

Famil Arasu





Thiru G. Parthasarathy, Special envoy of the Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi met the Honourable Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran on 25-8-'83.

Thiru Raj Kapoor, Thiru Rajendrakumar and Thiru S.S.M. Sowndappan, presented a cheque for Rs. 1 lakh towards the Sri Lankan Tamils' Relief Fund to the Honourable Chief Minister Thiru M. G.R., on 25-8-'83 on behalf of "Dawn India Wattle Extracts Limited".



BEAR IN MIND

The incidents taking place in Sri Lanka at present cause great agony.

Our Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi is taking suitable steps to solve the problems of the Tamils of Sri Lanka. If the President of Sri Lanka, Thiru Jayawardane fails to utilize this opportunity, Sri Lanka will cease to be an independent country. If Thiru Jayawardane would in haste seek help from any foreign country, it is possible for Sri Lanka to become a slave country once the foreign power is allowed to set foot in the country.

The people of Tamilnadu are shedding tears of blood on account of the ethnic killings taking place in Sri Lanka.

It will be an invitation to disastrous results if efforts are made to eliminate the Tamils enmasse.

Honourable Chief Minister
(Excerpts from the speech made at Tiruchi on 21.8.'83)

Tamil-Arasu

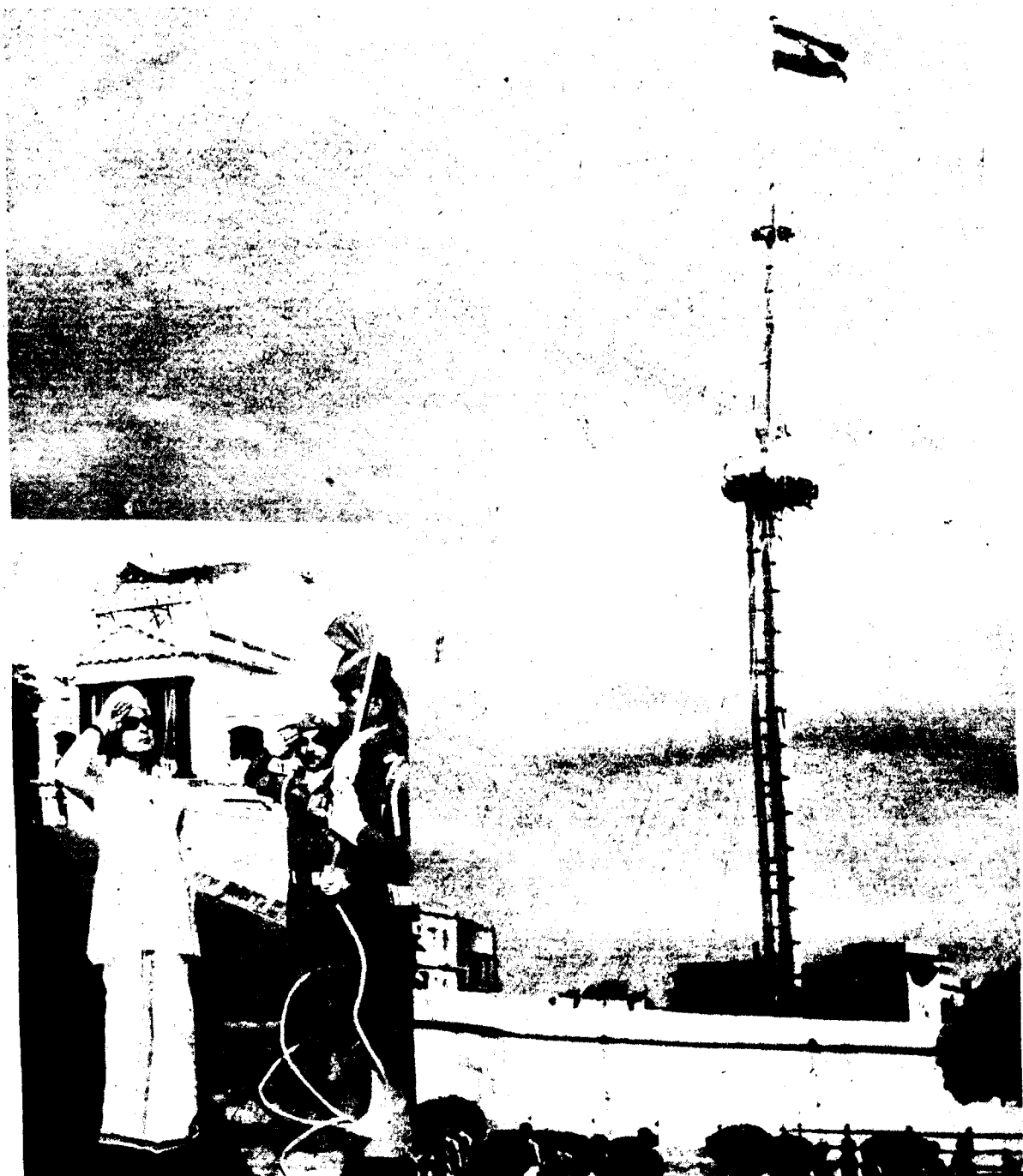
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Aavani - Purattasi - Rudhrothkaari





LET OUR SOCIALISTIC IDEAL TRIUMPH



I send my hearty greetings to the people of the country when India our Mother land completes her 36th year and steps into the 37th year of her independence.

Even though it is our duty to celebrate gloriously this independence day, our attention is centred on the plight of our brethren in neighbouring Sri Lanka, subjected to atrocities.

Everyone is aware that a national consensus has emerged in the favour of the Tamils in Sri Lanka, because of the steps taken by the Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi and the efforts of the State Government as also the all-party committee to reflect the feelings of the people of Tamilnadu on it.

Let us take a pledge for securing for the Tamils in Sri Lanka a dignified life with all rights. Let us do our duty to protect the life and properties of the Tamils and stand by the Central Government in all its measures to rehabilitate the affected people in Sri Lanka.

Our country stands foremost in giving protection and guidance. The time has come when we should realise our responsibilities to further strengthen and discipline it.

A Government and its people should follow the ideals of equal rights, equal chances and should eschew religious differences. It is the duty of the Government to give proper protection to the people and curb divisive and narrow parochialistic tendencies and dissensions. The incidents in Sri Lanka and its repercussions constitute a warning to those countries which fail to observe these aspects.

It is our bounden duty to pay grateful homage to those martyrs who gave up their precious lives to attain freedom for the future generations to enjoy the fruits of freedom with civil rights.

Let us take a pledge that we shall defend the freedom of the country at any cost which was achieved by the brave martyrs known and unknown.

The manner in which the freedom struggle was conducted; our culture to seek unity in diversity; our glory of continuing a democratic form of Government; our path to progress through peaceful planned ways; these have helped India carve a special place and earn the respect among the comity of nations. No one can deny that the real strength of India lies in the smooth progress of the people.

No country can progress without an aim and without ceaseless effort. We cannot forget the fact that even after 37 years of independence and the progress made in several fields, half the population still lives below the poverty line. If we do not lend a helping hand to the downtrodden or expedite the work towards this goal, there will be no meaning to democracy.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has aptly described that a society which does not progress gets weakened. This weakness will pervade all spheres of development. We have to isolate the obstacles in the path of progress and growth. Only by removing these can we ensure the enhancement of a country's progress.

The biggest obstacles today are violence and divisive forces. The attempt to seek the path of violence or to solve any problem and to treat the interests of a particular region or a party as greater than that of the country will only ultimately ruin or destroy us. Let us create a great society where there is no place for violence and separatist tendencies. Let us give priority to the plans which guarantee the welfare of the downtrodden. We shall expedite the efforts to promote the unity of society. We shall strengthen our country through fulfilling these basic necessities. If our country is in a position to defend its strength and unity, it will be a protection to those who are displaced and long for protection. Recent events testify this.

Any party or leader has a privilege to fight for his rights justly. We should realize that no leader, party or organization has the right to destroy public property or indulge in killings to meet his own end. These persons are anti-social elements. Only those who do not harm others, however great their ideals may be are considered patriotic and protectors of society.

Only leaders with such ideals can usher in a socialistic order. I hope that this independence day will help infuse the aim and spirit in all of us to ceaselessly make efforts to realize an egalitarian society in India. It is also my desire.

Long live Indian independence!
Let our united efforts triumph!
Let our socialistic ideal triumph!
Long live Tamil; Long live Tamils!
Long live Bharat!
Long live Anna's name.

Honourable
Chief Minister
Thiru M.G.R.'s
Independence Day
message
(15-8-83)

New Ministers Sworn in

Four New ministers of the Tamil Nadu Cabinet were Sworn in by Governor Thiru S. L. Khurana at Rajbhavan. (9-9-83)



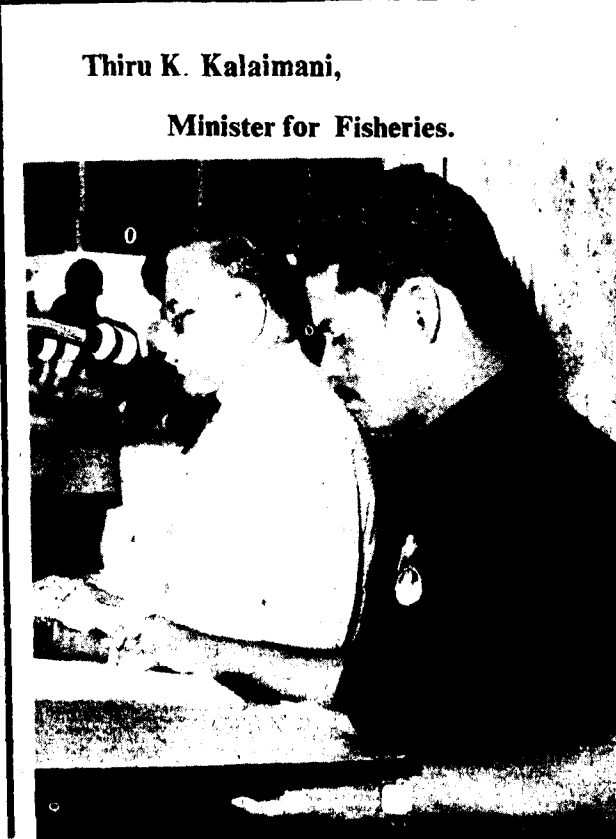
Thiru R. Soundararajan,
Minister for Nutritious Meal Scheme.



Thiru Y. S. M. Yusuf,
Minister for Irrigation



Thiru R. Arunachalam,
Minister for Rural Industries



Thiru K. Kalaimani,
Minister for Fisheries.

Thiru A. Amirthalingam, Leader of the opposition in the Sri Lanka Parliament and the Secretary-General of the Tamil United Liberation Front arrived at Madras on 13-8-'83.

Thiru Amirthalingam was given a warm welcome on his arrival at Meenambakkam.

Thiru K. Rajaram, Speaker of the Tamilnadu Assembly, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information & Religious Endowments, Thiru K. Raja Mohammed, Minister for Irrigation, and Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, Minister for Co-operation, and Thiru Pulamapithan, Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council were among those present at the Air Port to receive him.

Thiru Amirthalingam drove straight from the airport to the Chief Minister's residence and had an hour-long talk with him on the problems of the Tamils of Sri Lanka. He later returned to the Chepauk guest house.

Later Thiru Amirthalingam left for Delhi on 14-8-1983 to discuss with the Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi at her invitation.

Thiru Amirthalingam had a 90-minute meeting with Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi when he appraised her of the problems of the Tamils of Sri Lanka. The External Affairs Minister Thiru P. V. Narasimha Rao was present during the latter part of these discussions.

He also exchanged views with the Prime Minister's foreign policy adviser Thiru G. Parthasarathy, Principal Secretary Thiru P. C. Alexander and the Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Thiru K. S. Bajpai for two hours before he met the Prime Minister.



AMIRTHALINGAM IN INDIA



Later in an interview with the Press he stated :

'The Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi's intervention to make the people aware of the sentiments of the Tamils of Sri Lanka, had brought about an important change in the political situation. India is a big neighbouring country of Sri Lanka. It has close cultural affinities with Sri Lanka. The minority Tamils are of Indian origin. Therefore the efforts taken by India to see that the Tamils of Sri Lanka get justice is correct. I thank the Prime Minister of India for showing extreme consideration in the problem of Tamils of Sri Lanka.'

Thiru Amirthalingam met the Union Defence Minister Thiru R. Venkataraman and other ministers, leaders of opposition parties and had a series of discussions with them.

On his return to Madras Thiru Amirthalingam met the Press on 19-8-1983.

While addressing the Press Thiru Amirthalingam said that he cannot forget the concern expressed by the people of Tamilnadu, the

leaders of political parties, the media etc., towards the problems of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Thiru Amirthalingam said that his talks with the Prime Minister on the Sri Lankan problem was fruitful.

Under the auspices of the Tamilnadu branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association a meeting was held that evening, presided over by Thiru K. Rajaram, Speaker of the State Legislature.

Thiru Amirthalingam related how the Tamil race was subjected to untold suffering and harassment for many decades by the Sri Lankan Government.

'International affairs is a embarrassing problem. The Indian Prime Minister who is a great diplomat knows how to deal with it pragmatically. Her diplomatic to approach have made us confident. I hope the people of Tamilnadu will act unitedly to give their whole-hearted support.'

Thiru M. P. Sivagnanam Chair-

man, State Legislative Council proposed a vote of thanks.

Thiru Amirthalingam met the bereaved families of martyr Thiru Kuttamani and the former speaker of the State Legislature Thiru K. A. Mathiazhagan. Left for Trichy on 20th. He met the Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran again and gave him the details of his Delhi trip. He also met Thiru K. A.P. Viswanathan and other party leaders.

At a press conference at Tiruchi, he said there was no need for India to send its army to Sri Lanka at present. If violence is resorted to against the Tamils again we have to request for military intervention from India,' he said.

A dinner was hosted to Thiru Amirthalingam on 22-8-83 by the Honourable Speaker of the Legislature and the Honourable Chairman of the Legislative Council.

Thiru Amirthalingam met Thiru G. Parthasarathy special emissary of the Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi to Sri Lanka at Madras on 25-8-'83 and discussed the problems of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.



Thiru K. A. Mathiazhagan former Minister of Tamil Nadu and former Speaker of the State Legislature passed away at 9.45 A.M. on 17-8-'83.

Brother of Thiru K. A. Krishnaswamy, Minister for Rural Industries, Thiru Mathiazhagan was admitted into the Royapettah Hospital for treatment of kidney failure.

His condition turned critical from 16-8-'83. The Honourable Chief Minister paid a visit to the hospital the same evening. He met Thiru K.A. Krishnaswamy and other doctors and made enquiries of Thiru Mathiazhagan's condition.

Thiru Mathiazhagan passed away on 17-8-'83. His body was taken to his residence at Nungambakkam to be kept for public view.

The Honourable Chief Minister placed a

wreath at 11.40 A.M. and paid his respects. The Chief Minister consoled Tmt. Rajasundari and the bereaved family.

Honourable Ministers, Justices of the High Court, leaders, of various political parties paid their respects to the departed leader.

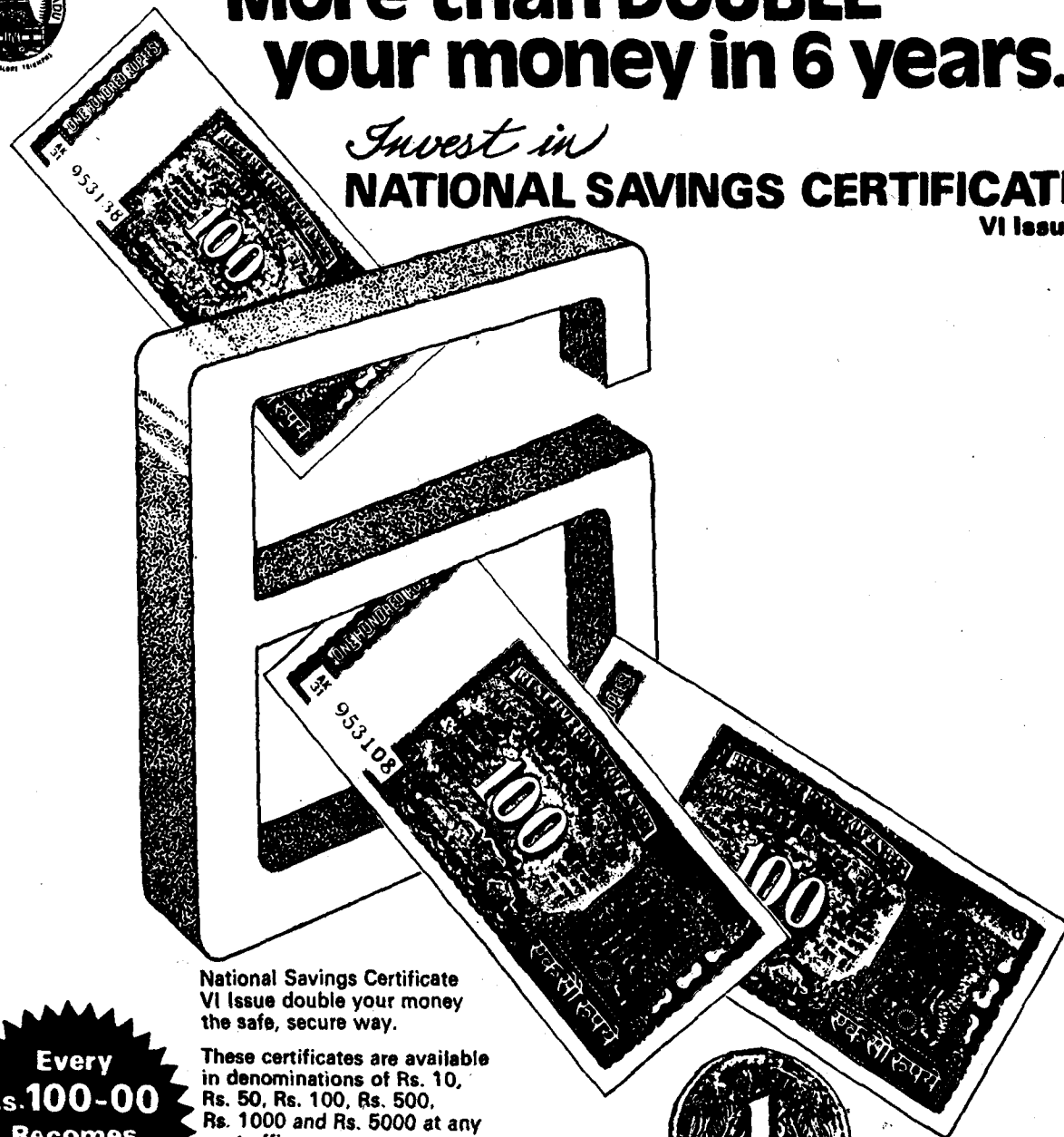
Born in 1926, in Kaniyur, Coimbatore District Thiru Mathiazhagan took his B.A. Degree from the Annamalai University. Even as a student he participated in the Dravidian movement and was in close touch with Periyar and Perarignar Anna and entered public life.

Thiru Mathiazhagan leaves behind his wife, three daughters and one son. Let us pay our respects to the departed leader.



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Sep. 1983
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THE SRI LANKAN TAMILS' RELIEF FUND.

The public are aware of the
steps taken by the Government and
various political parties regarding
the atrocities perpetrated on the
Tamils of Sri Lanka who are under-
going untold sufferings at present.

The Government has set up
the Sri Lankan Tamils' Relief Fund
to which the contributions made
by the public are deposited. Those
who wish to send a cheque may do
so in the name of this fund. The
cheques received by the Honourable
Chief Minister and other ministers
are deposited to this fund. In
future, the public can send cheques
to their respective Collectors,
Revenue Divisional Officer's and
Tahsildars.

Those who wish to pay in cash
or kind besides cheques may hand

over the same to the Collectors,
Revenue Divisional Officers and
Tahsildars.

The Headmaster/Principal may
hand over the contributions from
students to the Director of School/
Collegiate education through
cheques on behalf of their insti-
tution.

It is learnt that some miscreants,
exploiting the situation deceive the
people and appropriate the money.
On receipt of such information, Gov-
ernment has taken severe action.

In an important appeal made
to the public the statement says that
the Sri Lankan Tamils' Relief Fund
has been set up by the Government;
the public should be vigilant. The
public are requested to donate libe-
rally towards the fund set up by
the Government for the redressal of
the Sri Lankan Tamils.



PERIYAR - THE HARBINGER OF TOTAL REVOLUTION

'There are all sorts of leaders. Among them Mahatma Gandhi, Jinnah and Periyar belong to a special order. They are leaders for their lifetime. None can dislodge them? This was the verdict of the wise man of Tamil-Nadu, it was Perarignar Anna who declared the above verdict. The year was 1944; the occasion was the provocative attempt, by a few of Periyar's followers, to snatch away the leadership of the Justice Party from Thanthai Periyar E. V. Ramaswami.

Events, that followed over the years, proved the correctness of Anna's verdict. The real challenge to Periyar's authority came only when Anna severed his connection with Periyar and formed a party of his own. A battle royal went on for eighteen long years. At last Anna won a majority in the general elections of 1967, in spite of Periyar's all-out efforts, to bring back Congress to power.

The wise and great Anna, even, at that hour of glorious victory, was intensely conscious of the inspiration, illumination, and training, they got in Periyar's move-

N. D. SUNDARAVADIVELU
Ex-Vice Chancellor,
University of Madras.

ment. Arignar Anna rushed with a few colleagues all the way to Tiruchirappalli to take Ayya's blessing; before he assumed the high office of Chief Ministership of the Madras State.

How did Periyar react to the magnanimous gesture of Anna? To quote Periyar's own words, 'he felt shy like the old time bride. He, however, responded spontaneously with equal magnanimity Periyar stood by Anna.

This epoch-making event, is a case of history repeating itself. Thirteen years earlier, a similar turning point in history was recorded. When Kamaraj an avowed opponent Dravidar of Kazhagam was elected leader of the Congress Legislative party in 1954, with a similar foresight, he sought the support of Periyar and he got it in a full measure.

Two years earlier, when Rajaji took the mantle of the Chief Ministership of the Madras Presidency,

Periyar's good will was sought and obtained.

How can one reconcile the so called contradictions in Periyar's stand?

What was Periyar—the great public figure — concerned with? Was he in public life for personal profit? Was he after self appraisal? Was it the urge to perpetuate one's name that kept Periyar in the thick of great public controversies?

Anna, Kamaraj and Rajaji knew, beyond an iota of doubt, that Periyar has no axe to grind. As the richest man of Erode and as the third influential person of Coimbatore District, Periyar entered the mainstream of public life. Great was the cause to which he dedicated

himself. E. V. Ramaswami realised the seriousness of the struggle he was joining. He knew that winning political freedom could not be an arm-chair affair; it could not be gained by leisure time activity. Realising that the movement for India's Independence needed the full time and devoted services of thousands of workers, he closed his prosperous mundry and threw himself fully to the cause of liberty.

E. V. Ramaswami, continued to be an unalloyed selfless public worker, even after he left the Congress and formed the self respect movement. His public service continued to be totally unselfish, throughout his life.

E. V. Ramaswami, the merchant was a man of luxurious living. E. V. Ramaswami, the congressman was a totally different person. He became the personification of the dictum 'simple living and high thinking'.

Time without number, persons without number, received necessary financial assistance from E. V. R. both in the Congress and in the self

respect movement: Not only was his personal expenses but also of needy co-workers came from E. V. R.'s private income. This continued unabated for many years.

In the year 1940, the Governor of Madras and the Governor General of India, in turn, invited Periyar to take up the reins of the Prime Ministership (now Chief Ministership) of Madras Presidency. Even Rajaji volunteered to extend his co-operation to Periyar if he accepted the Prime Ministership. Periyar did not yield to the temptation. Once again, similar invitations came from the same dignitaries, with the same result in 1942.

It was because, the three leaders mentioned above, knew that Periyar stood for certain basic principles and ideals and not for personal gains and that personal equations would not affect his public attitude that they were wise enough to seek Periyar's cooperation and support. Periyar's spontaneous response proved that they were totally in the right.

Periyar stood and waged a relentless life long war for liberty, liberty not only in form but also in content and spirit. If a prize were to be instituted for building up the congress movement in Tamilnadu, the first prize would go to E. V. Ramaswami, was the valuation of his contemporary, Thiru V. Kalyanasundaram.

To Periyar, freedom meant not only the change of rulers but also of the attitude and approach of the rulers towards the ruled. The dilly dallying of the issue of acceptance in principle of communal representation and the final refusal even to discuss this matter made Periyar feel that the fruits of independence will be cornered by the few and not be made available to the people at large. As he did not want to strengthen a movement, which in his opinion, would not stand for opportunities for all, he quit the congress, which he built in Tamilnadu by his great sacrifice.

Equality is denied to the learning millions of our people. In the name of religion, Hindus have been divided into unapproachable, untouchable uneducable castes. Both in the Congress and for about half a century, from other forms, Periyar campaigned vigorously against the caste system. He advocated and encouraged inter caste marriage.



The edifice of caste system has yet to crumble down but the gaping cracks are innumerable.

Year after year, inter caste marriages are increasing in number. This fossilised system deeprooted in our history, has started crumbling, thanks to the tireless and undaunted crusade of Periyar.

Fraternity will not be possible as long as each group continue to live and dine with and marry among its own caste. Fraternity cannot thrive so long as there are millions of poor, low paid workers, with thousands of peaks of richness. Periyar, fought not only for a casteless society but also for a classless society. To these two great causes, Periyar sacrificed his all-thought, time, energy and wealth.

None has championed the cause of equality between man and women as Periyar did. The grateful women of Tamilnadu, assembling in a state conference, called him

Periyar the great.

Thanthai Periyar Ramaswami was indeed great in all respects. He stood head and shoulders above other leaders, by his ceaseless activities, including intensive and frequent tours, even at the age of ninety five. His thoughts were crystal clear and fresh as the spring waters of the Himalayas. His thoughts were far ahead of his time. They covered every aspect of human living. They still till the soil—hard soil—for a casteless and class-level future, when woman would enjoy equal rights with men.

As Arignar Anna had epitomised 'Periyar had put centuries into capsules'.

May Periyar's progressive thoughts, intellectual honesty, personal integrity, great concern for public weal, spirit of sacrifice, simplicity, politeness and self effacement permeate our society and usher in the new order for which he struggled for over sixty years.

the Creative Genius

Dr. V. C. KULANDAISWAMY

Vice-Chancellor, Anna University Madras.



He is a creative genius of world order, born to become a Shelly or a Shaw, but drawn into a life of revolt against social injustices, rejection of outworn traditions, and negation of many faiths and beliefs. In whatever he did, however, the creator in him dominated, and consequently in every area of his interest, he left behind a new order, a new system and an indelible mark of his natural predilections and potential for creative contribution.

To the politics of Tamil Nadu, he gave a new sense of sophistication and refinement; to the Tamil stage and film, a new theme and style; to journalism, a new language and method of expression; to the party system, a message of development and encouragement of leadership; to the art of speaking a new style; and above all to the Tamil language a new form, new life and new vigour.

The world of art and literature that he left behind was vastly different, infinitely richer than the one he inherited. The Tamil that we hear from our political platforms,

literary forums and discussion groups is the Tamil of his making. The style we see in the contributions of our scholars, writers and reporters is the style that bears an indelible mark, of his moulding and shaping. In short, the Tamil that we write and the Tamil that we hear from platforms, stages and screens is the Tamil that bears very distinguishably the mark of Anna. Even those who rejected his political policies and social philosophies have accepted his method of writing and speaking and manner of conducting himself.

Anna was an artist of global dimensions, and a creator of a calibre that makes enduring contributions to humanity as a class. He had the sails to move in the wide seas and the wings to fly in the vast skies. But the mission that drew him and the goal he set for himself, chained him to the earth. A genius born for the wide world, confined its contribution to the boundaries of its land of birth—a loss to humanity in general, but a gain, a great gain to the Tamil language and the Tamil race.

It was Valluvar who said that the greatness of a person must be judged by

what he or she leaves behind. In the case of a leader, political, social or religious; his/her greatness must also be judged by the kind of the first and second line of leadership that is developed and left behind. In this regard, Anna comes next only to Gandhi in the manner in which he moulded and shaped everyone according to one's talent and potential. The party he belonged to, the philosophy he advocated and the reforms he sought to bring about did not, in the early stages of his career, attract the traditional class of intellectuals. The followers were drawn from the masses and from among the radicals and the less affluent of the students. From the modest potential that was available, he by his magnanimous encouragement, liberal appreciation and discriminating guidance, developed leaders, who to-day dominate the scene in every political party in Tamil Nadu.

Anna stood, sure at the base, and soaring high at the top. He never feared a threat to his leadership, or a challenge to his eminence, for he was always prepared to transfer both of them to the deserving among his disciples, very willingly and gladly. On every occasion, he invited them to ease his burdens either by sharing them as equals or by taking over the mantle. He encouraged liberally the emerging talent; acknowledged unreservedly the established

ones; introduced to the world voluntarily many names that remained unknown, many faces that were unseen, but deserved recognition; and brought them into the glare of recognition and reputation. The political party they belonged to, the convictions they worked for, and the controversies of the day-to-day struggle, did not very much influence his decision and judgement in this regard. The fragrance of blossoming flower in whichever compound, and in whatever clime, found in him a spontaneous bard to sing its glory.

All through his life, he campaigned against certain vested interests; fought for certain new order; increasingly and incessantly he strove to bring down or break to pieces many a citadel of privileges and patronages and succeeded in them; but all without leaving a trail of bitterness or trace of enmity. He introduced into the world of politics a new culture; into the platform of controversy a new order and into public life in general a new dimension of understanding and where possible appreciating the 'other view', even if it be an 'opposite view'.

He was among the writers, a patron; among the politicians a saint; among his partymen the brother, and to his countrymen and women in general 'Anna', the beloved.



THIRU. VI. KA. THE THRILL

As one who has read Thiru. Vi. Ka.'s works from boyhood (i.e. from 1937) and as one who has closely watched him personally during the last decade of his life (i.e. 1943-53) the dominant element that overwhelms me about his life and thought is the thrill that one gets about his selfless nature. This dominating element has adorned his life and thought all through.

Thiru. Vi. Ka., by nature a very sensitive, serious and daring person was early influenced by the Indian national upheaval that took roots in the early years of this century. He was intimately acquainted with Balgangadara Tilak, V.O. Chidambaram Pillai and Subramania Bharathi who were his close political contemporaries. Later he was a follower of Mahatma Gandhi and found in him the quintessence of Tamil culture (which is broadly speaking part of Indian culture). His association with the great theosophist Annie Besant (1847-1933) founder of Home rule movement and Thiru B. P. Wadia a co-founder of the labour movement in Tamilnadu brought him into the grips with the political, economic, social and cultural movements. Because of this background he first resigned his clerk's post in the

Spencer's Company and later his head Tamil pandit's post in Wesley College which was a coveted position in those days. Further this daring venture of Thiru. Vi. Ka. clearly establishes his urge for service in a wider area for the sake of political, economic and social emancipation of his countrymen.

As mentioned earlier Thiru. Vi. Ka. had certain opportunities of acquainting himself with All-India leaders of great name and fame because of his sincerity and voluntary nature of service. One such was his meeting with Mahatma Gandhi which proved to be a turning point. He translated Mahatma's speeches in the labour meetings with which he was very popular. And it is recorded by Thiru. Vi. Ka. himself and eminent disciples of him like Kalki that Mahatma Gandhi used to remember and call him always as 'Mr. Translator.' But

Prof Dr. N. SANJEEVI
Head, Department of Tamil Literature, University of Madras.

Thiru. Vi. Ka. was not a mere translator of Mahatma Gandhi's words alone but was a real translator of his principles into practice. If there is anyone in the history of Tamilnadu who introduced and established the personality of Mahatma Gandhi in the minds of Tamil people in a classical idiom both in writing and speaking it could be no one other than Thiru. Vi. Ka. So also if someone is to be identified as a close follower of Mahatma Gandhi in day-to-day life, thought and service well known in public life, it could not be anybody else than Thiru. Vi. Ka. He never succumbed to the temptation of accepting any gift worthy of its name even from his ardent admirers for his personal pleasure or gain. He lived



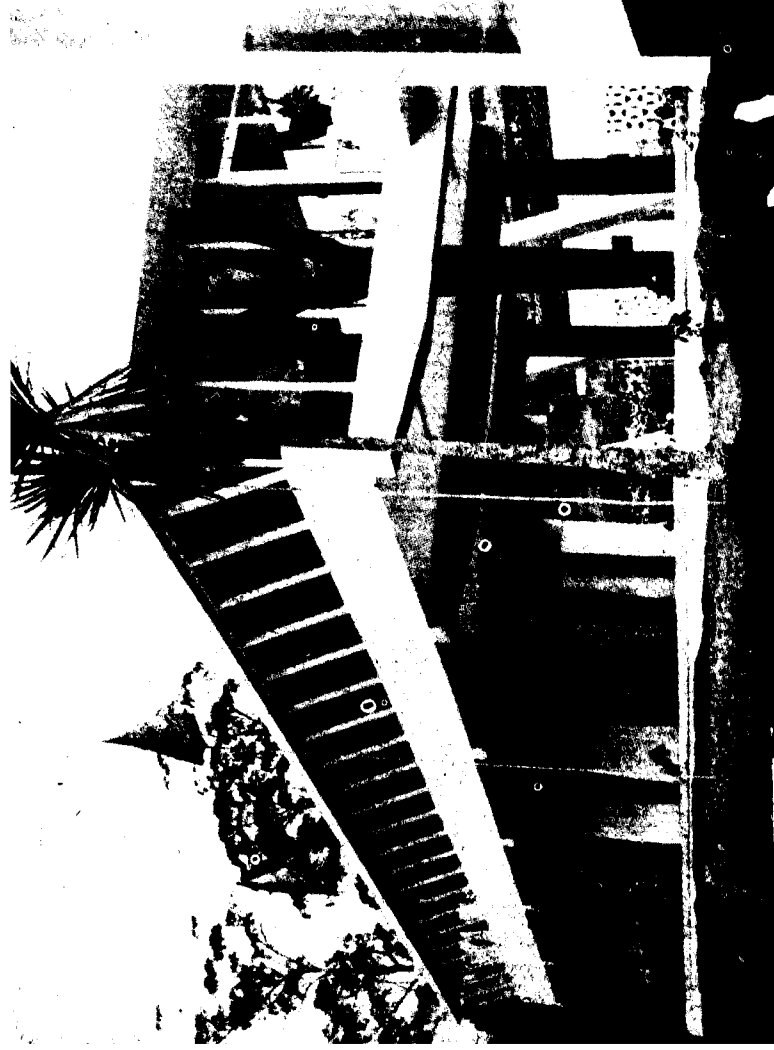
all his life with the meagre income of his own scholarly writings which were all of serious stuff and hence sold slowly unlike fictions or text books or notes for them. But he drew all his satisfaction by his own fullness of heart and soul and by the enlightened appreciation of the elite and admiration of the learned and labour as well. In fact some of his slender first editions which were only essays of a few pages got enlarged into fairly big volumes as the number of editions grew. This was a result of his continuous introspective, retrospective and prospective thinking. It was also symbolic of his never diminishing character of not only sound and subtle thinking but of self-improvement caused by deep reflections and dynamic reform. Self-thinking and Self-improvement were synonymous with Thiru. Vi. Ka. from the beginning to the end. And Thiru. Vi. Ka. always kept the best balance between quantity and quality. He was never verbose or superfluous.

Surely the inborn qualities of sincerity, seriousness and selfless service that compelled him to involve himself in a case against his Tamil teacher, Kadiraivelpillai of Jaffna, and thereby disabled himself to appear for the matriculation examination. Again those were the qualities that pushed him into prominence in political life and pushed him out from active party-politics. In 1925 he became the pivotal point for a historic rift between pro-

no more, because he possessed and practised the genius that unified the old and new, the gray and the green, the men and the women, the capital and the labour the pan-Indian nationalism and linguistic separatism, the orthodox and the modern, the male chauvinist and the female sufferer the revolutionary and the moderate and last but not the least the Gandhian and the Marxist. Thus he was a 'multi coloured dome' or 'multi-personality picture'

Thiru. Vi. Ka. was both a visionary and missionary. As a result he spoke to spell-bound audience labour or learned, wrote to scholars and critics, served the poor and down-trodden and suffered because of refusal to be slaved by the well-to-do. He was one who clearly saw and carefully avoided the onslaught of money over morals. He served the cause of Tamil and Tamils by his writings in prose and poetry through book and journals in such a style that totally reflects his style of thought and life itself that even his political writings are of permanent value for all times. It is interesting to remember that his writings like that of Subramania Bharathi were of such prophetic nature that as Bharathi was quoted to raise patriotic emotions during the Chinese attacks on our borders Thiru. Vi. Ka. was quoted for the probagation of current noon-meals programme for under-nourished children.

Thiru. Vi. Ka. by his speeches and writings and more than that by his services and sacrifices has contributed not merely for a temporary social-change but for cherishing and nourishing great human values that will be needed even in a society that has seen political and even economic emancipation. As such he has given not only a new style to the language that he spoke—crispness and clarity but a new style to all the people of the world to comprehend all that is good coming from anywhere and everywhere and, practice as they preach. In fine he is a Tamil by his language but a man amongst men.



UDHAGAI *gets* new boat house



Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation's Telescope House at Dodabetta, the highest peak in the Nilgiris and a new Boat House at the Boat House Complex in Udhagamandalam was inaugurated by Thiru S. L. Khurana, Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information, Religious Endowments and Tourism presided over the function.

TTDC has already a Boat House at the lake in Udhagamandalam. In view of the heavy inflow of visitors to the existing Boat House, an additional Boat House has been built with architectural synchronization.

The ground floor of the new Boat House will



Telescope

House

for Udhagai

have a Waiting Hall while the first floor will have a Snack Bar with viewing glass for the entire length of the building facing the lake. The new Boat House has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 6.5 lakhs.

The Telescope House consists of two floors. The ground floor will have a Snack Bar and in the first floor, the Telescope is installed. The Telescope which is coin operated has been imported from the United States of America. The cost of the Telescope House is Rs. 4 lakhs.



ANNA'S

Writings

A. P. JANARTHANAM.

One may be a great orator, but a poor writer. One may be a great writer, but he will tremble on the platform. Anna was a rare exception. He spoke and wrote with the same perfection and excellence, one trying to get the better of the other.

Anna took great pride in calling himself a journalist. He was a great journalist, a famous author, a superb novelist and great playwright.

Anna's voracious reading and keen observation of life provided him with background material for his writing.

He had made very good use of the Connemara university, the British Council and the USIS libraries. Discussions with dignitaries, College students, party workers and journalists gave him further food for thought. On long train journeys he used to take lots of books along with him. He literally burnt midnight candles. He read and wrote for hours together. The sheets got filled rapidly, neatly with his inimitable round hand, without any erasures. A chance remark, a good quotation, a little incident, was enough to fire his imagination. He had a retentive

memory which tape-recorded an astonishing amount of matter. Any place was enough for him. He did not need a posh hotel in Bangalore to get 'mood'. He coined words with rapid succession. Week after week, for over twentyfive years he contributed rich, valuable matter to his weeklies, 'Dravida Nadu' and 'Kanchi'.

He was a great writer in both Tamil and English.

He had a great mastery over Tamil. He distilled the essence of Sangam literature in his writings. His interpretations of some Kural stanzas were strikingly fresh and original. He was very fond of poetry. He was thorough in history. References to English, Greek Roman, French, American and Russian histories abound in his writings. The Buddha, the Siddars, Bradlaugh and Ingersoll have all left their imprints. He had made an intensive study of Shivaji and other historical heroes.

In politics, he had mastered all the thinkers from Plato to Laski. The economists Marshall, Keynes and Dalton figure in his writings. He had produced fine pen-portraits of all the prominent personalities

of the present century from Lenin to Kennedy.

Anna diluted serious political thoughts with sweet humour and gave them in a breezy, easy style. He had made hard facts and dry statistics very palatable through his sweet, mellow presentation. Tamil classics, which slept in the holds of Pulavars, were brought to the masses. Anna turned the hard nuts of Tamil literature into sweet chocolates.

In 1934, when Anna entered Tamil journalism, great writers like Thiru T. S. Chockalingam, Thiru Pudumai Pithan, Thiru R. Krishnamurthi (Kalki) and Va.Ra. held the field, Anna became popular soon.

Anna became the editor of 'Viduthalai' in 1937. He went through the Madras dailies which arrived by the Mails very rapidly. At once he wrote a brilliant editorial to 'Viduthalai' running into four to five columns. They were worthy gems in Tamil journalism. Anna's serial articles on the Tamil Music Movement were masterpieces depicting the glory of the ancient Tamils. Anna's editorials on the untimely demise of Sir. A.T. Pannervelam with the dis-

ANNA'S MASTERY OF ENGLISH

"...what many of us, who had been taught by our Tamils to appreciate the linguistic talents of Arignar Anna were not aware of was his quite extraordinary mastery of English. Then came the Second International Conference Seminar of Tamil Studies, at the concluding session of which we were privileged to hear the (then) Chief Minister speak in English.

After this, no delegate to the conference would fail to understand how he had gained such a following through his speeches in his mother-tongue.

For, this was a great performance, mingling humour with sentiments, wit with profundity in a way that no native speaker of English present on the occasion could have surpassed or even equalled.

Dr. A. E. ASHER,
Edinburgh University,
Scotland.

appearance of the plane 'Hannibal' in the gulf of Oman, moved the readers to tears. Anna's editorial 'The Ripon Building Worthies' was so excellent that Periyar very warmly congratulated Anna for the same.

Anna started his own weekly 'Dravidanadu' in 1942. I vividly remember those days when every week I read aloud the contents from cover to cover to many friends in Vellore. His leading articles under the pen names 'Bharathan', and 'Sowmiyan', his serials, his imaginary conversations, vivid description of the valour of the allied troops, exposition of the Justice party's stand, clarion call to youngsters, vivid descriptions of Dravidian trade, literature and civilisation, all had a great effect on the readers. His captivating headings like 'An Adi-Dravida's Wedding in Dikshithar's Home' (about a party conference in Chidambaram), Cripps in Kishkinda (about the Cripps' mission) 'Amery's Akbar Pooja', 'The

Screeching sparrow', 'The Bat's Sorrow' (an excellent allegory on Thiru Vi. Ka.) 'Washing Mouth with Tiger's Milk', 'JusticeJanaki', etc., still ring in our ears.

He encouraged young students, to write.

Anna's 'Home Rule' attracted the intelligentsia. His 'Dear Brother' letters and 'Cuckoo club' are memorable. A collection of articles under the heading 'Post Office Socialism' was published. The Rajya Sabha proceedings preserve Anna's fine speeches for posterity.

