scheme forms an important component of the resource mobilisation efforts of State Government.

75% of net collections under this Scheme is given to the State Government by the Central Government as loan.

During the current year the target for collection under Small Savings has been fixed at Rs. 1,400 crores. I would like to stress that District Collectors should strive to achieve this target keeping in mind the huge financial resources needed to implement various

You may be aware of the implementation of the Scheme 'Samathuvapuram' announced by this Government to coincide with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence. I wish to remind the District Collectors of the instructions issued by the Government to complete the formation of 50 Samathuvapurams before 15th August 1998. I request you to implement this scheme immediately without any slackness and to help in removing the caste and communal feelings among the people of Tamil Nadu and to create an ambience, wherein the principle of equality can flourish.

The District Collectors may compile the details of developmental works and the Social Welfare Works relating to the financial year departmentwise and provide the same to the media. A Press Meet should be convened at least once in a month, and details regarding the progress in the implementation of important developmental schemes should be provided with a view to inform the public. Likewise, the details about the monthly Social Welfare Works undertaken could also be provided to the press. In addition to this, it should be ensured that the advertisement posters, announcements and pamphlets issued by the Information and Public Relations Department reach all parts of the District.

Nutritious Meal Programme:

The responsibility for the implementation of Nutritious Meal Programme rests with the District Collector. The scheme of

providing eggs twice in a month was implemented by this Government during 1989 and now from 1st June 1998 onwards the scheme of providing egg once in a week has come into force.

The effective supervision of the District Collector is very much essential for implementing the scheme of providing eggs properly and fully.

If the District Collector, Superintendent of Police and Deputy Collector level officers while they are on camp, return direct to the Headquarters after completing their works, it will not yield good results. While they are on camp and on return from the camps they should inspect the Fair Price Shops, Noon Meal Centres and sites of developmental works. During inspection, they should enquire the beneficiaries and the public. During the enquiry several facts may come to light. Immediate action should be taken on them to remove the defects. Only such actions will instil confidence in the minds of the Public about the District Administration. The District Collectors should inspect regularly the places where Adi-draavidars, Backward Class and Most Backward Class people dwell and the schools and their hostels. The conditions of the basic facilities available will be known only through such inspections and this will enable the administration to take effective steps.

I request the Collectors and Police Officers to kindly offer their views on the ways and means to effectively implement the schemes of the Government in order to yield good results and steps to be taken to facilitate effective maintenance of Law and Order in the State.

POWER OF SELF-HELP DEMONSTRATED



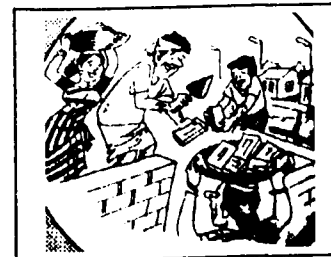
It may sound strange, but it is only too true proving the dictum that a noble need, like a candle, would spark off a series of very healthy action.

At a meeting of the gram sabha, in Sethurapatti village in Manikandam block held here, the majority of people in one voice pleaded to the District Collector, for the early opening of a veterinary hospital sub-centre in the village, since at present, the animals had to walk a long way to reach the veterinary hospital, situated in Manikandam panchayat union.

When the District Collector suggested that the project could be taken up under the Namakku Naame (Self-help) Scheme, provided, the local people extended cooperation, Mr. R. Murthy, a land owner, said that he would give the necessary land, near the local panchayat, owned by him for the purpose. The Collector immediately asked the local Revenue staff to demarcate Rs. 1,300 for the purchase of 10 bags of cement. Mr. Ramu, Sethurapatti Panchayat President, offered two bullock cart load of bricks, and contribution of Rs. 25,000 from local people.



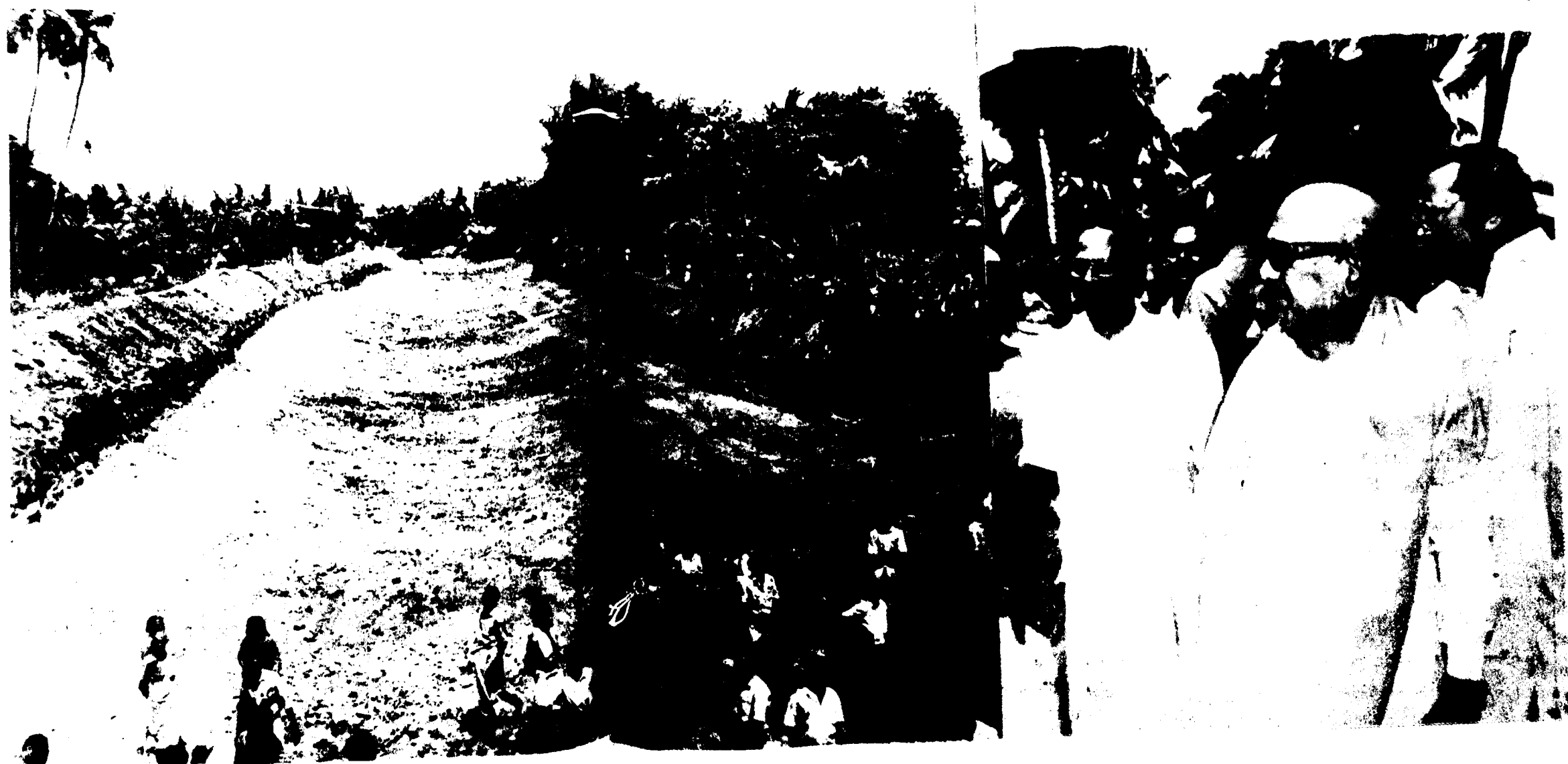
One of the oldest men in the village, Mr. Arumugham, on the spot announced a donation of Rs. 10,000 for the project, and Mr. Valan Kanni announced the offer the granite boulders for the foundation. Mr. P. K. Murthy, a chief mason of the village, offered to provide the required number of masons and men and women labourers for the construction of building and Mr. Karuppiah, President of Nagamangalam Cooperative Society, donated three wooden doors and six windows for the building. Mr. Sakthivel while offered the blue metal needed for the foundation. Mr. Alagirisami, owner - cum - driver of a lorry in the village offered to transport sand needed for the building. Not to be outdone by the local villagers, Dr. Sundararajan, a veterinary doctor of the Manikandam union, promised the money needed for one table, four chairs and a fan for the hospital.



