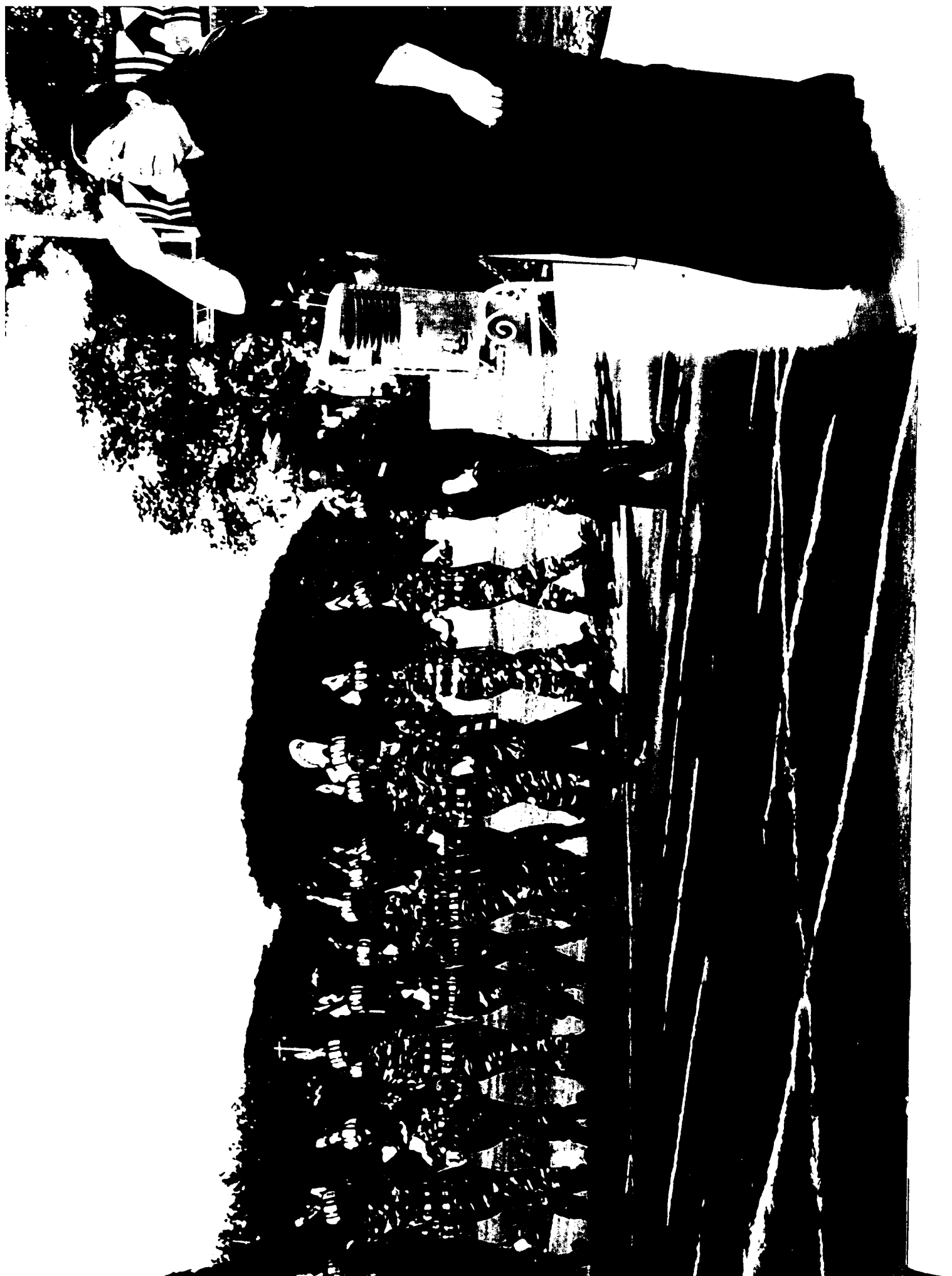


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# Tamil Arasu

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## WRAPPERS

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| <b>II Wrapper</b> | : Inauguration of All Women Police Battalion by Hon'ble Chief Minister                                                                            |
| <b>IV Wrapper</b> | : Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Food                                                                                |