Anna is a great playwright and actor. Kalki, the great writer compared him to Shaw, Ibsen and Galsworthy. 'Chandrodayam' was his first drama. As hero Durairaj he acted so well that once Thiru T. Shanmugam, an elderly leader began crying that 'Anna should not die.'!

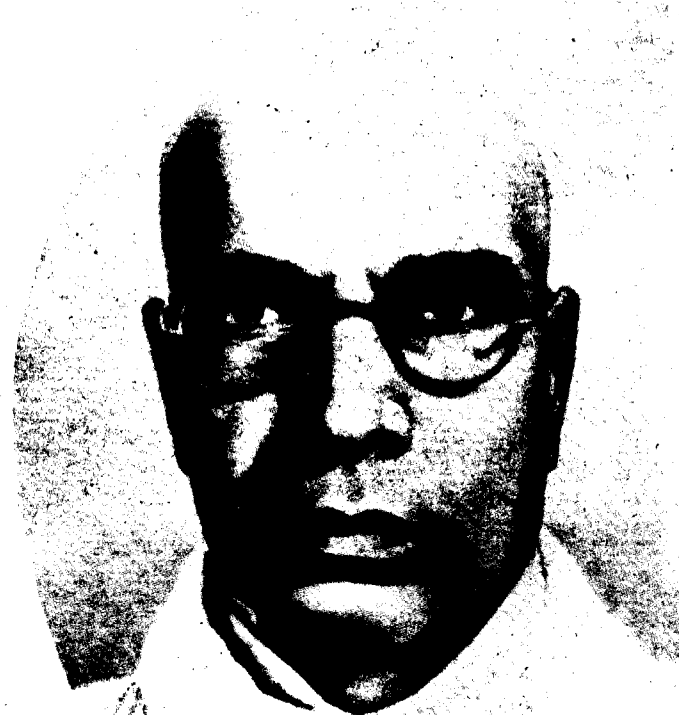
His 'Shivaji' later named 'Chandra Mohan' was a great historical drama. Periyar praised Thiru. Ganesan's role of Shivaji and conferred the title 'Shivaji' on him. Anna in the role of Kakabatta excelled all.

Anna's 'Velaikkari' and 'One Night' (literally written within a night) were staged for many months in Tanjore by Nadippisai Pulavar K. R. Ramaswami's troupe. Kalai-vanar N. S. Krishnan went into raptures over Anna's dialogues. They were subsequently filmed. Anna's 'Nallathambi' bled for the poor. Both N. S. Krishnan and Tmt. Bhanumathi rendered full justice to their roles. Anna's 'Rangoon Radha' was also filmed. 'In Sorga Vasal' Anna exposed the hollow pretensions of hypocritical priests. Anna's (Neethi Devan. Mayakkam) (The Dilemma of the God of Justice) is a great masterpiece of literary debate. Anna, maintained that political and social dramas and films are powerful media. In largely illiterate countries great campaigns can be conducted very effectively through Drama. He maintained a dramatic troupe himself. His leading lieutenants were encouraged to take part in dramas. The political themes figured in dramas, cultural hits, dance-dramas and films. All this had been possible through Anna's writings and efforts. He secured respect for the actors in society. His dialogues became the model for many playwrights.

Anna coined fine slogans for posters during election times. Just in two lines, they were concentrated political nuggets, readily assimilated by the electors. Anna's appeal to the voters both in English and Tamil was marked for maturity and political wisdom.

In short, Anna's writings are rich in variety. His inimitable style has become the hall-mark of a modern Tamil. Thiru Vi. Kalyana Sundaram was once the father of Tamil political prose. Anna had surpassed him. Anna's writings, enthused the youth, fired their imagination, galvanised them to action.

In short, to the great Tamil people, Anna is Rousseau, Voltaire, Thomas Paine, Bernard Shaw and Ingersoll, all put in one. His followers are easily the best Tamil writers. Easily he is the greatest writer that the Dravidian movement has produced.



THIRUVI-KA

"Gods are complacent when women are venerated" runs an old saying and there is no reason why God should not be pleased with our ancient India. The world comprises of both sexes. No man means there is no woman and there can be no man too without a woman. Our forefathers had fully realised the importance of woman not only in the development and propagation of the human race but also in the betterment of social economy of the world. This is well brought out in our Sangam literature. It shows how our women were held in high esteem and were treated with honour and dignity as is warranted of any human. The pre-historic women of Tamil Nadu were so respected and admired that the most beautiful aspects of Nature such as dawn, the rivers, the earth were all deified.

AND WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION

But then a gradual change for his writings and speeches by bringing out his concept of creation. And as he himself has stated in his book "Pennin Perumai" or "Vazhkai Thunai" he did succeed in his attempt. Thiru Vi-Ka had not headed any agitations or meetings for the emancipation of women as he had organised and headed

to external stress, the traditions and rituals become progressively narrower and women are the ultimate sufferers. By the end of the 17th century there were already 3,000 sub-castes into which the society had been divided. Many evils like Sati, child marriages etc., crept in. The misery of widows was beyond expression. Thus the woman of India found the walls of their social laws closing around them.

Men and women began to think seriously of the remedial measures. Many reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and others rose to the occasion and brought about number of legislations banning 'Sati, child marriage and other evils as early as 1829 itself. With all these legislations the women continued to suffer and there was no improvement in their status. Why this sad state? Well it was Thiru. Vi. Ka. who made the world realize the real nature of the problem of "Emancipation of Women." He told that no amount of legislation can bring about any Emancipation unless and until the man's and the Woman's mind changes.

Born in the year 1883, in a small village Thullal, near Chingleput, Thiru V. Kalyanasundaranar, more familiarly known as Thiru. Vi. Ka. is one of the greatest reformers of our

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time. He is a revolutionist because he attempted at revolutionising the minds of men and women through



Few more quotations from his writings are given here under to illustrate how Thiru. Vi. Ka attached utmost importance to the moral revolution in order to bring about the desired emancipation.

"Oh men! Your greatness is linked with women. It is woman who gave birth to you. It is woman who brings you up. It is woman who lives with you. Show due respect to woman. Give her full freedom. Show her due regard. To treat woman with regard and respect is civilization treating her cruelly with restrictions in the most inhuman manner is barbarism." Thus Thiru. Vi. Ka tries to enlighten man about the need for women's emancipation.

"Woman's welfare is your welfare, your country's welfare, where woman is unhappy, the country is poor. It is a slave country. It will burn off. It will decompose and destroy. How for the sake of one woman Sri Raman toiled! How he suffered! How he fought! For the sake of one woman the Bharath

war was fought. To keep woman happy is the duty of man. One who can't keep her happy is not a man at all. One can even sacrifice one's life to emancipate her. Man is born only to safeguard her honour. Without woman where is the world? Where is life? Where is love and affection? Where is God? Everything is because of woman. Everything is in woman. Show due regard and honour that all important woman—the mother—the Goddess. Let womanhood prevail everywhere. Let motherhood prevail everywhere. Long live Godliness.

Thus throughout his book titled "Pennin Perumai" or "Vazhkai Thunai" Thiru-Vi-Ka agitates for the emancipation of woman by appealing to the hearts of men for their rectification in order to realise the goal. Not only this single volume but all his writings and speeches contain somewhere or other the greatness of women and men's duties towards them. As is admitted by him his services have not certainly gone unrewarded.

Thiru. Vi. Ka says that he loved to be born since birth is an opportunity to serve the human race. His service mindedness is brought out in the following lines of his. "As birth is an opportunity for service minded people, I love to be born in this world so that I can lead a useful life serving the cause of humanity in general and women in particular. How can I repay my parents for having given me this opportunity."

"Is there anything greater than service?" he wonders "I don't think so. Service is my life—my wealth—my beloved—my religion—Everything—Everything—Let what be the consequences. I am not bothered. My duty is to serve. I want birth to serve humanity irrespective of their caste, creed-religion." says Thiru. Vi. Ka., the greatest reformist of the 20th century. These words bear witness to his service mindedness and devotion to selfless service. Every birth should have an aim in life. Only then it achieves greatness. Purposeless life is a waste. No doubt, Thiru. Vi. Ka. lived a great life by his untiring services to the cause of women and to improve the lots of the poor labour section. The womanhood especially is deeply indebted to Thiru. Vi. Ka for his services in the field of emancipation.

Long live Thiru. Vi. Ka's name.

Secondly the woman should not also consider herself mere object of lust. She should know that she is born with the high purpose of bringing out eligible souls into this world by living natural life and help God's work of continuance of mankind

How Thiru. Vi. Ka. adored the womanhood can be seen in his writings. The one on "Pennin Perumai" or "Vazhkai Thunai" bringing out these feelings of his explicitly and thus appeal to the minds of the readers to rectify themselves, so as to enable their women attain their honoured place in society.



Essential commodities at Fair Prices

The Government have a responsibility to ensure the availability of essential commodities at fair and reasonable prices to the public. When the monsoon rains fail, food production is affected resulting in increase in the price of rice in the open market and consequently the public, particularly, the weaker sections of the society are very much affected. It is quite necessary to supply essential commodities to them in such a context. The Government of Tamil Nadu being aware of this, is having a well knit system of public distribution and adopt a procurement policy to maximise procurement.

During the year 1980, due to failure of monsoon rains, the situation compelled the Government to

resort to levy to procure necessary stock for meeting the requirements of public distribution system. The Government have imposed 40% levy on the traders in paddy and rice. The requirement of rice under public distribution system increased substantially. With a view to create adequate buffer stock, the Govt. increased the traders' levy from 40% to 50% from 1981 Kuruvai season. The Government have procured 1.25 lakh tonnes of rice during Samba 81 season and 1.58 lakh tonnes of rice during Kuruvai 81 season.

There was drought situation in several districts in the State due to the failure of monsoon rains in the year 1982. This has resulted in increase in the demand for rice in the fair price shops.

Even in such a drought situation, the Govt. have procured 4.10 lakh tonnes of rice during samba 82 season.

During '82, due to the failure of South West monsoon, there was no adequate flow of water into the Mettur Reservoir and consequently the Kuruvai cultivation in the delta districts of Thanjavur, South Arcot and Tiruchirappalli was affected. As against a total extent of 4.25 lakh acres, under kuruvai cultivation in Thanjavur district, the actual cultivation was only in 3.02 lakh acres. In spite of that difficult situation, special efforts were taken and a quantity of 2.46 tonnes of paddy were procured in Thanjavur district. During 1982 kuruvai season, a total quantity of 2.61 lakh tonnes of paddy



were procured in the whole State. During that year, South West monsoon and North East monsoon also failed. This has seriously affected the paddy production in the traditionally surplus districts of North Arcot and South Arcot districts. Due to inadequate flow of water from the Mettur reservoir, in Thanjavur district to a certain extent samba paddy crop and to a large extent thalady crop, paddy were affected. When several districts were under the grip of severe drought conditions in the State, the demand for rice under the public distribution system increased substantially. It therefore, became necessary for the Government to procure adequate stock of rice to continue the public distribution system. They have therefore decided to resort to monopoly procurement of paddy in Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Kulithali, Musiri and Lalgudi taluks in Tiruchirappalli district, Chidambaram and Kattumannarkoil taluks in South Arcot district. With a view to enthruse the ryots to sell their paddy to the Govt. the Government have ordered the payment of a drought allowance of Rs.15/- per quintal over and above the procurement price.

The Government of India did not make any allotment of rice from the Central Pool from June 82. Even in such a situation, from June 82 to February '83 6.68 lakh tonnes of rice was supplied to the cardholders through fair price shops. Besides local procurement in the State, the T.N.C.S.C. has purchased rice in the open market from other States

is being continued. There are at present fair price shops in the rural areas and they supply essential commodities to 84.72 lakh cardholders. Besides rice, sugar, wheat and Kerosene, other essential commodities like dhals, chillies and edible oil are also supplied through these fair price shops. The Govt. is spending about 4 crores of rupees every year on this scheme.

In the urban areas 2002 shops are functioning. On the whole under the public distribution system there are 17,844 shops in the State.

Some complaints of irregularities in the fair price shops and the non supply of essential commodities to the public received were by the Govt. With a view to prevent them and also to ensure the regular supply of essential commodities to the cardholders, advisory committees have been formed in taluk/district level. Besides them, vigilance committees have now been set up for every fair price shop associating officials and non officials in the Committee. It has been directed that the essential commodities brought to the fair price shop can be issued only after it has been inspected by one of the members of the vigilance committee. By this arrangement, the receipt of the essential commodities which are sent to the fair price shops for supply to the cardholders is got ensured.

Public Distribution:

It is the policy of the Govt. that the essential commodities which are supplied to the cardholders in the urban areas should be made available to the rural folk also. The Govt. implemented a scheme in the year 1977 to open fair price shop in every revenue village and that scheme

Rice is supplied to the cardholders through fair price shops at prices cheaper than the open market price. Common rice is sold at Rs. 1.75 per kg. fine rice is sold at Rs. 2/- per kg. and superfine rice at Rs. 2.15 per kg. Though the Govt. of India have increased the procurement price of paddy, the Govt. of Tamil Nadu have not increased the price of rice having in view the public interest and on account of this, the Govt. have to bear crores of rupees towards subsidy.

There were representations that there are large crowds in the fair price shops and the public are inconvenienced. In order to avert such a situation, in Madras city, as a pilot measure, staggering system of supply of essential commodities to family cardholders has been introduced from April '83. Under this scheme, the cardholder has to go to the fair price shop on the day assigned to him. Under this method, the cardholder is able to get all the commodities at a time and he need not go to the fair price shop every time for every commodity. The Public have very much welcomed the scheme.



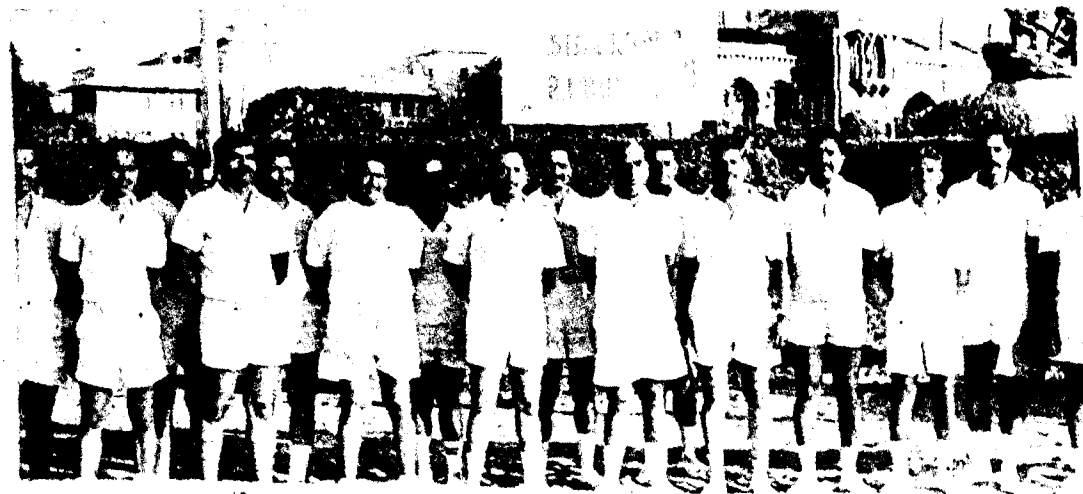


Madras Police Force *takes to* *Physical exercises*

The Police department of Tamilnadu is famous like the Scotland yard Police force. The Tamilnadu Police department has a number of achievements to its credit and stands as a model for other States. On the Honourable

practise drill and other exercises at the Marina Beach.

Thiru Sri Pal, gave away prizes to the competitors who were adjudged the best on 12-8-'83. Recalling the various measures provided to the



Chief Minister's advice that the police personnel should keep themselves fit and healthy by practising drill, the personnel under the supervision of Police Thiru SriPal, Commissioner. Deputy Commissioner Thiru M. Balachandran and Assistant Commissioner Thiru Sundara Varadhan,

employees of the police department like housing facilities, making commodities available at cheaper prices, medical facilities etc., under the direct supervision of the Honourable Chief Minister Thiru SriPal advised the personnel to strive to do better to earn the goodwill of the public.

The son who named his mother

Anna was born to educate the illiterate,
To enlighten also the idle literate;
He toiled and toiled all day and night
And shed unto their minds the supreme light;
The depressed masses relied on Anna
And the toiling millions worshipped him;
No leader had ever so great an influence
Despite possession of tempting affluence;
Anna was born not with a spoon of silver
Yet with a mightier means—the tongue of silver;
Millions of audience were taken captive
By his power of oration so attractive;
Anna penetrated all the spheres to an extreme
Like drama, story, screen and all the arts so supreme;
He was the son of the Tamil Land
And the father of her modern fame all grand;
The youths he held so spell-bound,
And the students flocked to him all around;
To the teeming millions he was a brother elder
And their guiding friend, philosopher and leader;
Death may take Anna's body away,
But not his spirit that wields its sway;
Anna was a worthy 'son' of Thanthai Periyar,
And actualised his ideals all superior
Anna Christened this land as Tamil Nadu,
And made the Legislature unanimously applaud,
So great a son was our Elder Brother,
Who, in history, ever named his 'Mother'.

S. Nallarasu,

C. N. Annadurai



The Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme was started on the 1st of July, 1982 in the rural areas as a revolutionary scheme. The programme has been extended from 15th September, 1982 to cover the children in the urban areas also.

The Government has implemented the scheme to provide one nutritious meal a day to those poor children living in villages and urban areas in order to make the present generation into healthy citizens of tomorrow.

The distinction of having implemented this unique scheme to promote happiness of the poor goes to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

A programme to feed poor children was indicated in the budget for the financial year 1982-83.

"This Government feels that it is the urgent and important duty of the Government to alleviate the sad plight of the hapless mothers living below the poverty line, who

wring their hands in despair for want of the means to feed their children.

A scheme has therefore been formulated to provide poor children in the age group of 2-10 at least one nutritious meal at noon. This scheme will cover children below poverty line all over Tamilnadu for the provision of a nutritious meal free of cost from 1st July, 1982.

On the 30th of June, 1982, the eve of starting the project, the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his speech over the AIR and TV referred to the announcement made in the budget.

"In his immortal Tirukkural, while describing the ideal state, Saint Thiruvalluvar says:

"Where there is no terrible famine, no cruel pestilence, no foreign enemy to ravage, where peace always reigns, that is the ideal state."

On the one hand is the vast

growth in India's population which is nearing 70 crores, and on the other exist the evils of dire poverty. Therefore, is it any wonder that our doctors repeatedly point out that our children born in those circumstances, have emaciated bodies, dry lips and sunken eyes.

This scheme is an outcome of my experience of extreme starvation at an age when I knew only to cry when I was hungry. But for the munificence of a woman next door, who extended a bowl of rice gruel to us and saved us from the cruel hands of death, we would have departed this world long ago. Such merciful womenfolk having great faith in me elected me as Chief Minister of Tamilnadu.

To wipe the tears of these women I have taken up this project.

According to 1981 census, the population of Tamil Nadu works out to 4.82 crores. Children between the 2 to 5 age group constitute 42.10 lakhs. Children in the age-group of 5-10 from 63.73

lakhs. Children in the age-group 2 to 10 constitute 105.83 lakhs. It has been declared that children living below the poverty line should be provided this free nutritious meal under the scheme."

Programme :

On the 1st July, 1982, Tamil Nadu introduced a scheme of historic significance, for providing a nutritious free meal to lakhs of poor children in the age group of 2 to 10. At the stroke of 12 noon that day, 55.96 lakhs of children sat down in thousands of Child Welfare Centres and Elementary Schools in rural areas of the whole State to partake of hot nutritious food served to them at Government cost. This colossal venture which is expected to bring about a significant change not only in the health condition of the children but in the social environment itself in the rural areas at a cost of more than Rs. 100 crores per year is the brain child of the popular Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran. The formidable dimensions of the problem and the staggering numbers involved called for meticulous planning to the minutest detail. It is to the credit of the administrative machinery that, inspired by the noble ideas behind this scheme, it has risen to the occasion and acquitted itself with a remarkable degree of efficiency, dependability and devotion. This scheme also depends for its success on the whole hearted co-operation extended by the public and the active vigil exercised by it, in monitoring implementation in the thousands of remotest villages - spread far and wide in the State. The magnificent welcome and response, this scheme has had from all sections of independent and enlightened public opinion has been a great boost to the morale of the staff engaged in implementation.

The Beneficiaries-Age Group of "2 plus to 4 Plus":

The beneficiaries have been divided into two age-groups. The children in the age group 2 plus to 4 plus are catered to in the Child Welfare Centres where a trained Bala Sevika and two helpers to assist her are in charge. We have taken pains to recruit the Bala Sevika and the two helpers from the women of the locality itself as far as possible. The Bala Sevikas in most cases are S.S.L.C. passed girls in the age group 25 to 35 and in the case of widows 25 to 40. The helpers have



been recruited from those with an ability to read and write Tamil and are in the age group 25 to 40. In both cases, preference has been given to widows and destitute women. Bala Sevikas are paid Rs. 175 per month and the helpers Rs. 60 per month. It is the responsibility of the helpers to cook and serve food to the children. Bala Sevikas are in overall charge of the Centre and are entrusted with the responsibility of imparting pre-school education to the children. Educational aids and play materials at a cost of Rs. 600 for each of the Child Welfare Centres are being supplied in a phased manner. Cooking utensils, plates and tumblers for the children have been supplied to each centre at a cost of Rs. 2,000.

In this age group 2 plus to 4 plus, 20 lakh children were the beneficiaries as on 31-3-83

School Age Group of 5 plus to 9 plus:

Children in the age group 5 plus to 9 plus are catered to in the Elementary Schools where they are studying. A part-time cook on a remuneration of Rs. 2 per day and one helper to assist the cook and clean the vessels at Re. 1 per day are employed in each one of these schools. Where the strength of the beneficiaries is more than 500, provision has been made for the appointment of one additional cook.

The Ingredients for the Meal :

It has been laid down that for school children the ingredients of the nutritious meal should comprise of the following :

	grams.
Rice	100
Oil	5

Dhall	..	15
Condiments & Vegetables	..	50

For children of age group 2 to 4, the quantum of rice will be 80 grams and dhal 10 grams. Quantities of oil and vegetables will remain the same.

The scheme has brought in its fold children in the age group 2-5, besides catering to the children in the age group of 5 to 10 in the elementary schools. The scheme provides for feeding for all the 365 days in a year. The scheme provides for the feeding of all the children in a school who are below the poverty line. Instructions have also been issued that a very liberal view should be taken of the poverty criterion and that no child who volunteers to partake of the midday meal should be denied the opportunity.

The scheme provides for an outright grant of 45 paise for every child for feeding charges and 5 paise for every child for administrative expenses. The Government have thus undertaken the entire financial responsibility for the programme. The programme has pro-

vided for the appointment from Government funds of a cook for every 500 children in the school and a helper.

In response to the teaching community's request for additional help, the Government have decided to appoint Noon Meal Organisers for all the School feeding centres. Action has been taken to select suitable local candidates, preferably widows, destitutes and other women. Educational qualification of Noon Meal Organisers is pass in S.S.L.C. Examination. Age limit is between 25 to 40. In hilly and tribal areas, the lower limit is relaxed upto 18 years. The Noon Meal Organisers already assumed charge in 25,146 School feeding centres. It is expected that Noon Meal Organisers will assume charge of all the remaining school feeding centres shortly. They will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 150 p.m.

A MIGHTY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN :

Under this scheme, employment opportunities have been provided for 1,58,381 women, in rural and urban areas, particular preference being given among them to

widows and destitutes. This massive provision of employment opportunities has brought about a revolutionary change in the rural landscape and has been heralded as the single largest employment programme for the rural areas in independent India in the last 35 years.

Employment in the pre-school sector :

Under this scheme, fresh employment opportunities have been provided for 78,490 women in the pre-school sector of this programme. The two categories in which women are employed, are Balasevikas (Child Welfare Organisers) and Child Welfare Assistants.

Employment in the School Sector :

Fresh employment has been generated in three categories namely Nutritious Meal Organisers, cooks and helpers. Of the 34,296 people employed as cooks, only 2,490 (less than 10%) are men and the balance 31,808 are women. In the 'Helper' category, out of the total 33,828 helpers, 2,396 (less than 10%) are men and the balance 31,432 helpers are women. 25,146 Nutritious Meal Organisers have already taken charge of all the school feeding centres.



They will take charge of the remaining school feeding centres shortly.

To sum up, this programme has generated fresh employment opportunities for 1,80,118 people in rural and in urban areas. Of the total 1,80,118 people employed 1,58,381 are women.

Village Committees have been constituted giving representation to women, social workers, philanthropists and representatives of the underprivileged classes. These Committees have been entrusted with the responsibilities of monitoring the functioning of the new scheme in the locality. A network of feed-back and information has been built up, weaving official and non-official agencies.

Extension of Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme to urban areas :

The programme has been extended from the 15th September, 1982 to cover the 2 plus to 4 plus children in the urban centres and the school children in the Corpora-

tions of Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore, who had not been covered under the earlier phase.

As a result of this extension, more than 4 lakh children in the age group 2 plus to 4 plus and 2.5 lakh children in the age group 5 plus to 9 plus have become new beneficiaries. Of the 4 lakh children in the age group 2 plus to 4 plus more than 1.43 lakhs belong to Scheduled castes. Of the 2.5 lakh children in the age group 5 plus to 9 plus, more than 46,000 children belong to the Scheduled Castes. As a result of this extension now, in the State as a whole, 22.66 lakh children belonging to the age group 2 plus to 4 plus and 41.74 lakh children belonging to the age group 5 plus to 9 plus are now enjoying the benefits of the unprecedented scheme. This total number of 64.4 lakh children beneficiaries works out to more than 60 per cent of the total children population in this age group.

To sum up, as on 1-3-83, there are 33,829 school feeding centres and 27,920 pre-school feeding centres. The grand total is 61,749 feeding centres. Of these 90% of the centres are in rural areas.



Buildings :

A design for the construction of low cost and functional buildings for the feeding centres in the villages, each at a cost of Rs. 38,000 to Rs. 40,000 has been evolved. The administrative machinery has been overwhelmed with the generous response from the members of the public who have come forward with substantial donations to put up buildings at their own cost for such community feeding centres. The donors have been permitted to name these buildings in honour of the person of their choice. These buildings will be valuable additions to the tangible rural assets to be created under this programme.

Extension of the Scheme to old Age Pensioners :

The Government in G.O.Ms. No. 69, Social Welfare dated 11-1-1983, have now extended the existing Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme to cover the Old Age Pension beneficiaries in the State with effect from 15-1-1983. The number of beneficiaries under the scheme is 1,99,158. They are being served one free meal a day at a cost of 90 paise per head. The Old-Age Pensioners who are able to come to the centre are provided with a meal. They are also provided with 1/2 Kilo of rice per week per head, instead of one Kilo of rice. The Old Age Pensioners who do not come to the centre, and cannot



come to the centre will continue to draw the ration of 1 kilo of rice per week per head as per the old scheme. By this scheme, 2 lakh beneficiaries are provided with sustenance. Out of 1,99,158 total beneficiaries, about 1,10,799 are old-age pensioners, 43,888 are destitute widows, 14,471 are physically handicapped persons and 30,000 are agricultural labourers.

The following is the scale of ration per day per pensioner :

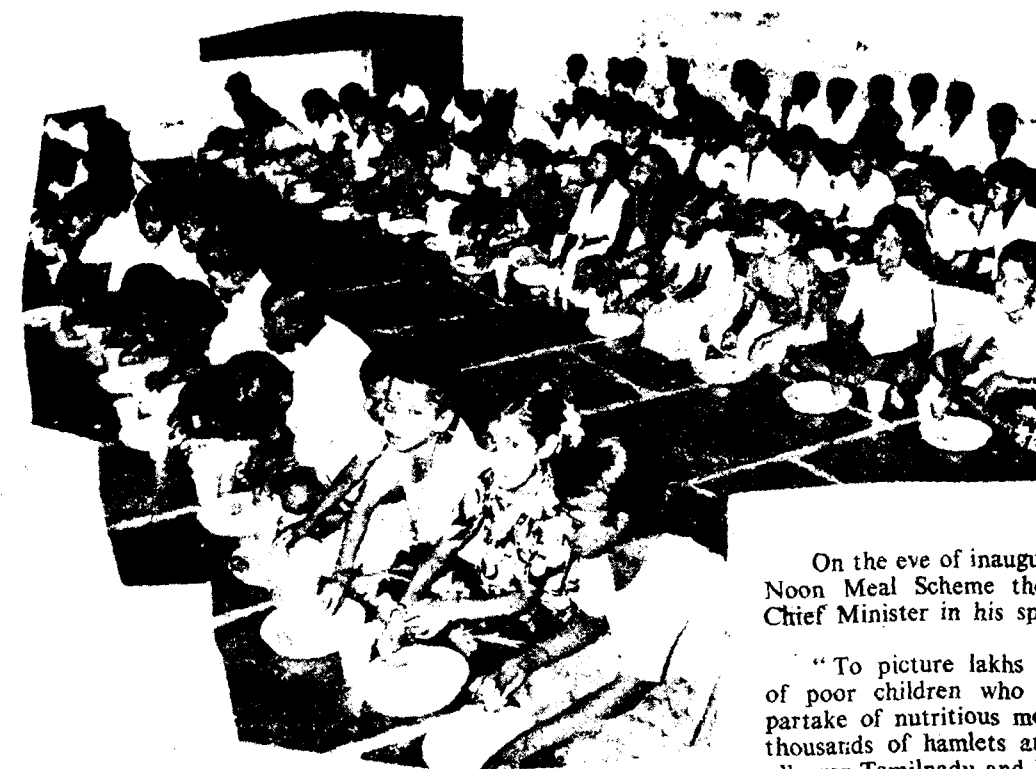
	grams
Rice	200
Oil	10
Dhall	15
Vegetables & Condiments	50

The cost of implementing this programme is estimated to be in the order of over R. 133 Crores per year. The break-up is as follows:

Rs. 120 Crores for Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme for Children.

Rs. 6.48 Crores for feeding Old-Age Pensioners.
Rs. 6 Crores for wages of Noon Meal Organisers.

The latest balance in Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme Fund is Rs. 2.30 Crores as on 15-3-1983. Rs. 2.40 lakhs have been released so far for construction of six pre-school feeding centres in 5 districts (i.e. Periyar, Tiruchirappalli, Dharmapuri, Madurai and Ramanathapuram). The mobilisation of resources of this order is expected to be a severe strain; but the State Government and more so, the people of Tamil Nadu, have come forward confidently and cheerfully to bear this burden because of their firm faith that this expenditure is an investment country, an advance deposit for the well being of the budding generation of to-morrow.



On the eve of inaugurating the Noon Meal Scheme the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his speech said:

"To picture lakhs and lakhs of poor children who gather to partake of nutritious meals in the thousands of hamlets and villages all over Tamilnadu and blessing us in their childish prattle, will be a glorious event."

Yes, the future citizens, are blessing us daily. We are creating a security for their bright future.

It is our duty to extend our cooperation and support in creating a new history to be written in letters of gold.

Conclusion -

In the past one year, this scheme has made great progress in redressing the grievances of the womenfolk as pointed out by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

To implement the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Project more effectively, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has appointed a Minister with the portfolio of Nutritious Meal Scheme. Thiru R. Soundarajan has taken up the portfolio on 9-9-83.

NOTIFICATION FROM THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

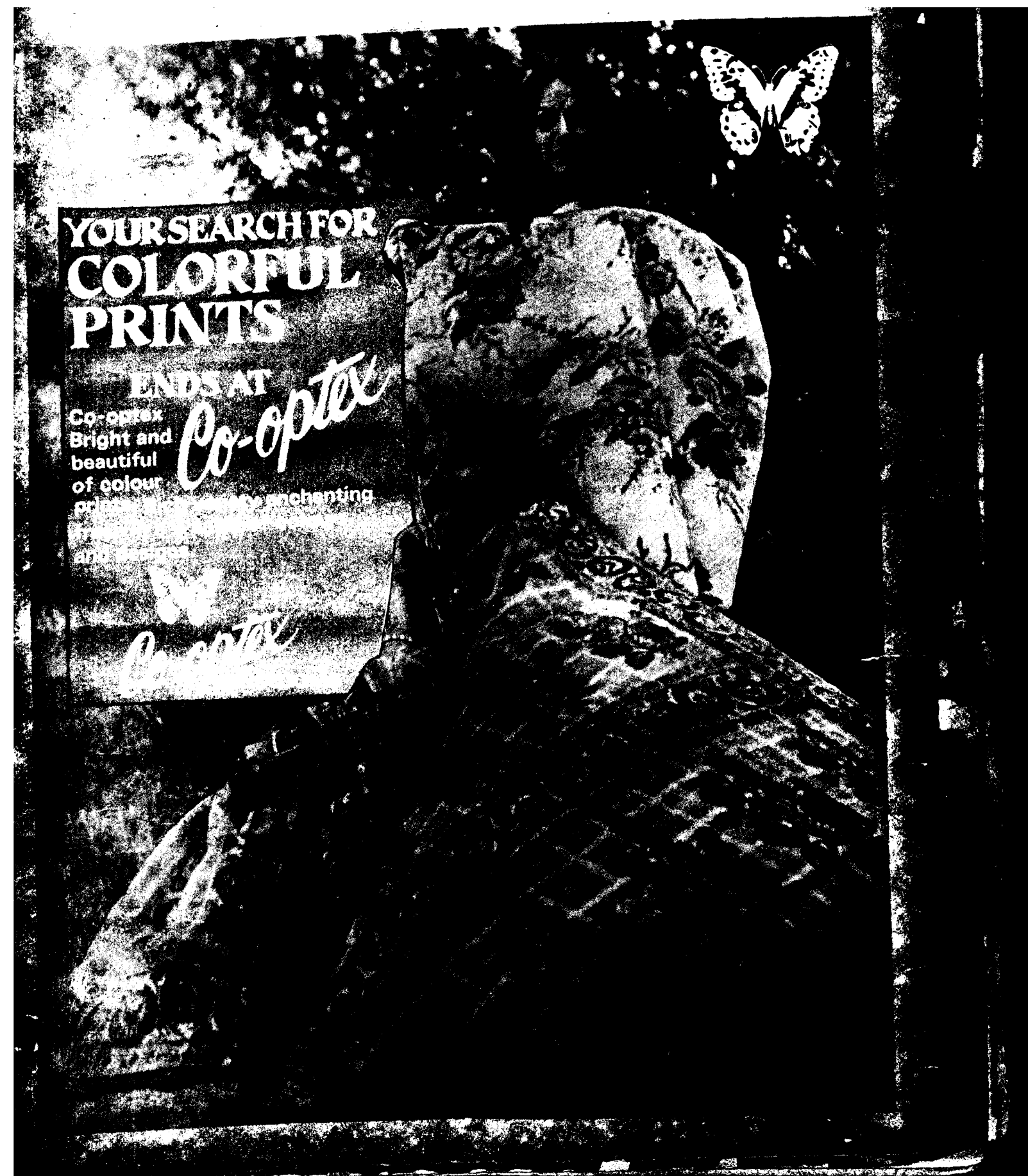
TAMIL NADU, MADRAS-600 018.

ACCOUNT SLIPS FOR SUBSCRIBERS TO Provident Fund.

The Account General (Tamil Nadu) has commenced the despatch of Account Slips for the year 1982-83 in respect of all the subscribers of the Tamil Nadu Government. These Account Slips are being forwarded to the Heads of Offices in which the subscribers were working in March 1983.

Government servants are, therefore, requested to contact the concerned Heads of Offices and collect their statements of accounts. In case of any discrepancy in the accounts, or non-receipt of Account slips by 30-9-1983, the undermentioned Officer may be addressed, giving full particulars of recoveries (Subscription or refunds) such as the month, gross and net amount of the concerned bill, head of account etc., as well as the Account Number of the subscriber. The letters may be sent through the concerned heads of Offices.

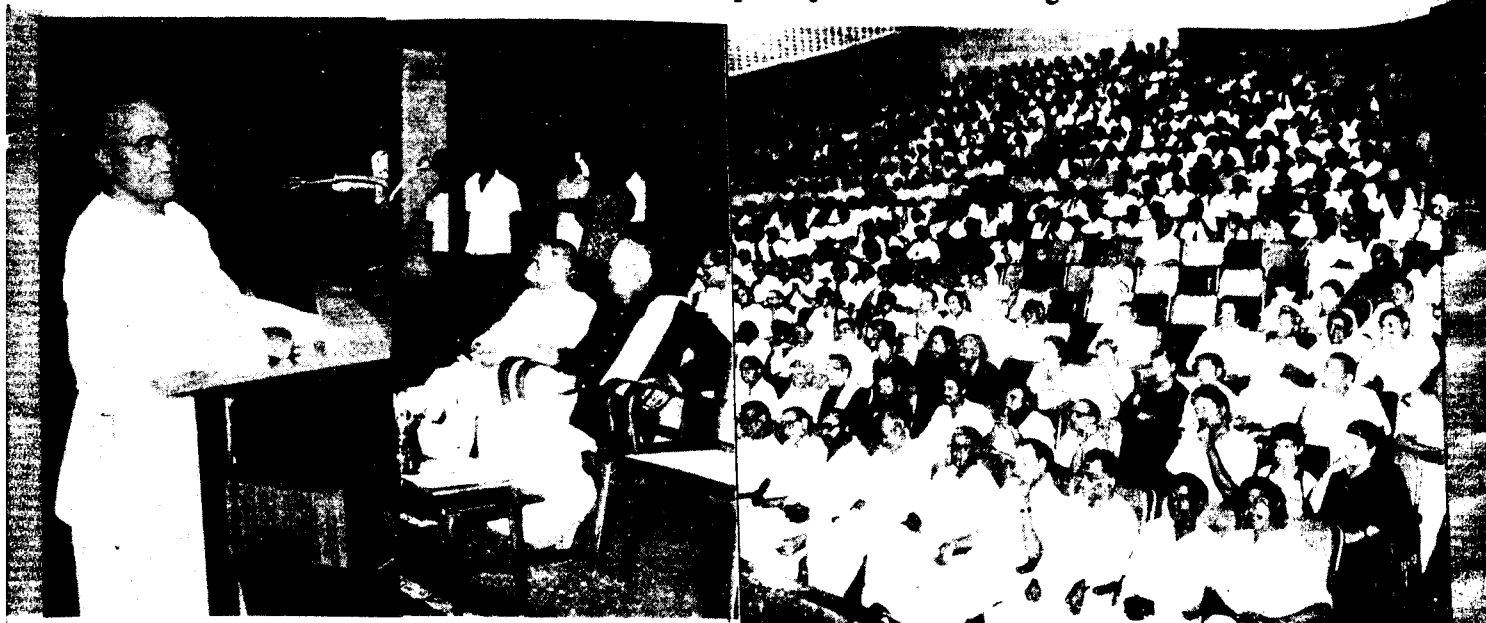
Shri S. VISWANATHAN,
Accounts Officer,
Office of the Accountant General I,
MADRAS-600 018.



The Honourable Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues have taken to wearing black shirts to emphasize the necessity for arriving at a permanent solution to the problems of the Sri Lankan Tamils.



A meeting was held under the auspices of the commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Tamil Nadu) at Madras on 19-8-83. Thiru A. Amirthalingam TULF Secretary-General and leader of the opposition in Sri Lanka Parliament spoke on the Sri Lankan Tamils' problems. The Honourable speaker of the State Legislature, Thiru K. Rajaram and the Honourable Chairman, Legislative Council Thiru M. P. Sivagnanam participated in the meeting.



43 Adi-Dravida couples were united in wed-lock on 24-8-'83 at the Vadapalani Andavar Temple. The Honourable Minister for Information and Religious Endowments, Thiru R. M. Veerappan presided over the function. Tmt. Rajammal Veerappan distributed thalis to the couples. The Minister is seen giving gifts to the couples.





Thiru M. S. Chellachami, General Secretary, Sri Lanka Labour Congress, called on the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 23-9-'83 at the Secretariat.



Thiru M. Sivachidambaram, leader, T.U.L.F., in Sri Lanka, called on the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 23-9-'83 at the Secretariat.



In this issue ...



President visits
Tamilnadu



Post Centenary
celebration of Madras
University



Wild Life week
CM's appeal



Social forestry



Conservation of
sea-turtles



Wild life census



20 Point
Programme

Tamil Arasu

October - 1983

VOL. XIV No. 4

125th year of MADRAS UNIVERSITY

COVER STORY



The Madras University celebrated its Post-Centenary Silver Jubilee on 20th September 1983. The glittering function was inaugurated by the President of India, Thiru Zail Singh.

The President while inaugurating said: "The University of Madras played a laudable role in shaping 'Modern India'. The University has produced great scientists like C.V.Raman, K.S.Krishnan and others, eminent jurists like Alladi Krishnaswami and C.P.Ramaswamy Ayyar, memorable political leaders like Satyamurthy, Srinivasa Sastry and Rajaji and giant educationists and philosophers like Radhakrishnan, Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar and Arcot Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar. This University is the mother of several universities in South India, like Andhra University, Osmania University, Mysore University, Kerala University, Sri Venkateswara University and lately Madurai Kamaraj, Anna, Bharathiyar and Bharathidasan Universities.

On the eve of first year of our planning, there were 27 Universities with about 3.6 lakh students. Now we have more than a hundred Universities with more than 32 lakh stu-

dents. The rate of literacy has more than doubled from 16.6 percent in 1951 to over 36 percent in 1981. Because of this creation of a massive educational base, India could take pride now in being ranked third in respect of educational and skilled manpower.

The Universities cannot afford to sit in ivory towers and simply watch the misfortune of the commoners of the nation who are in the grip of pangs of poverty and hunger. Universities must come forward in imparting education intended for the upliftment of our weaker brothers and sisters.

Teachers, students and all educational institutions, constituting the intellectual community have to play a historical role in the constructive phase of socio-economic transformation that is going on. I have every hope that the Madras University which provided such leadership in the past, will continue to play a worthy role in future.

The standard of academic output should be improved in tune with the changing and growing needs of society. At the same time it should not sacrifice the basic values which a

University, as a citadel of learning, should stand for.

I would like to suggest that the educationists, social workers and politicians should consider discouraging the political parties from setting up their cells in educational institutions. It is also necessary that the teachers should avoid involving themselves in politics and concentrate on teaching and developing the intellectual faculties of students.

Universities should enjoy full autonomy as far as the educational programmes are concerned. This autonomy cannot practically be maintained without substantial finance. I am glad to know that private sources have been tapped by this University and that many benevolent philanthropists in this part of our country have come forward to help in establishing several new departments in the University.

I hope and trust that the University of Madras will continue its

sacred mission of expanding the frontiers of knowledge and act as a treasure house in preserving, as a space vehicle in transmitting and as cosmic energy in renewing philosophy, knowledge and culture".

The Governor and Chancellor Thiru S. L. Khurana, presiding over the function, said: "the University is sensitive to trends of modern thought."

Dr. M. Santhappa, Vice-Chancellor, presented the distinguished delegates to the President.