The response from the public was so spontaneous and gregarious, that being an auspicious day, the grama sabha members, who had assembled in hundreds for the mass contact programme, wanted the bhoomi pooja work to be performed immediately. Mr. Murthy thanking the people profusely for their overwhelming cooperation, said that within just two hours, their decades - old dream for a veterinary hospital sub-centre has started taking a concrete shape, since the people demonstrated by their action that self-help was best help.

Courtesy 'The Hindu' 15th June, 1998.

Desilting of Cauvery Delta on war- footing



Hon'ble Chief Minister Kalaingar M.Karunanidhi, while touring the districts of Thanjavur, Thiruvarur and Nagapattinam, inspecting the desilting works that were being carried out in the Cauvery Delta, said, the river channels run to a length of 14,000 Km in the delta and in the entire area except for the 'kudimaramathu' work of desilting work done on minor scale from the time of release of water from Metur dam in 1934, no major desilting work on a large scale of this size was taken up for a long period. A master plan was prepared at a

total plan outlay of Rs.154 crores.Works taken up for this year is nearing completion. During the past and the current year works worth of Rs. 30 crores only have been completed since desilting work can be taken up only during the summer months.

Open tenders were called for this year and 120 contractors have taken up

this job . Of the 607 works, 508 had been completed.Out of a total length of 1,478 Km, works on a length of 1,363 Km of waterways have been completed and the remaining works of desilting the 10,000 Km length of channels will be taken up every year and there by the desilting work of the entire Cauvery Delta area will be completed to improve the irrigation facilities. ●

TAMIL NADU MARCHING TOWARDS FIRST PLACE IN INDUSTRIALISATION

- Announcements made by
Hon'ble Chief Minister **Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi**
in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

Public Sector Undertakings

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we are very keen in developing Public Sector undertakings.

- ★ Tamil Nadu Cement (TANCEM) Ariyalur and Alangulam (established in the DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Magnesite (TANMAG) Salem (established in DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Papers Limited (TNPL) (established in M.G.R. regime)
- ★ Southern Structurals (established during DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited (TAMIN) (established in DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation (established during the DMK regime)
- ★ Electronic Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) (established in DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Industrial Explosives Limited (TEL) (established in MGR's regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation (established in DMK regime)
- ★ State Industrial Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (SIPCOT) (established in the DMK regime)
- ★ Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) (established in Congress regime)

- ★ Tamil Nadu Corporation for Industrial Infrastructure Development Limited (TACID), (established in MGR's regime)

Sipcot Complex - Ranipet

SIPCOT complex at Ranipet was established in Ranipet by the DMK Government in 1971. Though the land had been acquired by the Congress Government, it was declared unfit later for the industrial complex and actions were taken for the sale of the land. When the file for sale of the land was put up, the DMK came to power in 1967. After the demise of Perarignar Anna, when I assumed office, myself and Industries Minister Thiru. Madhavan paid a visit to the place. We decided not to sell the land and instead establish an industrial complex there. Thus the SIPCOT complex came into existence in 1971.

After the establishment of this SIPCOT Complex :

- ★ During 1973 to 1976 in three years time 107 industrial establishments with an investment of Rs. 168 crores - on an area of 729 acres.
- ★ From 1976 to 1988 in 12 years only 49 industrial establishments were started.
- ★ During 1989 and 1990 - during the DMK regime - 25 industries were started.
- ★ From 1991 to 1996 in 5 years, during the AIADMK regime 30 industries.

- ★ From May 1996 to March 1998 - during the DMK regime 65 industries.

SIPCOT Industrial Complex - Hosur

- ★ In 1974 with the capital of Rs.500 crores - 186 industries at Hosur.
- ★ From 1991 to 1996 during the AIADMK regime - 35 industries.
- ★ From 1996 to 1998 in these two years - 133 industries.

SIPCOT Complex - Pudukottai

- ★ From 1991 - 1996 in five years - 13 industries.
- ★ From 1996 to 1998 in these two years -14 industries.

SIPCOT Complex - Gummidipoondi

- ★ From 1991 - 1996 in 5 years - 65 industries.
- ★ From 1996 - 1998 in these two years of DMK regime - 78 industries.

I am happy to announce that as a result of our continuous efforts, the third mine cut at Neyveli at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,100 crores was sanctioned and the work is under progress.

Likewise, to augment the production capacity of the Madras Refineries Limited, an amount of Rs.1200 crores has been allocated. Moreover, we can generate electricity from the residue. Our offices have written letters requesting immediate sanction for this 250 MW power generation unit. The Government will strive for this 250 MW scheme soon.

It was planned to takeup the I phase of the Cheyyaru project in 600 acres of land and 260 acres of land has been acquired. An advisor has been

appointed to prepare a master-plan for the Cheyyaru Industrial Park. TWAD has been asked to study the possibility of providing water for Cheyyaru Industrial Park from the river beds of Palar.

Irungattukottai Industrial Park

It was planned to setup an Industrial Park at Irungattukottai on an area of 1829 acres, out of which 1314 acres of land has been acquired. 700 acres of land has been allotted to entrepreneurs. 532 acres of land has been allocated for Hyundai Motor India Ltd. Infrastructural facilities, including betterment of roads upto 10 k.m. have been made at Irungattukottai. Works relating to the formation of main roads will be completed before June 1998.

Gummidipoondi Industrial Park Phase - II

Out of 224 acres of land for Export Promotion Industrial Park at Gummidipoondi, 160 acres of land



is ready for allocation. 15 acres of land has been allocated for the Pushbok Alen Co., for the production of auromatic substances. Road formation works will be completed within June.

Announcements and accomplishments during 1997-98

It was announced in 1997-98 that Industrial Parks will be setup at Thiruperumbudur, Nemili and Vadamangalam. The details of progress of work are as follows:

Thiruperumbudur SIPCOT Industrial park - An area of land identified-2469 acres, land acquired - 292 acres; Out of which 125 acres of land has been allocated for St Gobain Glass Industry. An advisor has been appointed for the Thiruperumbudur SIPCOT project. The plan estimate has been prepared. Tenders have been called for providing infrastructural facilities including road facilities. Preliminary tests on soil and water are being carried out.

Nemili Satellite Township in an area of 2429 acres and Vadamangalam Industrial Park in an area of 1408 acres are to be setup. The acquisition of land is under progress.