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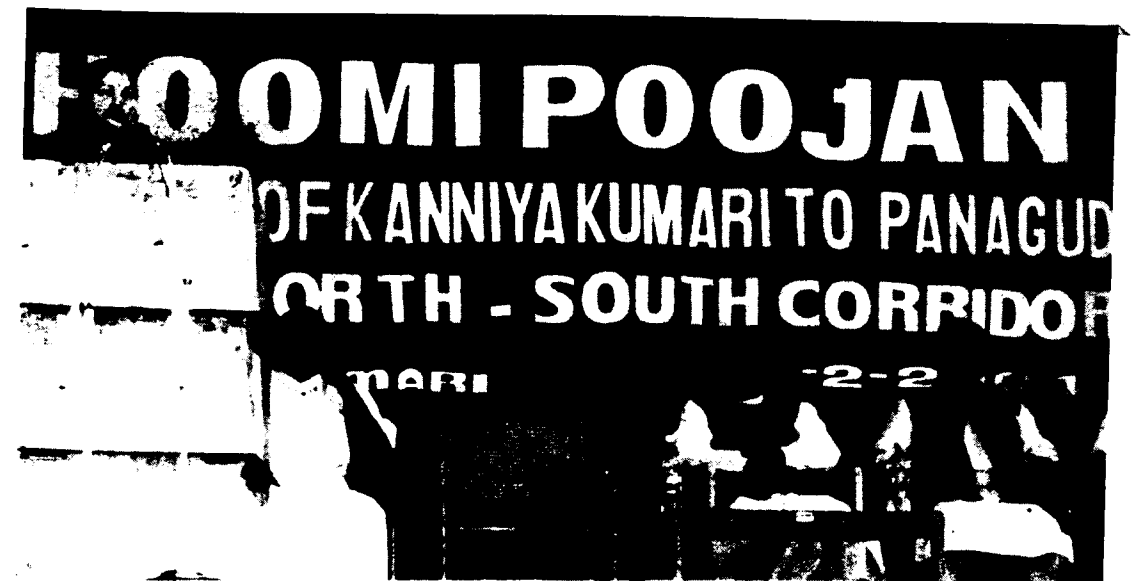
## Inauguration of the North-South corridor connecting Kanniyakumari with Kashmir

Development of highways is now being taken up in a planned manner. The Union Government is upgrading the National Highways in Tamil Nadu. Under a special programme launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Golden Quadrilateral project connecting the four metropolitan cities including Chennai is making rapid progress. In Tamil Nadu, 341Kms of National Highways are being covered under this programme. Recently, the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the work on the North-South corridor connecting Kanniyakumari with Kashmir. Under this project, 851Kms of National Highways are being developed in Tamil Nadu.

Speaking on the occasion the Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru Atal Bihari