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran inaugurated the three new departments—on Jainology, Islamic Studies, and Saiva Siddhanta. He said, "All religions were against inequality and oppression."

He announced that "Rs. 15 lakhs would be donated to the University by the A.I.A.D.M.K. for creating an endowment to establish a department to study the thoughts

of late Thiru Perarignar Anna. The department would also undertake research on the political work of the late leader".

The Union Minister for Defence, Thiru R. Venkataraman, releasing a batch of 50 University publications, said: "undue dependence on the import of books should be avoided." He donated Rs. 10,000 to the university Publication fund.

Thiru C. Aranganayagam, Minister for Education, Government of Tamilnadu and Pro-Chancellor, released the souvenir. Thiru M. A. Muthiah Chettiar, Pro-Chancellor of Annamalai University, presented the recipients of service medals to the President.

Dr. C. A. Perumal read the messages received on the occasion. Thiru Justice P. R. Gokulakrishnan, Chairman, Celebration Committee welcomed the gathering.

Among the recipients of service medals was Thiru P. R. Hussainu-



deen, the 'ever obliging functionary' at the University's enquiry counter for over four decades.

Thiru C. K. Kumaraswamy, Registrar, University of Madras proposed a vote of thanks.

others which should not be forgotten.

The A. I. A. D. M. K. will donate Rs. 15 lakhs towards the study in this University, of the philosophy of Anna, Annaism and his ideals, which of them is necessary

A Chair to study Anna's philosophy

I have been entrusted with the task of inaugurating three departments of research. Before embarking on it, let me request the elders to forget my earlier refusal of the offer of the Honorary Doctorate, which would have hurt their feelings. If you ask whether there are reasons for accepting it now, there are none.

If I do not accept the doctorate conferred upon me by the distinguished persons gathered here on the occasion of the 125th anniversary, it would only hurt their feelings.

I offer my humble gratitude for having selected me for conferring this degree. I regret that Anna who made me what I am is not here with us today.

Three days are not enough to cover the three Departments with my learning. Let me congratulate and thank the philanthropists who have come forward to contribute for the study of the philosophies of Jainism, Islam and Saiva Siddhanta.

Religion should make man a

human being and not encourage him to commit wrong and give room for unwanted quarrels.

The Jain religion says that none should be hurt and that all should be treated with equality and justice. None should acquire property, but that it should benefit all.

Islam says that there should be no inequality among men; nor should there be backwardness. It says that a man should allocate a certain amount of his income towards public causes. It is not enough if one is aware of all this. This

Department will help research of this philosophy.

Saiva Siddhanta has been established on the basis of serenity, sacrifice, morality etc.,. It is not known who has established this order. The way these ideals have spread everywhere, this department will help make research into the origin of this and spread such knowledge.

Forgetfulness is essential to man. There are certain things which should be forgotten. Certain



for the people and which would be accepted by people in future. I hope that the chancellor and Vice-Chancellor accept it.

More than meeting the needs of the people, the university should see that the articles, novels, literary works of Anna are made available in the university itself. I hope that these three departments will help promote the growth of religious tenets.





DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS

(Honoris causa)

wished to learn from others. He had always believed in truth, friendliness, duty, discipline, mercy and sacrifice. His innate trait has been to "forgive and forget" even those who committed treachery and deceit against him. Equal respect to those who praise and condemn him, equal dignity for physical and mental labour, and equal courtesy to the rich and poor—these were his forte from his younger days. He staunchly believed that progress is possible through reforms and that sincere service to the poor is the gateway to the kingdom of God.

M.G.R. proceeded to Madras in the early thirties with the fond hope of conquering the emerging, new world of cinema. Between 1934 and 1976 most of his 136 films had become thunderous popular hits. Since most of his films depict his own personal experiences in life, his idealism and remarkable humanism, they had all become extremely ideological. M.G.R. has personally held that Art is always for the sake of the people and has eagerly used that medium to fight superstitions, conservatism and outmoded practices. In the process of film making, M.G.R. had also excelled himself in direction, stagecraft, dialogues and other details of filmic art. Befittingly the Government of India had honoured him with the highest award "Bharat" for his acting in RIKSHAKARAN in 1972.

When riches came his way, M.G.R. began to help the poor directly.

Mr. Chancellor,

I have great pleasure in introducing to you one of the most beloved humanists of Tamil Nadu, Honorable Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, the Chief Minister of our State.

Thiru Marudhur Gopalan Ramachandran does not believe in the self-sufficiency of material values. He desires that the unifying and ennobling impulses in human life should overrule the scramble for wealth, social position and power. His life-long public service is inspired by the conviction that it is within the possibility of every human being to so develop as to be fully worthy of his human nature and to contribute to the welfare of all.

When Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, endearingly known to us as M.G.R. was born in 1917 at Kandy, hunger, squalor and poverty were the enervating conditions his family was forced to endure. Subsequent to the death of his father and other family members, M.G.R.'s family settled at

Kumbakonam, but the problems of the family did not permit young Ramachandran to pursue his education beyond the primary stage at Anayadi school. To support the family M.G.R. first joined work in the Madurai Original Boy's Dramatic Company and later in the Uraiyur Moideen Drama Company for paltry salaries. Rivalries, jealousies and partialities amidst the actors of these companies brought home to his mind the perversities to which man's motives are liable.

It was against these abnormal conditions of life that several pieces of morals rendered by his mother had struck roots in young M.G.R.'s mind. It was because of her grooming that M.G.R. began to imbibe two characteristic attitudes in his life, viz., fostering the qualities of being human and resisting the tendencies that degrade a human being.

M.G.R. began to cultivate good habits from his very early life. He used to be simple, soft-spoken, gentle, patient, courageous and

He was always the first to give disaster reliefs, to support several orphanages, hospitals, and schools, and to help his colleagues in the film industry and outside. This has earned him the affectionate epithet philanthropist-par-excellence. Truly, the reciprocity of his love for the society and in turn, its love for him, is the secret of his success in mass relations.

His association with the D.M.K. and especially with Anna from 1953 onwards, opened up a new phase in M.G.R.'s life. M.G.R. had taken to Anna and the friendship between the two grew. Because of his co-operation with the D.M.K. as its propagandist, organiser, financier and electoral strategist, M.G.R. became a political force within the D.M.K. in his own right. He was elected to the Assembly in 1967 and 1971 from Parangimalai Constituency. However, following his differences with the D.M.K., M.G.R. founded the A.I.A.D.M.K. in 1972 to preach the ideals of Anna and Humanism.

"None should suffer like me" is the motto of M.G.R.'s life. When the A.I.A.D.M.K. was voted to power in 1977 and 1980 Assembly Elections, M.G.R. as the Chief Minister,

(Extract from the Citations presented at the time of the conferment of Honorary Degrees at the Special Convocation held on the 20th September 1983 on the occasion of the Post-Centenary Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the University of Madras. This citation was read by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Madras.)

ANNA ENDOWMENT

An endowment to promote research and study into the life and teachings of late Perarignar Anna, will be set up in the Madras University.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.G.R., made an announcement that his party would donate Rs. 15 lakhs towards the setting up of a Chair.



A PEEP INTO THE PAST

The President, Thiru Zail Singh, had a peep into the archaeological beauty of the past at Mamallapuram.

The President spent nearly an hour at Mamallapuram enjoying the sculptural marvels of the Pallava period.

The President visited the Shore Temple and spent quite some time admiring the work of 'our great ancestors.' The historical and cultural features of the seashore tourist spot were explained to him.

The President also took a look at the Five Rathas and made a stop over at the school of Architecture. He said that the immortal monuments like these should attract and inspire the youth, who are otherwise being distracted by foreign influence.

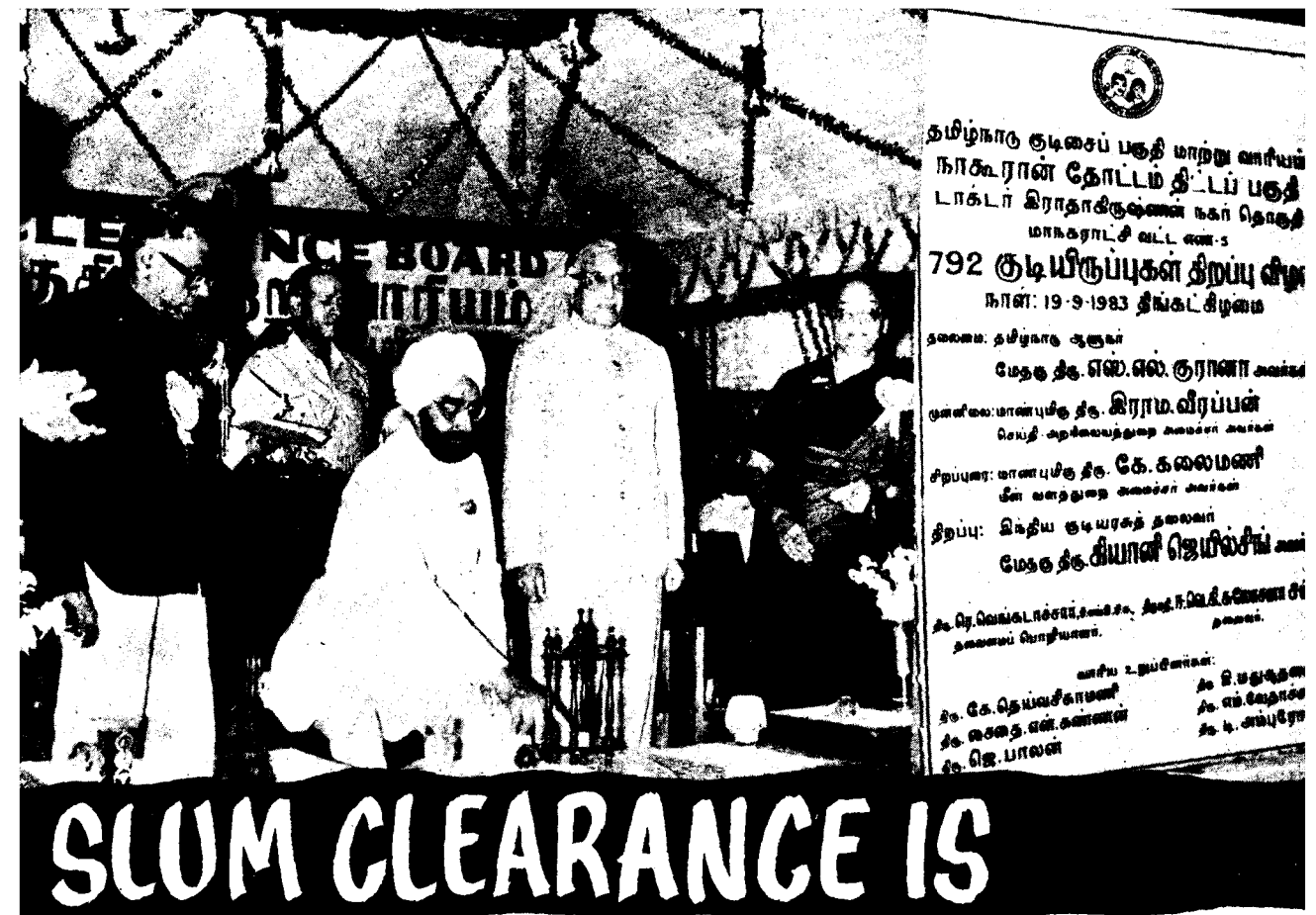
HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE CONFERRED

The University at a special convocation conferred the degree of doctor of laws (honoris causa) on Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and ten other eminent persons.

The citation on Thiru M. G. Ramachandran referred to his distinctive service to humanity, his artistic intensity, creativity and inspiring devotion to authentic humanism.

The others who were conferred honorary degree were: Thiru M. A. Muthiah Chettiar,—Doctor of Literature; Thiru R. Venkataraman (Defence Minister)—Doctor of Laws; Thiru C. Subramaniam, former Union Minister—Doctor of Laws; Dr. S.

Chandrasekhar, Astrophysicist—Doctor of Science (in absentia); Dr. Raja Ramanna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission—Doctor of Science; Thiru N. D. Sundaravadevelu, former Vice-Chancellor—Doctor of Literature; Thiru D. C. Kothari, Industrialist—Doctor of Laws (in absentia); Thiru K. Appadurai—Doctor of Literature; Dr. A. S. Thambiah—Doctor of Science; and Thiru Sirkazhi Govindarajan—Doctor of Literature.



SLUM CLEARANCE IS TOP PRIORITY

The President Thiru Zail Singh inaugurated 792 storeyed tenements for fishermen at Nagooran Thottam in Tondiarpet built at a cost of Rs. 94.21 lakhs by the Tamilnadu Slum Clearance Board, with assistance from the Housing and Urban Development Corporation.

The President in his address said: "Provision of housing for the weaker sections of the population has been accorded a high priority in our socio-economic development plans. The tenements are also expected to benefit fisherman families.

Poverty could be eradicated if people acted unitedly by setting aside caste and communal feelings. The Government is striving its best to provide food, clothing and shelter to everybody. The Prime Minister's 20 Point Programme also laid special importance for the upliftment of economically weaker sections.

It is very heartening to know that care has been taken to provide tenements with essential facilities like water supply, lighting and

drainage. I congratulate the State Government for their efforts in this regard and, I am sure that with increasing tempo of construction activity, every family would be provided a house within a foreseeable future.

The fishermen are making an immense contribution to the economy through their catch of fish by augmenting domestic availability, as well as providing surplus for exports as well. A number of steps have been taken for the welfare of fishermen. I do hope that the fishermen families who are being provided with these tenements for their living will also be provided with other facilities, enjoy a better quality of life such as education and health care.

Thiru S. L. Khurana, Governor of Tamilnadu presided over the function. The Governor said, building of tenements for slum dwellers should be matched by environmental sanitation programmes. A

duty was also cast on the people living in tenements to keep their environment clean. Steps should be taken to avoid the migration of people from rural areas to urban centres. The centre's national rural employment programme and the Tamilnadu Government's self-sufficiency scheme were the right steps in this direction.

Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Religious Endowments said: "In the last six years the Government had built 15,999 tenements in Madras. Even as such tenements were being built, new slums are springing up and creating a social problem, but undaunted by it, the Government is building new ones to benefit the poor.

Dr. H. V. Hande, Minister for Health and Thiru K. Kalaimani, Minister for Fisheries also participated in the function.

Earlier, the Chairman, Tamilnadu Slum Clearance Board, Tmt. Sulochana Sampath welcomed the gathering.

தமிழ்நாடு குடிசைப் பகுதி மாற்று வாரியம்
நாகூரான தோட்டம் திட்டப் பகுதி
லாக்டர் கிராதாசுக்குக் கட்டித் தரப்பட்ட
மாநகராட்சி வட்டம்-5
792 குடியிருப்புகள் திறப்பு விழா
நாள்: 19-9-1983 திங்கட்கிழமை
தலைவர்: தமிழ்நாடு ஆளுகை
மேதகு திரு. எஸ். எல். குரானா அவர்கள்
முன்னிலையிலிருந்து திரு. கிராம. வீரப்பன்
செய்தி அறிக்கையின்படி அமைக்கப்பட்ட
சிறப்புரை: மாண்புமிகு திரு. கே. கலைமணி
கீழ்க் கருத்துரை அமைக்கப்பட்டது
திறப்பு: கிந்திய குடியரசுத் தலைவர்
மேதகு திரு. சியாஸ் ஜெயிஸ்ரீங் அவர்கள்
தலைவர் உறுப்பினர்கள்:
திரு. கே. தெய்வக்காமணி திரு. எ. மதுசூதன்
திரு. கருணா. என். கண்ணன் திரு. என். கருணா
திரு. ஜெ. பாலன் திரு. க. அப்பிரேசா



Gandhiji on village Industries

"It is a tragedy of the first magnitude that millions have ceased to use their hands. The spinning wheel alone can stop the reckless waste. It can do that now and without any extra-ordinary outlay of money or intelligence. Owing to this waste, we are living in a state almost of suspended animation. It can be revived if only every home is again turned into a spinning mill and every village into a weaving mill".

"I have no partiality for return to the primitive method of grinding, and husking for the sake of them. I suggest the return, because there is no other way of giving employment to the millions of villagers who are living in idleness".

"The revival of village industries is but an extension of the Khadi effort. Hand-spun cloth hand-made paper, handpounded rice, home-made bread and jam, are not uncommon in the West. Only there they do not have one-hundredth of the importance they have in India. For, with us, their revival means life, their destruction means death, to the villagers, as he who runs may see. Whatever the machine age may do, it will never give employment to the millions whom the wholesale introduction of power machinery must displace".

Man, who has the intelligence to differentiate good from bad, should realize that the denizens of the forest also have the right to live on this earth just like the human beings. It is an act of kindness in itself to be prompted by this feeling and act accordingly. It is also our duty.

Man's supremacy has reduced the living conditions of animals at the lowest rung to improve rishment made thin in their natural habitat. As a result of the recent awakening it has been realized that all living creatures on this earth are interlinked by nature. The kings of yore, scholars and educationists of our country have laid emphasis on this fact. The great men have proved by their acts that we are responsible for their lives.

There are 350 mammalian species, 1,200 avian species, 225 species which crawl, 15,000 species of trees, shrubs and creepers and 20,000 species of insects. Even from the Vedic period animals and birds have been protected under various religious codes.

We find reference to the rich flora and fauna in our Sangam literature and classics. The Tamil gypsy who chased the tiger with a winnow, the 'golden deer' of the Ramayana, the sandalwood mortar and ivory pestle, the coral used in place of lime to chew betel are poetic evidences of this plenty.

With the passing of time, the kindness and sympathy shown towards wild life have declined, as a result of which they have been affected. It is senseless to form groups and raise money to destroy wild life. The wild life have as much right to live on this earth as human beings.

The flora and the fauna of the forests are a phenomena of nature. The colourful flora and fauna found in Tamilnadu are beneficial to mankind. The forests and the wild life dependant on the forests should be protected on the basis of importance of the trees, culture, tourism and ecology.

The National Forest Policy was announced in 1952 along with other revolutionary changes after our country attained independence. Steps have been taken to see that the forests and their denizens are utilized to entertain the tourists and excursionists giving them joy without affecting the natural environment and its equilibrium or destroying the wealth of the forests or its animals.

Steps are taken to plant trees and protect forests which would increase our sense of well being and preserve forest wealth. This would also promote environmental hygiene which in turn would maintain the balance of the flora and the fauna in nature, for the benefit of mankind.

The Wild Life Week is observed during the first week of October every year, in order to protect the endangered species and increase their population. To nurture and protect wild life, the Government has set up sanctuaries and parks, at Mundanthurai for tigers, Kalakad for the lion tailed macaque, Kodikarai and Guindy for the

Hon'ble
CHIEF MINISTER'S APPEAL



black buck, Nilgiris for the Tahr, the forests of Alagar Koil for the grey mountain squirrel, Vedanthangal and Pazhaverkadu for birds, pockets in the eastern shores for sea-turtles.

The Wild Life Week will be celebrated in a colourful manner without diminishing the glory of the wild animals. Let us take a pledge that while we live, we would let the dumb wild animals to live, and hand down nature's bounty to posterity.



Conservation of SEA-TURTLES

In the field of wildlife conservation, in India emphasis so far has been only on terrestrial animals and avifauna. Among the aquatic fauna crocodiles received some attention. Recently, attempts to offer protection to sea turtles have been taken up on a high priority in our country.

Sea turtles all over the world form a cheap source of protein

Thiru T. ACHAYA I.F.S.
Chief Conservator of Forests
Tamil Nadu

And

Thiru K. SHANMUGANATHAN
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for the poor—both in the form of eggs as well as their meat. Their

shells are of high fancy value. These factors have led to large scale slaughter of these turtles all over the world.

When their population reached a dangerously low level, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural resources (IUCN) has included many of the sea turtles in the endangered list (Red Data Book) and had appealed



to all nations to take immediate and effective conservation measures.

The sea turtles live mainly on sea weeds, and other marine vegeta-

tion and along with the Dugong, exercise an effective check on the marine flora. Reduction in their numbers may bring about an adverse chain reaction. Uncontrolled weed

growth may lead to detrimental results to the fish, corals and other forms of marine population. The coral reefs check erosion of the land, by the sea. In India capturi-

On the 115 birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the Governor Thiru S. L. Kurana, the Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, Chairman, Legislative Council Thiru M. P. Sivagiamam and Finance Minister Thiru V. R. Neduncheziyan garlanded the Gandhi statue at the Marina on 2.10.'83.



ing turtles from the sea is not very much evident; but they are caught, when the female turtles come on to the shore for laying their eggs and are slaughtered for their meat and shells.

Of the many varieties of sea turtles found in the tropics, five species namely the Leather Back (*Dermochelys coriacea*), the Logger head (*Caretta caretta*), the Green turtle (*Chelonia midas*), the Hawks Bill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and the Olive Ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) are found along the coasts of our country. These animals which belong to the group of reptiles have maintained only one vital link with land—namely the females come on to the shore to lay eggs.

Tamilnadu has a Sea coast extending over 1000 km. The Olive ridleys are the most common species coming to our shores. This turtle is about one metre in length and weighs about 50 kg. Every year the female turtles, come to the

sea shore, dig pits in the sand, above the high tide level, and lay eggs during the night—generally between the months of December and March. Every time, a turtle lays 100—150 eggs which resemble table tennis balls, cover the eggs with sand and go back to the sea to come again only to lay eggs.

During this period, the turtles are killed for their meat, and the eggs poached. The large number of eggs laid by them is only to compensate for the loss by natural predators like the pig, the jackal, dogs, etc. Came the human habitation on the coasts and total annihilation of these eggs was the result. In nature atleast 40% of these eggs escape detection and have a chance to develop into hatchlings.

It takes around 45—60 days for the eggs to develop into hatchlings. The young turtles as soon as they emerge, come to the surface, and start moving towards the sea—which is a natural instinct for them. During this period many of them

are devoured by crabs, birds, and other innumerable predators. Even after they reach the sea, they face the threat of predation by several aquatic fauna, especially in the first 200—300 metres of the sea. Out of those that reach the sea, only one in a thousand hatchlings has a chance to survive to become an adult.

Organisations like the World Wildlife Fund, Madras, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute both at Madras and Tuticorin had taken up some research on the hatching of the eggs and study of hatchlings with the permission of the Government. This effort which was started in 1978, had been responsible for collection of 59927 eggs upto 1982, out of which 27755 hatchlings were obtained of which 27655 were released into the sea.

The Tamilnadu Forest Department, undertook the task of collecting eggs and hatching them under safe condition to release them into



the sea, on a large scale for the first time in our country during 1982-83.

The department set up eight hatcheries in three centres, conducted turtle walks covering over 150 km. of the coastline and the eggs collected were transported to the temporary hatcheries where they were put in the same way as found in nature, maintaining the same orientation of the individual eggs. In collecting the eggs the local population was involved and was paid for the eggs they supplied. Thus the loss of eggs by predation was totally avoided. The hatchlings when they come out were completely protected from any predator, taken safely into the sea, as far away as possible and released. Thus, the chances of predation at the egg stage as well as hatchling

stage had been effectively prevented.

In nature out of every 10,000 eggs laid, only about 2,000 may reach the sea as hatchlings, of which only two may survive to mature. By these efforts under stimulated safe conditions, 94,000 eggs were collected out of which nearly 77,000 hatchlings were obtained and released into the sea by the Tamilnadu Forest Department. This effort may mean, that atleast 77 of them will grow into maturity, as against a possible 19 under natural conditions, an increase of nearly 400%

The remarkable success, and the experience gained have led to a greater confidence among the depart-

mental persons involved in this work, which was done over only 150 km. of coastline of Tamilnadu, will be extended to the entire 1000 km. of the coastline of the State. It is anticipated that atleast 400,000 eggs can be collected in the State, out of which about 320,000 hatchlings can be obtained and released into the sea annually.

In this ambitious venture of the State Forest Department, public cooperation is absolutely essential. We fervently appeal to them not to slaughter the turtles, or collect the eggs for their consumption and seek their help in this laudable conservation measure.





Tamil Nadu, the land of the ancient Tamil language, has an amazing capacity of retaining the old world charm and faith. The countryside in Tamil Nadu still exudes the ethos of the ancient past, despite the tremendous impact made by modern development. It is in fact a remarkable blend of the ancient and the new and the picturesque at successive stages of time. The rhythm of "Bharatha Natyam" and the 'Swarams' of "Carnatic Music", the two great classical arts flowing from the religious passion, still reverberate, not only in temples but also in modern auditoriums. The cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu with its varieties of customs, traditions, practices and costumes has maintained a steady flow from the past into the present, becoming richer in the process and synthesising into a more versatile way of life.

Social Forestry in Tamil Nadu is a part of this great heritage—the culture of tree-farming which existed in ancient times. Our ancestors knew well the art of tree-farming and have maintained topes of **Palmyrah**, **Babul**, **Illuppai**, **Mango**, etc., in the village common lands, tank foreshores and temple precincts. The rural folk in those days were a self-sufficient lot with a tope of useful trees in their lands. Stately trees of Tamarind were established alongside roads to provide shade and shelter to the passing pedestrian and the weary traveller. In fact a definite system of careful husbandry of trees and their produce existed down the ages with liberal religious overtones. Several tree species such as **Neem**, **Vilvam**, **Vanni**, **Illuppai**, **Peepul** and **Arali** were held in veneration and felling them was considered taboo.

This heritage of tree-husbandry continued over centuries and trees maintained a close living relationship with Man's work and leisure, his daily necessities and contemplations. However, the great increase in population during the present century has resulted in a chain of evils such as rural unemployment, efflux of labour

to the urban area and the consequent 'energy crisis'. The enormous demands for firewood generated in the urban areas by the increasing population coupled with shortages of food has resulted in clearance of trees over practically every bit of community land in the villages, not to speak of the disappearance of trees from individual holdings for sale in the towns. With the clearance of trees, village communal lands which primarily catered to the needs of the village for grazing, green manure leaf and small timber could no longer serve this purpose. Deficiencies and shortages in fodder, green manure leaf, small timber and fuel have surfaced, resulting in distortions in community life and environmental health. Consequently, the vital and vibrant relationship that existed in the villages has been disrupted, resulting in lack of harmony.

During the year 1961, what was then known as the "Farm Forestry Programme" was ushered in. This programme aimed at removing those aberrations by "systematically establishing a tree crop on every patch of barren land, a grove of trees on every village common land, a row of trees on every field edge and an avenue to mark every path way". Coupled with other programmes such as "Village Forestry" and "Extension Forestry" that were ushered later on, this pioneer work blossomed into a large scale operation and extended all over the state. In the two decades ending 1980-81, 0.169 million hectares of "lands at the disposal of the Government" outside the reserved forests and reserved lands comprising mostly of tank foreshores and village grazing grounds were brought under tree crops, covering an area equivalent to 7.8 percent of the forest area of the state. This resulted in the harvest of 0.1 million tonne of firewood annually from the tank foreshore plantations worked on a rotation of 10 years for supply of much needed fuel to the towns, providing at the same time employment to the rural sector in the raising, upkeep and harvesting of the woodlots, not to speak of the other benefits generated in the villages by way of improved grazing grounds, small timber for agricultural implements, carts and dwelling houses, fencing materials, etc. 50 per cent of the sale proceeds of fuelwood sold was also distributed to the Panchayats in order to promote rural development.

The growing population however put all these efforts to nought and so the aberrations and shortages have continued with greater intensity and wider repercussions. It was found that it was not possible to meet the demands of the people, unless a new orientation was given to the ongoing schemes, both in its intensity and implementation technology. Recognising the seriousness of the situation, all the on-going tree-farming schemes under various nomenclatures were synthesised and a massive project, under the new generic term of **social forestry** was introduced in the state in the year 1981, with aid from The Swedish International Development Authority. The project has a rural thrust with its first phase extending over 5 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 450 millions. In addition to this project, a Social Forestry Scheme with assistance from the Government of India has also been introduced alongside.

The general objectives of the Social Forestry Project in Tamil Nadu is to create services and goods for the primary consumption of the rural sector. The project envisages that such assets and service flows would be generated with active participation and involvement of villagers who are the ultimate beneficiaries. Departmental efforts in tree farming in community lands have therefore to be supplemented massively by wholesome involvement of the people in the cultivation of tree crops in their own lands as well as in community lands. The role of the Forest Department is to gradually change from that of an executor to that of an extension agent and a catalyst. The Social Forestry Project in Tamil Nadu aims at the following goals:-

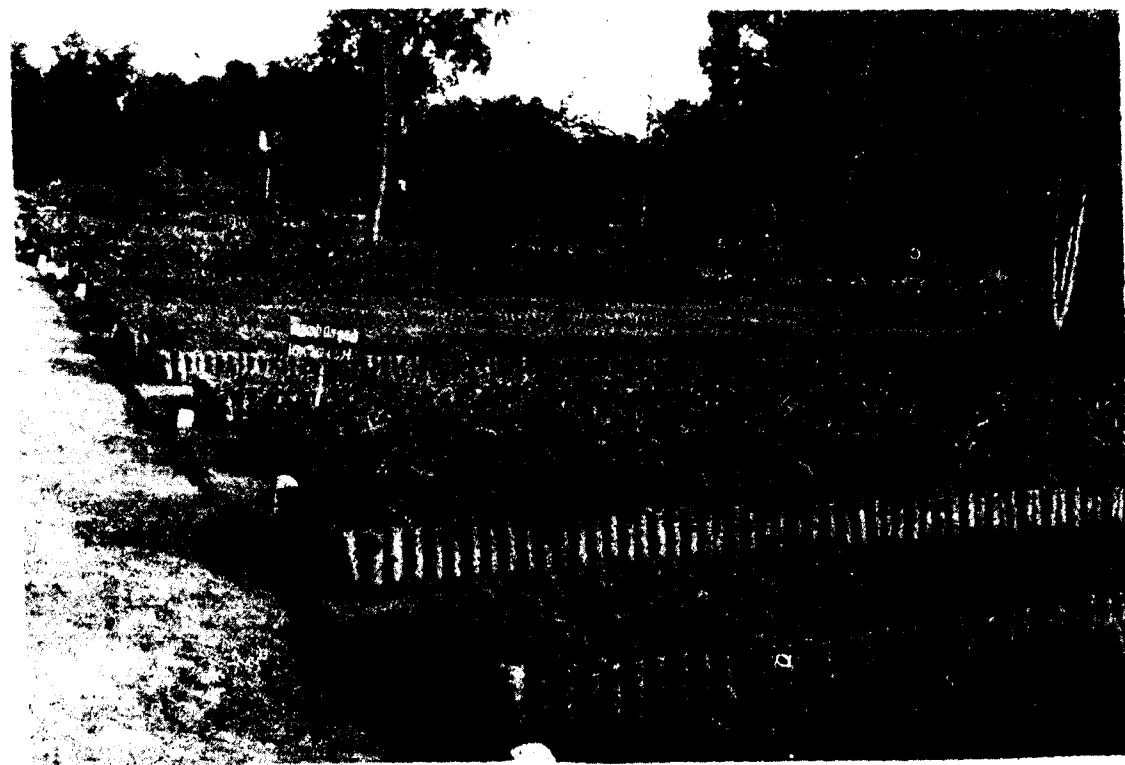
- (i) Motivation of the rural communities to take up tree planting in their own lands and in community lands

- (ii) Creation of woodlots to fulfil the rural requirements of grazing, fodder, green manure leaf, small timber, fuel, fruits, etc.
- (iii) Utilise non-traditional lands such as tank foreshores, village commons, road side and canal side lands, private marginal and sub-marginal agricultural lands, etc. for creating such assets and for improving the environment.
- (iv) Ensure equitable distribution of commodity flows on an even and sustained basis.
- (v) Obtain the active participation of the rural communities, including women and children and the village panchayats in activities involving tree planting.
- (vi) Provide employment opportunities, particularly to the economically backward classes, the landless and the rural poor and thereby generate additional income in the rural areas.

With these goals in view, the project has formulated 6 components which are expected to fulfil the objectives enunciated in the Project:-

1. TREE CULTIVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAMME

Under this programme, an individual rural household will be entitled to a free supply of 500 seedlings of suitable fuel, fodder, small timber and fruit yielding species. At least one fruit-bearing seedling shall be given to each recipient household. As a measure of compensation, the participants who are covered by the Integral Rural Development Programme will be, in addition, given cash incentives also on the basis of the surviving number of plants at the end of the first and second years on a sliding scale as follows:-



Surviving plants	Rate of incentive/plant-Rs.	Total amount of incentive Rs.
1 - 10	1.00	10.00
11 - 30	0.50	10.00
31 - 100	0.25	17.50
101 - 500	0.10	40.00
Total Rs.		77.50

Thus a family planting 500 seedlings all of which survive, will be entitled to cash incentive of Rs. 77.50 at the end of the first year and another Rs. 77.50 at the end of the second year.

The project has envisaged to distribute 12.6 million seedlings to 1,00,000 families at the rate of 20,000 per year during the project period of 5 years at a cost of Rs. 14.3 millions.

2. TREE-PLANTING ON POROMBOKE PLAINS AND HILLS

The Project aims at planting 14,700 hectares of lands at the disposal of the Government in the plains and 24,500 hectares in the hills at the rate of 2940 and 4,900 hectares per annum respectively with suitable tree species. Among the species chosen will be fodder-yielding trees such as *Velvet*, *Red sanders*, *Achan*, *Vagai*, *Vanni*, *Sissoo* and *Su-babul*. Seeds of indigenous grasses and fodder legumes will be sown in between the tree lines to provide for improved grazing. Provision has also been made for soil and moisture conservation measures in hilly areas found to be eroded with gullies. In addition, tree species yielding green manure leaves such as *Palai*, *Poovarasu*, *Vadanarayana*, *Manjakonnai*, *Neem*, *Su-babul*, etc. will be planted in areas where intensive agriculture is practised. Oil-seed bearing trees such as *Pungam*, *Neem* and *Illupai* will also be raised in suitable localities to provide rural employment and promote cottage industries. The financial commitment under this component for 5 years will be Rs. 59.61 millions. ("Poramboke" land is a Government land used for common purposes such as grazing, collection of green manure leaf, firewood and minor forest produce)

3. TREE-PLANTING IN TANK FORESHORES

With the concurrence of the Panchayats and the Public Works Department, Tank Foreshores will be planted with *Babul* in the submergible portions and *Velvet* in saline upper reaches to fulfil the rural needs of fodder, fuel and small timber. The Project envisages planting of 1,32,000 hectares during the five year period at an estimated cost of Rs. 155.13 millions, with an annual target of 26,400 hectares.

4. TREE-PLANTING ALONG ROADS, CANALS, RIVER BANKS AND RAILWAY LINES

Under this component, tree planting will be done on Road side, Canal/ River banks and Railway sides with fruit bearing, shade giving and ornamental trees. A stretch of 6,075 Kms. will be tackled under this component during the Project period of 5 years at the rate of 1,215 Kms. per year at an estimated cost of Rs. 31.23 millions

5. TREE-CULTIVATION EXTENSION PROGRAMME

This programme will be directed mainly towards the large and medium land holders as against the "Incentive" Programme which was conceived primarily to benefit the poorer sections of the rural community. Under this component, those farmers who need more than 500 seedlings will be given seedlings of tree

species at cost price. The planting of trees in combination with agricultural crops, both sequentially and separately, is aimed to achieve an integrated development of the farm. Seeds and seedlings of all suitable tree species will be made available to the farmers along with the know-how necessary for the raising, maintenance and harvest of the trees planted. It is envisaged that a total of 37.5 million seedlings will be made available during the Project period of 5 years at the rate of 7.5 million seedlings per year. The overall cost of the component is estimated to be Rs. 10.5 millions.



6. FODDER PLANTATION

The Project envisages the establishment of Fodder Farms wherever there is a demand to provide fodder for stall feeding of livestock. Silvi-pastures with fodder trees planted at a wider espacement and indigenous grasses and legumes sown in the intervening spaces will also be raised under this component. 1,050 hectares will be brought under this component annually, covering an area of 5,250 hectares during the Project period of 5 years at an expenditure of Rs. 7.82 millions.

It is also proposed to arrive at suitable norms to see that the considerable revenue which shall accrue to the Panchayats by way of the 50% share is utilised profitably by the Village Panchayat in Forestry Development Programmes or related cottage industries in the village.

The implementation of the Project commenced during the year 1981-82 and 2 years of the project period have been gone over. Looking back at the performance and achievements during these two years and the likely accomplishment during 1983-84, we cannot but exude an air of fulfilment and satisfaction over the results obtained and of confidence for the future. The targets have been literally fulfilled for both the years and judging from the performance so far recorded during 1983-84, the targets during this year too will be fulfilled.



Social Forestry which is a tradition of ancient Tamil culture and part of our rich heritage, has travelled a long and arduous way. Like Cauvery, the sacred river of Tamil Nadu, this cultural heritage has flowed from the past to the present and will move into the future which promises greater fulfilment and satisfaction.

TARGET AND ACHIEVEMENT

Name of Component	Target for 5 years 1981-82 to 1985-86	Target for 1981-82 and 1982-83	Achievement upto the end of 1982-83 (2 years)	Percentage of achievement
1. Tree cultivation incentive and extension programme (Number of seedlings distributed)	501 lakhs	142.75 lakhs	143.17 lakhs	More than 100
2. (i) Tree Planting in poramboke plains	14,700 hectares	4,200 hectares	2,807 hectares	67
(ii) Tree Planting in poramboke hills	24,500 hectares	7,260 hectares	7,031 hectares	97
3. Tank foreshores	1,32,000 hectares	45,490 hectares	42,244 hectares	93
4. Strip Plantations	6,075 Kms.	2,580 Kms.	3,138 Kms.	More than 100
5. Fodder Plantations	5,250 hectares	725 hectares	398 hectares	55



Developing marine shrimp culture through pens is a pilot project in Killai. This project is being executed by the FAO/SIDA Bay of Bengal Programme in cooperation with the Tamil Nadu Directorate of Fisheries.

The pilot project on pen culture of shrimps started at Killai, 250 kms from Madras, in May 1982. Located in Chidambaram taluk of South Arcot district, the Killai backwaters are formed by a network of canals and creeks connected to Vellar river in the North, and Coleroon river in the South. These backwaters are famous for their marine fauna, rich in variety and quantity.

What is pen culture? The culture of marine shrimp in lagoons or backwaters enclosed in parts with suitable netting material, is known as pen culture.

The Government is already trying to develop pond culture. The fact that extensive areas of shallow backwaters and lagoons are available encouraged the aquaculturists to take up this project and test whether pen culture is a possible technology for the area.



The sandy nature of the coastal soil, the characteristically low tidal amplitude, and the combination of high temperature and high salinity condition resulting in biological stresses as frequently observed in coastal fish ponds, are certain advantages of pen culture. This method would not call for expensive and complicated pond and sluice construction, nor would it require a fuel-dependent pump or any mechanical assistance for filling, replenishing, exchanging and draining of water. Pen construction requires low capital investment; it can be constructed easily and quickly with little training and manpower. It is ready for full-scale production as soon as it is installed, made pest-free and stocked with seed. The whole structure can be shifted to another place if considered necessary.

The project site in Killai is located in a mangrove forest where a pen cottage was set up to serve as a laboratory, and storage room. Soon it became a major attraction for the local fishermen. But, when four

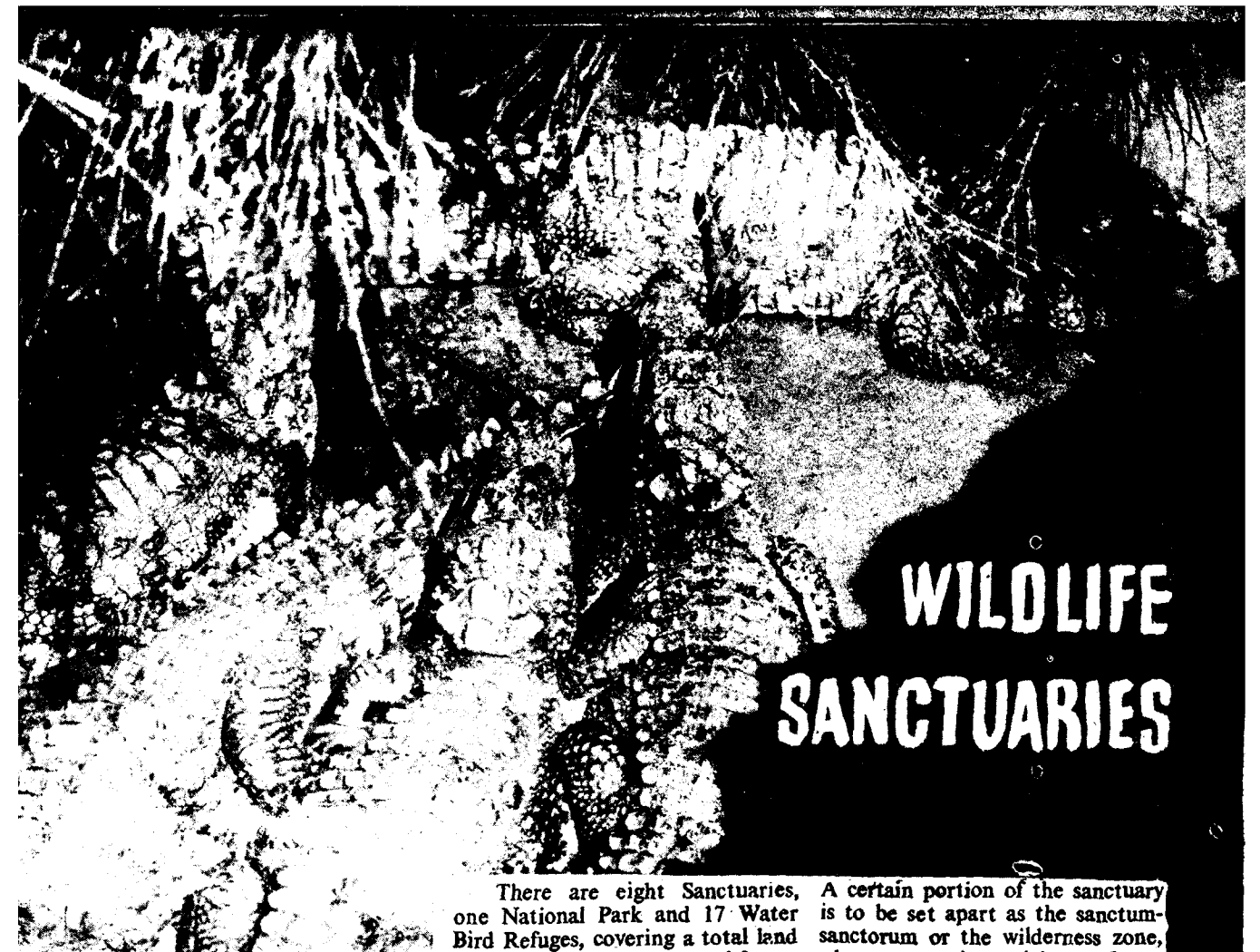
pens with nylon webbing encircling an area of 475 hectares were erected, the fishermen reacted sharply. They claimed that the scientists were intruders denying the local fishermen the small income they derive from the backwater catch. The scientists sought the help of the local leaders and educated youth to convince the fishermen that they would be the main beneficiaries of the project. They also took a few local fishermen to work in the project, assisting in seed collection, pest removal and harvest.