Tamil Nadu's share is 17.6 percent in the total industrial investment of the Country

From July 1991 to April 1996, the approved investment in industrial sector was Rs. 90,609 crores. That is Rs. 90,609 crores in 60 months. This state was in the fifth place at that time. During this regime, till January 1998, in 20 months, this state acquired an investment to the tune of Rs. 33,560 crores which is 17.6 percent in the total industrial investment of the Country taking Tamil Nadu to the third place.

The export turnover during 1991-92 was Rs. 6781 crores, which has been increased to Rs. 18,500 crores in 1996-97. I wish to point out that it has crossed Rs. 20,000 crores in 1997-98. I am happy to inform you that Tamil Nadu has 17 percent share in the total exports of the Nation.

Tamil Nadu holds the third place in attracting investors according to the MBA Research Report of B.T. Gallup, December 1997.

I wish to draw your attention to a report published in Business Today under the caption "The best states to invest in". The photograph of Thiru Manohar Joshi and the name of 'Maharashtra' State appear against 'I Place'. Against II place are given the photograph of Thiru Dhilip Parich and the name of the State 'Gujarat'. Against

'III place', my photograph and the name of our State 'Tamil Nadu' appear. This is indeed a matter to rejoice over.

But there is a hitch in it.

	Maharashtra	Gujarat	Tamil Nadu
Objective	1	3	2
Perception	1	2	3
Rank	1	2	3

Objective means the real position.

Perception means the apparent condition.

We really occupy the 'II position', but we seemingly occupy the III position. The implication is that we have not done adequate publicity and we seem to be in 'III position'.

This is the meaning of this research report.

We will strive to hold the 'I position'

I wish to drive home the idea that actually we are in the 'II position' and we will strive to secure the 'I position'.

After the assumption of power by DMK, the proposed and actually made total foreign direct investments from May 1996 to January 1998 amount to Rs. 43,515 crores.

After deducting, the dropped investments amounting to Rs. 8,522 crores, the approved investment amount is Rs. 34,993 crores till January 1998. There is a possibility of several industries to come up in Tamil Nadu utilising this approved investment of Rs. 34,993 crores.

Increasing foreign investments due to liberalisation

The proposed industries are:

- ★ Basic chemical industries at Rs. 16,329 crores.
- ★ Petroleum products industry at Rs. 2,264 crores.

- ★ Fertilizers factory at Rs. 1,125 crores.
- ★ Non-metal minerals at Rs. 936 crores.
- ★ Industry to manufacture machineries at Rs. 913 crores.
- ★ Electronics industry at Rs. 242 crores.
- ★ Automobile industries at Rs. 1157 crores.
- ★ Mineral based industries at Rs. 412 crores.
- ★ Power generation projects at Rs. 18,392 crores.
- ★ Railway industries at Rs. 765 crores.
- ★ Roads and bridges at Rs. 480 crores.
- ★ Telecommunication industries at Rs. 100 crores.

If we look into the social aspect of the changes because of the direct foreign investment, we can't deny that foreign investment is on the increase due to the liberalisation policy. At the same time we can't deny the fact that direct foreign investment helps the modern technological transfer from various parts of the world to our State. Even the technological know-how is not essential as far as certain political parties are concerned; but we cannot forget the importance of modern technology to any nation, particularly to a nation like India where people below the poverty line live more. Because of these foreign investments, the State financial resources are augmented considerably. The foreign industrial concerns which, running successfully with their expertise and administrative skill are able to extend their industries in our State. The skills and technological knowledge of our engineers, junior supervisors and workers are enriched by these contacts which in turn will increase the merit and employment potential. Not only the productivity of the Country increases but also enormous employment opportunities arise.

25,000 foreigners stay in Chennai

Because of the inflow of direct foreign investments, and the representatives and personnel

of these concerns to our State, we have to provide food, shelter and recreative opportunities for these people. At present there are 25,000 foreigners in Chennai alone. In order to cater to the needs of these multi nationals, various restaurants prepare the culinary delicacies of Italy, Mexico, Japan, Thailand and Korea and their business is flourishing. It has enabled the upcoming of very best lodges of star categories. New educational institutions with international syllabus have also been started. The tourism department is also benefited by the travel longing habit of foreigners staying in the State. Everybody knows that tourism industry brings foreign exchequer. Direct foreign investments fetch employment opportunities, more productivity, enrichment of skills of the local workers, technical know-how and development of trade and commerce.

We are expecting the approval from the Central Steel Ministry for the integrated steel manufacturing unit in Salem Steel Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 900 crores.

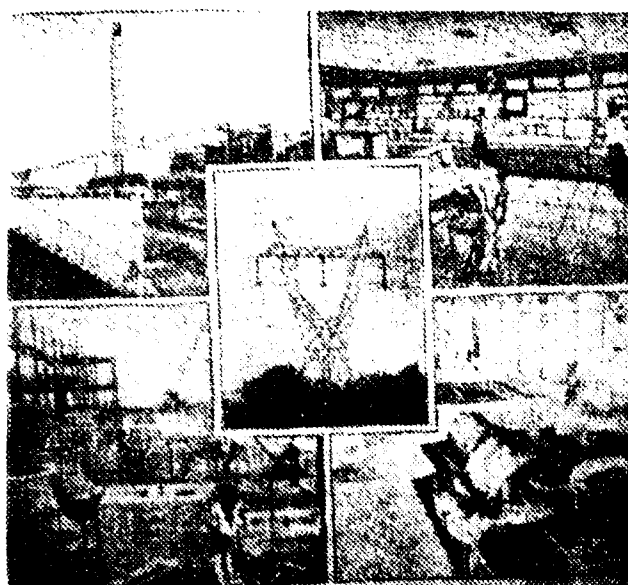
20 short term power generation projects

The Central Government has sanctioned to provide gas connection for five power generation projects - Two at Tuticorin one each at Ennore, Kallikudi and Hosur. 480 MW of power will be generated by these 5 projects. Approval for giving gas connection to the remaining 15 projects with a total capacity of 2,300 MW, from Government of India is being delayed.

2307 MW of power from new projects

The 15 power projects are :

- ★ Pristine Infrastructure Development Company at Thuvakudi to generate 102 MW of power.
- ★ Enron Development Corporation project at Ranipet to generate 242 MW of power.
- ★ P.T. Wismakarya Prasetya project at Manali to generate 138 MW of power.



- ★ DCM - Sriram Consolidate Ltd., project at Sirumugai to generate 103 MW of power.
- ★ Balaji Power Corporation Ltd at Vadapatti to generate 118 MW of power.
- ★ Samsung Corporation project at Thiruperum- puthur - 1, to generate 109 MW of power.
- ★ Samsung Corporation project at Thiruperum- puthur - 2, to generate 109 MW of power.
- ★ TNB Engineering and Consultancy sdn. bhd. project at Gummidipoondi to generate 162 MW of power.
- ★ D.L.F. Power Ltd. scheme at Chengalpattu to generate 53 MW of power.
- ★ Ashok Leyland project at Gummindipoondi-2, to generate 225 MW of power.
- ★ Ashok Leyland project at Chengalpattu - 1, to generate 231 MW of power.
- ★ TNB Engineering and Consultancy sdn. bhd. project at Perunthurai to generate 154 MW of power.
- ★ Ashok Leyland project at Cuddalore to generate 225 MW of power.

★ Sri Rayalaseema Hittrength Hypo Ltd., project at Arakonam to generate 118 MW of power.