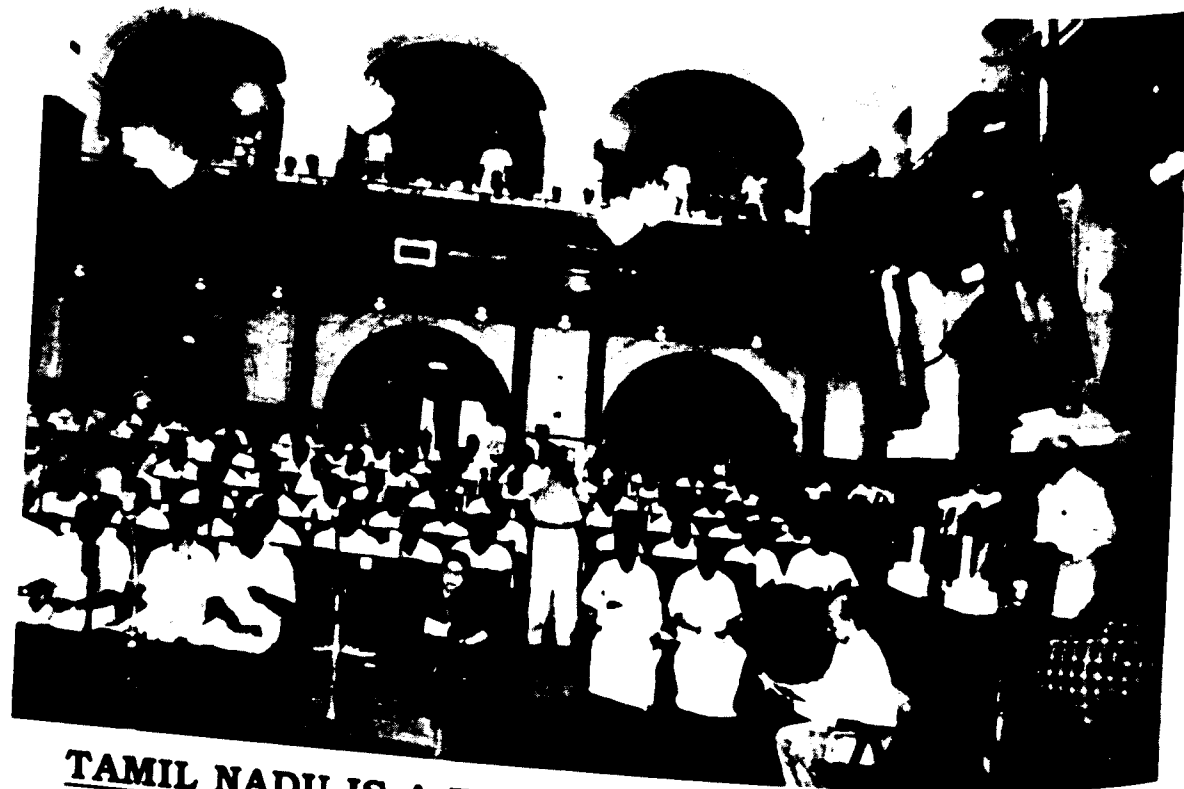
Vajpayee said the north-south and east-west corridors would revolutionise the road and transport infrastructure, by connecting Srinagar with Kanniyakumari and Silchar in the east with Porbandar (Gujarat), the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi, in the west. The 5,846 km Golden Quadrilateral project to link the four metros was nearing completion and this will cover the entire nation, particularly State capitals and trading centres, in a comprehensive way with four-lane highways.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa detailed the ongoing road development projects. She said that the average length of roads over a 100 sq km area in the State was 60 percent more than the national figure. Widening of roads would result in



fuel conservation. While roads were already available to villages where the population was 1000-plus, the Government decided to extend the facility to habitates with more than 500 persons. Despite the acute financial constraints experienced in the State during 2001, a sum of Rs.2,518 crores was allocated for road and bridge works, she added. She said the total length of the roads in Tamil Nadu is 61,125 Km of which only 3,850 Km length of roads is under National Highways.

A proposal to convert 8 roads with a total length of 1,091 k.m. as National Highways has been sent to the Union Ministry for Road Transport and Highways. The Hon'ble Chief Minister requested for an early approval of the proposal.



## **TAMIL NADU IS A FORERUNNER IN PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SAFETY NET**

**-His excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu  
Thiru. P.S. RAMAMOCHAN RAO**

**Honourable Members of the Legislative  
Assembly,**

It gives me great pleasure to address you at the commencement of the first session of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly for the year 2004. I extend my greetings and good wishes to all of you.

2. The people of India are to elect their representatives to Parliament shortly. The elections to the Lok Sabha bring the people of India together in electing a Government that will take them on the road to development and prosperity. The people of India, Tamil Nadu in particular, have always exercised tremendous political acumen and sagacity in exercising their political franchise. They are going to get another opportunity soon. I urge the people of Tamil Nadu

to carry our rich and vibrant democratic traditions forward and exercise their franchise in a peaceful manner.

3. Tamil Nadu welcomed the New Year with renewed confidence and hope of a glorious future ahead. The State has cast aside the inherited legacy of poor growth prospects and a crippled fiscal situation. The year 2003 marks a spectacular turnaround. By successfully integrating reform priorities with development imperatives and above all keeping the interests of the poor uppermost, Tamil Nadu has indeed emerged as the State, which will forge ahead towards its cherished *numero uno* position. The credit for this amazing and unparalleled turnaround in such a short span of time goes to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa.

4. Hon'ble Members of this House may recall the extremely difficult fiscal situation



prevailing when this Government assumed office in May 2001, forcing this Government to scale down the Plan outlay to Rs. 5200 crores in 2001-2002. The future looked bleak, given the extent and gravity of the fiscal crisis. Since then a bold economic reforms programme implemented with resolve and courage by the Chief Minister has enabled the Government to increase the Plan size to Rs. 7000 crores in 2003-2004 and draw up an impressive Tenth Plan with an outlay of Rs. 40,000 crores. A comprehensive social safety net has been put in place and strengthened despite

unprecedented drought





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