The seeds raised in the nursery cages were stocked in the pens which had to be cleared of pests and predators. During the rearing period the staff had to wage a war with crabs which came in large numbers to cut the meshes. Another foe was the cat-fish with pointed spines which pierced the feet while wading through the waters. A vigil was set up day and night. Harvest was planned at the end of 80 days rearing. The harvest from four pens yielded more than 1300 kgs of shrimps valued at Rs. 6,000. The rearing of white shrimp in low saline conditions was taken up. At the end of 117 days the catch fetched more than Rs. 6,300 from three pens. A fourth pen was harvested 43 days later. It produced 71 kgs of shrimps worth Rs. 3,000/-.

Identifying more effective ways and means to protect the nets from crab cuts and control unwanted animals in the pens, is one of the priority research activities.

Success in larger pens would provide a viable new technology, for the development of brackish water shrimp culture in shallow waters of Tamil Nadu.

Continued



WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

Tamilnadu, is about 130,069 Sq. kms. in extent of which 20910 Sq. kms. i.e. about 16% of the total land area is under forest cover. Nevertheless in having a varied topography ranging from the high ranges of Western ghats down to near desert conditions in Ramnad District, and the tidal swamp forests in its coast with their own floristic composition, the State lends itself to a great many types of forests.

These forests provide the home for a diversity of animals that include the Elephant, Tiger, Panther, Gaur, Sambar, Sloth bear, Black buck, Four horned antelope and several species of primates including the endangered Liontailed macaque etc.

Consequent to the implementation of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, Tamilnadu has made good progress in the work of wildlife management. Realising the importance of wildlife conservation, and that if a species once lost is lost for ever, Tamilnadu has set apart quite a few sizeable areas as Wildlife Sanctuaries, and a National Park.

There are eight Sanctuaries, one National Park and 17 Water Bird Refuges, covering a total land area of over 10% of the total forest area. A few more sanctuaries are on the anvil.

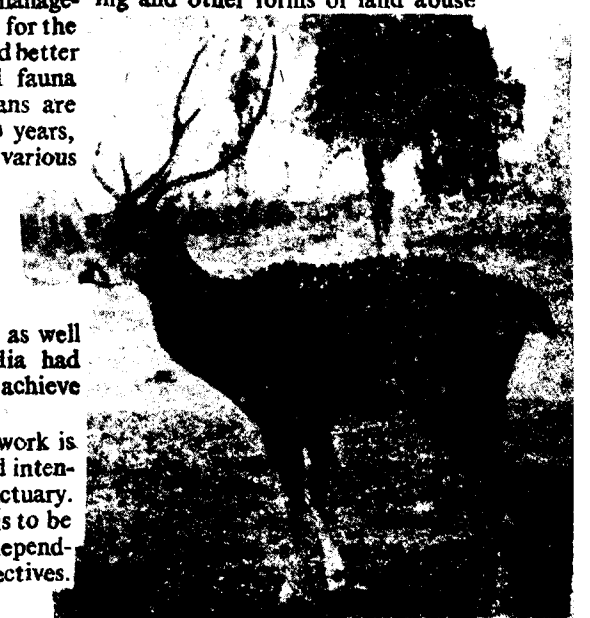
A positive way of saving what is left of our wildlife is to manage and develop the habitat to make it suitable for wildlife to live and breed in tranquility. With these objectives, only, most of the Sanctuaries have been constituted. To achieve these objectives, a definite management plan for each sanctuary for the conservation, development and better management of flora and fauna has been drawn. These plans are intended for a period of 10 years, and contain prescription for various objectives.

The State Government, as well as the Government of India had provided necessary funds to achieve the targets.

The first and foremost work is zonation for the scientific and intensive management of the sanctuary. For this purpose a sanctuary is to be divided into specific zones depending upon the needs and objectives.

A certain portion of the sanctuary is to be set apart as the sanctum-sanctorum or the wilderness zone, where no tourist activity or forest activity is to be taken up. Similarly a buffer zone, surrounding the sanctuary area to take up the spill-over or surplus wildlife population of the sanctuary.

The next step is protection. This involves protection of area against, encroachment, cattle grazing and other forms of land abuse



and smuggling of timber and removal of fuel. Similarly the protection for the fauna involves prevention of poaching or trapping.

The next step involves forest management and improvement to the habitat.

This includes water and soil conservation, improvement of fodder resources, and drinking water facilities for the animals around the year. This has been achieved by constructing check dams across small streams, and rivulets, digging percolation ponds, planting of various browse species.

Many of the check dams have made small water spread areas, thereby making the vegetation around greener and planting of various types of fodder plants, and grasses in those areas has considerably improved the habitat.

Bamboos constitute the main fodder of animals like elephants. To achieve this the bamboo clumps have to be maintained in a state of high production. By scientific tending this objective has been achieved.

Fruit bearing trees, like banyan, mango, gmelina arborea, cordia myxa etc. have been planted around the water holes. Palatable and nutritious grasses have been planted in certain areas to improve fodder supply.

Disease prevention is a major work carried out in all sanctuaries. This is achieved by regulating cattle grazing, and also compulsory vaccination of cattle which have access to the area against contagious and infectious diseases like Foot and Mouth, Rinderpest, Humorrhagic Septicaemia Black Quarter etc. These diseases, can also affect the wild ungulates. By carrying out preventive vaccination of grazing cattle in and around the sanctuary, the spread of these diseases have been checked.

Communication facilities like a net work of roads, have been provided in the sanctuaries for effective patrol, protection and management of the sanctuary.

Tourism though plays a subordinate role to the conservation of wildlife, is important in that, it plays an educative and recreational role and to some extent provide income to the sanctuary.



Tourist facilities like well provided rest houses, transport facilities, for taking the tourists around the tourism zone, and camping grounds have been provided in all the sanctuaries. These facilities are intended to people of all income groups.

In some of the sanctuaries tourists are being given elephant rides to view wildlife. For this purpose elephants are being maintained and are very popular.

The staff in the sanctuary are being provided with basic amenities such as residential quarters to live with their family, medical facilities in case of sickness.

Captive Breeding programme :

The mugger or the marsh crocodiles were bred in captivity in Anamallai and Mudumalai Sanctuaries. Eggs of crocodiles which were laid in wild conditions were collected and set for hatch and siblings hatched out were reared in captivity, the ultimate object being to release them in their original habitat.

In this, we have achieved significant success and a pilot crocodile farm has been approved by the Government of India for the commercial exploitation of this species in our State.

Similarly in all the elephant

camp, the captive elephants, have been giving birth to calves at regular intervals and the elephant camps at Mudumalai and Topslip have the distinction of producing large number of calves born in captivity.

In Kalakkad Sanctuary which has been formed to preserve the endangered liontailed macaque, the habitat improvement work included provision of food trees for the selective feeding macaques.

Observation towers have been constructed in several places in sanctuaries not only to view wildlife, but also for the study of wildlife and also as a protection measure.

Research :

Research scholars and scientists have been given facilities for research on various problems connected with wildlife.

One research scholar, founded by the State Government is doing the study of Gaur in Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Thus in every sphere of work the sanctuaries have achieved significant success by providing better facilities for the fauna. This has led the State Government for declaring the Anamallai Wildlife Sanctuary as a National Park.



Guindy National Park

The 'dry ever green forests' typical of the coastal region constitute the Guindy National Park has within itself about 350 Black Buck, the most endangered species of antelope and about 700 spotted deers. The 'Madras Snake Park', which is run by the Madras Snake Park Trust is situated within the National Park in an area leased out to the Snake Park Trust by the Tamil Nadu Government.

There are about 200 species of trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses which are all indigenous. The vegetation is of low type, not exceeding on an average 6 metre height, mostly with thorny species like Acacias.

The chief attraction of the National Park is the occurrence of the elegant Black Buck, the only representative of the genus antelope in India. From the available information it is gathered that, Black Buck was for the first time introduced in Raj Bhavan Forests during 1924 by Lord Willington, the then Governor of Madras. Other animals such as Bonnet Monkey, small Indian Civet Cat, Jungle Cat, Palm civet cat, mongoose and other rodents

are also common. Among reptiles one can come across monitor lizard, tortoise and many species of snakes too. The National Park abound in bird life which are indigenous and migrants are also not uncommon.

Situated within the Guindy National Park is the Childrens Corner or Children's Park which was inaugurated on 14-4-1959 by the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The Children's Corner is 8.8 hectares in extent and intensively used with a primary emphasis on animal observation and study. There are 18 species of mammals, 8 species of reptiles and 19 species of birds caged and displayed for the visitors who can observe them at close quarters. Further there are other recreational facilities to visitors and children like elephant ride, pony ride, midget-train ride, playthings like seesaws, slides and watch towers. A mini library is also available for use. Fossils and

life size model of the prehistoric megalosaurus are added attraction. Periodical screening of filmstrips on Wildlife are conducted and also basic concepts about common animals are also displayed through charts and information boards. The children can also fondle and handle the free ranging goose and gander and peacocks.

A permanent Wildlife Museum has been sanctioned to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 25.13 lakhs this year and preliminary works are under progress. Staff amenities and further improvement will be also undertaken to the tune of 4.81 lakhs.

The Guindy National Park is an ideal site in the proximity of the city dwellers to study flora, fauna and avifauna with regard to their habitat, ecotone edge efforts and animal behaviour.



Tamilnadu is endowed with a rich variety of fauna. To protect and preserve these animals and birds, the State Government has constituted one National Park and several sanctuaries. A few more sanctuaries are in the anvil.



The forests of this State contain several animals such as the elephant, gaur, varieties of deer, tiger, panther, sloth bear etc. Some of the rare species of animals such as the Lion tailed macaque, the black buck and the Nilgiri tahr are found in considerable numbers. In addition, Tamilnadu is noted for its rich variety of avifauna—both migrant and resident. With such a variety, it is necessary to have an idea of the population statistics of the more important animals. For this purpose periodical census of all the important species of animals which is an important one in Wildlife Management are done.



such as tigers and panthers cannot be easily noticed. In such cases the evidence of their presence such as foot prints or pug marks, excreta, kills etc. will be taken note of, and the data analysed to assess their number.

The Direct Count may be 'Total' or 'partial' depending upon the circumstances, such as terrain, the number of animals and various other factors. For accurate results total count is desirable, but not always practicable. In such cases, partial or sampling technique may be made at random, particularly in case of large flocks of birds, herds of deer etc. Every method has its own advantages and limitations. By repeated survey, it is possible to correctly assess the population of various animals in a given area.

In the sanctuaries of Tamilnadu census of various animals are undertaken frequently. State wide census was resorted to in the case of tigers, elephants and gaur.

In the case of tiger the State wide census was under taken in 1972 and 1979. During 1979, the State was reported to have had a population of 65 tigers as against 33 numbers counted in 1972. The census operation will be repeated in 1984.

Similarly, the State wide elephant census operations, were undertaken for the first time in 1979, synchronising with the operations in the neighbouring States of Kar-



nataka and Kerala. This was done for the main reason that elephant populations are found all along western ghats, and in areas bordering Karnataka and Kerala States and these herds are found to migrate to and from these States. Hence simultaneous census was undertaken on 15-5-79 in areas South of Palghat gap and on 29-5-79 in areas lying north of Palghat gap, since, elephants do not migrate through the gap either way. Hence the total count method was adopted and actual sightings alone were recorded. The census operations were repeated in 1983 i.e. on 30-4-83 in all the three Southern States. During 1979 the census figures revealed that Tamilnadu had a population of 2994

elephants. In 1983, in addition to elephants, gaur were also counted and the population of elephants was only 2179 and gaur 2244. This decrease in population of elephants was due to State wide drought conditions. A corresponding increase in the neighbouring States was observed, thereby confirming our findings. In the case of elephants, the males, females and juveniles are separately recorded to have an idea of their breeding potential.

As regards other animal life black buck and chital in Guindy National Park, and Point Calimere is being undertaken regularly. In carrying out census work, the help of naturalists and volunteers from various wildlife organisations, in

addition to the forest staff, have been utilised.

The following are the details of some of important species of animals found in sanctuaries and other places :

1. Elephants :—
Whole State—1983 ..2129
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. 443
Anamallais Wildlife Sanctuary.. 356

2. Gaur :—
Whole State—1983 ..2244
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. 211
Anamallais Wildlife Sanctuary. 393

3. Tigers :—
Whole State—1979 .. 65
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. 20
Anamallais Wildlife Sanctuary. 16

4. Black Buck :—(There had been general increase in the population of Black Buck and Chital when compared to 1981 and 1982)

Whole State ..4035
Guindy Park .. 631
Point Calimere ..2870

5. Chital :—
Whole State ..3500
Guindy Park ..1271
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. 1132

6. Sambar :—
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. 215
Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary .. 103

7. Nilgiri Tahr :—
Whole State ..1450
Nilgiris .. 630
Anamallais .. 450

The census operations have revealed a healthy general building up of the numbers of the various animals in the sanctuaries because of better conditions obtained there and strict protective measures adopted.



Today India ranks among the leading industrial nations of the world. The Five Year Plans have brought about technological transformation in its agricultural and industrial fields.

In addition to the general programmes of development a special activity was initiated in 1975 to lighten the hardships of various groups. This was the 20 Point Programme.

A new 20 Point Programme was prepared, which the Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi announced to the Nation on 14 January, 1982.

The Tamilnadu Government in implementing the new 20 Point Programme has exceeded the target in a number of schemes.

The study made by the Central Government shows that Tamil Nadu has achieved significant progress, in Rural employment, Rural Water Supply, giving Pattas for houseless and rural electrification schemes. The Tamil Nadu Government has won great appreciation in popularising the family planning scheme and implementing it. Tamil Nadu stands foremost in implementation of self-sufficiency scheme and achieving its target.

The first point of the programme is to increase irrigation potential, develop and discriminate technologies and inputs of dry land agriculture. The Tamil Nadu Government while implementing it, has proposed to set up agricultural extension schemes in 200 places and to disseminate the technologies in 1982-83. Till July 1982, 146 extension schemes were set up and about 66,172 hectares have been converted as cultivable lands.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has achieved appreciable results also in the second point of the 20 Point Programme, viz, increasing the production of pulses and oil seeds.

The Tamil Nadu-Co-operative Oilseeds Grower's Federation set up in 1982, with the assistance of the National Dairy Development Board has taken up a project to grow oil seeds. The project is scheduled to be completed at a cost of Rs. 11.45 crores in 7 years. The Government is keen on setting up an Oilseed Development Corporation.

Tamil Nadu stands foremost in implementing the 3rd point of strengthening and extending the Integrated

20 point programme

Tamilnadu has been rated No. 1 among the states in the country in the implementation of the 20 Point programme



Rural Development and Self Sufficiency Schemes.

Under the first phase of the Self Sufficiency Scheme 3,131 habitats in 69 panchayat unions have been provided with drinking water at a cost of Rs. 2,100 lakhs. 4,220 km length of link roads at a cost of Rs. 1,221 lakhs have been laid. 228 mother and child care centres and 71 dispensaries have been built. Preliminary works at a cost of Rs. 5.13 crores have been finished. The scheme is being implemented in the remaining Panchayat Unions at a cost of Rs. 270 crores.

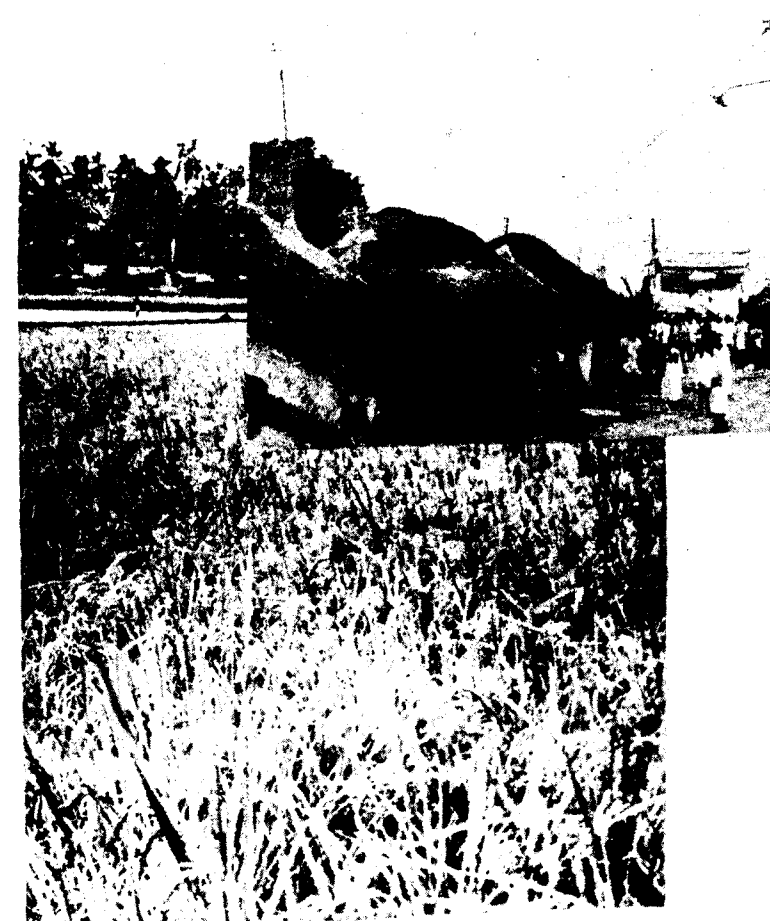
The 4th point of Land reforms, agricultural land ceilings, distribut-

ing surplus land and complete compilation of land records by removing all administrations and legal obstacles, the Government is implementing it keenly.

It is proposed to implement the scheme of surveying the 30,000 sq. miles of land in five years, at a cost of Rs. 1.48 crores.

While implementing the Land Ceiling Act the Government will also see to the proper distribution of pattas for lands.

Payment of minimum wages for agricultural labour was revised in 1979. The district collectors have been directed to look into the strict enforcement of the orders.



In 1979-80, the revenue firkas were reorganised and 323 additional revenue officers were posted in 323 revenue firkas. As a first phase 30,000 agricultural labourers without any support are receiving aid.

In the rehabilitation of bonded labourers Tamil Nadu Government has done well.

2,920 bonded labourers have been identified and released in 10 districts. In Kalrayan hills 24,945 labourers were released and rehabilitated. Rs. 1,000 is given as aid to those bonded labourers who are poor. So far Rs. 1,71,000 has been spent.

It is a matter of pride to note that Tamil Nadu stands in the forefront in implementing the schemes under the 7th point for the welfare of Adi Dravidas and Tribals.

18% of beneficiaries are Adi Dravidas in the public sector. Under Integrated Rural Development programme 60% of the Adi Dravidas will be benefitted.

Hostels were constructed at a cost of Rs. 219.33 lakhs by the Adi Dravidar Housing Development Corporation. It is proposed to build 139 buildings at a cost of Rs.

the allotment will be raised to Rs. 119.56 crores.

Under the 8th point of supply of drinking water to all problem villages, Tamil Nadu has made significant progress.

Upto 1980-3,387 villages were provided with drinking water facilities at a cost of Rs. 2,598 lakhs. 14,582 villages had to be supplied in 1980-81. Under the Self Sufficiency Scheme drinking water is being provided to all these villages.

The 9th point of expanding the programme of providing housing facilities in rural areas, the scheme is being expedited.

In 1982-83, house sites were distributed to 36,180 families. From 1980-81 to 1984-85 2 lakh houses will be built. In 1981-82, the co-operative year, 87,313 houses were built for Adi Dravidas and 22,738 for the others. The loan extended was Rs. 4,815.92 lakhs. It is proposed to build 40,000 houses in 1982-83. Upto 30-9-82, 18,208 houses were built.

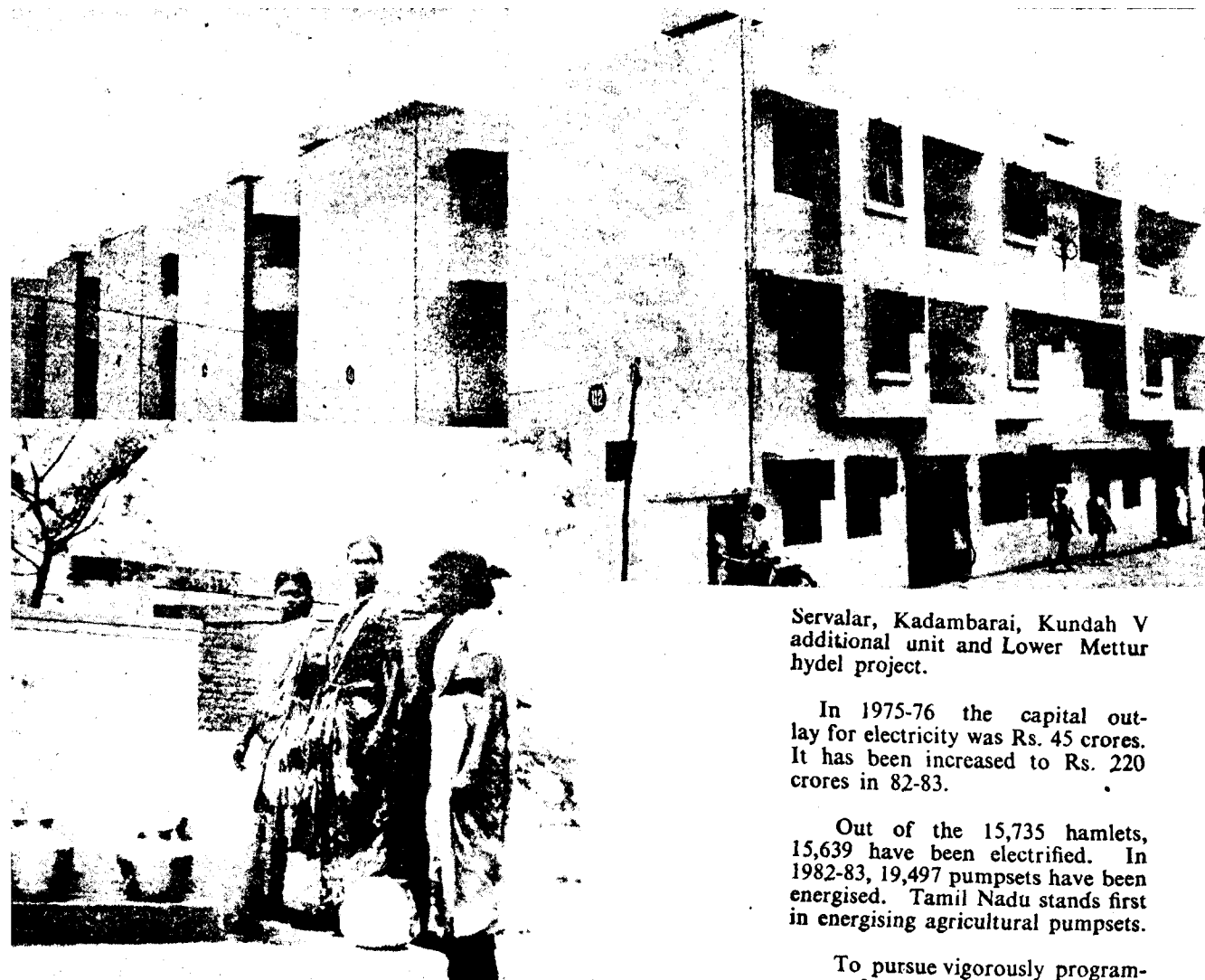
The 10th point : improve the environment of slums, implement programmes of house building for economically weaker sections is being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Tamil Nadu Housing Board has proposed to build 5,065 houses in 1983 and the Slum Clearance Board 2,935 houses for the economically weaker sections.

To provide educational facilities for the Adi Dravidas and Tribes and raise their living standards, a sum of Rs. 105.85 crores have been allocated in the budget which would benefit about 1.60 lakh of Adi Dravidas and hill tribes in 1982-83. In the financial year of 1984, 1.80 lakh families will benefit for which power.

The 11th point is to maximise power generation, improve the generation of electricity and electrify all the villages. Under the development programme 35% has been allocated for the development of power.





Servalar, Kadambarai, Kundah V additional unit and Lower Mettur hydel project.

In 1975-76 the capital outlay for electricity was Rs. 45 crores. It has been increased to Rs. 220 crores in 82-83.

Out of the 15,735 hamlets, 15,639 have been electrified. In 1982-83, 19,497 pumpsets have been energised. Tamil Nadu stands first in energising agricultural pumpsets.

To pursue vigorously programmes of afforestation, social and farm forestry and the development of bridges and other alternative energy sources constitutes the aim of the 12th point.

The sixth plan outlay for power development is Rs. 1,230 crores. Rs. 115 crores have been allotted for rural electrification. Out of this Rs. 572.3 crores is allocated for power generation and Rs. 325 crores for transmission and distribution. It is to be noted that

Work is in progress in the major power projects like Mettur Thermal, In 1981-82, under various schemes, trees were planted in



61,997 hectares. Trees were planted after determining to plant them in atleast 56,510 hectares on road sides, besides Railway tracks, river banks to a length of 1,665 k.m.

Out of a total target for developing 61,300 hectares under Social forestry scheme 43,000 hectares will be developed. In 1981-82 under this scheme, trees were planted in an area of 2 lakh hectares outside the periphery of the reserved forest.

With the aid of the Central Government, this scheme is being implemented in 4 districts.

Under the Social Forestry scheme it is proposed to grow forests in a period of 5 years from 1981-82, at a cost of Rs. 45 crores, on 1,75,000 hectares and plantation for a length of 60,075 metres. This will be done with the financial assistance of the Swedish Government.

The aim of the 13th point is to promote family planning on a voluntary basis as a people's movement.

The population of the country which was 34.3 crores in 1947 has risen to 68.4 crores in 1981. The aim of the VI plan is to reduce the birth rate to 21%, the death rate to 9% and the infant mortality rate to below 50%.

Family planning is spread as a people's movement through exhibi-



tions, village dramas, dramas, short films in all the corners of Tamilnadu. The outlay for 1983-84 is Rs. 1,082.66.

The Tamil Nadu Government has concentrated on implementing the Family Planning Programme and has won the appreciation of the Indian Government.

The 14th point is to substantially augment primary health care facilities and control of diseases.

With the goal, Health for all by 2000 A.D. the Government implements various schemes. An integrated approach to provide drinking water, hygiene, nutritious food, education and health was taken up in rural areas. Faci-





lites were provided for doctors to practice and give medical aid for 3 months in villages. Mobile eye dispensaries, control of leprosy, prevention of T. B., E. S. I. schemes for handloom weavers and cigar workers are being implemented.

The 15th point says : programmes for welfare of women and children should be accelerated, nutrition programmes for pregnant women, nursing mothers and children specially in tribal, hill and backward areas should be speeded up.



The Maternal and Child Health Services scheme under Madras Urban Development Project with the assistance of World Bank is an

The nutritious meal programme has evoked appreciation from all quarters for its successful implementation. 169 child welfare centres are functioning exclusively for Tribal children in Kalrayan hills, Javvadi hills, Pachai malai, Aranoothu malai, Siddheri malai etc., An outlay of Rs. 4.95 lakhs has been provided for the financial year 1983-84. The Integrated Child Development Services scheme is being implemented in 300 Anganwadis in Madras, Nilakottai and Thally.

The Social Welfare Department runs 4 orphanages one each at Madras city, Madurai, Kanyakumari and Salem. The children are provided with food, shelter, clothing and medical attention and developmental services of education.

The Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project is to improve the health and nutrition of the people. Under this scheme, pregnant women and lactating mothers and pre-primary school children will benefit. The plan allotment is Rs. 55.78 crores. The World Bank aid is 26.88 crores.

Spread universal elementary education for the age group 6-14 with special emphasis on girls, and simultaneously involve students and voluntary agencies in programmes for the removal of adult illiteracy is the aim of the 16th point.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has achieved amazing progress in this field.

integrated programme to deliver a package of services to the children in the age-group of 6 months to 3 years, 3 years to 6 years, and pregnant and lactating mothers. The services contemplated are supplementary nutrition, immunisation, health check-up, referral services, health and nutrition education and non-formal education in an integrated manner. A total number of 129 child welfare centres are being run in Madras city. With effect from 15-9-1982, the Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme has been substituted in these centres.

It is noteworthy to point out that our State has already exceeded the annual target in additional enrolment of boys and girls in the age group of 6-14. The budget outlay for education is Rs. 356 crores for 1983-84. It is 21% of the total outlay of Rs. 1,654 crores.

Children under the age group 6-11 ie, 96.2% and 11-14 ie 66.63% have been enrolled.

Text books and slates are distributed free of cost to poor children studying in classes 1-3.

A sum of Rs. 3.04 crores has been allocated for adult education and non-formal education. Under the Rural Functional Literacy programme, 3,900 centres are functioning. Adult Education Programme has been started in 6,100 Adult Education Centres under the Self Sufficiency Scheme. About 63,000 adults benefitted in the first phase of the 1,710 centres run by 34 voluntary agencies assisted by the Government of India. 222 Post-literacy centres were run in 1982-83. An additional 426 centres will be run in 1983-84.

A scheme of vocational Non-Formal education for adults in urban areas was tried in 1980-81 in 150 centres.

The active efforts of the State Government in the field of Adult Literacy in recent years have won international recognition and the State Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education won from the UNESCO the prestigious Nadezda Krupskaya Literacy Award for 1982.

Expand the public distribution system, through more fair price shops, including mobile shops in far-flung areas and to promote a strong consumer protection movement.

The 17th point stresses the public distribution system.

In Tamil Nadu the public distribution system is being implemented in all the districts. 118 lakh family cards have been distributed. 17,844 fair price shops are functioning out of which 15,482 are in rural areas.

Under the "village a shop scheme" the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is running 1,823 fair price shops in South Arcot District, 614 shops in Dharmapuri District, 1,074 shops in Thanjavur



district and 572 in Tirunelveli district.

Liberalize investment procedure and streamline industrial policies to ensure timely completion of projects, give handicrafts, hand looms, small and village industries all facilities to grow and to update their technology is explained in the 18th point.

The time for issue of licences has been substantially reduced.

The development of small scale industries has made appreciable progress. The progress helps to generate more employment opportunities. District advisory council meetings are held to solve the problems of the industrialists then and there. Till March 1983, assistance has been given to 41 sections in the handloom and small industries sector. Assistance has been rendered to 790 sections in the small industries field and 212 sections in the handloom sector.

In 1983, 8 new Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies were formed in which 2,544 members got enrolled. 46,141 metres of Khadi

cloth has been produced out of a target of 6,30,000 metres for 1982-83.

The 19th point says:—Continue strict action against smugglers, hoarders and tax evaders and check black money.

The anti-social elements in rice trade were traced out. Revenue officials and excise officials are conducting surprise raids on smugglers and blackmarketers of rice.

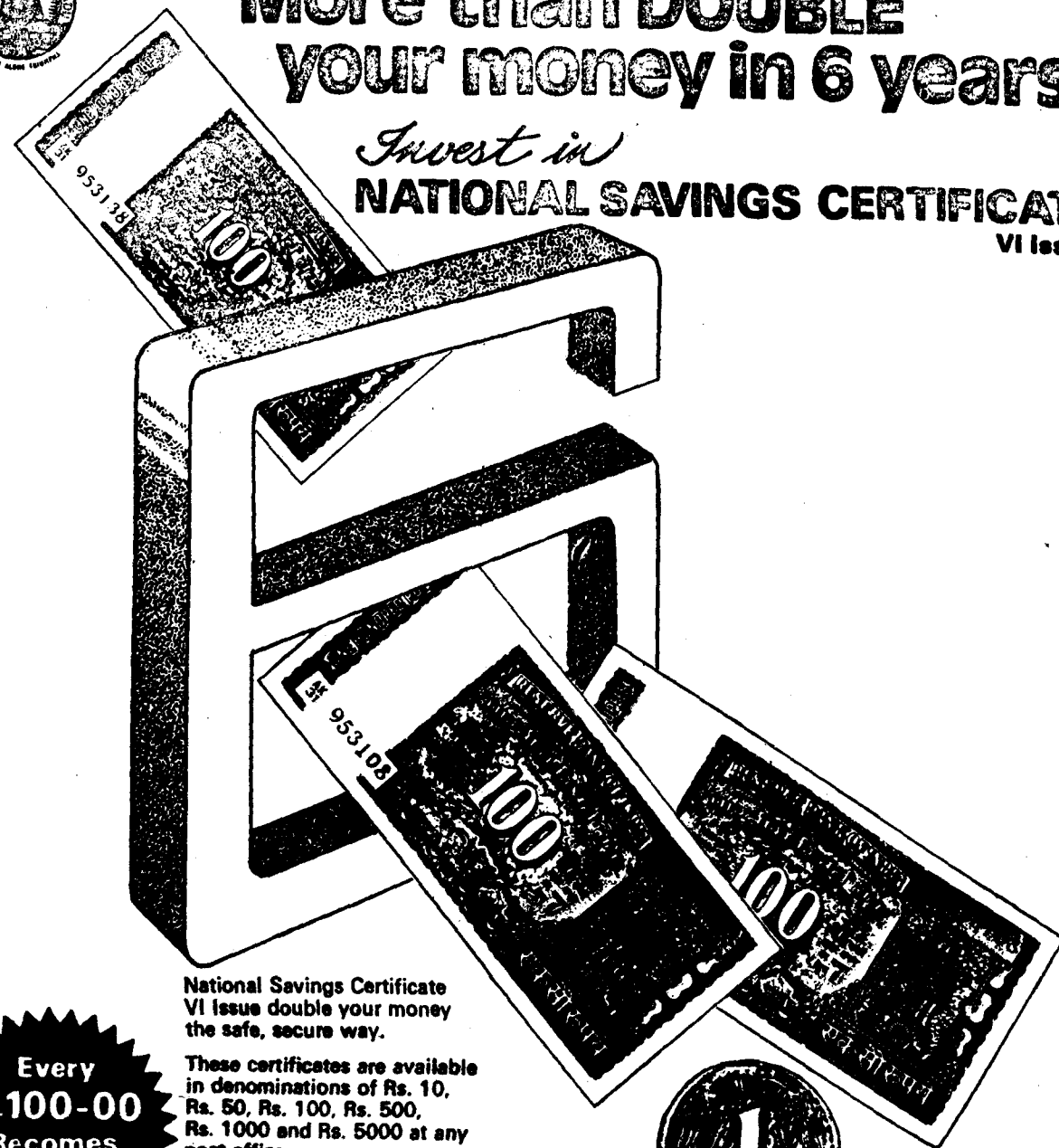
The 20th point says: Improve the working of public enterprises by increasing efficiency, capacity, utilization and generation of internal resources.

The basic soundness of the policy of assigning a dominant role to the public sector has been demonstrated by the progress made in the last decades. The structural transformation that has been brought about would not have been possible but for the initiative taken by the State. The huge outlay invested in the economic and social fields, its approach to the industrial field to promote industrial output has induced a conducive atmosphere for the private sector to develop.



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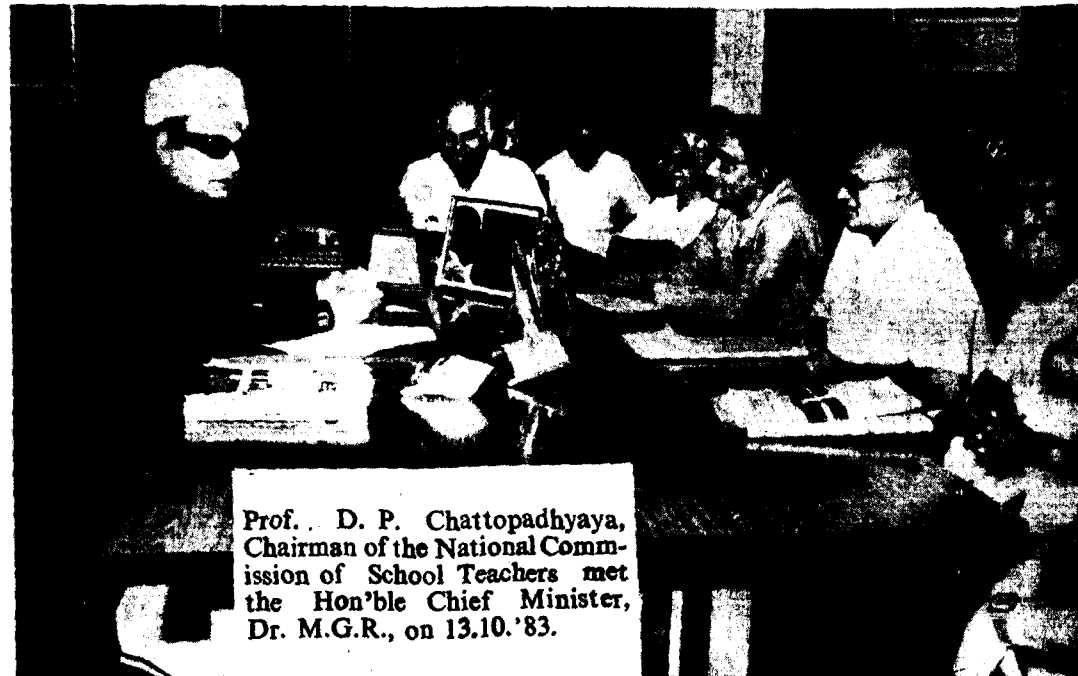
Tamil Arasu

NOVEMBER - 1983 75 P.

Thiruvalluvar Year - 2014 Rudhrothkaari Iyppasi — Karthigai



At a function held to felicitate the Hon'ble Chief Minister on his getting the degree of Doctor of Laws from Madras University on 30.10.'83, H.E. the Governor, Thiru S. L. Khurana is seen addressing the gathering.



Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Chairman of the National Commission of School Teachers met the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. M.G.R., on 13.10.'83.



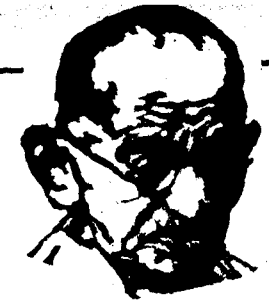
The Hon'ble Minister for Finance, West Bengal, Dr. Ashok Mitra met the Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. V. R. Nedunchiyan on 27.10.'83.

in this issue

Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrations



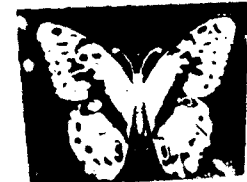
*Sri Lanka Tamils -
government Resolution*



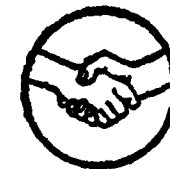
Nutritious Meal Scheme



Nehru - the Statesman



Wide range of Products



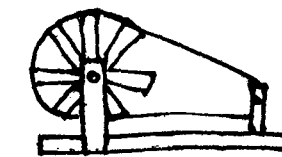
A rural change agent

Nehru on women's emancipation

V.O.C.



Nobel Prize Winner



Khadi

Tamil Arasu

NOVEMBER 1983 VOL: XIV NO: 5

GANDHI

Jayanthi

CELEBRATIONS



Mahatma Gandhi's birthday was celebrated at Gandhi Mantap, Guindy, on 2-10-'83, in a grand manner. Kavignar Subbu Arumugham's party entertained the audience by a Villupattu Programme on the life of Gandhi.

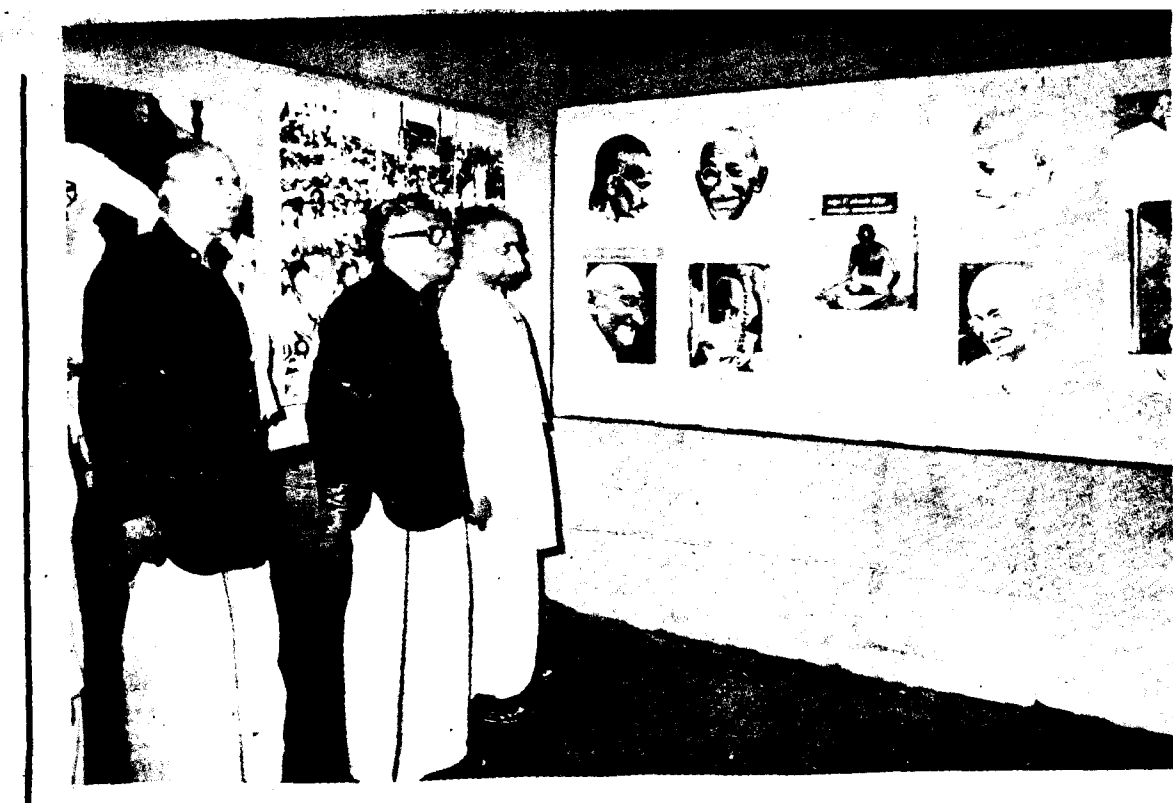
Thiru C.N. Krishna Bharathy, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations in his welcome speech said: "Tamilnadu has been associated with the life of Mahatma Gandhi at various stages. We should remember that we have been following Mahatma Gandhi's ideals not only in the past but even today. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront in implementing several programmes of Gandhiji

whether it is the upliftment of the backward classes, the poor and the downtrodden or the welfare of the Adi-Dravidars or in providing meals for the poor children and that too nutritious meals so that they become healthy citizens. We will pledge ourselves that we will always follow the ideals of Gandhiji".