★ Ashok Leyland project at Pallipalayam to generate 219 MW of power.

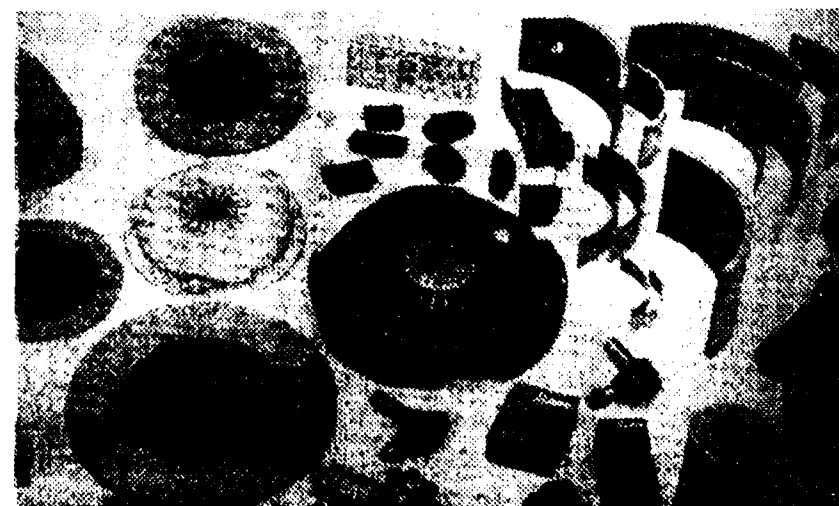
So 2307 MW of power will be generated by these 15 power projects. Central Government's approval is awaited for these projects. We will emphasise with them for the speedy approval. So far we have got the clearance for 5 projects which would be expedited and completed shortly.

The Hyundai Car manufacturing plant set up in the SIPCOT complex at Irungattukottai on an area of 543 acres at an estimated cost of Rs.2450 crores. The setting up of the plant is nearing completion and the trial production of Cars will commence in June 1998. I am glad to inform you that the commercial production will commence in October 1998. This provides direct employment for 2,500 persons and indirect employment for 20,000 persons.

TIDCO in collaboration with Rynex International of America will start integrated Iron and Steel Plant in joint sector at an estimated cost of Rs.3,300 crores at Salem. The agreement was signed on 3.3.1997. The 'Mega' institute has drafted the project report. This provides direct employment for 1000 persons and indirect employment for 3000 persons.

TIDCO with Nagarjuna Group Hyderabad as co-entrepreneur is establishing 'Pennar Refineries Ltd.' with a capacity of 6 million tonnes in Thiruchuvapuram in Cuddalore District. The agreement was signed on 9.1.1998. Land acquisition is nearing completion for the I phase of work. The estimated project cost is Rs.3600 crores and the construction will commence in June 1998.

TIDCO in collaboration with the American Concerns INFAC and Axes Technologies is establishing a Hi-Tech Industrial Park near Nanguneri in Thirunelveli District.



The land and other infrastructural facilities for this export based industrial park will be provided at an estimated cost of Rs.800 crores.

The total investment for the industrial plants in this park is about Rs.12,000 crores. The agreement was signed on 24.2.1998. 2,500 acres of land will be acquired in June. This will provide direct employment to 5,000 persons and indirect employment to 10,000 persons.

Mahindra Industrial Park Ltd., Maraimalai Nagar

TIDCO in collaboration with Mahindra Reality and Infrastructure Development Ltd and ILFS has signed an agreement on 12.6.1997 to establish Mahindra Industrial Park Ltd. to produce automobile spare parts.

This park will be established at an area of 1200 acres at Maraimalai Nagar near Chennai. It is proposed to establish various industrial units to produce auto spare parts. This will provide direct employment for 3000 persons and indirect employment for 5000 persons. The construction works will be completed at the end of this current year.

St.Gobain Glass Industry of France has signed an agreement on 6.1.1997 to set up a glass factory

at an estimated cost of Rs.450 crores at Thiruperumputhur Industrial Park. It will commence production by the end of 1999.

TIDCO is preparing a project report to start a PVC unit at Petrochem Industrial Park at Ennore with M/s.Norsk Hydro, Norway in Joint Sector. This unit will produce the raw materials for manufacturing 1.5 lakhs tonnes of PVC products per

year at an estimated cost of Rs.350 crores. The MOU was signed on 10.3.1997.

TIDCO in collaboration with Modi Corporation Ltd., New Delhi is to establish, a chemical unit to produce 40,000 tonnes of Bis-penol- A in Cuddalore district. The agreement for entrepreneurs was signed on 16.7.1997. This project at an estimated cost of Rs.250 crores will provide direct employment for 300 persons and indirect employment to 500 persons. This industry to be started in joint sector, employing Japanese technology, will start production within 2 years.

TIDCO with I.L.F.S. and Transroute International of France and C.C.F., France as Co-entrepreneurs is establishing, Tamil Nadu Toll Road Management Co.Ltd., to construct Highways, bridges and link roads. The agreement for this project was signed on 21.1.1998. As a first phase of work, improving of the road from Chennai Harbour to Ennore will be undertaken at Rs.160 crores.

TIDCO in collaboration with M/s.Modi Corporation Ltd., New Delhi and M/s.Vibac, Italy is to start, Biaxially Oriented Polypropylene (BOPP) to produce 15,000 tonnes per year. Vibac of Italy holds the 3rd place in the industry at world level and the entrepreneur agreement was signed on 16.7.1997. The project report is being prepared. The estimate cost of this project is Rs.150 crores.

SIPCOT in joint venture has entered into an agreement on 2.6.1997 with Ujin Automotive of Korea to start an industry for manufacturing Car components. An acre of land at Irungattukottai SIPCOT complex has been provided for this industry, to be set up at a cost of Rs.16 crores. Construction works have been completed and the erection of machines is going on.

An agreement was signed on 12.9.1997, by M/s. Matsushita Air-conditioning India Ltd. and M/s.Shree Dhoot Trading and Agencies Ltd., to start the Matsushita Aircondition Industry at Rs.59.40 crores. The construction work of this industry in 2 acres at Irungattukottai complex, is nearing completion.

Agreement have been signed with Daerim Enterprises Limited of Korea, J.K.M. Daerim Auto Motive Limited and Yamko industries of Israel on 7.1.1998 for the establishment of Dynamatic industry at Irungattukottai at an investment of Rs.23 crores. This will provide direct employment to 1000 persons and indirect employment to 2000 persons.

Marquip Asia Limited of Mauritius has come forward to establish an industry to manufacture Machineries to produce card boards at an estimated investment of Rs.36.5 crores and the agreement was signed on 7.1.1998. The construction of this 100 percent export oriented industry has been started in three acres of land at Irungattukottai industrial complex.

An agreement was signed on 9.1.1998 by Mando Machinery Corporation to establish Mando Brake Systems Limited at an investment of Rs.30 crores for the production of car spares. The construction of the factory in an area of 9 acres at Irungattukottai industrial complex has been completed and installation of machineries is going on.

In an area of 10 acres at Irungattukottai industrial complex, Posco Steel and Posco Limited of Hyundai Corporation of Korea, has signed an

agreement on 9.1.1998, to establish POS Hyundai Steel Manufacturing India Limited at an investment of Rs.44.19 crores. This industry will produce Car Metal Sheets and the construction of factory is completed and installation of machineries is being done.