His Excellency the Governor of Tamilnadu Thiru S.L. Khurana presiding over the function said: "We have gathered here to pay our respects to the outstanding son of India. Those who spoke here have referred extensively to Gandhiji's social ideals, constructive programmes, his services in the freedom struggle etc., therefore I would merely like to express a few ideas.

Gandhiji had a magic power. He conducted experiments with truth. He followed truth in politics. He aroused millions of people. He pointed out the degradation and evils which flourished under the foreign rule. He prepared thousands of people to participate in the freedom struggle. He prepared the people to sacrifice their homes and court imprisonment and to face bullets and attacks.

He instilled courage in the people to oppose the British imperialism in whose empire the sun never set. He conducted his life in a new path in the path of Dharma, in the path of non-cooperation. Thus he was able to face the enemies. He was



able to get freedom for India during his lifetime itself following the path of Dharma. He also guided the people suffering under the yoke of colonial rule. He showed the people under colonial rule the way to get freedom. Today we recall this great person. A few days ago, while speaking at the U.N. our Hon'ble Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi referred to Mahatma Gandhi and his high ideals. 'Today, when the world is facing a crisis, when it is on the brink of war, this great leader is our guide. To save ourselves from destruction we have to follow his path, she said.

We should follow Gandhiji's path of love and truth. Forgetting the differences amongst us we should behave with a fraternal spirit. We see that a new generation has come up after the death of Gandhiji. When Gandhiji went on a tour, people gathered in thousands to listen to his speeches which would arouse them. Today it is very essential to give importance to his ideals. His philosophies and ideologies should be taught in schools and colleges.

The Government of Tamil Nadu in its appeal to the Government of India has requested that a film on Gandhiji's life should be produced in all languages.

We would not have paid our debts, to Gandhiji by celebrating his birthday alone. We should follow

his philosophy and ideologies. Only then would we have shown our gratitude. We should take efforts to create love and unity among the people. Only when we follow his teachings would we have discharged our debts to him."

The function was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chairman of the Legislative Council Dr. M. P. Sivagnanam. In his inaugural speech he said: "Though Gandhi is called the 'Father of the Nation', if one recalls his ideals, life and achievements, he has been the Father of entire humanity; which he continues to be."

He fought against British and their imperialism and brought about its downfall. It is but ironical that it is a Bristisher, Sir Richard Attenborough, who produced a film on the life of Gandhiji which is screened all over the world and we are witnesses to its greatness. We also find people the world over is marvelling at the achievements of historic importance portrayed in the film.

We have witnessed his programmes; some of us have participated in them; some of us have heard him; we had accepted his principles. We have seen him in our midst. We have also witnessed his tragic end.

In spite of all this, it is highly doubtful whether we would have been affected in the same manner as

the people in America, Britain or Africa would have been affected.

Because Gandhi lived amongst us and worked for us, I wonder whether we understand his life and philosophy in the same manner as the foreigners would.

From his ideals we realize that he was not only the Father of our Nation, but of entire humanity.

We Tamils are bound to pay him respects in a number of ways.

Gandhiji has said that he has greatest respect for Tamilians. In the Gandhi Illam at Government Estate, Madras, the following has been engraved: "If I am closest with any race through culture, it is the Tamilians".

In Moscow there is no place without a statue of Lenin or an engraving of his golden words. Let us follow the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.

The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments, Thiru R.M. Veerappan declared open an exhibition of photographs on the life of Mahatma Gandhi. In his speech he said:

"This function is a proof that the people of Tamilnadu have not forgotten Mahatma Gandhi. Tamilnadu can be proud of the fact that the

name of the brave woman Tillayadi Valliammai is remembered next to that of Gandhiji in the South African movement.

Those who knew Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna well will realize that Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna had differences in a few matters with Gandhiji but they never disputed the fact that Mahatma Gandhi was a great leader who deserved the praise and homage of the entire nation.

When, the news of Gandhiji's death reached Thanthai Periyar who had been moved to tears said that India should be named "Gandhi Land". When Perarignar Anna spoke over the All India Radio he called him the "apostle of the world". After assuming the office of the Chief Minister Perarignar Anna continued to propagate several ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.

Similarly, the present Hon'ble Chief Minister, is implementing the programmes of Mahatma Gandhi, the programmes which will benefit the people in the villages. We can understand that the Hon'ble Chief Minister's programmes are aimed at the villages, which constitute the "heart" of India.

It was Mahatma Gandhi who gave us the fundamentals of the plans that we discuss today. We are now making efforts to propagate vocational education. During the freedom movement Gandhiji was experimenting with construction programmes. He felt that the then educational system would turn the people into a "nation of clerks". Therefore he instituted vocational education, so that they could earn a living.

Gandhiji had introduced the Khadi scheme. The Government of Tamilnadu has introduced further innovative methods to increase production enormously, thus instilling awareness of Khadi into the people. The turnover has increased by several crores resulting in job opportunities for thousands of people in the villages.

The greatest economists have realized that plans drawn should have villages as their base and can not be drawn anyhow, as far as the country is concerned. These basic principles have been evolved by Mahatma Gandhi, who has taught us that we have to live as human beings in whatever noble ideals we follow; whether it is social reform, economic equality, eradication of casteism or untouchability.

All the 68 crores people of the country should always accept him as the Father of the Nation who guides us and remember him as the leader. We should take a pledge accordingly. As far as Gandhiji is concerned there should be no differences of opinion or ideological differences. Debate on him is a closed chapter. To be above debate and act as a guide for the betterment of the nation, if the poor should get a better life, if caste, and religion should go, if equality should be maintained, if the people of the villages are able to speak for themselves, we should have Gandhiji as our guide. We should formulate plans according to his ideals.

Today the Government of India should not only implement its plans in his footsteps. It should not merely recall his birthday once every year, it should be seen that steps are taken to remember him every day.

I assure that the Government of Tamil Nadu is prepared to carry it out under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. I also express my gratitude on behalf of the people of Tamilnadu to His Excellency the Governor, who has taken great interest in conducting this celebration.

Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru K. Rajaram in his speech said:

"Sir Richard Attenborough has released a film on the life of Mahatma Gandhi whose production costs exceeds several crores. The film is not a comprehensive portrayal of Gandhiji's life. There is a grievance that several historical events have not been included. It is not possible to include the freedom movement and the racial struggles in a film running only for three hours. Therefore it would be better if a documentary or a feature film on Gandhi is taken which depicts his association with Tamilnadu and the Tamilians in a novel way which could be understood by the younger generation.

It is the Tamilians who first introduced Gandhiji to the world. Gandhiji has referred to Tillayadi Valliammai frequently in South Africa. The Tamil Traders supported his struggles against racial discrimination. These historical facts should be made known to the younger generation. It was only after seeing the agriculturists during his tour of Tamilnadu that Gandhiji adapted the loincloth, after seeing the half clad farmers in Tamilnadu. He continued to wear it till the end of his life. Even when he participated in the Round Table Conference in London he wore his famous "loincloth". The younger generation should be made aware of such historical events. General U. Thant who visited Madras in 1968 pointed out that a number of Gandhiji's ideals have been adopted in the Atlantic Treaty. I would like to make an appeal that all the publications of Gandhiji should be brought out in all the languages all over the country atleast on 2nd of October every year.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Thiru K. Arunachalam M.L.C., Thiru N. Mahalingam, Industrialist and Tmt. Soundara Kailasam.

Deputy Director for Exhibition, Information and Public Relations Department, Thiru R.K. Krishnamoorthy proposed a vote of thanks.



Gandhiji's birthday was celebrated at Kalaivanar Arangam by the State Government in Madras on 8.10.83. At the commencement of the function a Villupattu programme by Kavignar Subbu Arumugam and Party was held. Through Villupattu he brought before the audience the life history of Gandhi. He also dealt with the welfare schemes of the Government and Nutritious Meal Programme, which was appreciated by the audience.

A symposium on the life and message of Gandhiji was held in the morning session under the Presidentship of Thiru Sripal, Commissioner of Police.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. G. Ramachandran unveiled a portrait of Gandhiji and delivered a speech.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister in his speech said:

"On this occasion when I have been given an opportunity to speak during the birthday celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, I wish to express my gratitude to Perarignar Anna.

The word 'Mahatma' should be considered a philosophy. Nothing further should be added. The Gandhian philosophy should be used to teach people of what we know

and what we have forgotten to tell them and to draw up future programmes. It is my wish that nothing further is added to it.

While paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi I have also been paid tribute as Chief Minister.

Today, we are feeding 67 lakhs children, under the nutritious meal schemes. At present the children aged 5 and 6 who get nutritious meals will be 21 years old, fifteen years hence.

It is the duty of who ever is in power to do the needful to the people. It is the order of the day.



Whoever is in power will help to implement the programmes. We have to formulate schemes today to problems which may arise 15 years hence.

We do not want to burden those who come after us. We are going to introduce vocational education which will provide career for the future. Students in schools should have 4 days of study, 2 days of vocational training, and have rest for a day. With this training they will get a certificate which will be useful in getting employment.

The Government and workshops providing training, should have statistics of the students trained. The students should be induced to learn a number of vocations of their choice. Vocational education should be linked with the village economy. This scheme would need Rs. 1,000 crores per annum.

The daily necessities of the people should be produced so that there is no unemployment in the villages. This will raise the economic standard of the country. It is only our State that implements such non-plan schemes. When the noon-meal scheme was introduced people were wondering where the State would find the finance for it.

People were wondering whether the scheme could be implemented with only a nominal allocation in the budget. But today the scheme is not only being implemented but would be continued in the future also. We are also taking steps to give vocational training to students. They need a guarantee for securing a job as soon as they complete their training. In this regard, I had a discussion with a few industrialists, who assured me that they would render all possible assistance. Thus, I expect assistance to come from all over Tamilnadu.

Tomorrow the student should not be faced with any uncertainty regarding job opportunity. A man will not get the desire to hoard money if he is assured that he would get employment. It is the Government which should take up the responsibility.

This is the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. It is the self-sufficiency in village economy. We see that undesirable habits are growing in a society in the guise of modern trends. We must understand the Gandhian philosophy to put an end to these unhealthy trends. That is



the reason to hold this function.

I felt that while Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated, symposia and discussions should be held in which learned persons should be made to participate.

Some one who spoke this morning about the film on Gandhi said that a documentary should be produced in which events involving those associated with Gandhi should be shown.

There is a great error in the Gandhi film. In the scene where Mahatma Gandhi is shot, Gandhi is shown exclaiming, "Oh God". But Gandhiji's last words were "Hare Ram".

As a great theist he uttered the word Rama. This film has won 8 awards, given by Americans. Had we been the judges, we would have deliberated by and finally awarded



the prize after changing the last words.

I want the people to learn the truth by reading and research.

That is the reason why the AIADMK has decided that research should be done on Anna.

The relaxation on prohibition fetches Rs. 150 crores revenue. This income was reaching the coffers of private capitalists.

The income will be Rs. 200 crores this year, which will be used for welfare schemes.

We do not need this money, if the people decide not to drink. The leaders should help the people to come to a decision not to drink.

A change could not be brought about in a day in a country. There should be a change in the atmosphere to bring about a change of heart.

The Chief Minister also distributed old age pension to 300 Muslim widows, tools to Adi Dravidars, Physically handicapped and weaker sections besides distributing loans.

Tirukkural Thiru V. Munusamy in his inaugural speech said "Gandhiji led a life of high moral standards. It was Gandhiji who got freedom for India. Every Indian should ask himself whether he has the right to live in a Free India and everyone should think whether we have contributed any good to the country. We should live not for ourselves but live for the sake of the mother land and try to follow at least to some extent the way shown by him."

The Police Commissioner Thiru Sripal, IPS in his speech said "It is but fitting that the Government of Tamilnadu is celebrating Gandhi Jayanthi which should be highly appreciated. Gandhiji worked for the welfare of the poor and downtrodden. He

achieved greatness through his hard selfless service. He followed the path of truth and Ahimsa. Nehruji said, though Gandhi is dead he is still living amongst us. Let us take a pledge to follow the path of Gandhiji."

In the symposium in which Dr. Balachandrar spoke on Equality, Prof. Sathiaselvan on Spirituality, Thiru Ramalingam on Socialism, Thiru R. Krishna moorthy on Freedom, Selvi T. S. Prema on Politics, and Selvi. S. Premila on Culture.

Earlier, Thiru C. N. Krishna Bharathy I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations, welcomed the gathering. Thiru R. Krishnamoorthy, Deputy Director, Information and Public Relations Department proposed a vote of thanks.

The evening function began with a Villupattu on "Gandhi Mahan Kathai" by Thiru Kothamangalam Visu, son of Kavignar Kothamangalam Subbu.

Thiru A. P. Muthuswamy, Secretary to Government, Information, Tourism and (Tamil) Culture Department, welcomed the gathering.

Dr. M.P. Sivagnanam, Chairman of the Legislative Council presided over the function. In his speech he said "We are proud to have lived during the time of Gandhiji. This function organised by the Government of Tamilnadu in which people belonging to various religions participated goes to prove that it is truly a "National function".

Inaugurating the function, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Thiru V.R. Nedunchezian said in his speech: "A few live in our memory by their heroic deeds, capability and intellectual brilliance. But the Buddha, Prophet Mohamed, Jesus and

Valluvar all have found a special place in our hearts. The birth of greatmen make the birth of their date significant. Similarly October 2 has become important because Mahatma Gandhi was born on that date. Those men with humanism and culture found a place in the hearts of the people. Gandhiji is one among those leaders. The people in the West who knew Gandhi only through books would learn more about his life through the "Gandhi" film produced by Attenborough.

I could feel that the Gandhi film has created an enthusiasm among the people in the West, when I had been to participate in the world peace conference. Today, the world pays tributes to Gandhi because he



was able to capture the people's hearts.

While paying tributes to Gandhi, Bharati in his song has said that he had elevated the status of India which was once weak.

Gandhi was India's genius; Gandhi was India's heart. When asked for a message to the people Gandhi said "My life is my message". Gandhi worked for the welfare of the poor and downtrodden.

He upheld truth and morality, was untiring, affectionate, courageous in his stand. We should follow the footsteps of such a greatman."

Others, who spoke on the occasion were former Chief Justice Thiru M.M. Ismail, Justice S. Swamikannu, Archbishop Thiru Arulappa, Thavathiru Ooranadigal, Vice Chancellor of Annamalai University, Thiru S.V. Chittibabu, Thiru T. Chengalvarayan, Thirumathi Illampirai Manimaran, Thirumathi Nirmala Suresh.

Thiru K. Sundaramoorthy, I.A.S., Collector of Madras proposed a vote of thanks.

A drama 'Pathachoru' by Thiru V.S. Raghavan and troupe produced by Thiru S.V. Sahasranamam was performed.



Sri Lankan Tamils- Government

Resolution

Tamil Nadu
Nov 1983
P. 8-9

The Hon'ble Dr. M. G. RAMACHANDRAN,
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu moved the official
resolution

(a) This House expresses grave shock and concern at the atrocities like genocide, looting, arson, rape, etc. perpetrated continuously since July last against the Tamils living in Sri Lanka namely the Eelam Tamils, the Tamils of Indian origin and India-based Tamils.

(b) This House vehemently condemns the Sinhalese Extremists for their incessant atrocities against the Tamils and also the Sri Lankan Army and the Police Force who abet the Extremists in committing such atrocities and the Government of Sri Lanka headed by President Jayawardane which extends support to them.

(c) This House expresses its appreciation to the members of the public, to all political parties and Organisations who have unanimously raised their voice against the uncivilized, barbaric, undemocratic and inhuman atrocities committed against Sri Lanka Tamils by taking out peaceful processions, observing Bandhs and Hartals and organising peaceful demonstrations within the ambit of law and order.

(d) This House welcomes and places on record its appreciation of the several measures taken by our Hon'ble Chief Minister with the support of the leaders of all political parties in order to redress by all means the grievances of the Sri Lankan Tamils and to give effect to the sentiments expressed in one voice by the people of Tamil Nadu. This House also expresses its gratitude to the Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India, who by respecting the feelings of the people of Tamil Nadu and by securing the support and goodwill of the Sri Lanka Tamils came forward to take all possible and constructive steps to solve this problem.

(e) This House requests the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to pay heed to the reasonable grievances of Sri Lanka Tamils and take all possible steps without delay, since all the Sri Lanka Tamils strongly feel that, only through the efforts and influence and steps taken by the Government of India, they will be able to get permanent citizenship rights and protection of Sri Lanka. Further, this House requests the Government of India to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Sri Lanka Government on this issue, in order to halt the committal of incessant atrocities on the Sri Lanka Tamils.

(f) Since, India and Sri Lanka possess from time immemorial closer bonds in the matter of race, language, history, civilization, culture, relation ship, links, etc., since the basic human rights of the minorities in Sri Lanka are being trampled much to the concern and dismay of all the Nations in the world and since the people of India, the Indian Embassy, the Indian Banks and the Indian tourists have been brutally attacked, this House stresses the need for the Government of India taking over the responsibility to find a solution to this problem and take necessary and intensive action therefor.

(g) This House urges the U.N.O. to use its good offices and full powers immediately to find a solution to the plight of the Tamils of Sri Lanka, and to render them justice as the U.N.O. has taken over the responsibility of safeguarding the welfare of the minorities throughout the world and to afford them permanent rehabilitation and protection of their fundamental rights. This House appeals to the Government of India to take up this issue in the U.N.O. as India is an important member of the U.N.O.

(h) This House expresses its concern and shock that the Government of the U.S.A. is preparing to supply arms to the Government of Sri Lanka which is concentrating on the extermination of the Tamilian race in Sri Lanka by use of force, repression and violence; that the Government of the U.S.A. aims at making Trincomalee its Naval Base and that the Defence Secretary of the U.S.A. Ven Berger is having secret negotiations with the Government of Sri Lanka in this regard. This House strongly condemns the attitude of the U.S.A. whose prime duty is to give life to the Tamils of Sri Lanka but which, instead of protecting the Tamilians, has come forward to supply arms for the annihilation of the Tamil race; This House also avers that the Government of the U.S.A. should give up its unjust activities like the supply of arms to Sri Lanka and the construction of a Naval Base in Sri Lanka.

(i) This House appeals to the Government of India to do the needful through the good offices of U.N.O. or the International Red Cross Organisation or the Indian Embassy in Sri Lanka, for the proper distribution of food-stuffs, garments, medicines, etc. collected and sent by the Government of

Tamil Nadu and the Government of India for the welfare of the affected Tamils in Sri Lanka.

(j) This House strongly condemns the barbarous legislation introduced by the Government of Sri Lanka to deprive entirely the Tamils in Sri Lanka of their right of citizenship, right of voting, right of carrying on business and their right of living. This House stresses that the said legislation should be withdrawn.

(k) This House appeals to the Government of Sri Lanka to give an opportunity to the Tamils of Sri Lanka to participate in the Round Table Conference and to express their thoughts, feelings and sentiments without any restraint; This House also requests the Government of Sri Lanka to conduct negotiations in a cordial atmosphere according to democratic traditions and to find a solution to this problem to make the people live in peace and confidence.

(l) This House reiterates that the Government of Sri Lanka should compensate the loss sustained by the families who have lost their kith and kin in the ethnic violence perpetrated on the Tamils in Sri Lanka, who have received grievous injuries and also suffered by loss of their properties. Further this House requests the Government of India to take necessary steps immediately to that effect.

(m) This House appreciates the Government of India in having selected and sponsored Hon'ble Minister for Electricity of the Tamil Nadu Government as a Member of the Indian Delegation in

whom the Tamil people have reposed full confidence and who has been given an opportunity to put forth, the mental agonies and pangs of the people of Tamil Nadu as a whole and also places on record its appreciation for the way in which our Hon'ble Minister for Electricity who has made known the feelings of the fifty million people of Tamil Nadu to the comity of Nations in the United Nations General Assembly.

(n) This House welcomes Sri Lanka's decision to invite once again G. Parthasarathy to Colombo to continue his dialogue and requests the Sri Lanka President to agree without further delay to unconditional talks with the TULF in a Round Table Conference to hammer out a durable political solution to the Tamil ethnic problem.

(o) This House extends its full support to the Sri Lanka Tamils who have been conducting non-violent struggle for securing permanent citizenship rights and protection and also expresses its desire, that all their legitimate and reasonable demands should be achieved successfully.

(p) Through this Resolution this House requests the Tamil Nadu Government to take earnest endeavours to see that the above -said demands are acceded and given effect to by the Government of India.

(The official resolution on Sri Lanka Tamils was moved by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 25.10.83)

Monthly Allowance for Kuttimani's widow

The Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned a monthly allowance of Rs. 1000/- on humanitarian grounds to the widow of Sri Lanka Tamil freedom fighter Kuttimani, who was killed in the Colombo National Prison massacre on July 1978.

In response to a request from K. Kuppuswami, Kuttimani's brother, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned provision of a house in Madurai at Government expense.

immediately for the Kuttimani family to stay in. In recognition of his martyrdom the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered State help for the family.

Thiru A. Chelliah, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board, handed over the key to the house allotted to Kuttimani's sister in Lloyd's Colony. A house has been allotted to Kuttimani's sister also on the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.



Nutritious Noon-Meal Scheme ROOTS and BRANCHES

J. C. D. Prabhakaran, M. L. A.

In the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi and revered Anna, our beloved Puratchi Thalaivar, Hon'ble Chief Minister of the Government of Tamilnadu, has been formulating schemes and presenting projects, with the grand objective of eliminating the twin evils, viz., hunger and illiteracy.

After his historic assumption to power, first in 1977 and later in 1980 all his steps, as Anna once declared in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly are measured ones. The direction and orientation of the governmental measures have been aimed at improving the standards of living of all peoples irrespective of their caste, community or creed.

Of all his projects, the epoch making one is his conception of the nutritious noon-meal scheme which after its implementation in the year 1982 is now catering to the needs of about 65 lakhs students of school-going age. With the introduction of the Nutritious Noon-Meal Scheme in the year 1982, our beloved Puratchi Thalaivar the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Government of Tamilnadu has eliminated the twin monsters, viz., starvation and illiteracy endangering the lives of our people at one stroke.

"Starvation is both a disease and a sin" so denounces "Manimekalai" one of the five famous Tamil Epics of ancient times. Pavender Bharathidasan, the rebel-poet of our times, proclaims that real enjoyment lies in poor feeding. As a matter of fact, his vast experience and wide reading as well as his own harrowing experience in his early life, have moulded Puratchi Thalaivar's conception of the unique noon meal scheme. "Show mercy to the hungry; and, concretise your idea of help". This has been his guiding principle.

In 1982, the infants were the beneficiaries of the welfare scheme that is now being implemented all over the State. But even a decade ago, he had been instrumental in providing a few collegians of the Madras Loyola College with nutritious noon-meal. Way back in 1973, J.C.D. Prabhakaran, the author of this write-up was the General Secretary of the Loyola College Students' Union. During

his tenure as the General Secretary, his co-students would meet him with a variety of demands which in turn be taken up with the Principal. On one such occasion, two students approached him diffidently and after much persuasion came out with the request of providing them with free noon-meals since they could not afford it. Their request made him think deeply about the appalling conditions of a few more students who were similarly placed. A notice was duly put up in the college notice board calling for petitions from poor students who would like to have a free noon-meal. The petitions thus received were submitted to the college Principal. But no help was forthcoming from him, saying that the college could not afford free meals. Then the College Union Council decided to organise a benefit show styled as Star-Nite in connection with which we had a meeting with the office-bearers of the South Indian Film Artistes Association. They agreed to participate in the Star-Nite Function



on condition that we agree to contribute Rs. 1000- as donation to their building Fund. The resultant dismay disappeared only after our meeting later with the beloved Puratchi Thalaivar who was then nursing his new born revolutionary political organisation, and hence actively engaged in meeting the challenges thrown in his way. The Secretary of the College Student Union, J.C.D. Prabhakaran explained to him the outlines of the Scheme. "We have got a proposal to provide free noon-meal to the poor co-students who hail from economically backward families. A fund raising campaign in the form of a Star-Nite programme would be held wherein the well-known and popular Cine Artistes would be participating and displaying their histrionic talents to the delight of the audience." Spontaneous was his gesture when he declared that he would donate Rs. 10,000/- towards the noon-meal programme. The demand of the South Indian Film Artistes Association was then conveyed to him. He exhorted us to carry on with our work with more vigour and not to worry about the demand.

It was October 22, 1973, and the venue was the University Centenary Auditorium, Madras. Before the function started the amount of Rs. 1000- was handedover to the South Indian Film Artistes Association. The Auditorium was jam packed with students, teachers, the general public and the leading artistes of those days. As Puratchi Thalaivar entered the hall, it was 6.30 p.m. sharp. He was received inside the hall with a standing ovation. So much was the enthusiasm!

The cultural programme was in progress. It was in the intermission that Puratchi Thalaivar addressed the huge gathering to the accompaniment of continuous claps here and approving applauses there. At the outset he congratulated our lofty efforts. He said that man created money and not vice-versa. Hence, man should never become its slave. As he becomes its slave the consequences would be grave for the entire humanity. Everyone should realise this fundamental fact of life and start doing constructive work to uplift the poor from starvation. It was highly commendable on the part of Loyola Students to engage themselves in collecting funds for feeding the poor students. Puratchi Thalaivar felt that it would not be a good gesture on the part of the South Indian Film Artistes Association to receive Rs. 1000/- for the building Fund from the students. Therefore he announced that he was giving Rs. 1000/- to the Noon-meal Fund. The overawed audience responded to this fine gesture with a thunderous ovation. So his contribution alone rose to Rs. 11,000-. The exultation of the students was great. In all, our collection stood at Rs. 30,000/- which was duly handed over to the Principal who in turn deposited the amount in a Bank. Even today, about 15 students are getting the free Noon-Meal at the Loyola College, Madras.

Our beloved Puratchi Thalaivar's concern for the poor and the needy is legendary and not something sudden and new. This nutritious noon-meal scheme is unique in that it is aimed at dispelling at one stroke the humiliating darkness of illiteracy and wiping out the haunting spectre of starvation.

Impartial observers all over the country, nay, the world over, are calling the noon-meal scheme



unprecedented, historic and revolutionary. The unique Noon-Meal Scheme has placed him in the galaxy of great men who are known all over the world for their courage of conviction, noble deeds of philanthropy and lofty principles.

For independent India preserving its democratic framework was as essential as economic progress and development. What it meant to the country's leadership was that the man at the helm had to be not only of strong convictions and modern outlook; he had to be able to understand the social, cultural and political realities of the country. Pandit Nehru filled the bill better than the others. Gandhi's choice of Nehru as his political successor was but a natural one.

Nehru was profoundly influenced by socialist schools of thought ranging from Fabian Socialism to Marxian experiments. He was also a firm believer in modern day science and technology. Yet he could appreciate and understand Indian realities which Gandhi, more than all, brought into focus.

Once when asked if it was not a fact that he and Nehru spoke different political languages Gandhiji is said to have answered, that language was no barrier to a union of hearts and that when he was gone, Nehru would speak his language. Another time Gandhiji wrote of Nehru: "He is undoubtedly an extremist, thinking far ahead of his surroundings. But he is humble and practical enough not to force the pace to the breaking point. The nation is safe in his hands"

Nehru's unrivalled following among the masses is common knowledge. He always identified himself with the simple peasantry who form the bulk of the population. Sardar Patel who was a close contender for the number one post along with Nehru once remarked at a massive meeting of farmers "I will never turn them to my side. They have come here to see Jawaharlal"

Nehru's stewardship of the nation for seventeen long eventful years more than vindicated the judgement of Gandhiji and the trust of the people. The rich legacy of thoughts and deeds he left behind to the country and the world bear ample testimony to this fact.

If India today can boast of being the eighth largest industrial nation in the world or having the third largest scientific and technical manpower or having attained self-sufficiency in food grains-all in a matter of just three decades-it was largely due to the firm economic base laid by Pandit Nehru. In a recent interview W.W. Roston, the famous development economist said, India was now on a "drive to technological maturity", that is "the ability to absorb new technology and put it to productive use". This is indeed a tribute to the foresight of Nehru, who believed in creating what he called a "scientific temper" among the people for sustained progress.

Detractors may point to the fact that industrial progress in the country has not been accompanied by the much needed social change with the result the country's basic problems of poverty, unemployment and inequality have, by and large, remained hardly mitigated. But this does not in anyway belittle our achievements so far. It only highlights the complexity and stupendity of our problems.



NEHRU THE STATESMAN

DR. B. NATARAJAN
Chairman
Institute for Techno - Economic
Studies.

What would have been the result if we had followed a development path different from one Nehru laid can only be a hypothetical question. A more realistic way of assessing Nehru's economic policies would be by comparing our achievements with fellow developing countries which started on an independent development path about the time we did.

What we witness on the international economic scene now is the general dependence of developing countries on the developed ones. Fluctuations in the fortunes of the latter affect the former far more



severely. The developing countries which are in a relatively happier position are the ones which had made self-reliance an integral part of their development policies and they are not many. It is in this context that we remember with gratitude the sagacity of Nehru who advocated and acted on the principle that development should be primarily an indigenous process.

The socialist in Nehru wanted the public sector to be all powerful and in due course reach the "commanding heights" of the economy. Yet he never underestimated the role of the private sector, which he well understood, had an equally important place in the Indian context. Nehru's vision of a "Mixed Economy" where private and public interests will march hand in hand towards common progress is now suggested by renowned Economists as a way out of the ills facing some of the Western economies including America.

Nehru viewed India's independence as part of a general struggle for decolonisation in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Accordingly he shaped independent India's foreign policy on the basis of self-reliance, mutual respect and peaceful co-existence. The Pancha Shila principles which he enunciated in 1955-namely mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence was acclaimed by nations of the world regardless of their differing ideologies. These canons of international relations are indeed timeless. Nehru put his principles to effective use when occasions arose. The Indonesian freedom (1948), the hostilities in Indo-China (1954), the Korean war (1955), the Suez crisis (1956) are some

of the occasions when India led by Nehru played a key role in diffusing and resolving the problem.

The greatest contribution of Nehru to World Peace, of course, was his major role in founding the Non-aligned movement which he nurtured from strength to strength till his end. Perhaps the best tribute to India's foreign policy conceived and shaped by Nehru came from the noted Gandhian Dr. Gene Sharp. He said "There is no doubt that our world would have been a far more dangerous place in the past years except for the role which India played in the international scene. She by world or example helped to stop and reverse the tendency for the world to be polarised into two nuclear-armed power blocks. That condition of extreme polarisation, with the increased tension and rigidity which would probably have accompanied it, would have been in all likelihood more conducive to an outbreak of major nuclear war than is the less polarised and more diversified international scene today. India's Foreign policy and her policy of non-alignment made, therefore, a positive contribution to international relations in the past two decades, helping to prevent war and to ensure the survival of mankind."

Nehru was a man without fear. He did what he thought was right. He, as Winston Churchill once said "had overcome two of the greatest failings in human nature; he knew neither fear nor hatred". Indeed Nehru was a born Statesman. In the murky international scene of today what sorely needs is leaders of the stature and wisdom of Jawaharlal Nehru who could see beyond their noses on to a society based on peace, prosperity, freedom and justice.

IMPACT INDIA

I am happy to be here today with you all and to inaugurate the project 'Impact'. I am glad to observe that the Leeds Castle Seminar held in England on November 12, 1981, has not turned out to be an end in itself. I would offer my felicitations to the organisers of the seminar for taking an important practical step forward, from the Leeds Castle declaration, in the direction of formulating practical programmes of action and policy guidelines for disability, prevention for incorporating in National and International Health Programmes.

When one looks at the staggering number of disabled people in the world today of which about 80 per cent live in developing countries and the frightening prospect that the number of disabled persons would be doubled by the end of the century, the problem of tackling disabilities may appear to defy any possible solution. The consequences of physical and mental disability in terms of the suffering and frustration are tragic both in its nature as well as its magnitude. Disablement among children and the working age group of population results in less of economic activity and productivity and disability among the aged results in physical and psychological suffering. Fortunately, however, modern scientific advances in the field of health and medical sciences all over the world have made available to us low cost practical strategies by the use of which, at appropriate timings and in a planned manner, the problem of disabilities can be tackled and reduced to manageable proportions in a reasonably short span of time. For example, a vastly expanded programme of immunization of mothers and children can help in reducing the number of disabled persons to a considerable extent. I feel that a more systematic effort is requiring to be made by all nations particularly of the developing world, in collaboration with the international organisations working in the sphere of health, to plan and put into action appropriate measures of

prevention focussed particularly on these disabilities against which there exists an appropriate and cost effective potential for control. It is in the fitness of things that many international organisations have joined hands in taking an initiative in this direction.

The Government of India firmly committed to the cause of the upliftment of the poor and downtrodden sections of society particularly the disabled persons, who happened to be most neglected people of the community and need maximum support and sympathy. We have been able to develop a number of practical and low cost technologies in India for prevention and cure of disabilities of various kinds and these are being applied in the country with considerable success. However, there is need for a well coordinated plan of action and concerted effort to ensure better application of these technologies all over the country.

It is indeed heartening to note that Project 'Impact' is being launched on Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. Mahatma Gandhi's services to the cause of the physically handicapped, the lepers, the blind are well known. Gandhi's ideals will provide the necessary strength and encouragement to all those who are involved in this Herculean task of providing light to those who cannot see, speech to those who cannot hear and movement to those who are deprived of performing normal human activities.

I do hope that this distinguished gathering of eminent experts from India and abroad who are authorities in various fields of disabilities and most of whom have spent their life-times working in these areas, will be able to evolve concrete plans of action for disability prevention for incorporation in the national health plans in order to secure a progressive reduction in the scale of disabilities prevalent in various countries.

[Excerpts from H. E. the President of India's speech on the occasion of the inauguration of project 'Impact' on 2nd October 1983.]

The Hon'ble Prime Minister's message on the inauguration of Project "Impact India"

"Many disabilities and diseases are avoidable. Growing economic prosperity and higher educational standards should bring higher health consciousness. Our development programmes emphasise safety and prevention.

Gandhiji's contribution to the rehabilitation of leprosy patients has been an inspiration for our extensive programmes for the rehabilitation of the disabled. It has been long recognised that disability causes anguish to those affected and to their families. With assistance and training, the disabled can become useful citizens and lead fulfilling lives.

India has pioneered the application of highly effective low cost technologies particularly in artificial limbs, spectacles and simple hearing aids. The new international initiative against avoidable disablement will synchronize this technology with the facilities available in our established health infrastructure.

I send my good wishes for the inauguration of Impact".

(Courtesy: P.I.B)

I am fond of children

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

—Nehru



AMONG THE GALAXY OF WORLD LEADERS

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

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

—Perarignar Anna.



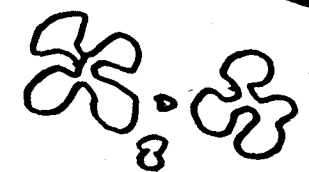
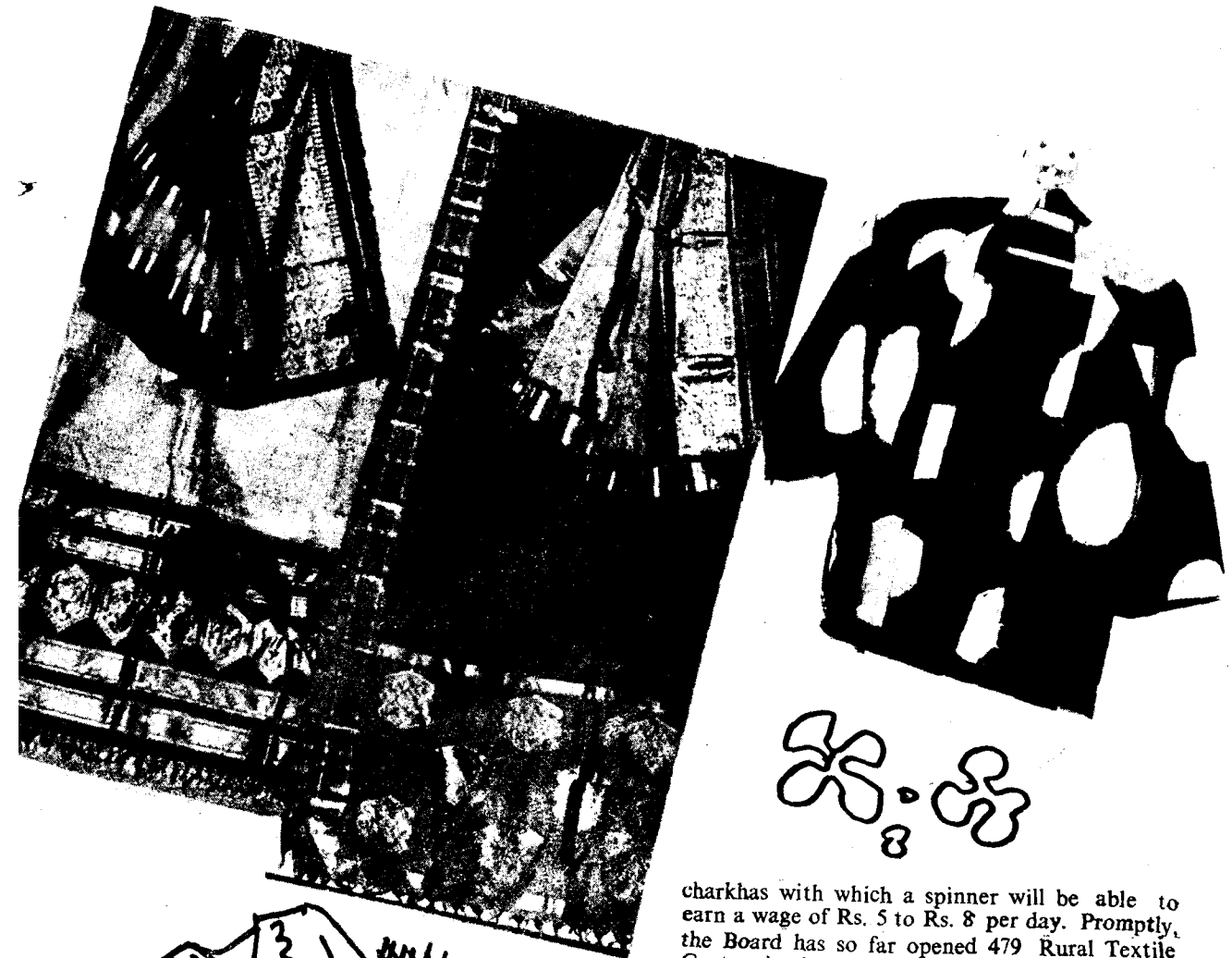
KHADI



Thiru M. Venkatachalam, I. A. S.
Chief Executive Officer,
Khadi and Village Industries Board.

"Khadi is not merely a cloth, it is a philosophy, it is a movement" said Gandhiji. Gandhiji revived the Charkha as the symbol of political and economic freedom and integrated it with rural economy by making it as a means of providing employment to millions in the thousands of villages in India.

Khadi is hand-spun and hand woven cloth and it includes cotton, silk and woollen. The ancient twin crafts of hand spinning and hand weaving have survived in India to this day inspite of heavy odds and Khadi stands as the symbol of the peerless textile tradition created over a number of centuries.



charkhas with which a spinner will be able to earn a wage of Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 per day. Promptly, the Board has so far opened 479 Rural Textile Centres in the villages and thereby provides employment to nearly 15,000 persons. Another 3000 persons would be provided with employment through spinning during the course of this year.



The activity of handspinning of cotton and weaving of handspun yarn perhaps enjoys a universality unequalled by any other industry except agriculture. It is due to this characteristic that the cotton khadi programme stands on a different footing altogether, when compared with other employment programmes. Besides this, no other industry except again perhaps agriculture can claim to provide more employment opportunities to the women folk of this land on a massive scale as the cotton khadi programme.

The Khadi spinning was carried on in the earlier days through traditional charkhas. In order to make spinning as a self sufficient one, research led to the introduction of six spindle charkhas hand operated and twelve spindle pedal operated

In order to improve the weaving capacity to commensurate with the increased spindlage, the Board has contemplated to introduce new model looms, in which nearly 50 persons can be provided with employment to non-traditional sector who can be inducted to undertake weaving. By this the Board proposed to generate employment to another 1900 persons during the course of the year. The Board is providing financial assistance to the weavers to construct their own houses with a subsidy of Rs. 1000/- sanctioned by the Government.

Effective measures have been taken to introduce the polyvastra spinning and weaving in Tamilnadu which would be a boon for the unemployed.

The Board has drawn an ambitious programme to increase the production of silk from the present level of Rs. 2.75 crores to 5 crores within the next 2 years. Attempt made by the Board to export its silk proved to be a success. Consequently the Board has diversified its silk production to meet the foreign market.

V.O.C THE BEACON LIGHT

T. Chengalvarayan, M.A.B.L.
Ex - M. P.

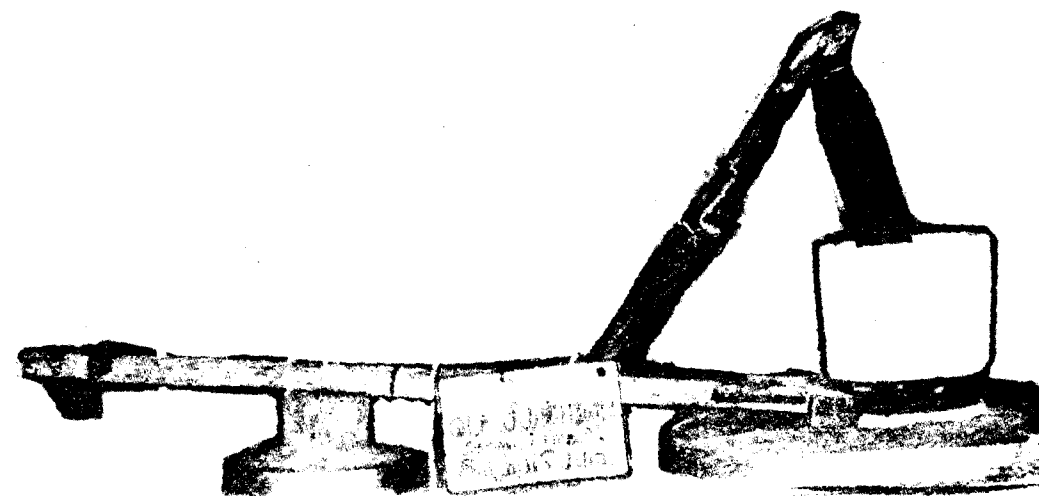
Tamil Nadu had its own pioneering part in the movement of freedom for India. The first call for Indian Nationalism was made by the early leaders of Tamil Nadu both in the Press and on the platform. It was then an intellectual protest to the foreign rule and not a passionate call for the freedom of the motherland. It was a forceful assertion of the legitimate rights of Indians to positions of power and prestige.