On 2.8.96 TIDCO in joint venture has entered into an agreement with M/s. Telecommunication Consultant India Limited of the Central Government and Fujikur Limited of Japan to establish Optical Fibre Telecom Cable Project in an area of 10 acres, at Maraimalai Nagar. The estimated total cost of this project is Rs.40 crores. Actions are being taken for the procurement of machineries and for the construction works. This factory will commence its production in the first quarter of the year 1999.

MCC Scarab Agro Limited and TIDCO have signed an agreement on 29.8.1996 for the establishment of coconut processing industry in joint venture, at an estimated cost of Rs.38.42 lakhs, in an area of 44 acres at Kinathukadavu, near Pollachi in Coimbatore District. This unit will produce coconut oil, coconut milk, coconut fibre etc and the production will commence in June 1999.

TIDCO, Advanced Lighting Technologies and Axes Technologies of America have established a Metal Halide Lamp industry at Madras Export Processing Zone at Tambaram in joint venture at an estimated cost of Rs.28.6 crores, for which the agreement was signed on 10.3.1997. This 100 percent export oriented factory was declared open by me on 26.3.1998.

TIDCO and Srivathsan and Associates of Bangalore have signed an entrepreneur agreement on 30.5.1997 to establish an industry with South Korean technology at an estimated cost of Rs.10 crores. This industry has been set up in Hosur, to produce dolomite, 'stoneware products'. The commercial production will commence from June. The trial production has already commenced.

The 100 percent export oriented chicken processing industry with an estimated cost of Rs.32 crores is to be established at Pongalur in Coimbatore District by Pioneer Breeding Farms. The entrepreneur agreement has been signed on 7.1.1998. Marketing opportunity are under study. The land for this project has been identified. It will commence production in one year.

TIDCO in collaboration with R.C.Suresh and Associates of Kuwait in Joint Sector with an investment of Rs.32 crores is to start a 100 percent export oriented Frozen French Fries industrial unit. This project for processing of potatoes is to be started at Metupalayam at Coimbatore District, the agreement for which was signed on 7.1.1998. PVC foamed sheets industry to be started by Thiru. Vinod Sahai of Italy in Joint Sector, is to be established with an investment of Rs.45.69 crores at Irungattukottai, Chennai. The entrepreneur agreement was signed on 25.2.1998. Six acres of land has been allocated for this. The necessary machinery is imported from Italy.

TIDCO in collaboration with Sriram Auto Components (Chennai) Limited, is to manufacture auto components at Tiruppur in Kancheepuram District. The agreement for this project in joint sector at an investment of Rs.21 crores was signed on 7.1.98. The trial production has started in April 1998.

Ramana Sekar Steels Limited, with TIDCO and Ramana Sekar Associates as Collaborators has been set up in Joint Sector. The agreement has been signed on 19.6.97. It's work will be conversion of hot/cold rolled coils into sheets. This has been set up at an area of 10 acres with an investment of Rs.10.18 crores at Manali near Chennai. Trial production has commenced and the commercial

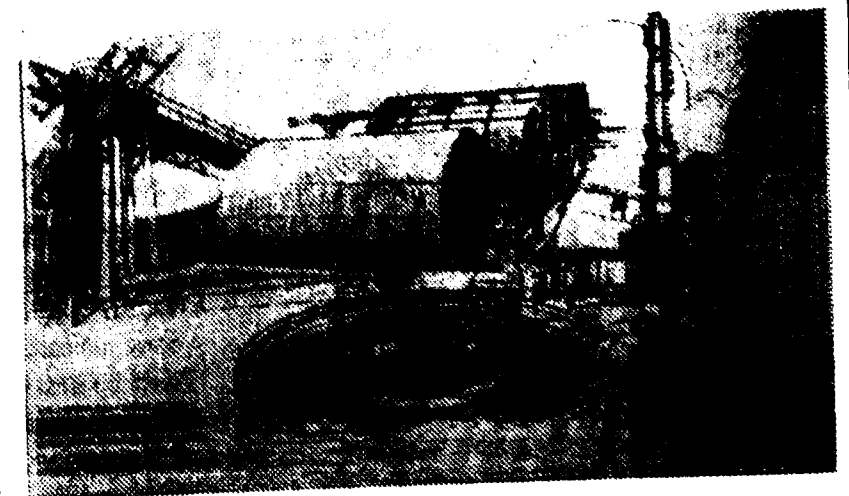
production will commence in June 1998.

The S.K.M. Egg Products Limited, at Erode is a 100 percent export oriented industry. This egg processing industry at Rs.40 crores has commenced on 12.2.97. This industrial unit produces albumin powder, yolk powder and whole egg powder from 10 lakh eggs every day.

Thirty three new industries in two years

In the past two years agreements for 33 new industries in joint sector with TIDCO and in private sector have been signed. 8 industries have started their production and 6 industries are to start their production in 1998.

The construction for 3 industries has been completed and installing of machines is in the process.



If all the 30 industries are completed, employment opportunities for 3.5 lakhs persons will be generated.

Dr. M.S.Swaminathan Research Centre

In para 108 of the Budget Estimate of 1998-99, I have made a mention of setting up of a Bio-technological park near Kelambakkam. In accordance with the statement a joint institute in collaboration with Dr.M.S. Swaminathan Research Institute, the Bio-technology Department of

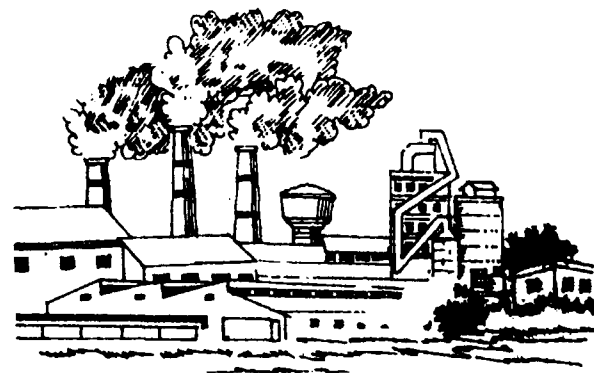
Government of India and TIDCO is coming up at Sirucher. For this 20 acres of land has been allotted. Detailed project reports are being prepared. The construction work will commence in a month or two.

This park will undertake the following works.

- ★ Tissue culture
- ★ High yield vegetables and fruits, high breed seed varieties. Preparation of high breed seed varieties and seed multiplication.
- ★ Growing of rare herbs.

I am happy to announce that this field is going to be one of the top most fields of the 21st Century.

The second announcement is about auto spare parts. Tamil Nadu already holds an important place in this field.



Because of the concentrated efforts of the automobile mega companies like Ford, Hyundai and Mitsubishi and the new auto industry by Ashok Leyland & Veco of Italy, auto spare parts production has registered a rapid growth. With a view to encourage this industry further more TIDCO has joined hands with I.L.F.S. International Finance Corporation, D.E.G. of Germany to form a new project 'Venture Capital' which will encourage bold investments. Its initial investment is Rs.20 crores.

Rs.30 crores investments to encourage Software Development

TIDCO and ILFS have joined hands and established a 'Venture Capital' to help the entrepreneurs and encourage the fast growing software development in Tamil Nadu.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has announced the manufacture of Motor Spare Parts, Software Communication Technology and Food Processing as thrust Sector.