The Second stage of the rise of Indian Nationalism was indeed a tumultuous transition from moderate liberalism to militant extremists. Bala Gangadara Tilak, gave the clarion call for Swaraj when he said "Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it". Lala Lajapat Rai of former Punjab and Bipin Chandra Pal of Bengal brought the rear. These three great leaders formed the political trinity of the Indian National Congress. The message of Freedom for India began to spread throughout the length and breadth of India and the people became involved.

From pious resolutions, the Congress began to usher revolutions. Instead of the theoretical protests there began mass propaganda. In such tidal times of agitational national politics, Tamil Nadu gave an outstanding leader for the new phase of the movement of Swaraj. A scholar of great learning, a lawyer of lucrative practice, a person of feeling for the poor and oppressed rose, and that was V.O.Chidambaram Pillai, affectionately called V.O.C.

The times of Tilak witnessed the onslaught of ruthless repression directed against congress leaders. Tilak Maharaj was sentenced to six years imprisonment and was deported to Mandalay Jail in Burma. Today, that dark dungeon, that lonely cell, with no air, with no light is kept up as our national monument. Lala Lajpat Rai the lion of Punjab was deported to America. Bipin Chandra Pal, the trumpet voice of Congress was under arrest. VOC was also condemned to imprisonment with hard labour.

The prison life of VOC has acquired not only a historical value, it has got a lustre, inspiring



generations by such dedication to the national cause. VOC was made to draw the wooden oil mill round and round and the bullock he was forced to replace, shed tears to express sorrow that such a noble soul was forced to do what the creator had designed it to do. VOC with cheer and courage with faith and fortitude, did that job. His foot became swollen. His palm became reddish. His forehead streamed with perspiration. He drew that mill with "Vande Mataram" on his parched lips. We have that very oil mill now preserved for posterity as a monument to the suffering, which Congress leaders like VOC had undergone for the freedom of India.

VOC had plunged into the thick of the freedom struggle, taking the lead in every aspect of the movement. Tilak Maharaj gave a call for Swadeshi and boycott of foreign cloth. VOC organised mass demonstrations. He addressed mammoth meetings urging the people to become swadeshi in thought, word and deed, people got the message. VOC held several rallies of workers and the people spontaneously organised bon-fire of foreign cloth. The clothes were shed and became a very high pile and the fire was symbolic of the new fire of the freedom urge. Even a washerman who was taking the soiled foreign clothes of his customers, threw the whole lot into the fire. Such was the popular upheaval of the Swadeshi spirit under the inspiring leadership of VOC.

That was also the time when the working class was slowly becoming aware of their rights, but they lacked enlightened and dedicated leadership. VOC soon assumed the leadership, of the working class and began to champion their cause. His leadership of Labour attracted the authorities who began to employ all the energies of repression. VOC organised the working class as an adjunct to the movement of freedom, thus welding the two in a formidable freedom's front.

The working class became militant and began to strike at the very root of foreign capitalism.

The Swadeshi spirit took a magnificent turn at the instance of VOC. The British came to India as traders and through trade they set up an empire. VOC thought that if that imperialist channel is sluiced up by Swadeshi competition the empire would vanish. He proceeded to promote a swadeshi steamship Company. It was not a sea hulk. It was the dedication of the Swadeshi spirit. It was not only a venture. It became an adventure. VOC had to face odds and obstacles. He endured distress and disappointment. He bore suffering and sacrifice. He set the sail of the first Indian ship on the seas. VOC is now hailed as pioneer in initiating steam ship trade and that too from Tamil Nadu.

VOC had the sanctifying association of Poet Bharathi who was then known widely as the Bard of Freedom. The stirring songs of Freedom began to ring through the words and work of Bharathi. VOC was an ardent admirer of Bharathi. Bharathi became a powerful associate of VOC.

VOC, Bharathi, and many others, stirred Tamil Nadu to its depths. The sacrifices they made, the sufferings they endured, the hardships they encountered, the odds they met, the obstacles they crossed, became the watch word and the bye-word of political thoughts and action.

VOC stood out on an eminence of patriotic persons, a scholar who broke stones and drew the oil mill, a labour leader who became the champion for the working class, an intellectual who led the way for freedom struggle, VOC is hallowed by fame and name. His renunciation was great. He showed the path. He gave the philosophy of national service. He was a beacon light. He had left a tradition of scholarship and national service. His voice has become still. But he lives in the minds and hearts of our people and will continue to inspire this generation and succeeding generations for the evangelical mission of serving the cause of the people and of making India good, great and glorious.



A RURAL CHANGE AGENT

Institutionalisation of co-operative concept for helping farmers and middleclass tide over their economic difficulties in INDIA dates back to 1904 when statutory efforts were launched to organise and develop co-operative societies. Since then, a sea change had taken place both in thought and action. 'Co-operative Principles' are being periodically reviewed to make them suitable to modern requirements for collective economic activity. Regarding its application there is hardly any human action to which the principle has not been applied, whether it is in farm or factory.

Tamil Nadu, which is one of the front line states in the field of co-operation is continuously playing a positive and largely expanded role in revitalising the economy of the farming community through a large net work of co-operatives. The major emphasis continues to be on weaker sections. To serve the people in the diverse economic activities different types of cooperatives have been organised. They help the people by providing adequate and timely credit for agricultural operations, market their produces; the chain of consumer cooperative stores protect the interest of the consumers acting as price settler.

The welfare of the farmers are taken care of by nearly 4,742 village agricultural service cooperative societies; at the rate of one cooperative for about three villages; the 183 primary cooperative land development banks functioning at taluk, block levels are looking after the long term development needs of the farmers. In fact, eighty one percent of

agricultural families in the state are under the co-operative umbrella. Particular attention is being paid for the economic progress of scheduled caste and weaker sections. 60,000 scheduled caste agricultural families have been brought to the cooperative fold during the last two years, enrolling one person each of such family in the agricultural service cooperative societies. The Tamil Nadu Government subsidises their share capital with Rs. 100 each to the person so admitted. The programme for the future is admission of 20,000 members every year till 1984-85

T. M. Arumugam, I.A.S.
Registrar of Co-operative
Societies.

In 1982-83 short term loans to the tune of Rs. 67.18 crores and medium term loans of Rs. 15.97 crores were provided for agricultural purposes. It is gratifying to note that ninety five percent of the medium term loans issued during 1982-83 went to the weaker sections. Another important feature is the crash programme in Thanjavur District for sinking 5000 filter point tube wells to tide over the water scarcity. Tamilnadu Government provided a loan of Rs. 7.50 crores to be routed through primary land development banks to the farmers at the rate of Rs. 15,000 per well.

The disappearance of non-institutional credit sources thanks to the debt relief legislation and resultant

credit shrinkage brought new responsibilities to the village credit cooperatives to fill up the credit gap. 1781 cooperative units issued loans on pledge of jewels amounting to Rs. 170.16 crores in 1982-83, benefiting 9.97 lakh beneficiaries.

To Lighten the Debt Burden

In the last three years Tamil Nadu Government has given Rs. 98/- crores to lighten the debt burden of farmers by way of waiver, refund of interest, write off, converted and rephased loans outstanding against small farmers. Besides the Government have provided financial assistance amounting to Rs. 80 crores consisting of Rs. 42 crores to the Central Banks for wiping out of deficits / due date defaults and Rs. 38/- crores to State Land Development Bank to meet the commitment resulting from postponement of repayment of long term loan instalments. Government subsidised two percent interest rebate to small farmers paying short term instalments.

To compensate loss to the farmers, Crop Insurance Scheme is implemented which will cover all risks during the insured crop season except war and allied risks. During the last two years 4582 families have been paid indemnity upto Rs. 6.19 lakhs.

Distribution of Chemical Fertilisers

The Co-operatives continue to distribute chemical fertilisers as kind portion of cultivation loans to members and also for cash to members and non-members through



about 4,675 retail sale points run by them in the State, particularly in villages. As against the target of 100 units under the Action Programme for productivity year 1982, 126 additional fertiliser sale points were

opened by Co-operatives. During the current year it has been proposed to open 200 numbers of additional sale points to distribute chemical fertilisers. They distributed during 1982-83 chemical fertilisers to the value of Rs. 38.06 crores, as against Rs. 25.82 crores during 1979-80. With a view to helping farmers, the co-operatives allowed during the last two years, purchase rebate ranging from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per bag on certain varieties of fertilisers sold. During 1981-82, fertilisers worth Rs. 19 crores were thus sold, allowing purchase rebate of Rs. 50 lakhs to the benefit of about 4,50,000 farmers. During 1982-83, fertilisers worth Rs. 12 crores were sold and purchase rebate of Rs. 34 lakhs was allowed to about 2,60,000 farmers. The co-operatives are expected to distribute chemical fertilisers for about Rs. 70 crores during the current year.

Marketing of Agricultural Produce.

160 Co-operative marketing societies in the State continue to assist the farmer members in marketing their agricultural produce and thereby help them in securing a fair and reasonable return. In 1982-83, Rs. 109.15 crores worth of agricul-

tural produce were marketed. Agricultural produce worth Rs. 115 crores are expected to be marketed during the current year. Co-operatives have exported during the last three years, groundnut extractions and cotton worth about Rs. 1.70 crores to Singapore and Soviet Union. In order to provide processing facilities for the produce of the members at a reasonable cost, the co-operatives have set up 89 processing units such as rice mills, groundnut decorticators, cotton ginning units and oil mills. The Government have provided financial assistance during the last three years for installation of a modernised rice mill at Thiruvannamalai, 8 cotton ginning units in the State, 2 cold storage units and a turmeric powder unit at Erode.

Differential rate of interest for small scale Industries

The credit co-operatives in the State are also providing, for the last two years, loans at a concessional rate of four per cent interest per annum to weaker sections for undertaking small scale and cottage industries. These loans are given on

personal surety to those whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 2,500 in rural areas and Rs. 3,000 in semi-urban and urban areas, upto Rs. 7,000 per individual. Such loans were issued to the tune of Rs. 107.80 lakhs during 1982-83.

Protection of the consumers' interest

The Consumers co-operatives spread over the entire State are distributing consumer goods of good quality at reasonable prices. That the consumer movement in Tamil Nadu stands first in the entire country and that the progress in Tamil Nadu is twice the progress in Maharashtra, which is the second in the country are worth mentioning. Under the scheme to run a fair price shop in each revenue village to ensure free availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices, the co-operatives are running 11,159 shops in the villages of the State and are ensuring free availability of essential commodities to the rural masses. In 1982-83 out of total retail sales of Rs. 228 crores, Rs. 90 crores were under Village Shop Programme.





Serving the Weaker Sections of the Community-Service to Hill Tribes:-

With the avowed aim of improving the standard of living of the hill tribes, 13 LAMP co-operative societies help the hill tribes by providing loans for cultivation and other production purposes at a concessional rate of 4 percent interest with Government subsidy, by marketing the agricultural produce and the minor forest produce and by distributing the required agricultural inputs and consumer goods.

In 1982-83, Rs. 44.20 lakhs were issued at 4 per cent; Rs. 13.71 crores worth of forest produce were procured and Rs. 59 lakhs worth of consumer goods were distributed for the hill tribes.

Service to Cycle Rickshaw Drivers

For the cycle rickshaw drivers, a co-operative society was formed at Dindigul distributing 100 cycle rickshaws with Government subsidy and interest free loan to the extent of Rs. 1.38 lakhs. Recently two motorised cycle rickshaw drivers co-operative societies were set up in

Madras to help the cycle rickshaw drivers in energising their rickshaws. These societies provide Government subsidy to the cycle rickshaw drivers upto 25 per cent of the cost of energisation of their cycle rickshaws. Last year Government subsidy of Rs. 1.05 lakhs was given to 109 cycle rickshaw drivers.

Self Employment to Educated Unemployed

A co-operative thrift and credit society of unique type to provide loans for promotion of self employment to educated unemployed youth has been started in Madras. The possibilities of organising similar societies in other districts also are being examined.

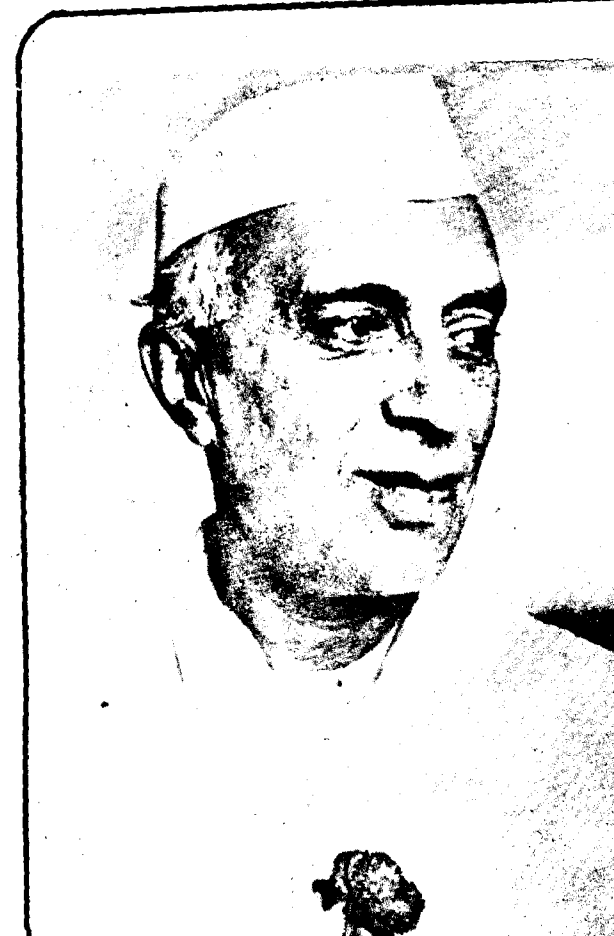
Employment to Unemployed Engineering Graduates

In order to provide employment to unemployed Engineers by eliminating as far as possible private contract system in the execution of works in the Public Works Department, a construction co-operative society of unemployed Engineering graduates and diploma holders has been started

recently at Madras on an experimental basis and is functioning with Government assistance.

Progressive Act.

With a view to achieve the objects of the co-operative movement, a new Co-operative societies Act has been brought out. It provides for representation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, economically weaker sections and women in the boards of important co-operative societies, disposal of various statutory matters such as registration of co-operative societies, registration of amendments to bylaws of co-operative societies and admission of all individuals eligible for membership, completion of enquiry, inspection or investigation, audit of accounts, supersession of the Board and surcharge proceedings, within the time limit prescribed, holding of meetings of the Board and general body of the societies, proper use of the properties and funds of the societies, raising the rate of dividends on shares from out of profits earned by the societies, purchase for resale of standardised goods having AGMARK or I.S.I. mark etc.



JAWAHARLAL

Jawaharlal has undoubted claim to the throne of young India. His is a majestic role. Unflinching is his determination and indomitable his courage, what raises him to lofty heights is his unwavering adherence to moral truth and his intellectual character. He has upheld the standard of purity in the midst of political turmoil where deception, including self-delusion so often destroys integrity. Jawaharlal has never evaded truth when it brought danger in its wake nor has he made alliance with falsehood when it would have been convenient to do so. His brilliant mind has always turned away in outspoken disgust from the path of diplomacy where success is as easy as it is mean. This purity of motive and undeviating pursuit of truth is Jawaharlal's greatest contribution in his fight for freedom.

—Rabindranath Tagore
(8th March 1936)

A new Microlithic site was spotted recently in Kanyakumari District by the Curator, Anthropology Section of the Madras Government Museum. This teri (sand dune) site in the coastal village of Muttam, is 12 kilometers away from Nagercoil and comes under Kalkulam taluk. The Curator recently undertook an exploratory tour of the site which is stretched for about 2 to 3 kilometers and collected about 20 Microlithic tools, comprising of flake tools, flakes and cores as surface finds. The site is said to be of the Mesolithic

Age and may be dated to about 4,000 B.C. Hunting and fishing could have existed during this period in this part of Tamil Nadu.

The Microlithic tools (of chert and quartz) thus collected are on display in a diorama case, showing the coastal Muttam Village with teri sand areas. Some gastropod and pelecypod shells found along the coastal line of Muttam are also on display in the diorama case.

This special exhibition will be on view for a month from 24th October '83 in the Museum.

MUTTAM & MICROLITHIC





Wide range of products

Sales

Co-optex is a household name in the handloom textile in the country. The success of Co-optex marketing strategy is proved by the constant and continuous increase in sales. During the Deepavali 1982, Co-optex has achieved a sales of Rs. 38.75 crores as against the Deepavali 1981 sales of Rs. 32.56 crores. In spite of severe drought conditions and glut in the textile market particularly in handloom industry, Co-optex has been able to show an increase by Rs.6.19 crores.

Special Rebate

A special rebate of 20 percent will be allowed on all varieties at all show-

rooms and exhibitions of Co-optex during the festival times.

In addition to rebate of 20% a special offer of additional 20% shall be allowed on select varieties.

New Products for Deepavali

The marketing strength of Co-optex lies in its new product strategy. This year Co-optex is bringing out three new products namely polyester shirting styled as GREAT LOOK SHIRTINGS, polyester sarees styled as PRETTY LOOK SAREES and the pure silk sarees with zari work styled as ANGEL SILK SAREES.

The GREAT LOOK SHIRTINGS and the PRETTY LOOK SAREES are printed in very sophisticated designs and in attractive colour,

combinations obtained from foreign countries like Singapore, Japan, Hongkong, Taiwan etc.

Angel pure silk sarees

The ANGEL SILK SAREES are produced out of the pure silk imported from China woven in an array of colours. In order to add more beauty to the product, zari threads are interwoven. The product is produced, keeping the price as prime factor so that it is within the easy reach of people from all walks of life.

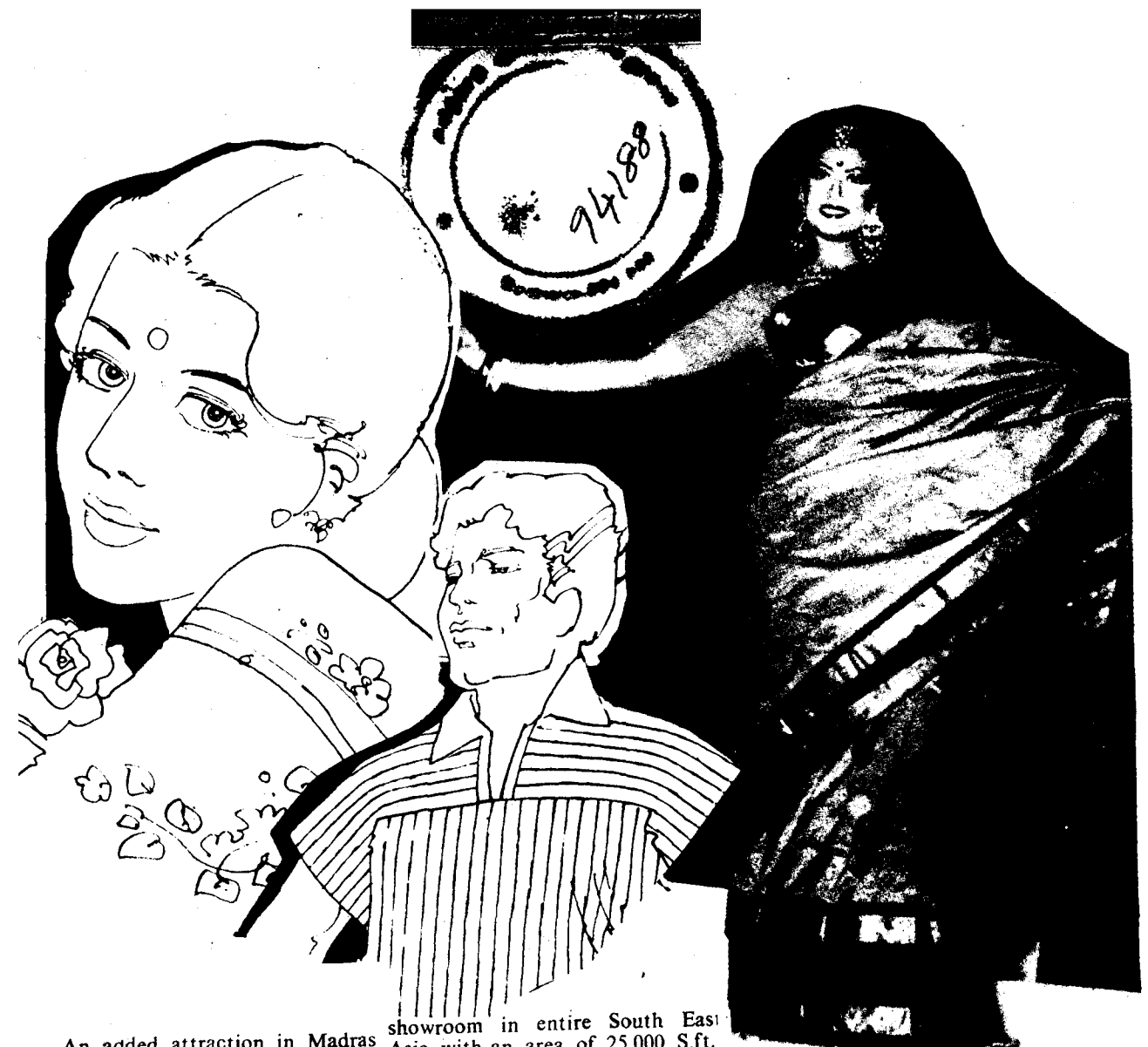
Research and Development

Co-optex, is fully alive to the changes in consumer preference. Co-optex, keeping with the changes in fashion in favour of blends, has increasingly shifted to the manufacture of blended and even pure polyester fabrics. Now this account for 20% of Co-optex turnover, constant updating of designs and product mix in keeping with changing tastes and demands are all key elements of Research and Development activity.

As a result of sustained activities of Research and Development, Co-optex has undertaken the trail production of POLYESTER CHIFFON SAREES on Handlooms for the first time. The results of trail production are encouraging. By undertaking this production, Tamil Nadu Handloom weaver has been exposed to a new blend of product technology and thus taken to a new phase of handloom weaving. It is expected that the POLYESTER CHIFFON SAREES will be released for test marketing during Pongal 1984.

Channel Strategy

Co-optex has also over years evolved a very vast and modern marketing network. The entire range of Co-optex products are marketed through a chain of 615 showrooms, thereby making available household handloom textiles to as many as 350 million people. The retail chain of Co-optex is the largest in the co-operative sector. In order to help the consumers more than 200 exhibitions are organised at strategic points throughout the country. This is a distinct trend in channel strategy which Co-optex has innovated recently. The exhibitions are organised in all district headquarters and in important towns.



An added attraction in Madras city this year, is the handloom exhibition organised in the exhibition grounds of Co-optex at Pantheon Road for the convenience of the public. In addition to this, exhibitions are also organised in Moor-market, Anna Nagar, Ashok Nagar, Ayyanavaram, Perambur, Pallavaram etc.

Credit Sales

Credit is essentially a sales promotional device. A most notable feature is extension of credit sales to salaried employees during festival occasion with rebate facilities. As usual, credit sale is being extended to the employees of State and Central Governments, Universities, Colleges and Schools, Local bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, Reputed public limited Companies, Co-operative Institutions.

Pothigai New Showroom at Trichy

Just like Thillaiyadi Valliammai Maaligai which is the biggest textile

showroom in entire South East Asia with an area of 25,000 S.ft. Co-optex is opening a big prestigious showroom near Trichy junction with an area of 6,000 S.ft. This will be the biggest textile showroom in the entire Southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

Pothigai would be a Deepavali gift of Co-optex to the customers in Southern districts. With its dazzling introduction, POTHIGAI would offer a complete range of handloom products-Silk, Cotton, Artsilk and Polyester blended sarees, Shirting and Dhothies specially produced for the consumers in and around Trichy.

Cloth supply to Landless Agricultural Labourers

As per the scheme announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Co-optex has so far supplied 15 lakhs Janatha sarees and 14 lakhs Janatha dhoties to the landless agricultural labourers in the state as a relief measure. The distribution is organised by the District Collectors

By this, the agricultural labourers are not only benefitted but it has also helped the weavers to get continuous employment during severe drought in the state.

For the year 1983-1984, Co-optex plans to produce 340 lakhs Sq. Metres of Janatha cloth.

Wide range of products

Co-optex has wide range of handloom textile products which are not produced even by leading textile mills in the country. It has complete range of products made out of cotton, pure silk, artsilk and polyester, viz.

Sarees, Shirtings, Dhothies, Bedsheets, Pillowcovers, Lungies, Towels, Dress materials etc.

The Co-optex has offered wide product range with attractive rebates coupled with credit facilities.

NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

The Indian-born American Professor Subrahmanyam Chandrasekhar, has won the 1983 Nobel Prize for Physics. He shares the prize with a fellow American, Prof-William Fowler.

The two won it for their research into how stars are born and what these are made of, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Prof. Chandrasekhar of the University of Chicago, won the prize "for his theoretical studies of the physical processes of importance to the structure and evolution of the stars".

"Many scientists have studied these problems, but Prof. Chandrasekhar and Prof. Fowler are the most prominent" the citation said.

The two were chosen from hundreds of candidates for the prize worth 1.5 million Swedish kroner (\$200,000).

Born in Lahore on 19-10-1910, Prof. Chandrasekhar had his early education in Presidency College, Madras, and the Trinity College, Cambridge.

He drew inspiration from his uncle and Nobel Prize winner Dr. C.V. Raman. Prof. Chandrasekhar who became a fellow of Trinity at 24, left for Chicago three years later as research associate at



the Chicago University. He became full professor in 1947.

Although he took up American citizenship in 1953 at the age of 43, he remains one of India's greatest scientists.

After working for his doctorate at Cambridge, Dr. Chandrasekhar went on to Gottingen, Liege, Moscow, Leningrad, Paris and Harvard. In 1936, he was picked by the astronomer, Otto Struve who had been asked by the Chancellor of Chicago University to scout for the best astronomer. Prof. Struve invited Dr. Chandrasekhar to join the Yerkes Observatory and he has remained there since then.

Dr. Chandrasekhar's brilliance can be seen by the fact that his book, "An introduction to the study of stellar structure", complete in 1939 till this day remains a standard text and reference book for all students of astrophysics.

The recipient of many scientific awards, he has authored numerous books and his contributions put India on the science map of the world.

MEGALITHIC SITES

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered two important megalithic sites dating back to 2000 B.C. one in Kambarmedu in Therazhundur village in Thanjavur district and another in Melasathamangalam near Pondicherry. The discoveries were made by Thiru C. L. Suri, Superintendent and Thiru P. Narayana Rao, Deputy Superintendent of ASI.

Kambarmedu is stated to be the place where the great Tamil poet, Kambar, lived. He is the author of Kamba Ramayanam, the renowned Tamilised version of the great epic. Kambarmedu is a mound measuring about 30 feet in height and 100 feet long. Excavations near the mound yielded Chola coins and brick structure in the first layer and neolithic tools in the second layer. The third layer contained a large number of megalithic tools

which are about 4000 years old. Hand-made pottery, redware and utensils were also found. The silt formation in the third layer suggested that the area was eroded by some river which has now dried up or has shifted its course.

Excavations at Melasathamangalam, which is 6 km. from Arikamedu near Pondicherry, has for the first time revealed tools of megalithic period near the dried up bank of the Sankarabharani. The first layer contained Roman coins, the second neolithic tools and the third megalithic tools and pottery.

It is significant that while in Arikamedu only Roman coins were found dating back to the first century B.C. the megalithic settlements at Melsathamangalam date back 2000 years B.C.



The Government of Tamilnadu is considering a proposal to set up a Research Centre in Mudanthurai Sanctuary in Ambasamudram taluk in Tirunelveli District. This centre would study the usefulness of wild animals and help to know more about them. This cell would also help to study the medicinal properties of these wild animals like civet. It has been decided to erect a few more watch towers also for the benefit of visitors. The sanctuary, which forms part of the Western Ghat, was originally planned as a tiger sanctuary. A few decades ago tiger and panther along with other carnivores roamed freely in this part of the ghat section. The main reasons that brought down the tiger population were indiscriminate poaching, reckless sporting and pesticide poisoning. The sanctuary was established in the year 1962. The main purpose was to provide the dwindling tiger population an undisturbed home. This atmosphere was provided to them so that they could multiply in large numbers in the vast area. Other wild animals seen in the area are sloth bear, sambar, chital, civet cats, elephants and bison.

Tourists from all walks of life and all over the country and abroad visit the sanctuary round the year. The famous Agastiyar peak believed to be the abode of Agastya Rishi, the legendary father of Tamil is situated within the sanctuary. The din and bustle caused by the construction of a dam nearly the 20 mw Servarar Hydro-Electric Project had disturbed the peace of the animals. This project was started in the year 1974. Consequently the wild animals had gone deep into the jungles. After the completion of the dam by December 1984, steps would be taken to afford complete peace and protection to these animals.

The population on lion-tailed monkey, popularly known as macaque, which was on the threshold of extinction, is rising steadily in Kalakkad sanctuary in Tirunelveli district. Necessary protection is given to the rare species by the Forest Department. The sanctuary's Macaque population now was around 200. The sanctuary was formed in 1977, in Nanguneri taluk, spread over an area of 250 sq. km. Adequate protection was given to them and that is the reason for the rise in the population of this species. Kalakkad sanctuary is famous for macaque, the Nilgiris langur, sambar, wild boar, Nilgiris tahr, flying squirrel and monitor lizard. The sanctuary was formed with the special objective of conserving the lion-tailed monkey. Availability of water throughout the year in the streams originating in the sanctuary even during worst drought conditions has made it an ideal abode for these rare species. Macaque is found only in a few pockets in the western ghats. The white facial ruff and tuft on the tail tip makes it appear like a lion. While the ruff appears on all youngsters of about five to six months of age

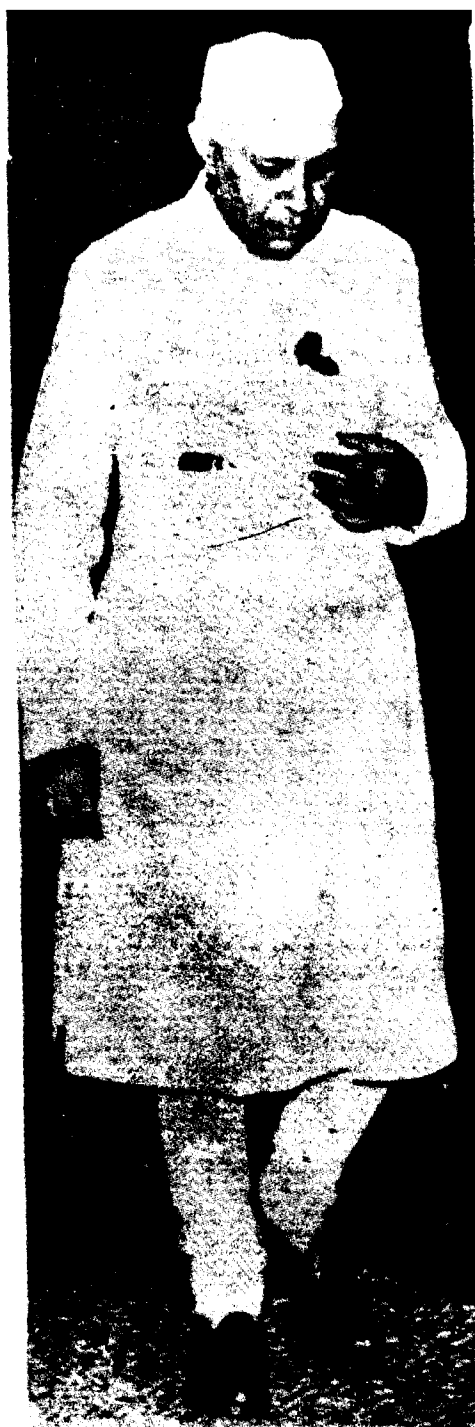
WILD LIFE RESEARCH CENTRE

the tuft appears only in adult males developing with sexual maturity. Adult males are larger than females. Usually the macaques live as a family.

Major forestry operations and grazing had been completely banned within this sanctuary. The Government of Tamilnadu has declared Kalakkad as a "Sanctuary". After that, developmental activities were initiated with financial assistance from the Central Government. Wild Life tourism is also promoted. Keeping in mind the conservation needs, tourism is confined only to a small, less vulnerable outer zone of the sanctuary.

A large number of water conservation measures had been taken up in the sanctuary under the drought relief programme for improving the availability of water. This had brought beneficial changes in the use-pattern of the sanctuary by wild animals. Modern medicine heavily depended on such rare species. Armadillo, a burrowing animal had been found useful for providing clue to leprosy and its cure. Macaque is being studied in developed countries to know more of human behaviour and psychology to put down the increasing crime rates.

(Courtesy: News Today)



Jawaharlal Nehru, the multifaceted personality, is the most fascinating figure of our century in India. He was the co-architect of India's freedom, with Gandhiji. Not only was he the fighter of India's freedom but also the great builder of modern India, on scientific and rational lines. C. Rajagopalachari called him 'the most civilised person among us.' Gandhiji spoke of him in glowing terms: 'In bravery, he is not surpassed, who can excel him in the love of the country?.... He

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is pure as a crystal, he is truthful beyond suspicion....The nation is safe in his hands."

Nehru's view on woman and her position in society finds candid expression in his writings and his speeches. In "The Discovery of India"—he records with great thrill and pride the events that brought Indian women into the forefront of India's political scene.

"Most of us menfolk were in prison. And then a remarkable thing happened. Our women came to the front and took charge of the struggle. Women had always been there of course, but now there was an avalanche of them, which took not only the British Government but their own menfolk by surprise. Here were these women, women of the upper or middle classes, leading sheltered lives in their homes, peasant women, working class women, rich women, poor women, pouring out in their tens of thousands in defiance of government order and police lathi. It was not only that display of courage and daring, but what was even more surprising was the organizational power they showed.

Never can I forget the thrill that came to us in Naini Prison when news of this reached us, the enormous pride in the women of India that filled us. We could hardly talk about all this among ourselves for our hearts were full and our eyes were dim with tears.

My father had joined us later in Naini Prison and he told us much that we did not know. He had been functioning outside as the leader of the civil disobedience movement and he had encouraged in no way these aggressive activities of the women all over the country. He disliked, in his paternal and some what old-fashioned way, young-women and old messing about in the streets under the hot sun of summer and coming into conflict with the police. But he realized the temper of the people and did not discourage any one, not even his wife and daughters and daughter-in-law. He told us how he had been agreeably surprised to see the energy, courage and ability displayed by women all over the country. Of the girls of his own household he spoke with affectionate pride.

Nehru believed in the emancipation of women and he made no fuss about giving it unequivocal expression too. In the same book,

NEHRU ON WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION

—Prof. Prema Pandurangan

Nehru mentioned the legal position of women according to Manu.

"The Legal position of women, according to Manu, the earliest exponent of the law, was definitely bad. They were always dependent on somebody—on the father, the husband, or the son. Almost they were treated in law as chattels. And yet from the numerous stories in the epics this law was not applied very rigidly and they held an honoured place in the home and in society. The old law giver, Manu, himself says: 'Where women are honoured, the gods dwell.' There is no mention of women students at Taxila or any of the old universities. But some of them did function as students somewhere for there is repeated mention of learned and scholarly women. In later ages also there were a number of eminent women scholars. Bad as the legal position of women was in ancient India, judged by modern standards, it was far better than in ancient Greece, Rome, early Christianity, the Canon Law of medieval Europe,



and indeed till right up to comparatively modern times at the beginning of the nineteenth century."

There is a deep human commitment in his statements and one discovers the basic humanist in him. He is for a respectable dignified and equal-to-man treatment for women. He does not forget the saying of Manu-Yatra naryastu pujayante tatra ramante Devatah!

Nehru believed with conviction that women have a great role to play in society. Education being the main sustenance for a civilised society, was to be thrown open to women too. In one of his speeches made in Madras, in 1955, he makes it clear that women's education is not a concession, it is theirs by right, contributing to the welfare of society and the country.

"Truly no argument is required in defence of women's education. For my part, I have always been strongly of the opinion that while it may be possible to neglect men's education it is not possible or desirable to neglect women's education. The reasons are obvious. If you educate the women, probably men will also be affected thereby, and in any event children will be affected. For every educationist knows that the formative years of a person's life are the first seven or eight years. We talk about schools, and colleges which are no doubt important, but a person is more or less made in the first ten years of his or her life. Obviously, in that period, it is the mother who counts most of all.

Therefore the mother who has been well trained in various ways becomes essential to education. Most mothers, trained otherwise, I regret to say, are not good mothers. They are too soft. They stuff their children with all kinds of eatables, put too many clothes on them, wrap their necks and heads and ears with all kinds of woollen apparel and make the boy or girl almost an imbecile before he or she grows up. Therefore, it is necessary for women to be educated, if not for themselves, at any rate for their children...."

According to Nehru, the education of women makes for sane children and sober children. The woman who rocks the cradle can also light the lamp of learning. She is not a chattel a kitchen maid; she is the builder of personalities, the bedrock of faith and culture and the Indian tradition.

Talking about women's occupation Nehru felt that the modern woman is capable of taking up certain position in offices. Had he lived on, he would be pleased to see several high offices held efficiently by women in India, the highest being the Prime Ministership, which his esteemed daughter Tmt. Indira Gandhi holds with aplomb and dynamism.

Nehru's views on women and their emancipation are clear and precise. He does not throw overboard tradition nor does he accept orthodoxy blindly. As the sagacious poet Kalidasa wanted, he too desires an admirable amalgamation of the best of the new and the best

of the old. According to him, the Indian woman is not to be in purdah, nor is she to be an unfeminine creature seeking a brash equality with man. For him the Indian woman is basically feminine, gentle, tender, sensitive and traditional in the wholesome sense of the term without which she is no woman at all.

"Women in India have played an important part in our social life and in our history. They have played this part in every branch of national activity, from high learning to valour on the battlefield. But it is their unobtrusive work in the household, in the village or in the larger community, that has moulded the nation.

They are essentially feminine, and that is as it should be. But then I have always felt that India, for all her manly qualities, is specially noted for the feminine virtues, gentleness, tenderness, a certain patient resignation and a quiet and sometimes amazing courage of a somewhat passive kind."

Nehru believed that the greatest revolution in a country is the one that affects the status and living conditions of its women. He records with admiration and enthusiasm the impact Gandhiji made on women's life in India.

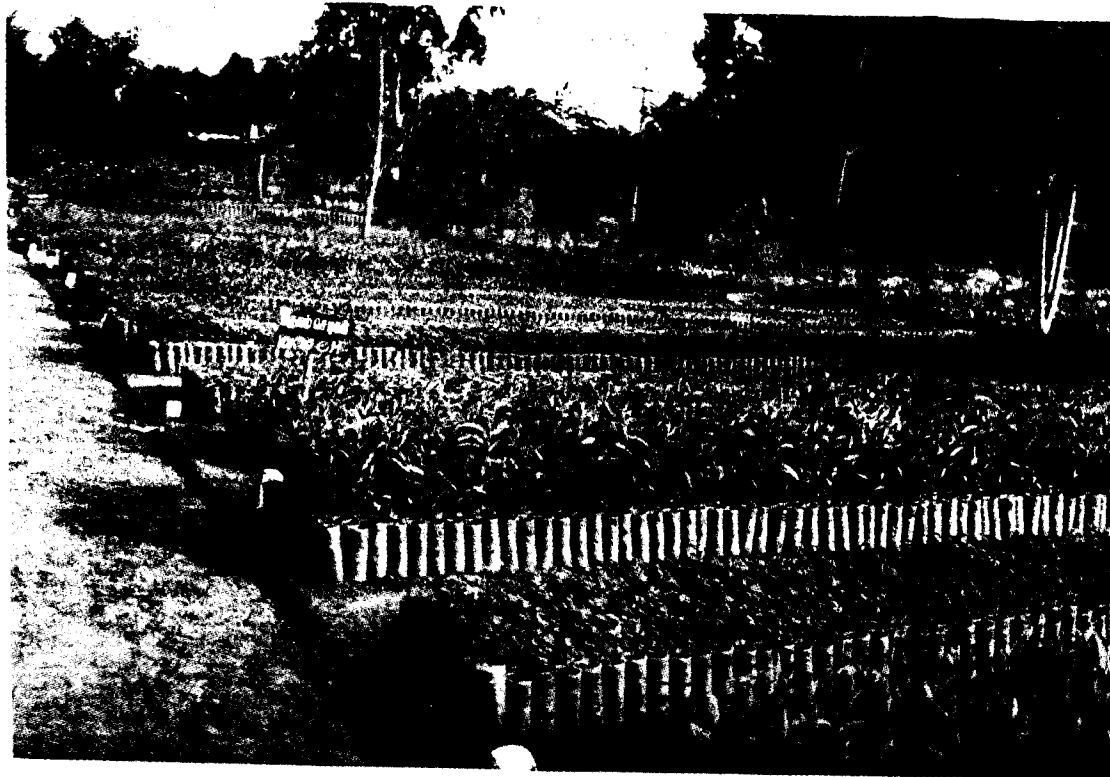
"It was Gandhiji, that wonderful man and great revolutionary, who brought a dramatic change among our women, when at his bidding they came out in large numbers from the shelter of their homes to take their part in the struggle for India's freedom. Once the old shackles were removed, it was no longer possible to replace them in the same way. Attempts were no doubt made to go back, but they were bound to fail."

Nehru was a sensitive writer, a zealous patriot, a prince by birth, a democrat by conviction, a believer in values, a modernist in attitude, an Indian at heart, a humanist in outlook. He believed that education would affect women in India but not the essential characteristics of India's women.

In conclusion one remembers the Lord in the Gita, remarking about His immanence in feminine qualities.

"Among women, I am fame, prosperity, speech, memory, intelligence, firmness and forgiveness. (X—V. 34).

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TREE PLANTING AS INCENTIVE TO MAKE A WANDERING TRIBE SETTLE DOWN

Settling down in one place permanently and raising tree crops for livelihood is unheard of in Narikurava (a nomadic tribal community of Tamil Nadu) families. But it has been faithfully practised by about 27 families inhabiting Nerkundam Village, 25 km. North of Madras in Chingleput District.

Living in this tiny hamlet for more than 25 years, the tribe's passion for growing trees around their homes is reflected in the form of well established and yielding tamarind, neem, jamun, silk cotton and various other useful trees. "These trees give us fruits, fuel, and shade. They shelter the birds, which we hunt for food" said an elderly Narikurava woman.

Many of them are seriously taking up systematic forestry with assistance from the Tamil Nadu Forest Department. Under the SIDA (Swedish International Development Authority) assisted social forestry

scheme, the forest department is involving the Narikuravas in planting trees to meet their immediate needs. Mixed plantations of useful trees have been eagerly planted by these people, according to a forest department personnel.

Some of them have taken to raising eucalyptus in their holdings. (These settlers have been provided with about two acres of land per family for cultivation by the Government). To instil the social forestry concept in the minds of these nomadic people the Forest Department has selected a young woman from their own tribe, and she is doing a good job of popularising tree planting, protecting the seedlings from the mouths of goats and cattle, according to an official.

Important Component

Concentrating on the "Tree Cultivation Incentive Programme", an

important component of the massive forestry project 19 year-old, P.Indira Gandhi who has passed Plus Two, earns Rs. 250 for her role as the village forestry worker. She goes to neighbouring villages on her new bicycle to popularise the scheme and to supervise the plantings. She has a target of raising two lakh seedlings for distribution among villagers, and she also guards an eucalyptus plantation in the vicinity. Above all she maintains her own eucalyptus plantation of two acres.

For the 35 year old N.Thiruneevathan raising tree plantation is a new experience. He has planted many useful treespecies in the holding just behind his house, and tends them very carefully. In about 1½ acres of land, a little further away, he has grown eucalyptus. He is very enthusiastic about the new plantations and claims that the large mixed plantation of the Forest Depart-

MULTI-MEDIA PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

Launching of a number of welfare schemes marked the commencement of the seven - day Multi-Media Publicity Campaign at Pudukottai. Inaugurating the Exhibition got up by the State and Central Government Departments, the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments, Thiru R.M. Veerappan, announced that a mini zoo would be set up in the Collectorate compound. He said the Government was considering such a scheme for all the districts also. The Minister planted a variety of trees in the compound of the Collectorate under the scheme 'one family one tree'. The target is a five lakh trees. The Minister also released a few spotted deers in the forest area of the Collectorate declaring it a deer sanctuary. He also distributed milch cows to 80 persons of the weaker sections of the society.

At the Exhibition Ground, The Minister unveiled 13 plaques symbolising the completion of one project for each of the 13 Panchayat Unions in connection with the Multi-Media Campaign. They comprise of six community centres, four section buildings one rural dispensary, one Panchayat office, one ground level reservoir-all completed at a cost of Rs. 6.5 lakhs. The Minister gave away pattas to 1,000 landless people, loans amounting to Rs. 42.5 lakhs to the Harijans at differential rate of interest, free clothes to agricultural labourers, prizes to the enterprising farmers

and gifts to the Ex-Army personnel of the Pudukottai District.

The District Collector, Thiru R.Karpura Sundara Pandyan, I.A.S., who presided over the function said, more than 400 villages would be covered during the campaign period. He said over 600 families would get the benefit of subsidised loans besides 4,500 persons who would get Rs. 127 lakhs under I.R.D.P. Scheme. He also added, by the end of this year one lakh pattas would be distributed to the landless.

Thiru C.N.Krishnabharathy, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations, Government of Tamilnadu, explained the aims and objectives of the Multi-Media Publicity Campaign which resumed after a lapse of eight years. He also said this campaign at Pudukottai would be a pace setter for conducting similar campaigns in other districts also.

Members of State Legislative Assembly Thiru Rajkumar, Thiru Vijaya Raghunatha Thondaman, Thiru Thirumaran, Thiru Marimuthu and Thiru Sundarajan also participated in the function.

All the Media Units of the Central and State Government and Development departments and nationalised banks participated in the Campaign.



ment (planted in 1962) gave him the inspiration. He goes there regularly to hunt small games and birds for his livelihood. "Once these trees are grown up, my mother need not go too far" in search of firewood for

cooking, he said, confidently.

The involvement of these wandering people in planting and nurturing seedlings is very revealing. They have planted young seedlings of

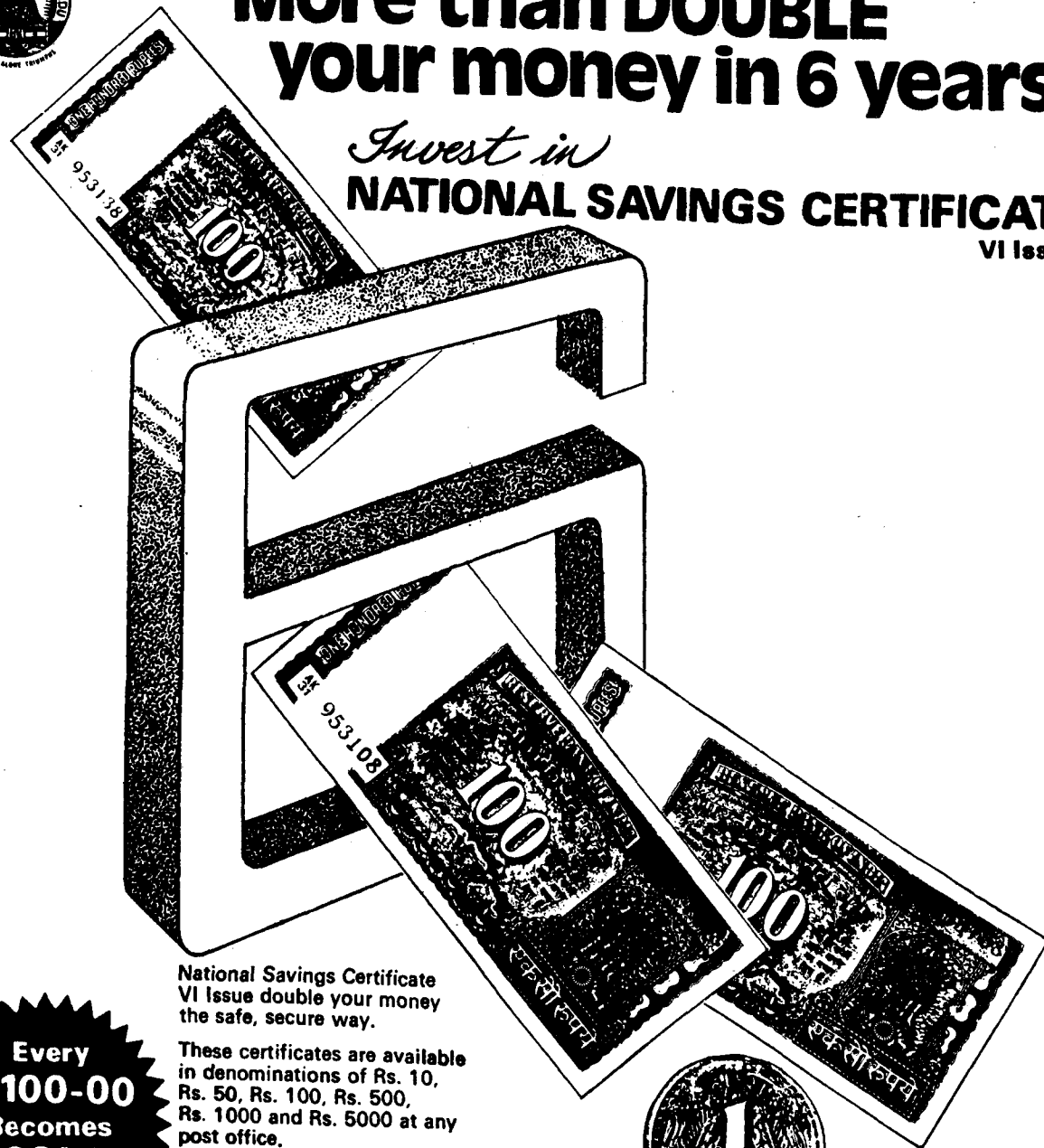
fruit and shade trees in their house-fronts and backyards and protect them carefully from goats and cattle by putting up fences using thorned twigs.

(Courtesy the Hindu.)



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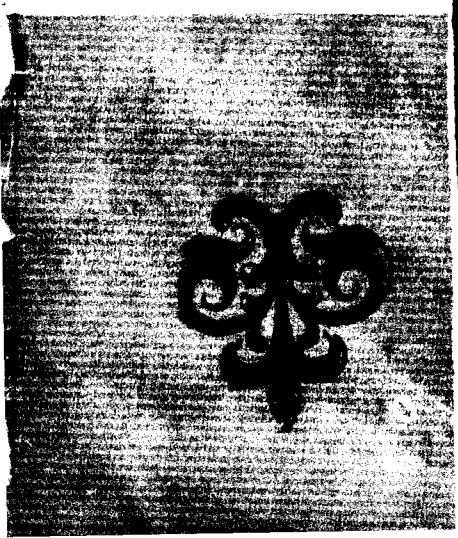
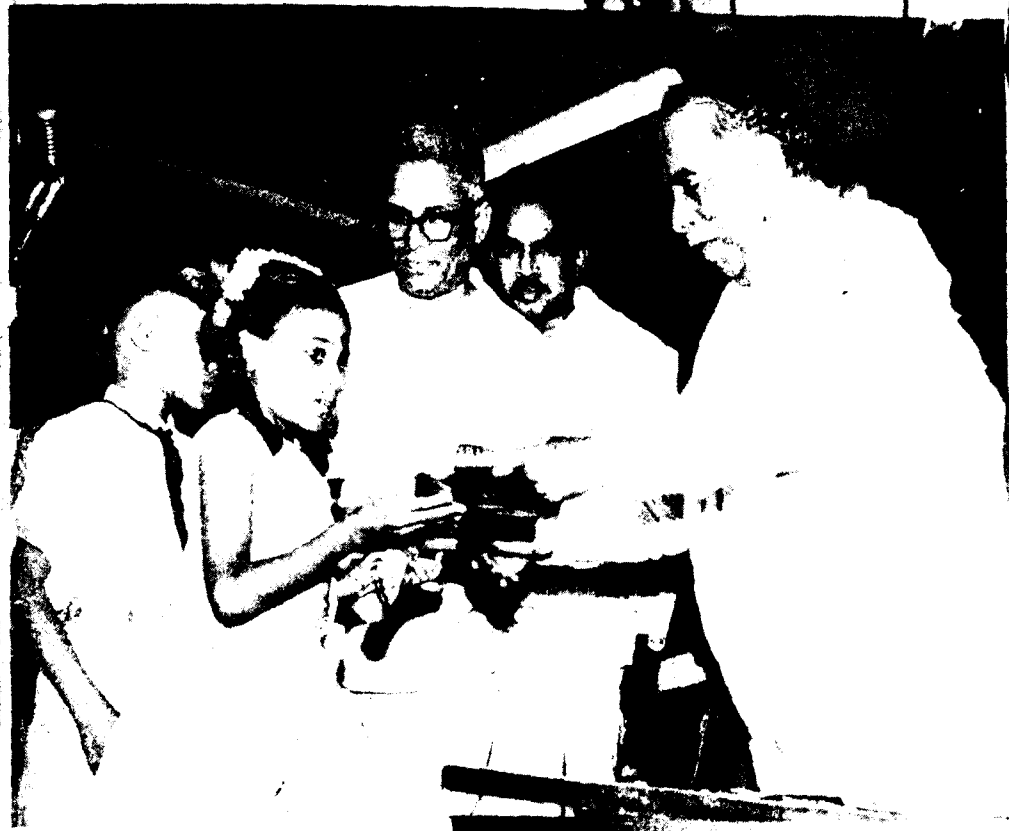
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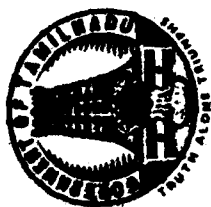
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Dec. 1983

Thiruvalluvar Year—2014

Rudhrothkaari,

Karthigai - Margazhi.



FLAG DAY



APPEAL

On the 7th of December, 1983, we shall be celebrating the Armed Forces Flag Day.

The Public contributes on this day each year spontaneously and generously for the benefit of ex-servicemen. The sale of flags for the cause brings to mind the gallant services rendered to the nation by its sentinels who, otherwise, remain largely invisible. Their self-effacing work deserves to be acknowledged by the participation of all the people of our country in the implementing of schemes for the welfare of ex-servicemen. These schemes need continuing generous public support. May I appeal to the people of Tamil Nadu to contribute liberally on this day and thereby help a valiant cause?

—S. C. Khurana,
GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU.



APPEAL

The Flag Day, celebrated every year on 7th December is an important and glorious day in Our National life. "Flag Day" is a good opportunity for us to appreciate the soldiers of our three forces who sacrifice their happiness and comforts for carrying out their duties with constant vigil in guarding Our Nation in the sea, air and in the snowy mountains and to remember their valiant deeds both in war and in peace for providing a secure life for the people of the Nation. The donation given by us is utilised for the welfare measures to the families of those who sacrificed their lives in battle and in defending the Nation and to ex-servicemen and their families who have given themselves wholly for the cause of the Nation.

As a praiseworthy measure of recognition of the services of the selfless sacrifice of the Defence Personnel of three services who have a proud heritage I request all people to be kind enough to contribute liberally to the Flag Day Fund with gratitude and enthusiasm.

M. G. Ramachandran,
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.



THE REFUGEE PROBLEM

Thiru S. Ramachandran,
Hon'ble Minister for Electricity.

Mr. Chairman,

It is three years since the Federal Republic of Germany took the initiative to inscribe on the agenda of the U. N. General Assembly this item entitled 'International Cooperation to avert new flows of refugees.' We have carefully followed the debate on this item and the views presented by several member states. We are acutely aware of the different dimensions of this problem which have a considerable burden on several individual states as well as the international community. It is indeed unfortunate that while developments in communications, science and technology have placed at our disposal better and more effective means for promoting economic and social development and improving the human condition, our efforts in several cases have been set back by the tragedy of involuntary or forced movement of populations. Massive refugee flows are accompanied by widespread suffering and misery and pose serious humanitarian problems. They also affect domestic order and stability in the receiving countries and can jeopardise international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman, my country has had first hand experience of this problem and in gigantic magnitudes. On several occasions we have had to face the problems arising from the influx and consequent rehabilitation of a huge masses of refugees. We are acutely aware of the heavy financial and social burdens which these influxes imposed upon us. We, therefore, view this problem with the utmost sympathy.

It is the view of my delegation

that the exodus of peoples seeking refuge in foreign land is a result not only of domestic policies but a symptom of a far deep malaise that afflicts the international system. To prevent new flows of refugees which is the intent and purpose of the agenda item under our consideration, it is necessary to establish a new system of international relations based on respect for independence, equal rights and cooperation, and one that would assure peace, security and prosperity for all peoples.

My delegation believes that the international community has at its disposal adequate machinery for dealing with the fundamental causes for the exodus of refugees. These are, chiefly, the violation of human rights, economic disparities between nations and regions, internal or regional instability, and foreign aggression. The promotion of human rights lies within the jurisdiction of several subsidiary organs of the General Assembly and the economic and social council. The question of restructuring the current inequitable states of the international economic order has been taken up in the general assembly and various other specialised forums. The security council and the general assembly are the principal organs for the maintenance of international peace and security.

However, though the machinery exists, events as they have unfolded over the last four decades have shown that the root causes of the problem have not yet been adequately addressed we still have a long way to go for concrete measures to be worked out to prevent the

flow of refugees and to avert the creation of situations which result in such flow. It is with deep regret that we note that with all its authority, the united nations has still not achieved the vacation of foreign occupation and domination, and particularly of the peoples of Palestine and Namibia.

We would like to see the United Nations strengthened to make it more capable of enforcing its decisions. While relief to host countries must not only continue but be increased efforts to find permanent solutions of underlying problem must be intensified. We welcome the setting up of the group of Governmental experts to undertake as soon as possible. A comprehensive review of the problem in all its aspects to avert new massive flow of refugees, and with a view to developing recommendations on appropriate means of international cooperation in this field, having due regard to the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign states. We note with satisfaction the general agreement reached by the group that it should not adopt a legalistic approach, but search for effective means to avert new massive flows of refugees.

At this point, I must briefly refer to certain developments in our neighbourhood which threaten to give rise to a situation resulting in the involuntary flow of population. The distinguished foreign minister of Sri Lanka in his address to the General Assembly in the general debate, had described recent events in his country and had commented in a forthright manner on the outburst of violence in which the Tamil minority underwent untold suffer-

ings. The foreign Minister of Sri Lanka has been there for centuries. There is also another category of Tamils from India who went to Sri Lanka in the last century. A large number of these settlers have not yet been given Sri Lankan citizenship. While this sensitive and emotional problem of the future of these so called 'stateless persons' was resolved in an amicable manner between the two Governments, there are hundreds of thousands of these Tamils of Indian origin who have been given Sri Lankan citizenship, or who are still awaiting fulfilment of the promises to get it. They feel particularly unnerved by recent events and are wanting to seek refuge in India. Needless to say when there is violence and turmoil, there is no distinction between the Sri Lankan Tamils and the so called Indian Tamils. This danger of a flow of refugees into India is all too real. Thousands have come and more are coming. Thus it is that tension and conflict in Sri Lanka cannot but have its impact on India. Following the tragic events of July, 1983, the Prime Minister of India offered her good offices to help in the process of rebuilding confidence and resuming a dialogue between the communities, and this offer has been accepted by the President of Sri Lanka. As has been stated categorically by our Prime Minister, India does not intervene in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka or indeed any other country. India does not support any separatist movement, nor does it support or condone, resort to violence of any kind. It is our sincere hope that in the spirit of democracy that has characterised the policy of Sri Lanka, a viable political solution will soon be found assuring safety and legitimate rights to the Tamils as full and equal citizens, so that the people of Sri Lanka can live together in peace and harmony.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation would once again like to place on record its appreciation of the services which the U. N. High Commissioner for Refugees has been rendering to displaced persons all over the world during the last 33 years. My delegation is of the firm view, that because of the almost continuing nature of this problem, whatever steps we may finally take to avert the flow of refugees, either forced or voluntary, from one country to another, should not be to the detriment of the humanitarian activities of the UNHCR. If anything, this possible additional role of the world community should be complementary and not contra-

dictory to that of the U. N. High Commissioner for refugees.

The Prime Minister of India Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in her keynote address at the seventh Non-aligned Summit held in New Delhi had said and I quote 'India has been through many vicissitudes. Along this tortuous road our guiding pole star has been the philosophy of tolerance'. Mr. Chairman, in its endeavour to obviate, or at least to mitigate, this tragic problem of refugees, we have to approach in a spirit of tolerance the inescapable responsibility of the international community to protect and safeguard the basic human rights which entitle every individual to a decent and dignified existence in his homeland.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka Mr. I. B. Fonseka in his statement spoke of interesting parallels between situations encountered by the Government of India and what Sri Lanka had experienced during the very recent past. He felt that the Indian delegate familiar with communal, linguistic and religious disturbances in his own country would show a greater degree of sensitivity before throwing the first stone in this committee.

In our right of reply, Mr. Ramachandran took the opportunity to give a fitting reply to the speech made by the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka. He spoke as follows: —

On having listened to the Sri Lankan delegate I feel sorry for not making my position clear. I regret that the delegate of Sri Lanka should have taken umbrage at the reference made in my statement this morning and descended to a low level in his reply. Although the distinguished representative of Sri Lanka said that he was speaking in sorrow rather than anger, his remarks reflected anger rather than sorrow. I have no desire to enter into a polemical debate but wish to clarify some of the points made by the representative of Sri Lanka and correct the misunderstandings.

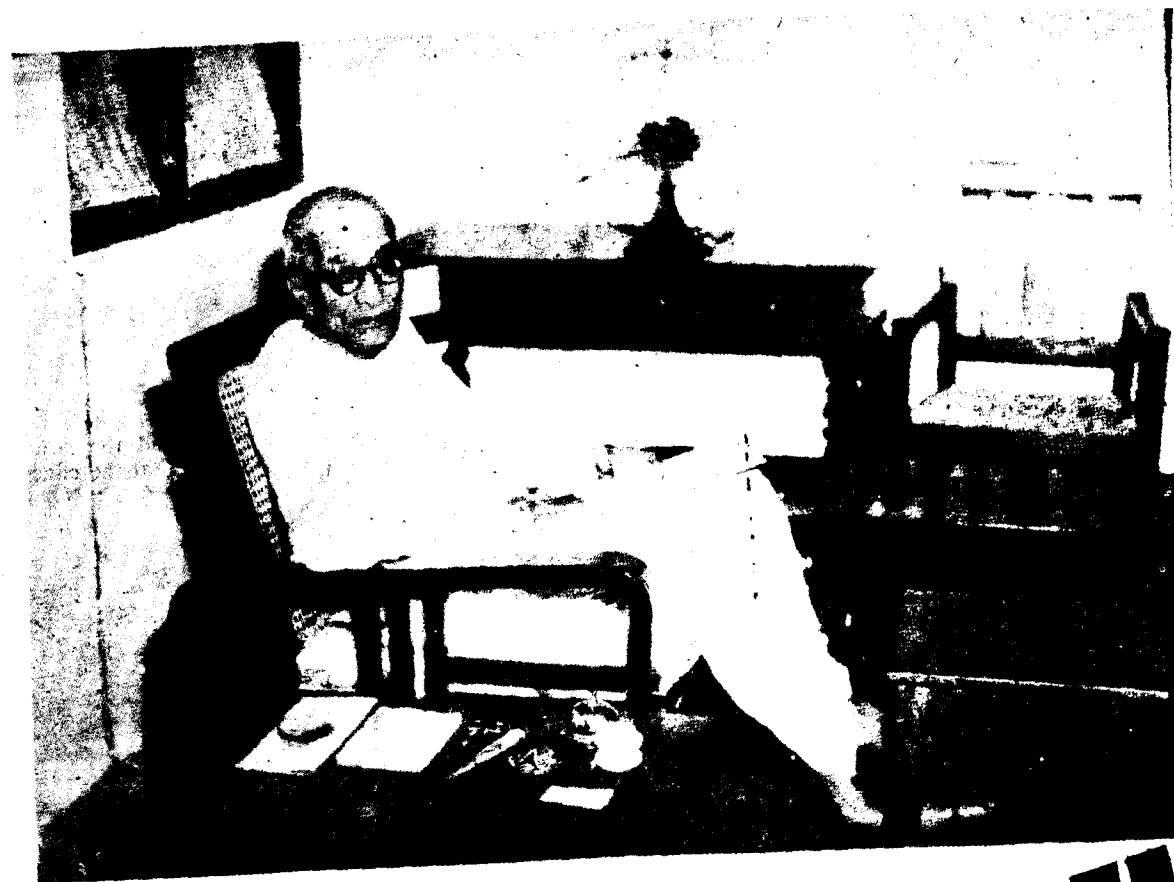
It was not my purpose to internationalise the problem. Rather it is India's hope that the problem in Sri Lanka would be resolved peacefully with wisdom and justice. Our bonafides are manifest. The good offices of the special envoy of the Prime Minister of India are still available. We trust that the

Government of Sri Lanka would make use of it.

The distinguished representative of Sri Lanka has made a gratuitous reference to Assam and other problems in India. I acknowledge that we do have problems; indeed it would be strange if in a large country such as ours with a dynamic society on the march, we did not have tensions arising from time to time because of socio-economic and other factors. However, the difference between this and the situation in Sri Lanka is that the effects do not spill over into any other country. Nor do they pose any difficulty for any other country. Secondly, even if there has been violence and turmoil, the power and authority of the Government and its machinery in India, unlike in some other countries, has invariably been exerted in favour of law, justice, equity, reconciliation and harmony.

Mr. Chairman, the distinguished representative of Sri Lanka has made some unwarranted reference to the domestic political situation in India and in particular about Tamil Nadu. It can have no relevance here and I do not wish to go into it in any detail. I should, however, clarify one point in categorical terms. The people of Tamil Nadu and the people of India regardless of party affiliations or their provenance are all equally distressed by what is happening in Sri Lanka and are equally concerned about the adverse impact on our country. With reference to the representative of Sri Lanka's allegation that India is providing succour and support to terrorists and that a safe haven is available to them in Tamil Nadu, I categorically reject the allegation and innuendos as totally false and without any foundation what so ever. In addition, I have already stated this morning, that India does not support violence and abhors and rejects terrorism anywhere. I would like to reiterate that no help or assistance is being given to Sri Lankan terrorists by India, that no sanctuaries are being provided and all that India can be accused of is that out of humanitarian consideration we are providing refuge to innocent men, women and children fleeing from brutality, violence and terror perpetrated against them.

(Speech of the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity in the Special Political Committee of the United Nations on the subject "International Cooperation to avert new flows of refugees" on 22-10-1983.)



Rajaji occupied a number of responsible posts in his long span of life. I still remember the advice he gave me nearly 10 years ago during one of my meetings with him at his residence. "Never go after positions. Keep on doing your work with sincerity and perseverance. Assignments will come in search of you". Probably in his advice, Rajaji was autobiographical! Whatever positions he took up, he never bothered whether these positions were high or low. He applied only one yardstick in fearlessly discharging his duties. This yardstick was invariably his uncompromising conscience. One of the first assignments which Rajaji took up was the Chairmanship of Salem Municipality in 1917. In the short period when he was a Chairman, he not only did remarkable work, but was also responsible for arousing the shock and ire of quite a few conventionalists. The whole episode cannot be better explained than in the words of the great leader Thiru K. Kamaraj himself. He succinctly wrote in one of the articles

BHISHMA OF OUR TIMES

"Rajaji was practising as a lawyer in Salem. He earned reputation as an able lawyer. He was even at that time averse to the distinction between man and man on the basis of his birth. When he was Chairman of the Salem Municipality, he made arrangements for people who were considered UNTOUCHABLES to move freely in the streets and draw water from public taps. He did not at all mind the opposition of the orthodox to his reforms. This step of Rajaji was revolutionary at that time".

RAJAJI THE ADMINISTRATOR

DR. H.V. HANDE

Hon'ble Minister for Health

Under the Government of India Act, 1935, the Congress assumed Office in 1937 in the Madras Province (Comprising of 26 Districts of Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam speaking areas). The responsibility of Leadership naturally fell on Rajaji. The constraints with which the various provinces had to function in those days were innumerable, because the Governors had more powers and had never taken kindly to Indians ruling the country. It is to be said to the credit of Rajaji that he never allowed this handicap to fetter his decisions and actions. An interesting anecdote in the words of Thiru V.V. Giri, the Labour Minister in Rajaji's Cabinet gives us a measure of his inner will and courage displayed as an administrator.

"There was a big trade dispute in the Madurai and Papanasam Mills owned by the Harveys in 1938, and the employers declared a lock-out. Neraly 20,000 workers were faced with the ordeal of willing to work and yet denied the opportunity to do so. And, this lock-out continued for nearly three months. My attempts to make the employers take up a reasonable attitude was not successful and they decided to reopen the mills and lift the lock-out on certain conditions which were against the interest of the workers. Their intention was to employ only those "loyal" workers or recruit fresh hands, keeping out those whom they considered to be active trade union workers or "inconvenient" to them.

When I learnt of this, I suggested to Rajaji that the management should never be allowed to have their way and open the mills unless a satisfactory settlement was reached between the workers and themselves. I decided that an order under Section 144 Cr.P.C. should be issued against the management directing them not to open the mills till a settlement was arrived at. Rajaji was rather surprised at this unconventional approach but finally agreed with me that a drastic view must be taken in the matter in order to bring the erring employer to reason. When Rajaji telephoned to the Governor, who was at that time at Ooty, informing him of the proposed step, the Governor expressed his disagreement; but Rajaji was firm and informed the Governor that if the views of the Government were not accepted, his Government would resign. Ultimately, for the first time in the history of the country, Section 144 was imposed against the Management compelling the employers to climb down from their high pedestal and reach a final settlement with the workers. I am referring to this incident to show that once Rajaji takes a definite stand he sticks to it irrespective of consequences.

STATE AUTONOMY

These are days when various academicians and politicians belonging to different hues talk incessantly of State Autonomy. It is surprising that very few make adequate mention of Rajaji, whenever the subject of State Autonomy is brought up. In my view, Rajaji was the one who laid a firm foundation to the semblance of State Autonomy that exists today. Till Rajaji became the Premier of Madras Presidency in 1937, the only source of income for State Government were a paltry amount collected through Land Revenue, Cinematograph Act and some revenue from Municipal Taxes. The bulk of the revenue for the State had to be got only through the doles that were made out by the Centre (Excise, Customs, Income Tax, etc). It was Rajaji, who felt that a State cannot have self-respect or a modicum of State Autonomy, unless it had some respectable revenue for itself. He therefore sought to create a distinct source of revenue for the State known as Sales Tax. Without this Sales Tax, no State Government could have today claimed any respectability or "economic autonomy"! When Rajaji introduced this in 1937,

there was resistance from the Centre. I again quote Thiru V.V.Giri, the then Labour Minister who in an article wrote as follows.

"Rajaji had many firsts to his credit. The introduction of Sales Tax and Prohibition throughout the Madras State are conspicuous examples of the lead he gave to the country. He showed great wisdom and tact in piloting these measures in spite of opposition from some quarters. When the Sales Tax Act was passed by the Legislature and sent to the Viceroy, there was an apprehension that the necessary assent might not be given to the Act, but Rajaji made Delhi understand that his Ministry was likely to take the step of resigning if the assent was not forthcoming. Prompt assent was given by the Viceroy to the Sales Tax Act".

During later years, Rajaji always viewed with nostalgic satisfaction, the DEBT RELIEF ACT that he brought during his Premiership in 1937. I did not realise this until one day, when an incident happened. I was casually telling Rajaji that his birthday must be celebrated by associating some message with it. He immediately said, that, if I felt a message was necessary, he could think of nothing more appropriate than the Debt Relief Act that he brought forth, to emancipate the innumerable farmers from the clutches of usurious money lenders. Since that year Rajaji's birthday used to be celebrated by us as Farmers' day.

A great reform initiated by Rajaji in 1937 brought about a silent revolution during that period. It was the Temple Entry Legislation brought by him, when he was the Premier of Madras State. This Act gave the right to Harijans (Adi-dravidas) and all those who were barred from entering temples to enter and offer worship on an equal footing with caste Hindus in all temples.

Rajaji became the first and last Indian Governor General of India. During this period, when Rajaji occupied the highest administrative post in India, several anecdotes could be told to bring home the simplicity with which he conducted himself. I shall quote only one incident mentioned by Silambu Chelvar Thiru Ma.Po.Si, Chariman of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council. Rajaji came to Madras on camp as Governor-General and was eagerly looking forward to meeting his old friends in the Raj Bhavan. One such friend was Ma.Po.Si. As soon as this illustrious son of India now the Governor General of India was told that Ma.Po.Si. had arrived, Rajaji came out and hugged him. Ma.Po.Si. discreetly reminded Rajaji of the protocol, pointing out several other V.I.P.s waiting for Rajaji even before Ma.Po.Si's arrival. Rajaji replied "those V.I.P.s will come here whoever is the Governor-General. But you are more important because you will come only when I am here".

Rajaji never compromised his principles even when he knew that his unbending attitude endangered the position he was occupying. For a brief spell of about a year in 1951 Rajaji was the Union Home Minister. During those days, the Office of the Home Minister was considered as a pivotal and powerful post. Almost all the Chief Ministers

of States and powerful politicians belonging to the Ruling Party invariably attempted to use the Home Minister to settle their scores or topple the State Governments. Unfortunately for them and luckily for the country the attempts on the part of the State leaders to "misuse" the Office of the Home Minister did not succeed. Rajaji put his foot down firmly on such attempts and told these politicians that they would never be allowed to use him to further their ends. He politely hinted to the Prime Minister that he proposed to concentrate only on the administration of the country, unfettered by the political pulls and counter-pulls of the State bosses. This attitude of his was one of the reasons why Rajaji easily succeeded in resolving the Telengana Tangle in 1951-52.

We have innumerable examples of Rajaji's refusal to allow communal considerations to have any impact or sway on his administrative decisions. One such conspicuous example was his choice of A.D.C. when he was to take up the assignment of the Governor of West Bengal. Several suggestions were made, but he set aside all of them and chose Thiru Singaravelu, I.P.S., a brilliant Officer of the Indian Police Service, who later on rose to great heights.

The last administrative post that Rajaji held fell on his shoulders in a dramatic and unexpected manner at a very critical time. In 1952, when Rajaji thought he had enough of offices and decided to quietly enjoy his retired life in Bazullah Road, his doors were knocked and he was made to take up the assignment of the Chief Ministership of Madras State after a great deal of persuasion. What a time to take up this assignment! There were no rains for a long time. The State was in the grip of a severe drought. The political climate too was bad. Several giants belonging to the Congress Party fell like "Ninepins" during the 1952 General election in the Tamil speaking and Telugu speaking areas of the State. Out of 350 Constituencies, hardly 160 returned Congress M.L.As. The food position was precarious. Rationing was becoming increasingly unpopular. The moment Rajaji took up the leadership of the Legislative Congress Party he did some quick 'Magic' and the political climate was set right. Fortunately, for him and the State, copious rains solved the drought situation. Still the food situation did not improve. However, Rajaji took a bold and planned administrative step. He overnight abolished the rice control order and rationing was removed. None can describe this better than the great Administrator Thiru Murugesu Mudaliar in his Article "RAJAJI IMPRESS ON MADRAS ADMINISTRATION"

"The food control measures which were, as I knew, worked out with great care initially by the previous Advisers' Government (Principally Sir Hugh Hood) after nearly 10 years of operation became irksome to the public.

With 4½ lakhs of tons of rice as buffer stock and with favourable monsoon it was an opportune moment to lift the control. The Board of Revenue did not however recommend decontrol as it feared that there would be utter chaos as soon as the control was lifted. The Secretariat also took up the same line as it did not want to take the responsibility. Rajaji more or less kept his own counsel and had discussed the matter with Thiru Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, the Central Food Minister. Finally, he sent for the Department Secretary for a brief final discussion. The Secretary (who was a very intelligent officer and a friend and classmate of mine) came back and told me his Deputy, that the 'old man' was amused at our objections and fears and that he remarked jocularly, "What is the good if Secretaries don't have courage! "Rajaji announced decontrol the same evening. Rajaji explained, "Every change is necessarily attended with some inconvenience at the outset. But the change is certainly worthwhile". This was a very courageous decision of Rajaji and it set the pace for decontrol in other States. The next morning when the Press Correspondents asked on what basis he had decontrolled, he replied laconically "on intuition."

It was again during this tenure of Office that Rajaji had to put down with a firm hand the police uprising when Thiru F.V. Arul was the Commissioner of Police. Rajaji came out of this test in flying colours. Immediately after this episode, Rajaji won over the hearts of the Police, just as our present Chief Minister did a few years ago!

Rajaji used shafts of sarcasm and humour when any external force tried to interfere in the internal administration of the State. An interesting anecdote when the Vice President of U.S.A. Thiru Richard Nixon called on Rajaji in 1952 when he was the Chief Minister, is worth mentioning. Rajaji did not like the platitudes displayed by Thiru Nixon and even felt that Thiru Nixon was attempting to arrogate to himself the role of an Adviser to India. The press anxiously met Rajaji and Nixon, who were closeted for nearly an hour in discussion and asked them what they discussed. Rajaji replied with a mischievous smile. "We spent most of the time telling each other as to how to rule his country". This cryptic reply by Rajaji cut Thiru Nixon to size and made him realise that he had transgressed his boundary.

Rajaji while in or out of Office was the same: whether he was the Chairman of Salem Municipality or Governor General of India, he adorned the various offices with simplicity and grace. Compared to the long span of his life, the number of years he was in Office was insignificant; but the contributions that he made to administration were phenomenal. Rajaji will always be remembered as a frail man who strode like a colossus through the length and breadth of India whether he used power or opposed it.

IV th cover

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Dr. M. G. Ramachandran garlanding the statue of Rajaji.



The first anniversary of the scheme of distribution of Tooth Powder to rural children under the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Programme was celebrated on 26.11.83. This scheme, under the able guidance of Hon'ble Dr. M.G.R. is being implemented effectively and one year has just been completed.

follow up action in the areas where the tooth powder was being distributed to children. This has shown that the incidence of dental decay had come down." He further said that a detailed study would soon be done to assess the benefits of this scheme and the results would be made known in a year's time.

Tooth Powder Scheme

The Tooth Powder manufactured by the Government is meant only for the rural children. The Pressmen taken to balwadies and schools situated nearby Madras city, were very much impressed by the scheme. One could see the bright clean teeth of the children. The Hon'ble Health Minister and Pressmen themselves examined the teeth of the children using the Government tooth powder. The cherished desire of Hon'ble Dr. M. G. R. has come true. This tooth powder is given to children, who come under the Nutritious Noon Meal Programme. The Pressmen first visited a tooth powder manufacturing unit. The Press party was taken around by a team of dental doctors and students of Madras Dental College headed by Dr. B. P. Rajan, Principal of the Madras Dental College. The manufacturer explained that the mixing and other processes were all done mechanically. Packets of 30 gram tooth powder are packed using spoons by men and women employees.

The Hon'ble Health Minister Dr. H. V. Hande went round the unit and inspected it.

From there, the Press party was taken to Y.M.C.A. School Centre Kottivakkam. Dr. B. P. Rajan, who was entrusted with the responsibility of implementing this scheme explained in detail about the scheme.

At Panaiyur kuppam, too, when the Hon'ble Minister asked the question a girl said that they were

Dr. Rajan said that dental decay was a major problem among children, especially in the age group of 3-4. Till a child was two years old the mother cleaned its teeth, but at three, "the period of neglect", set in. She would then leave the child to clean the teeth himself and if not cleaned properly dental decay set in. The introduction of tooth powder at this stage to children was really a great boon to them. This had definitely brought down the tooth decay in children covered under the tooth powder scheme.

Hon'ble Health Minister while talking to press men said that the main aim of the scheme is to create an awareness among children of the use of a proper tooth powder. He said that all children in the age group 3-12 covered by the Mid-day Meals Scheme were being given a packet of tooth powder.

Next at Injambakkam, the Hon'ble Health Minister asked the children whether they are getting the tooth powder everyday. The children replied that they were getting it. When the Minister asked a four year old girl what powder she was using? The girl promptly replied "Sattunavu tooth powder."

At Panaiyur kuppam, too, when the Hon'ble Minister asked the question a girl said that they were

getting "M.G.R. tooth powder".

At Nemmele, the Hon'ble Minister distributed sarees and dhoties to poor men and women.

At V.G. P. Golden Beach, the Collector of Chingleput received the Hon'ble Health Minister. A documentary film on Tooth Powder was screened to Pressmen. A Villupattu programme was also held to explain this scheme. The Hon'ble Health Minister again spoke to Pressmen here.

He said that 46 Small Scale Industrial units, employing 1500 people were engaged in manufacturing the tooth powder. The scheme had benefitted 62.41 lakhs Children at 52,982 noon meal centres. So far, Rs. 312 lakh worth of tooth powder has been distributed.

What struck the Pressmen who toured these places was that "the scheme is being implemented with utmost care, enforced with efficiency and speed". The children are now accustomed to cleaning their teeth daily in the morning. The scheme is being well organized with great zeal and children getting the tooth powder looked bright and cheerful. The rural people are extending their full support to this scheme which could be easily noticed from the very faces of the rural masses.



FELICITATIONS

to

Hon'ble Chief Minister

A function to felicitate the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil nadu Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, on his conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Laws by the Madras University was held at A.V.M. Rajeswari Kalyana Mantap on 30.10'83. The function began with a musical performance of Kalaimamani Subbu Arumugam and Party. Thiru A. Vellaichamy M.L.A. welcomed the gathering.

Inaugurating the function in the morning His Excellency the Governor of Tamilnadu Thiru S. L. Khurana pointed out in his speech :-

"The reasons for the success of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandran are his strenuous work, courage and confidence, his wonderful capacity to take definite decisions. In the films, he acted as an ordinary rickshaw man and played many roles - from an agriculturist to various types of roles.

All the films enacted by him were based on social welfare of the society. He got a place in the people's heart that cannot be wiped out, by playing such roles in helping the people - the poor and down trodden, scheduled and the backward. He was not only an actor. He was an authority and an expert in the film world. From film production to film direction, he used all that he learnt excellently. That is why, people elected him as Chief Minister of Tamilnadu. It is not an exaggeration to say that he got tremendous advancement in his life only by his hard and laborious work.

A man cannot become famous in two specialities, film and politics. But Hon'ble Dr. M.G. Ramachandran has achieved distinction in both. This was a man, suffered at the age of seven and worked hard continuously to come up in life. 65 lakh of children are benefitted by his nutritious meal programme. He is im-

plementing this programme with great courage. This scheme has been functioning from July last year. The benefit of this scheme will be known not now but in future only. This scheme is his brain child.

Now, he has announced that he is going to introduce vocational education. Let this scheme also be a successful one. Similarly he has brought another scheme "one job for one family". Through this scheme the unemployment problem can be reduced and thereby the country gets an opportunity to prosper. He is also implementing National Rural Development Scheme and Self Sufficiency Scheme successfully. He managed the recent severe water scarcity of the Madras city. Now, he has introduced another Krishna Water Scheme to find a permanent solution for the water scarcity of Madras. He is acting well with determination by following the path of Perarignar Anna in safeguarding

national integration."

The Governor's speech was followed by a poets' symposium by women in which Tmt. Soundra Kailasam, Tmt. Dr. Sivakamasundari, Tmt. Sivasankari, Tmt. Santhi Natesan, Tmt. Umayal Muthu, Tmt. Savithri Raghavendra, Tmt. Mankayarkarasi participated.

Thiru Tiruppur Manimaran, Legislative whip welcomed the gathering during the poets' symposium held in the evening. Many poets praised the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. G. R.

Hon'ble Dr. M. G. R. does not belong to Tamilnadu alone but belongs to the entire humanity. The Hon'ble Minister declared that a function of this type is absolutely necessary today. In the 30 years of my close association with him I am now participating in a function, which he did not approve of.

Yes, M.G.R., does not like functions got upto felicitate him. Violating his orders, I am presiding over a function got upto release a book on M. G. R., for which I ask his pardon. This is a good augury for the future."

ther he could administer, since he was an actor. Administration is difficult than acting. The welfare measures implemented by him are lauded by the people. He has proved his administrative ability just as he did in films which I appreciate.

I also appreciate the nutritious noon meal scheme and the progress made in the field of Industry.

As an individual the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is a generous person. I hope that he would receive more titles and wish him many more years."



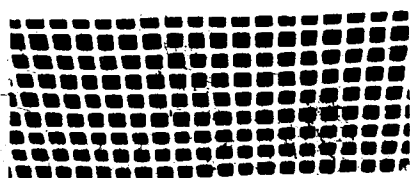
A seminar was also held then on various facets of Hon'ble Dr. M.G.R.'s life, which was presided over by Thiru Valampuri John, M.L.C. Hon'ble Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information, Religious Endowments in his speech said:

"Dr. M.G. Ramachandran is carrying out the orders of the Late Perarignar Anna, who wanted to create history in Tamilnadu, and I am the follower of this great leader whose wishes and commands I carry out. He can think and do nothing but good. The Madras University has awarded the Doctorate to Thiru M. G. R. which confirms what the late Perarignar Anna told about our Chief Minister. "In him I found that potentiality" which was fully utilised and used by late Perarignar Anna.