The Government will announce its policy on food processing soon. The proposal of providing Venture Capital to this sector and entrepreneurs is under consideration of the Government.

Small scale entrepreneurs, especially the first generation entrepreneurs will be greatly benefited by this Venture Capital scheme, paving way for a large number of people to become entrepreneurs.

Information Technology Centre

The next Century is an information technology century. An information Technology Institute of Tamil Nadu (ITIT) will be established in Chennai, the first of its kind in the whole of India, to facilitate Tamil Nadu become the fore - runner in communication technology in the whole world. This will be started as a Registered Society in the beginning and later converted to a Self Financing University.

This Institute will acquaint itself with the leading American Universities and renowned private firms in this field and educate youngsters in Computer Graphics, Software Engineering, Hardware Systems, Multi Media, Tele communications, Information Technology, Digital Technology, etc. I had announced Rs.10 crores for this. The name has been now changed to Tamil Nadu Information Technology Centre (in abbreviation TANITEC).

For the establishment of this centre and for practical purposes, TANITEC was registered under Indian Companies Act 56 in section 25.

Initially this will function along with Anna University and in course of time will grow into a self financing university. The Post Graduate Course in information technology will commence in July 1998, initially at ELCOT buildings in Perungudi.

It has been planned to start UG and PG courses in information technology in phases. The Government as its share have sanctioned Rs.5 crores during 1997 - 98, and have sanctioned Rs.5 crores in the budget allocation of 1998 - 99.

Achievements with regard to ELCOT are as follows.

In 1995 - 96 during the AIADMK regime, the turnover is Rs.7.86 crores.

The turnover during 1997 - 98 is Rs.38.79 crores.

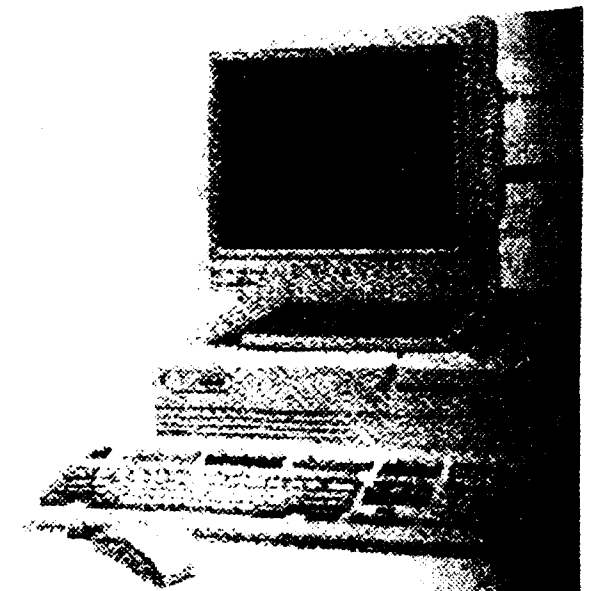
The net profit during 1995 - 96 is Rs.2.71 lakhs. In 1996 - 97 the profit is Rs.33.59 lakhs. In 1997 - 98 it is Rs.4.50 crores.

Tidel Software Technology Park Limited, Taramani

Many information technological institutes are coming forward to share their rich experiences with us by establishing their concerns in Tamil Nadu. To cater to their needs TIDCO and ELCOT have collaborated to establish an ultra - modern software park at Taramani in 7.5 acres with an investment of Rs.160 crores. The construction will be over on an area of 8 lakhs Sq.feet. Levelling the landscape is being undertaken and the construction work will commence in July '98 which is expected to be completed within 12 months. Employing high - tech facilities and through Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) communication facility to contact different parts of the world will be provided in this park.

About 8000 software technological experts will work in this park. I assure you that this is going to fetch substantial foreign exchequer and Chennai is going to occupy a predominant place in the software map of the world.

Next to Chennai many information technological industries are to open their offices and branches at Coimbatore. Considering their needs ELCOT and SIPCOT have joined together to establish a modern software park in an area of 6 acres located near Coimbatore Airport. The construction work of this park in an area of 2.5 lakhs sq. feet at a cost of Rs. 50 crores will commence in June 1998 and will be completed within 12 months. Nearly 2500 software experts will be employed in this park.



Single Window System

With regard to large scale industries like, Hyundai, Saint Gobain, Mitsubishi etc, the shooting problems and pending issues are discussed and got cleared then and there in the monthly meetings of the officials of various departments and the concerned investors under the chairmanship of industries Secretary.

A high level committee would be constituted, under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, to avail immediate approval from various departments to start new industry with an investment of more than Rs.100 crores.

Similarly a high level committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary would be constituted to get immediate clearance from various departments to start new industries with an investment of about Rs.100 crores.

★

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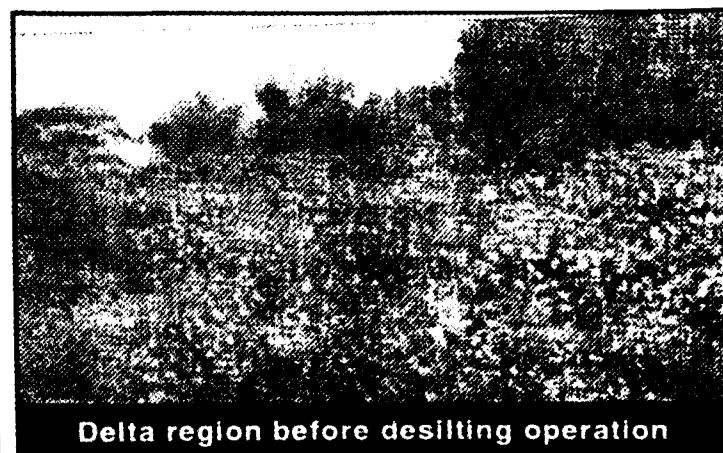
“ OPERATION DESILTING”

“ Never before in the history of Tamil Nadu, has such a massive desilting operation been undertaken” in Cauvery Delta

The untiring efforts of
**Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Dr. M. KARUNANIDHI**

has paved way for desilting and improving the irrigation system in the delta region, which is unique in the whole of Asia. This effort will uplift the economy of the delta region and the lives of farmers.

- ❑ For desilting operations in delta regions of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur districts Rs.12 crores allocated last year. This year Rs.20 crores allocated.



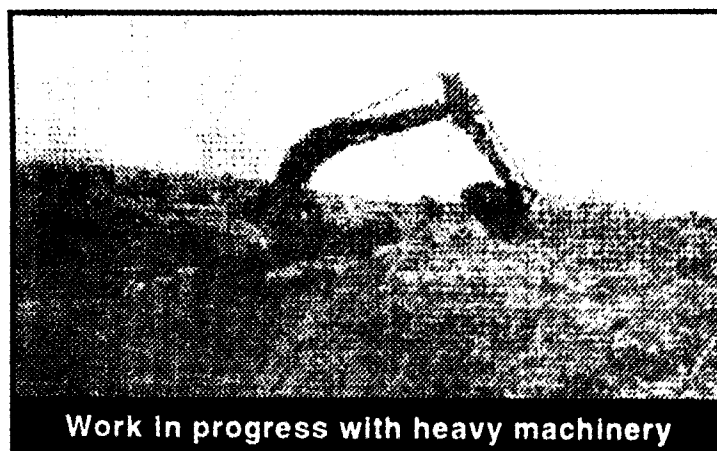
Delta region before desilting operation

- ❑ Mitigate the effect of floods in Cauvery delta area.

WORK IN PROGRESS IN THE DELTA REGION

- ❑ Last year 2110 kms. of rivers, drains and channels were desilted.
- ❑ This year desilting work covers an extent of 1830 kms, comprising :

Rivers	-	480 kms.
Drains	-	1050 kms.
Channels	-	300 kms.
- ❑ A further extent of 1500 kms. is being desilted under the Employment Assurance Scheme.
- ❑ Total area being covered : 5440 kms.

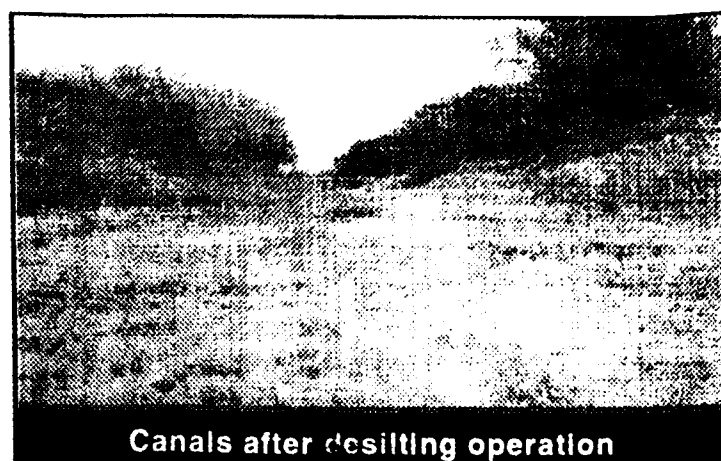


Work in progress with heavy machinery

- ❑ A further Rs.7.50 crores sanctioned under the Employment Assurance Scheme.
- ❑ Rs.3 crores sanctioned this year for desilting operation in Cuddalore district.
- ❑ 294 Proclain, JCB and Bulldozers being used to complete the work on a war footing.

BENEFITS TO THE FARMERS

- ❑ Smooth flow of water in rivers and channels.
- ❑ Adequate supply of water for effective irrigation in delta areas.



Canals after desilting operation

CONCESSIONS TO AGRICULTURISTS IN KALAI GNAR'S REGIME

- ★ Free electricity to agriculturists - the first of its kind in India.
- ★ Rs.44 crores of land tax waived during this year. For those who have already paid the land tax, it will be adjusted in the forth coming year.
- ★ The short term loan from Co-operative institutions for the agriculturists have been converted to medium term loan and the medium term loan as long term loans; the penal interest to the tune of Rs. 50 crores waived.
- ★ **Paddy procurement price :**

	Per quintal
1995 - 96	1997 - 98
Coarse Variety Rs. 360	Rs.415
Fine Variety Rs. 375	Rs 445
Transportation and incidental charges Rs.5	Rs.35
Procured Quantity 150 lakhs tonnes	18 lakhs tonnes.

This Government provides Rs.35 more than the rate fixed by the Central Government per quintal of Paddy.

- ★ So far 18% of moisture was allowed in procurement of Paddy, whereas this year it has been raised to 20% of moisture.
- ★ 926 Direct Purchase Centres for the procurement of Paddy - for the first time.
- ★ **Sugarcane prices :**

	Per Tonne
1995 - 96	
During previous regime	Rs.560
1996 - 97	
Minimum price fixed by the Central Government	Rs.459
Minimum price fixed by this Government	Rs.599
1997 - 98	
Minimum price fixed by the Central Government	Rs.484.50
Minimum price fixed by this Government	Rs.660
Maximum price	Rs.846



★ Crop loan for Sugarcane enhanced from Rs.45,000 to Rs. 55,000. Crop loan for other crops enhanced from Rs.25,000 to Rs.35,000.

★ Rs.55.15 crores disbursed as flood relief for the damages caused by floods during December 1996. 10 lakh farmers benefited.

★ Rs.59 crores disbursed as flood relief during November 1997 floods, to benefit flood affected people including agriculturists.

★ Rs.1,000, Rs.5,000 and Rs.3,000 is given as relief to sheep, cattle and calves respectively in the event of their death due to natural calamities.

★ Desilting works to the tune of Rs.20 crores in 200 water storage tanks in four zones of Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Pollachi.

★ Rs.12 crores were spent for desilting the irrigation channels, last year. This year Rs.20 crores will be spent for this work.

★ Desilting and renovation works in the irrigation channels in Narayanacauvery, Raghunathacauvery and Sangarathevan of Ramanathapuram district at a cost of Rs. 7.41 crores. 22,000 acres of land in Kamuthi, Kadaladi, Muthukulathur and Sayalkudi will benefit by irrigation facilities.

★ Sales Tax on urea fertilizer has been reduced from 4% to 2%

★ **Food Production :**

During 1995 - 96 - 68 lakh Metric Tonnes

During 1997 - 98 - 95 lakh Metric Tonnes

★ Pension to agricultural labourers enhanced from Rs.100 to Rs.150.

**OUR GOVERNMENT DOES WHAT IT PROPOUNDS
AND TELLS WHAT IT DOES.**



Hon'ble Chief Minister **Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi** planted sandalwood and neem saplings in the campus of the Secretariat to mark the World Environment Day on 5.6.1998.

Thirukkural

The code of conduct for the mankind



ஒழியியல்

குடிமை

NOBILITY

இல்பிறந்தார் கண் அல்லது இல்லை இயல்பாகச்
செப்பமும், நானும் ஒருங்கு.

ilpirandhar kann alladhillai yiyalbaga
cheppamum nanum orungu

'Right conduct and instinctive avoidance of evil are the natural traits of character found naturally in the members of a noble family or persons of noble birth. They are never found in others'.

COMMENTARY

Right conduct implies pursuing a virtuous course of action with the full cooperation of thought, word and deed. Shunning evil implies fear of disgrace, sin and hostility. These noble traits of character are naturally present in persons of noble birth. They need not wait to acquire them by study and instruction.

★ ★ ★

ஒழுக்கமும், வாய்மையும் நானும் இம்முன்றும்
இழுக்கார் குடிப்பிறந்தார்.

ozhukkamum vaimaiyum nanum immundrum
izhukkar kudipiran dhar.



'Men of noble birth will never fail in the following three : - upright conduct, veracity in speech, and feeling of shame towards evil'.

★ ★ ★

நாகுகை இன்சொல் இகழாமை நான்கும்
வகைஎன்ப வாய்மைக் குடிக்கு.

nahaiyihai insol ihazhamai nangum
vahaiyenba vaimai kudiku.

'Pleasant smile, generous gift, sweet words, never being discourteous, these four qualities are natural traits of persons of truly noble birth'.

COMMENTARY

Smile implies how to receive visitors. Gift implies generosity towards the needy. Sweet words mean how he should treat others. And absence of discourtesy is quite obvious as a necessary principle of social life. These four social virtues are naturally present in men of noble birth.

★ ★ ★

அடுக்கிய கோடி பெற்றினும் குடிப்பிறந்தார்
குன்றாவ செய்தல் இலர்.

adukiya kodi perinum gudipirandhar
hundruva seidhal ilar.

'Men of noble birth will never do a thing which will be degrading to the dignity of their family even if by so doing they have a chance of obtaining wealth of several crores'.

COMMENTARY

Men of noble birth will be incorruptible to temptation of money. They will never yield themselves to unbecoming behaviour. Preserving the dignity of the family will be a greater ideal for them than acquiring wealth by hook or crook.

★ ★ ★

வழங்குவது உள்வீழ்ந்தக் கண்ணும் பழங்குடி
பண்பின் தலைப்பிரிதல் இன்று.

vazhanguvadhu ulvindha kannum bazhangudi
panbin talaipiridhal indru.

'Even when there is a fall in their fortune, members of ancient houses will never forsake their ancestral quality of nobility'.

COMMENTARY

Members belonging to well-known families have certain traditional rights and privileges and also correspondingly several duties and responsibilities. They are expected to be kind-hearted and generous towards those that are deserving, towards those that are needy. In discharging these responsibilities they never fail even when they find their wealth decreasing.

★ ★ ★

சலம்பற்றிக் சாஸ்புலவ செய்யாகர்: மாசற்ற
குலம்பற்றி வாழ்தும்என் பாகர்.

salambatri salbuila seiya masatra
kulambatri vazdhumen bar.

'Men born in a noble family of spotless fame, trying to live up to the traditions of their family, will never stoop to do anything mean (in order to

gain their private ends even when they experience a fall in their status)'.

★ ★ ★

குடிப்பிறந்தார் கண்விளங்கும் குற்றம் விகம்பின்
மதிக்கண் மறுப்போல் உயர்ந்து.

kudipirandhar kanvilangun gutram visumbin
madhikan marupo luyamdhu.

'Just as dark spots on the face of the moon shining in the high heavens are observed by all, any little fault appearing in men of noble birth will be noticed by all people'.

COMMENTARY

Because of their high status in society their little faults will be scrutinised by the general public. Hence they ought to be extra careful about their conduct, and should never commit mistakes.'

★ ★ ★

நலத்தின்கண் நார்துண்மை தோன்றின் அவனைக்
குலத்தின்கண் ஐயப் படும்.

nalathingan narinmai thondrin avanai
kulathingan iyya padum.

'A man born in a noble family, if he lacks in the characteristic benevolence of his birth, people will naturally doubt his relationship to the noble house'.

COMMENTARY

A man of noble birth without noble traits of character will be suspected by the people in general that he does not really belong to that family but is an upstart claiming relationship with it.

★ ★ ★

நிலத்தில் கிடந்தமை கால்காட்டும்: காட்டும்
குலத்தில் பிறந்தார் வாய்ச்சொல்.

nilathil kidandhamai kalkattum kattum
kualthil pirandhar vaisol.

'Sprouts that spring from the seeds sown in the field will testify to the nature of the soil. Similarly, the words that spring from the lips of men of noble birth will testify to their high connection'.

COMMENTARY

Whether the soil is rich or not will be exhibited by the plant growing in it. Similarly, whether a man is really of noble birth or merely an upstart claiming it will be easily discovered from his speech.

★ ★ ★

நலம்பெண்டின் நானுடைமை வேண்டும் குலம்பெண்டின்
வேண்டுக யார்க்கும் பணிவு.

namvenden nanudaimai vendum gulamvenden
venduga yarkkum panivu.

'Do you want to realise the good? Then cherish the virtuous restraint of shame. Do you want to maintain the nobility of your house? Then maintain your reverential behaviour towards all the deserving ones'.

COMMENTARY

The deserving ones to whom a respectable member of society is expected to show reverence are great ascetics, teachers, other noble men and his own parents. He is expected to show reverence to the superiors and be always courteous to others. That is the only way by which he can maintain the name of his family.

★ ★ ★



Hon'ble Chief Minister K. Karunanidhi unveiled the statue of Singaravelar installed in the campus of the Chennai Collectorate, on 11.6.1998.



NALADIYAR

செல்வர்க்கு யாரும் உறவினர்; வறியவர்க்குச் சிலர் உறவுடையோம் என்பார்.

காலாடு போழ்திற் கழிகிளைஞர் வானத்து
மேலாடு மீனிற் பலராவர்; ஏலா
இடரொருவர் உற்றக்கால், - ஈர்ங்குன்ற நாட !
தொடர்புடையோம் என்பார் சிலர்.

Friends in adverse and prosperous times.

When a man moves prosperously on, devoted kinsfolk are countless as shining stars that move in the upper heaven. But when grievous affliction haps, - Lord of the dripping hills! - few claim close alliance with him.

★ ★ ★

தீவினைக்கு அஞ்சாத கீழோரது நட்பு வளராதுதேயும்.

பெரியவர் கேண்மை பிறைபோல நாளும்
வரிசை வரிசையா நந்தும்; - வரிசையால்
வானார் மதியம்போல் வைகலுந் தேயுமே
தானே சிறியார் தோடர்பு.

Friendships with great and mean.

Great men's intimate regard will daily grow in order due like the crescent moon. Mean men's alliance like the full moon that rides the sky daily by degrees dwindles away of itself.

★ ★ ★

கீழ்க்குலத்தில் பிறந்தோர் ஆயினும் கற்றறிந்தவரே சிறப்புடையவர் ஆவர்.

களர்நிலத்துப் பிறந்த உப்பினைச் சான்றோர்
விளைநிலத்து நெல்லின் விழுமிதாக்கொள்வர்;
கடைநிலத்தோர் ஆயினும் கற்றறிந்தோரைத்
தலைநிலத்து வைக்கப் படும்.

The learned, though low - born, are first.

The excellent regard the salt produced in brackish ground as choicer than the Nel from fertile soil. It is fitting to place in the first rank the learned - wise, though (sprung) from the lowest origin.

★ ★ ★

மேலோர் தம்மிடத்திற் சிறிதுகுற்றமும் வரப் பொறார்.

அங்கண் விசும்பின் அகனிலாப் பாரிக்குந்
திங்களுக்கு சான்றோரும் ஒப்பர்மற் றிங்கண்
மறுவாற்றும்; சான்றோர் அஃ தாற்றார், - தெருமந்து
தேய்வர் ஒருமா கறின்.

The good cannot endure a stain.

The moon that diffuses light through heaven's fair realms, and truly worthy men are alike : Yet that endures a spot, while the truly worthy endure it not; - perplexed and sad they pine away if but one stain appear..

★ ★ ★

கல்வி கற்றாமலும், பெரியோரைக் காணாமலும்,
தரித்திருக்குக் கொடாமலும் ஒருபுகலாயினும் இருக்கலாகாது.

கல்லாது போகிய நாளும், பெரியவர்கண்
செல்லாது வைகிய வைகலும், - ஒல்வ
கொடாஅ தொழிந்த பகலும் உரைப்பின்
படாஅவாம் பண்புடையார் கண்.

No day unimproved

Days gone by without learning, those passed without any intercourse with the great, those spent without giving what is fitting; - in the case of the excellent, if you tell them over, none such occur.

★ ★ ★

Verified
Mr

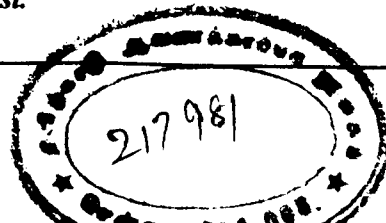
PURE
silk

PURE
zari



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

Co-optex
TAMILNADU HANDLOOMS



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