His excellency, the Kerala Governor Thiru P. Ramachandran in his speech said: In the Gita Lord Krishna tells Arjuna: "Do your duty, do not expect the fruits". Likewise the Madras University after having watched the performance of Thiru Dr. M.G. Ramachandran for the past 6 years as Chief Minister has conferred on him the Degree of Doctor of Laws.

There are a number of persons who have obtained a degree, a number who got it by other means. But the doctorate conferred on the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister do not belong to this category. If the Madras University should confer a degree it means that the entire world appreciates it. When Dr. M.G. Ramachandran became the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu people were wondering whe-

Hon'ble Legislative Council Chairman Dr. M.P. Sivagnanam, Hon'ble Speaker Thiru K. Rajaram, Hon'ble Finance Minister Thiru V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, Justice Krishna-samy Reddy, Thiru N. Mahalingam, Tmt. Soundra Kailasam, Thiru Kulandaisamy and Thiru Valampuri John M.L.C. addressed the gathering. Thiru Kirubanandawariar released a book on "M. G. Ramachandran", written by Thiru Jagatrakshakan M. L. A.



Legislators felicitate The Hon'ble Chief Minister.

A function was organised by the Legislators of Tamilnadu to congratulate Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R. on his receiving the Doctor of Laws from the Madras University. A grand dinner was given to honour Hon'ble Dr. M.G.R. at Rajaji Hall on 10.11.83 by the Hon'ble Dr. M.P. Sivagnanam, Chairman of the Legislative Council and Hon'ble Thiru K. Rajaram, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Thiru K. Rajaram, Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly said "so many universities-the universities in America, London, and Annamalai University etc., came forward to confer a Doctorate on M. G. R. But he declined to receive the degree. M.G.R. accepted the one given by the Madras University because the President of India had come to grace the occasion on its 125th anniversary and it would not be polite not to accept the honour. The Madras University has conferred the degree on humanitarian grounds and for social services rendered to the people. He was a humanist even before he assumed the gaddi of Chief Minister. The Self Sufficiency Scheme started for the welfare of those below the poverty line has received great accolades.

He was very close to the hearts of the poor and the underprivileged. Having known the pangs of hunger at a tender age, he wanted to feed the children for whom he initiated the Nutritious Noon Meal Programme which has been successfully implemented in our state whereas

the neighbouring states are groaning under the magnitude of the scheme. We compelled Dr. M. G. R. to participate in this function. I wish that he would receive more honours and a long life".

Dr. M. P. Sivagnanam, Hon'ble Chairman of the Legislative Council said that the Madras University has conferred on him the Degree of Doctor of Laws, because he had done rare things and achieved greatness. And the day is not far off when he will receive the Nobel prize also.

The Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. V. R. Nedunchezhiyan congratulating the Chief Minister said, "it is matter of pride and joy for us to know that the Degree of Doctor of Laws has been conferred on the Chief Minister in recognition of his social service, humanitarian approach, for his contribution to art. He is a standing example of humanitarian qualitis.

His acceptance of the degree without any publicity only shows his humility.

I see the same degree of humility in the Chief Minister that I have seen in Anna".

A memento depicting a model of the University, the Chief Minister in his robes with the degree, children partaking noon meal with the Chief Minister was presented to Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. G. R. jointly by Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru K. Rajaram and Hon'ble Chairman of the Legis-

lative Council Thiru M.P. Sivagnanam.

A lace shawl in gold was presented by Thiru Jepiyar whip in the council and Thiru Manimaran whip in the Assembly.

Replying to the felicitations Hon'ble Dr. M. G. R. thanked the Legislators for the sumptuous dinner and congratulations on his getting the Doctorate Degree, said, "I would strive to uphold the honour conferred on me by serving the people with more dedication. It was due to Anna that I have reached this position today. I wanted to set up a separate study of Anna's philosophy. It was R.M. Veerappan who was instrumental in promoting the idea of constituting a chair for the study of Anna's philosophy. I wanted the public to know who initiated this idea. I am not saying this to win acclaim myself. I pause to think what Anna would have said had he been alive today. Whether I would get a Nobel prize or not, I am happy to know that there are a number of well wishers who want me to get the Nobel prize. We should not forget our past. The duties we have to fulfill are enormous. We have to strive to fulfill them. Let me assure you that you will always have my support and let me thank the organizers and the Speaker who congratulated me.

Opposition Leader Thiru Haja Sherief, Thiru A. R. Damodaran, M.L.C. Thiru Andithever, leader of the Forward Block, Tmt. Tara Cherian and Vasant Pai, Members of the Council also spoke.

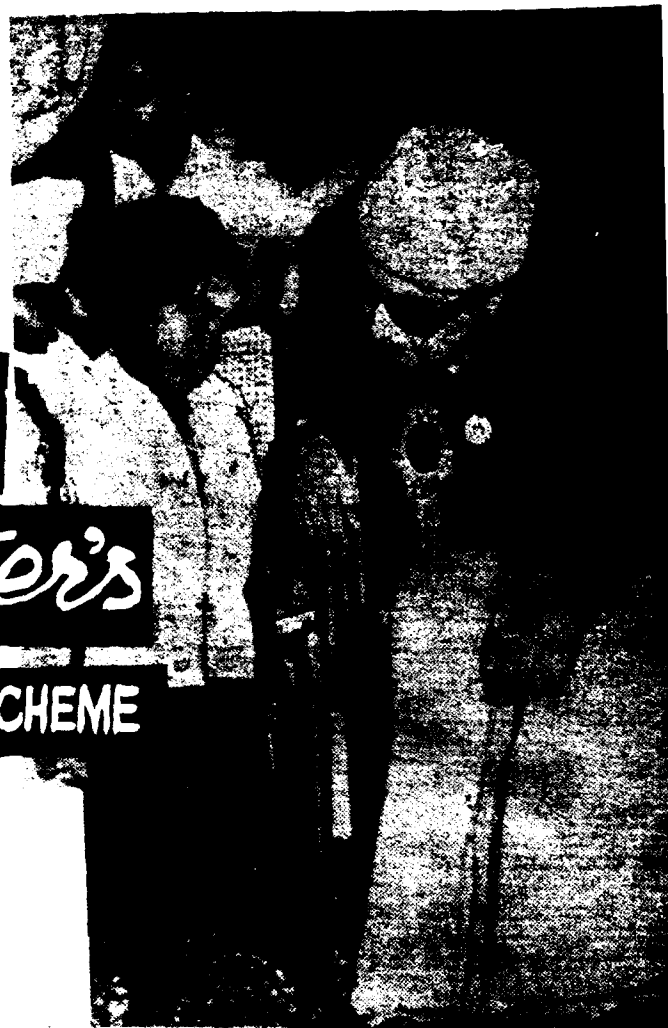
VEERIAH

WALKS!

thanks to

Chief Minister's

NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL SCHEME



Veeriah, the third child of Thiru Kathalingam, belongs to a planned family. At the Maravapathi Nutritious Noon Meal Centre of the Pudukkottai Panchayat Union, 54 children are fed every day. One of these children is Veeriah, a small boy. When he joined the centre on 1.7.'83 his parents carried him to the Noon Meal Centre, as he could not walk. This boy, looked like any other normal child, when he was born. He began to walk at the age of two and walked well for over 2 years. At the end of the third year, he fell ill and was affected with polio and as a result he could not walk. In this stage he joined the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Centre at the beginning of his 4th year.

As he began taking nutritious meals daily, and with physio-therapy exercises - given by the organiser of the noon meal centre he began to walk. Others also helped him to walk. After the completion of 4 years he began walking slowly and now he is able to walk and going to the noon meal centre without anybody's aid. He now plays with other children and has become happy and normal as any boy of his age.

When he joined the centre he weighed, 9.050 kilos and after a year, ie at the age of 4 his weight has increased to 12.500 kilo.

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NEWS IN PICTURES



The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, during his visit to Mammallapuram on 2.11.1983 met Tmt. and Thiru George Kenny from Australia who were staying at the Youth Hostel of T.T.D.C as guests. The Hon'ble Minister explained the highlights and tourist spots of Tamilnadu to the guests. The couple from Australia praised the sculptures at Mammallapuram.

The Chairman, T.T.D.C., Director of Tourism and the Managing Director T.T.D.C. were also present at the meeting.



Contribution towards Nutritious Meal Scheme Fund

His Holiness Thiru Ramakrishnananda Saraswathi Swami of Srividya Ashram at Rishikesh, conducted the Bhoomi Pooja for the building of the Sri Vidya Parameswari temple at the Sri Vidya Ashram, Chrompet, Madras on 6.11.83.

The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments Thiru R. M. Veerappan participated in the function and inaugurated the Tirupani works. A sum of Rs. 1,001/- was donated towards the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme on behalf of the Ashram. His Holiness Thiru Ramakrishnananda announced that a noon meal centre would be built on behalf of the Ashram for the poor children.

RAJAJI-A HUMANIST

P.S. KAILASAM, (Retd) SUPREME COURT JUDGE

Thiru C. Rajagopalachari—the Salem Vakil was known respectfully in those days as 'ACHARIAR' in Pudupalayam and surrounding villages where he established the Gandhi Ashram in early 1920s.

C. Rajagopalachari who was to become famous as Rajaji was then not only a leading criminal Lawyer in Salem town but also foremost in public activities in that town, having occupied the position as the Municipal Chairman.

Rajaji happened to be the family lawyer of my grand parents, who were, as it was common in those days with the big land owners involved in land disputes. Rajaji used to appear in Courts in Namakkal having jurisdiction over the area which is at a distance of 32 miles from Salem. He used to get into a spring double bullock cart after dinner leaving Salem in the night and reach Namakkal early next morning. It was believed that for his protection, he carried a revolver with him during the night journey. Though at the peak in his profession and public life, because of his connection with the Independence Movement, he decided to give up his profession and high office and to move to a village and serve the people. When this idea was mentioned by him to one of my uncles, Thiru P. K. Rathnasabapathy Gounder, my wife's Mother's father, he readily offered a fertile garden land. Rajaji gratefully accepted the gift and established his Ashram in that land with the help of the villagers and Thiru Rathnasabapathy Gounder, he erected a few huts and in one of them he lived and worked. Pudupalayam Village was a dry and arid village without even drinking water. In the village, there was practically no area which was irrigated—the lands depending on rains. The villagers did not have any work practically during the whole of the year. In fact villagers found conditions very difficult and moved as labourers to Ceylon and Malaya. There were practically no sources for drinking water—a few garden wells that were in the area were all polluted, because people had to get down into the well physically to collect a pot of water. Invariably the villagers who used the water thus polluted suffered from guinea—worm—a painful and dirty disease. It was Rajaji's unquenchable thirst to serve the poor that made him select and settle down in a god-forsaken village like Pudupalayam. Having settled himself in perfect village setting—a thatched hut, mud flooring, a coir-cot and a small desk on which he could write sitting on the mud-floor, he embarked on his mission of service.

It was at this juncture, the Khadi movement was being ushered in. Rajaji set up a small Institute in the Ashram, collected the villagers and taught them how to spin out of a charkha. With great reluctance and hesitation, the villagers took to spinning and found that with some effort they could make a few annas per day, which, in those days, was a valuable addition to their otherwise meagre resources. This income helped them to buy some more grain and keep off hunger. He also found that few labourers who earned some money dissipated their entire earnings in toddy and arrack shops. So he started in his inimitable way, collected the villagers and told them how harmful the habit of drinking was and how much misery it brought to their homes. The vital necessity for providing unpolluted water



was strongly felt by him. In the well, which was in the Garden land in the Ashram, he made arrangements to lift the water without getting into the well by means of a pulley—and enabled the villagers to quench their thirst. In those days some communities were not allowed to go anywhere near the wells; but Rajaji succeeded in making drinking water available to one and all alike. Rajaji opened a small medical centre to provide minimum facilities to the villagers.

Rajaji found that some moneyed people lent money to the needy ones, exploited their poverty and collected high rate of interest. The poor who did not have any resource or income could never pay the money back and were thus in eternal indebtedness. The utter helplessness of the poor was fully and mercilessly exploited by the money lenders.

Mahatma Gandhi visited Rajaji in the Ashram and saw the self-less and zealous work of Rajaji. He felt that the selfless work of Rajaji should not be confined to the Ashram and its surroundings, but should be on an All India basis. When Rajaji became the Chief Minister of Madras, the sufferings of the villagers were upper-most in his mind and he immediately enacted the Madras Prohibition Act, 1939 which was soon followed up by the Madras Agricultural Debt Relief Act. It is well known that during his administration as Chief Minister of the Madras Presidency and later throughout his public and political career, he never forgot the poor, the villagers and their sufferings and did all that he could to mitigate their sufferings.

Thiru P. K. Rathnasabapathy Gounder, the Donor of the Ashram, was very fond of my elder brother and me as we were sons of his cousin, who died very early in life. He sent for us and introduced us to Rajaji, when I was about 7 years of age. I could not then understand why this big man from Salem should come and live in a hut

sitting on the mud floor and sleeping in a coir cot, little realising his great spirit of sacrifice. We used to meet him quite often. Seeing the great benefit to the villagers, my mother ran a small khadi production centre in our village giving employment to quite a few villagers. Rajaji told my elder brother Thiru P. S. Nanjaya Gounder that as the eldest member of the family, he would in later years serve the public. Later, true to his wish, my elder brother took active part in public life. He greatly contributed to the uplift of the villages. He was instrumental in improving the irrigation facilities in the area, organised and developed the co-operative movement also provided drinking water facilities to Harijans and admission for their children in elementary schools. Rajaji was very fond of us. When we were studying in the Ramakrishna Students Home, Mylapore, Mahatma Gandhi visited Madras by about the year 1925, and stayed at 'Amjad Bagh' the residence of Thiru S. Srinivasa Iyengar. Rajaji sent for us specially and introduced us himself to Mahatma Gandhi as the nephews of the Donor of the Ashram at Pudupalayam.

During his stay in the Village, Rajaji tried to help the villagers in every possible way. He used to settle their petty squabbles which might have otherwise led them to Courts. He patiently listened to their tales of sorrow and consoled and cheered them. It was more because of his being considered as a philosopher and guide of the villagers he was referred to as the 'ACHARIAR' than due to his name ending that way.

It was my good fortune to have enjoyed his blessing right through his life. It is with real pride that I admire his attainments in various fields and the unique reputation which he enjoyed in this country and in the world. Still my highest regard for him is for his humane approach and great sacrifice for the benefit and upliftment of the downtrodden. Rajaji's "finest hour" was when he served living in the thatched hut at Pudupalayam Village.

Officials Meet on Krishna Water Scheme

The high power committee comprising the officials of Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh met on November 14th to review the progress made on the Krishna water scheme launched by the two Governments jointly. Although the scheme is scheduled to be completed in six years, both Governments want to complete the scheme in four years. Several steps for expediting the scheme were discussed. An understanding was reached on the priority basis for the various works connected with the scheme.

Memorial for Kamban

The Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned the construction of a Kalaikoil (temple of art) in memory of Kamban at his birthplace Thera-zhundur near Mayiladuthurai in Thanjavur district.

Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments, Thiru R. M. Veerappan would lay the foundation stone for the Rs. 10 lakh memorial.



CHILDREN'S DAY



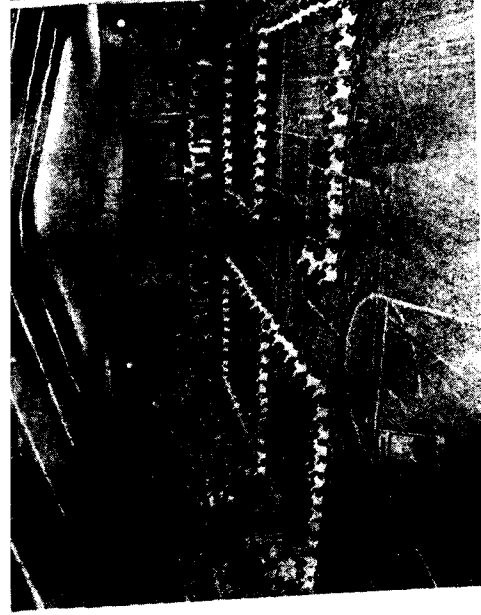
Children's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Kalaivanar Arangam on 14.11.83 under the presidency of Thiru C.N.Krishna Bharathy I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations. In his speech he said "Arrangements were made to conduct film shows in 18 cinema theatres in Madras city for children. The Government of Tamil Nadu is celebrating this children's day every year. Films from different countries meant for children have been secured and shown to them every year on this day. I am happy to inform you that Hon'ble Minister for Dairy Development Thiru K.A. Krishnaswamy has agreed to inaugurate this children's film festival."

Hon'ble Minister for Dairy Development Thiru K.A. Krishnaswamy inaugurated the film festival in Madras. In his inaugural address he said thousands of children have gathered here on this happy occasion. This is the 96th birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The Government is celebrating Nehru's birthday, which is observed as children's day every year on 14th November. Every year on children's day films from different countries are screened at Kalaivanar Arangam and other cinema theatres situated in and around Madras. Today, we are celebrating Nehru's 96th birthday

on behalf of the Government of Tamilnadu and on behalf of children. The Hon'ble Minister further said that Jawaharlal Nehru was a rare and wonderful personality. Gandhiji after obtaining freedom for India, handed over Independent India to Nehru, a confidant of Gandhiji. Jawaharlal Nehru had spent 16 years of his life in Jails. He contributed his 'House', his 'Wealth' and his very life for the sake of the country. He sacrificed everything. Such were the qualities of this great leader and children should follow him.

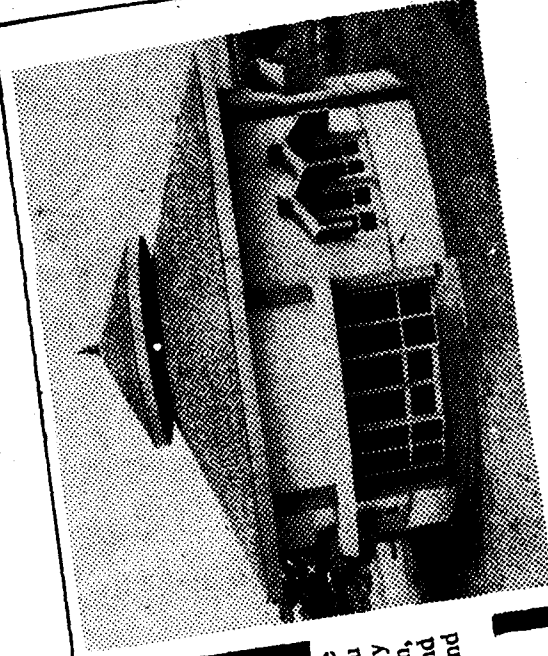
Earlier, Thiru K.S. Govindaraj, Vice Chairman of the Madras Film Society welcomed the gathering and spoke. About 2000 children had gathered on this day at Kalaivanar Arangam.

Thiru V.T. Veerappan, Deputy Director of Information, proposed a vote of thanks.



The newly-built Tourist Office

The newly-built Tourist Office of the Government of Tamil Nadu was opened by Hon'ble Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Religious Endowments on 2nd December 1983.



CHILDREN'S RALLY

A colourful rally by School Children drawn from various schools marked the Children's Day Celebrations held on 14.11.83. Dressed in colourful costumes, these children performed a variety of dances, which included the folk dances of Tamilnadu. Hundreds of Children were gathered on that day at the University Indoor Stadium.

Hon'ble Minister for Education Thiru C. Aranganayagam presented awards to prize winners. Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration Thiru P. Kulaidevelu presided over the function. The Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Education Department Thiru T. D. Sunderraj, I.A.S., and Director of School Education Thiru G. A. Ryan participated.

The children, in addition to showing their skills through drills and gymnastics, also sang songs in praise of the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meals Scheme for Children and the programme of vocationalisation of Education.



Welfare of EX-SERVICEMEN

It is the duty of all Citizens of India to ensure that the war widows, the war disabled, ex-servicemen and their dependents are well looked after since it is them who have given their best to secure the borders and protect integrity of the freedom of the Country. The Armed Forces Flag Day is an occasion for us to remember the valuable services rendered by the three services. In order to fulfil our obligation towards the war widows, the war disabled, the ex-servicemen and their dependents, the Government of Tamil Nadu have created a separate Department called "Department of Ex-servicemen's Welfare" under the control of Honourable Minister for Finance.

The Department of Ex-servicemen's Welfare is utilising two separate funds namely "Tamil Nadu Ex-servicemen's Personnel Benevolent Fund" and "Amalgamated Funds" to render resettlement/rehabilitation assistance to ex-servicemen population of Tamil Nadu. The details of assistance rendered during 1982-83 from both the funds are furnished below :—

Monthly Grant :

Sanctioned towards maintenance to deserving ex-servicemen personnel, their families and dependents of deceased ex-servicemen's Personnel. During the period under report 1629 cases have been sanctioned to the tune of Rs. 8,29,796.

Marriage Grant :

Sanctioned to one daughter of ex-servicemen at Rs. 500. During the period under report 633 daughters have been sanctioned this grant with total expenditure of Rs. 3,17,500.

Lump Sum Grant :

Sanctioned towards resettlement in civil life by opening of small petty shops, poultry farm, small business etc; 25 cases have been sanctioned Rs. 7,550 during the period under report.

Immediate Relief Grant :

Sanctioned to the individuals

requiring immediate spot financial assistance. During the period under report 2201 individuals have been sanctioned with this grant involving a total amount of Rs. 91,015.

Pocket Money :

Sanctioned to ex-servicemen under going treatment in the TB and Leprosy Sanatoria. During the period under report 275 cases have been sanctioned Rs. 17,594.20.

Funeral Grant :

Sanctioned for meeting funeral expenses of the deceased ex-servicemen. During the period under report 441 cases have been sanctioned Rs. 66,170.

Flood Relief Grant :

Sanctioned for alleviation of distress due to flood. During the period under report one case has been sanctioned Rs. 300.

Scholarship :

Children of ex-servicemen are sanctioned examination fees, book allowance, scholarship / stipends for their studies. During the period under report 6495 children have received Rs. 5,31,752-33.

Monthly Pension to Leprosy Patients :

Sanctioned towards the main-

tenance of ex-servicemen who are suffering from Leprosy. During the period under report one case is sanctioned Rs. 618-50 for a period of one year subject to renewal annually.

Monthly Interim Relief Grant :

Sanctioned towards maintenance to the widows whose pension cases are pending award. During the period under report 2 cases have been sanctioned Rs. 1238.40.

Old Age Pension :

Sanctioned to the destitute ex-servicemen/widows who are above 60 years of age at Rs. 30 per mensem. During the period under re-

Scheme" 4 stalls at a cost of Rs. 38,835.55 have been established and allotted to deserving ex-servicemen. So far 214 stalls have been established.

Under the Scheme of Annual Maintenance Grant to Next of Kin of the defence personnel killed/disabled in action during Indo-Pak Conflict of 1971, an amount of Rs. 18,000 was paid to 35 individuals and 135 war widows of earlier operations have been paid an amount of Rs. 80,400 as Annual Maintenance Allowance.

The Scheme is meant for training defence personnel in Industrial

and for loans above Rs. 5,000 and upto Rs. 50,000 interest subsidy is given over and above 7% charged by the Banks. So far 497 have been assisted with expenditure of Rs. 54,343.44 as assistance.

Under a scheme of presentation of Dhoties and sarees to the awardees of old age pension during Pongal and Independence Day, 104 ex-servicemen/widows were presented with Dhoties and Sarees to the tune of Rs. 5,200 during Pongal and Independence Day Celebrations, 1983.



port a sum of Rs. 31,563-70 has been sanctioned to 85 cases.

Monthly pension to widows of pre-1-1-1964 Pensioners :

Sanctioned towards the maintenance to the widows of pensioners who served prior to 1-1-1964 and died subsequently. So far 720 widows have been sanctioned to the tune of Rs. 3,98,195-60.

Jai Jawan Stalls :

Under "Self Employment

Training Institutes before release and continuing their training after release with a view to improve their chances of productive absorption in civil life. 5 ex-servicemen were paid Rs. 200 per month for their post release training period and Rs. 5,600 was disbursed under this Scheme.

Bank Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme :

Under this scheme eligible ex-servicemen can draw loans not exceeding Rs. 50,000 for doing business from the Nationalised Banks. For loan upto Rs. 5,000 interest subsidy is given over and above 4%

In order to honour the ex-servicemen's Personnel, His Excellency the Governor hosts 'Tea' to them every year on the eve of Flag Day, at Raj Bhavan. During this function held on 5-2-1983, for Flag Day 1982, 100 ex-servicemen/widows have been presented with new dresses and 6 disabled ex-servicemen were presented with Hearing aids/crutches to the tune of Rs. 6,525.60. Similarly at the District level the Collectors are holding functions to honour the ex-servicemen's Personnel in all the District Headquarters.

In order to enable the women dependents of ex-servicemen to earn their livelihood and to supplement

their income, they are given training in tailoring in the tailoring units run by the Department in the Districts. So far 4321 dependents have undergone this training and 247 are under training. During the training period they are given stipend of Rs. 30 per month along with raw materials worth of Rs. 20 per month. During the period under report a sum of Rs. 1,77,576.10 was spent for the above training. So also the children of ex-service personnel are trained in Shorthand and Typewriting in the Institutes run by the Department at Madras, Thanjavur, and Nagercoil. 640 children have availed this training so far and 120 are undergoing training. A sum of Rs. 24,621.90

construction at Madurai and Sivakasi at a cost of Rs. 15 and 7.50 lakhs respectively. A multi-storeyed building at Madras at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs is nearing completion. Proposals for construction of Jawans Bhavans at South Arcot at Cuddalore and Ramanathapuram are under process. A rest house at Kodaikanal at a cost of Rs. 1.72 lakhs is to be constructed shortly.

An Old Age Home for destitute military pensioners has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 6 lakhs at Vellore, North Arcot. This home can accommodate 58 pensioners and this is the first of its kind in the Country.

men to join in the Armed Forces, the Department has organised training camps in various districts and so far 3734 youngmen were trained and out of which 2600 youngmen were absorbed into Armed Forces. This has also resulted in promotion of the economic condition of the families of the un-employed youngmen by securing them employment.

In order to facilitate the ex-servicemen to compete with other youngmen who are coming out fresh from Schools/Colleges in the competitive examinations held by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission/Banking Service Re-



recruitment Board, coaching classes are organised and the ex-servicemen are paid stipend during the period of coaching.

has been spent towards the payment of stipend and purchase of stationery to them.

There are 5 Jawans' Bhavans constructed at Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Salem, Coimbatore and Thanjavur at a cost of Rs. 27 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 6 lakhs earned annually from these Jawans Bhavans is credited into TNEPB Fund and utilised towards various welfare measures. Similar Jawans Bhavans are under

In order to promote the job opportunities for the women dependents of ex-services' Personnel, a printing-cum-binding unit has been established at a cost of Rs. 1 lakh at the Office of the Assistant Director of Ex-servicemen's Welfare, St. Thomas Mount. Women dependents are trained in printing, composing, book-binding and paper cutting, and are executing orders from various sources.

In order to encourage the young

Under the Scheme of 'Preparing Ex-servicemen for Self Employment' 21 ex-servicemen are undergoing training in Electrical Wiring and Welding in the Rural Extension Centre, Arni, North Arcot District.

Thus the Department of Ex-servicemen's Welfare has been looking after the welfare of ex-services' Personnel in a commendable manner. The Schemes implemented in Tamil Nadu are followed in other States and also appreciated by the Government of India.

A seminar on "Computers for Government applications was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Health Dr. H. V. Hande on 24.11.83 at Chola Hotel, Madras. The seminar was organised by the Electronic Corporation of India and the Anna Institute of Management, Madras.

80 Senior officers representing over 40 Government Departments attended the seminar.

Thiru R. Nagarajan, I.A.S., Director, Anna Institute of Management welcomed the participants.

Thiru K. Chockalingam, I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu presided over the seminar. In his speech he said.

COMPUTERS for government applications

The Chief Secretary said computerisation would help in toning up the administration at various levels.

Inaugurating the seminar Hon'ble Health Minister said that

ties for tubectomy, they did not have doctors who were posted in some other centres. There were medical institutions, where drugs were not available and in some other hospitals they were overuti-



"Some of the important Government departments in Madras would soon switch over to computerised exchange of information between them.

He said that selected departments at the Secretariat and other places in the City would be hooked to the central computer at the office of the Director of Statistics. The departments would be able to feed and extract data from the central computer through input-outlet terminals placed at the departments and would also transmit relevant data.

State Government should evolve a comprehensive, computerised health care and delivery system which will enable it to fulfil its pledge of providing health care to all by the end of the century.

He said the Health Department did not know how many entered the Madras General Hospital daily and for what treatment. These data were urgently required to answer questions from legislators. Again, it was found that while some of the Primary Health Centres and sub-centres were equipped with facili-

ties for tubectomy, they did not have doctors who were posted in some other centres. There were medical institutions, where drugs were not available and in some other hospitals they were overuti-

Col. V.S.M. Sharma, General Manager (computers) ECIL, said India did not have abundant capital for optimum utilisation. It was in this direction computers could be of great use to step up productivity and the quality of public service. Today computers could analyse the data on planning and also develop codes for protecting confidential information.

Thiru Mani, zonal manager, ECIL, Madras, proposed a vote of thanks.

G. BHASKARAN



Object Origin and Growth :

The main objective of Consumers' Cooperatives is to provide protection to Consumers against exploitation. They serve the common man by making available to them consumers goods of quality and correct weight at fair price.

The origin of the Consumer Cooperative movement can be traced back to the year 1904 when the first consumer cooperative society viz., the Triplicane Urban Cooperative Society in Madras was organised. There was no appreciable progress in the growth of the consumer co-operatives till 1915. The First World War led to abnormal increase in prices of essential commodities and this stimulated the growth of consumer cooperatives to some extent. There was a decline in the growth when things returned to normalcy but the second World War created conditions which led to a resurgence of the movement. Control over the price and distribution of essential commodities coupled, with rationing of food grains, gave a new impetus to the organisation of more consumer cooperatives. The Government found in them a reliable agency for the distribution of controlled commodities to the Public. Assured business and absence of competition from private trade enabled them to develop their business without much effort. With the increase in inflationary levels and difficulties experienced by periodical shortages in the availability of essential commodities, a fillip was given to the growth and spread of the consumer cooperative movement.

**Consumer
Cooperatives
play a
VITAL ROLE**

G. N. DAS, B.Com.,
Special Officer,
Consumer Co-operative.

The National cooperative Development ware housing Board (known as the National Cooperative Development Corporation) set up a Committee in November 1960, with Dr. P. Natesan, a veteran cooperator, as the Chairman, to suggest measures for the development of the consumer cooperative movement in the country. Among other things the Committee recommended State participation and a large measure of State assistance, so as to bring into existence a new set up of 4,000 primary stores, 100 wholesale stores and an apex level wholesale store in each State. In pursuance of these recommendations the Government of India sponsored a scheme for the organisation of consumer cooperatives in all the important cities and towns, which had a population of 50,000 and above. The implementation of this and various other schemes for the development of consumer co-operatives in the Third and subsequent Five year Plans had contributed to the significant growth of the consumer cooperatives in the country.

The Structure of the consumer cooperatives in India is a four tier one, consisting of the National Consumers Federation at the National Level, State Consumers' Cooperative Federations at the State Level, Cooperative Wholesale stores at District level and the primary Cooperative Stores at the base level. The net work of consumer cooperatives in India comprises of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation, 15 State Consumers' Cooperative Federations, about 5,000 Cooperative Wholesale Stores with about 3,000 branches and 295 Department Stores (Supermarket) and about 16,000 Primary Cooperative Stores with about 2,700 branches.

The net work of consumer co-operatives in Tamil Nadu consists of the Tamil Nadu Consumers' Cooperative Federation at the State level, 29 Cooperative Wholesale Stores at the district/intermediary level and 3798 primary Cooperative Stores which includes 292 stores for industrial and plantation workers, 15 stores for women and 2938

stores for college and high school students at the base level.

The Consumer Cooperatives have opened 30 Department stores (Super Markets), 159 Large Sized Retail Outlets/Modern Retail units (mini-super markets) and about 1,500 branches. The value of goods sold to the public by all the consumers cooperatives in the State has registered a steady increase from 1977-78 as given below :

Year	Retail sales (Rs. in Crores)
1978-79	137.42
1979-80	140.92
1980-81	181.55
1981-82	211.30
1982-83	228.00

The programme for 1983-84 is Rs. 250 crores consisting of Rs. 170 crores in urban areas and Rs. 80 crores in rural areas. Tamil Nadu occupies a unique position in the consumers cooperative movement in the country. Nearly 1/3rd of the total turnover of consumers co-operatives in the country is accounted for by cooperatives in Tamil Nadu. The total membership is also the highest in Tamil Nadu (13.24 lakhs) followed by Delhi (9.16 lakhs) Maharashtra (7.53 lakhs) Uttar Pradesh (6.49 lakhs) and Karnataka (6.11 lakhs) against the All India total of 62.83 lakhs. The member-

ship in Tamil Nadu is more than 1/5th of the total membership of the consumer crops in the country.

Regional Distribution Centres :

With a view to pooling the purchasing power and strengthening the bargaining power of the consumer cooperatives and ensuring smooth and continuous supplies from manufacturers and producers, two Regional Distribution Centres, one at Coimbatore by the Coimbatore District Consumers Cooperative Wholesale Stores and the other by the Tamil Nadu Consumers Cooperative Federation at Madras have been opened with financial assistance of Rs. 22.32 lakhs and Rs. 101.41 lakhs respectively. The Regional Distribution Centre at Coimbatore caters to the needs of 6 Cooperative Wholesale Stores and their 43 branches and 170 primary cooperative stores in the district of Coimbatore, Periyar and Nilgiris. The Regional Distribution Centre at Coimbatore effected supplies to the extent of Rs. 1,600 lakhs during the year 1982-83 to the Consumer Co-operatives attached to it. The Regional Distribution Centres at Madras which was started recently supplies consumer goods to 7 Cooperative Wholesale Stores and its 202 branches and 130 Primary Cooperative Stores in the districts of Madras Chengalpattu and North Arcot. It has effected supplies to the consumer cooperatives attached to it to the value of Rs. 212 lakhs during the year 1982-83.



Distribution of Vegetables :

With a view to ensure a fair return to the farmers and a reasonable price to the consumers, a scheme was formulated for the distribution of vegetables and is implemented in Madras City from the year 1981-82. This scheme has been continued during the year 1982-83. Financial assistance to the total extent of Rs. 1.05 lakhs to four Cooperative Wholesale Stores in Coimbatore, Trichy, Madurai and Thanjavur, districts for the purchase of tri-wheelers and Kiosks, so as to extend the scheme to the above four towns, has been sanctioned during the current year. Due to unprecedented drought conditions throughout the State of Tamil Nadu, there had been steep fall in the production



of vegetables in June-July and consequently, the prices of vegetables increased manifold. With a view to ensuring smooth flow of vegetables to the ultimate consumers and to check soaring prices, the consumer cooperatives were requested to step in and under take the retail distribution of vegetables on a large scale. An intensive programme was launched and the number of retail outlets has been increased by 24 times and as many as 112 retail outlets were pressed into service. Hill Vegetables are procured from the Cooperative Marketing Societies in the Nilgiris the while country vegetables are procured from the Cooperatives in the producing areas. A special incentive scheme for the sales personnel has also been implemented. The monthly sales is now of the order of Rs. 6.50 lakhs. The intensive scheme had some impact on the rising price trend and the prices have started coming down.

Cooperative branded products :

Cooperative branded products produced/processed by the co-operatives themselves have been encouraged so that cooperative can face challenges of consumer business in the coming years. A beginning has been made by identifying edible oils, spices, vermicelli, coffee powder, soap nut powder and pulses where cooperative branded products can be introduced. Some of the products like the Triplicane Urban Cooperative Society gingelly oil, Tamil Nadu Cooperative Marketing Federation groundnut oil, Chinthamani coconut oil, groundnut oil and refined oil, Chandrasekara-

puram coffee powder, soap nut powder of Madurai coats Employees Cooperative Stores etc have established a reputation in their local areas. It has been programmed to bring out such products like edible oils spices like turmeric, chillies, coriander, sambar powder etc., vermicelli, packaged tamarind, coffee powder, soapnut powder etc., in a systematic manner in identified societies, pack the products in a cooperative branded attractive packages and ensure their continuous availability in the cooperative retail outlets at reasonable prices. This will be backed up by suitable publicity through magazines, news papers, radio, T. V. etc.,

The Coimbatore District Consumers Cooperative Wholesale Stores has set up a hosiery unit at Tiruppur at a cost of Rs. 2.21 lakhs. The unit is producing banians under the brand name 'Chinthamani'. The unit has produced about 40,000 dozen banians during the year 1982-83. The banians are marketed through the supermarkets, mini-supermarkets and the textiles sections of cooperative stores.

Village shop Programme :

The State Government took a policy decision in the year 1978 to cover all the revenue villages in the state which are about 16,000 in number by public distribution System by opening retail shops in each revenue village to ensure free availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices in rural areas. 11 districts were allotted to the

cooperative for opening fair price shops and 4 districts to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. The Cooperatives have opened 5441 full time shops in the villages with a population of 500 and more and 1277 part time shops in villages with a population below 500 but above 100. Besides that, the then existing 5441 fair price shops were converted into multipurpose shops selling all essential commodities in addition to controlled commodities. At present, there are 11,159 village shops run by cooperatives in the State as against 5441 in the year 1978. About 63 lakhs family cards are attached to these village shops. They distribute in addition to the seven controlled commodities which come under the Public Distribution System, other essential commodities such as dhals, chillies, tamarind, coriander, pepper, soaps, blades, tea, coffee, matches, etc., The value of goods sold by the village shops from the inception of the scheme is given below :—

Year	Value of goods sold. (Rs. in crores).
1977—78	5.17
1978—79	9.96
1979—80	18.07
1980—81	34.01
1981—82	85.00
1982—83	85.00

The Consumers Cooperatives in Tamil Nadu have taken deep roots both in urban as well as rural areas of the State and have become part of their economic life. On account of their impressive performance the Government are utilising them in implementing various economic and social welfare schemes. The consumer cooperatives in 12 out of 16 Districts in the State have been entrusted with the transportation of food articles under the Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme to about 45,000 feeding centres every month. They transport about 15,000 M.T., of rice, dhal and Palmolein every month to the centres. The Consumer Cooperatives in Tamil Nadu have thus attained great importance and play a vital role in the implementation of various schemes formulated by the Government for the economic and social development of the people and more particularly the weaker sections.



NUTRITION

for the



Children are our hope for the future. Any investment which is directed towards their well being is an investment in the right direction. Tamil Nadu stands out as the State which has laid due emphasis on the overall development of children in its planning. All aspects of a child growth are taken care of by the state and schemes have been formulated to help this over all development.

The schemes fall into three main categories. Nutrition, Care of destitute children, care of handicapped children.

There are mainly three nutrition programmes implemented in Tamil Nadu at present.

1. The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme.
2. The Integrated Child Development Service Programme.
3. The Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project.

Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme :

Mal-nutrition during childhood leads to severe health problems among the children of poorer sections in the vulnerable age group. To combat this deficiency a programme has been launched to provide nutritious meals to the children below the poverty line.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme was introduced in the rural areas of Tamilnadu from 1-7-1982 and in urban areas from 15-9-1982 to tackle the problems of Mal-nutrition and to provide facilities for pre-school education and health-

care for the children in the age group of 2 plus to 4 plus. At present a total number of 22,910 rural and 4,937 urban child welfare centres are functioning in rural and urban areas respectively. The total number of beneficiaries in our State in both the rural and urban areas in the age group of 2 plus to 4 plus is about 23.00 lakhs per day.

Under the scheme, employment opportunities have been created for about 83,538 women who have been appointed as Child Welfare Organisers and Child Welfare Assistants. Out of 27,846 Child Welfare Organisers 5,160 belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes; 976 are widows and 782 are destitute women. Similarly out of 55,692 Child Welfare Assistants 11,120 belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 8,305 are widows and 2,025 are destitutes.

There are 3 main components of this scheme :



- (i) Nutrition
- (ii) Pre-school Education
- (iii) Health Coverage

(i) Nutrition :

Under this scheme the children are supplied with cooked food consisting of the following :

Rice	Gms. 80
Dhall	10
Oil	5
Vegetables & condiments	50

The cost per meal per day for a child is .42 paise. It has been calculated by nutrition experts that this cooked meal provides 411 calories per day to the child. Cooking is done in a hygienic way and the meal is served hot, fresh and delicious to the children. For cooking in the

Child Welfare Centre, kitchen equipments at a cost of Rs. 2,000 per rural and Rs. 1,950 per urban Centre have been supplied to all the Child Welfare Centres. The Child Welfare Organisers have been instructed and trained to use a Hay Box in the Child Welfare Centre to reduce the cost of fuel.

(ii) Pre School Education :

The children are given pre-school education by the child welfare organisers who have been specially trained for the purpose. The emphasis in pre-school education is to improve the imagination of the child and to inculcate some basic values in the minds of the children. They are also taught hygienic habit. Educational equipments at a cost of Rs. 600 per set have been supplied to the Child Welfare Centres. In 4343 Child Welfare Centres, the child welfare organisers have been given special Nursery school Training.

(iii) Health coverage :

Health Care of the children is ensured by the administration of drugs, vitamins, immunisation and wherever necessary referral services. In the rural areas and Municipalities Public Health Department is ensuring health care through their field staff. To monitor the improvement in the nutrition status of the children, weight is being taken regularly and recorded in the health cards which are also meant to record the immunisation and other health particulars of the children. So far 2,400 weighing machines have been supplied to the Child Welfare Centres in the rural areas through UNICEF assistance.

From 14th November 1982, children in the rural areas are being supplied with free tooth powder to teach them the habit of good dental hygienic.

The Child Welfare Centres in the Villages have been meant to be a

focal point where the children will not only receive nutrition, pre school education and health care, but also develop their minds on a food community basis. These centres are also meant to be the community education centre for mothers in the matter of child care and nutrition. By the formation of Village Level Committees the community participation and involvement is ensured. The scheme has gone a long way to usher in a classless and casteless society.

Integrated Child Development Services :

The Integrated Child Development Service Programme was evolved by the Government of India to provide early childhood services, in an integrated manner. The scheme was introduced during the year 1975-76 with three projects in Tamil Nadu. It has since been extended to 39 projects. Out of this only two are in rural areas at Nilakottai in Madurai District and Thally in Dharmapuri District. All the other 37 are in the Municipalities and Corporation areas.

Each I. C. D. S. Project has 100 Centres, called Anganwadis. Each Project is managed by one Child Development Project Officer to look after the Nutrition and Pre-school component and a Medical Officer to take care of the Health coverage. They are assisted by 4 Supervisors and 4 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives per Project. The following packages of the services rendered through the scheme.

- Supplementary Nutrition
- Immunisation
- Health Check-up
- Referral Services
- Nutrition and Health Education
- Non-formal Education

Under this scheme also the Nutrition component for 2+ to 4+

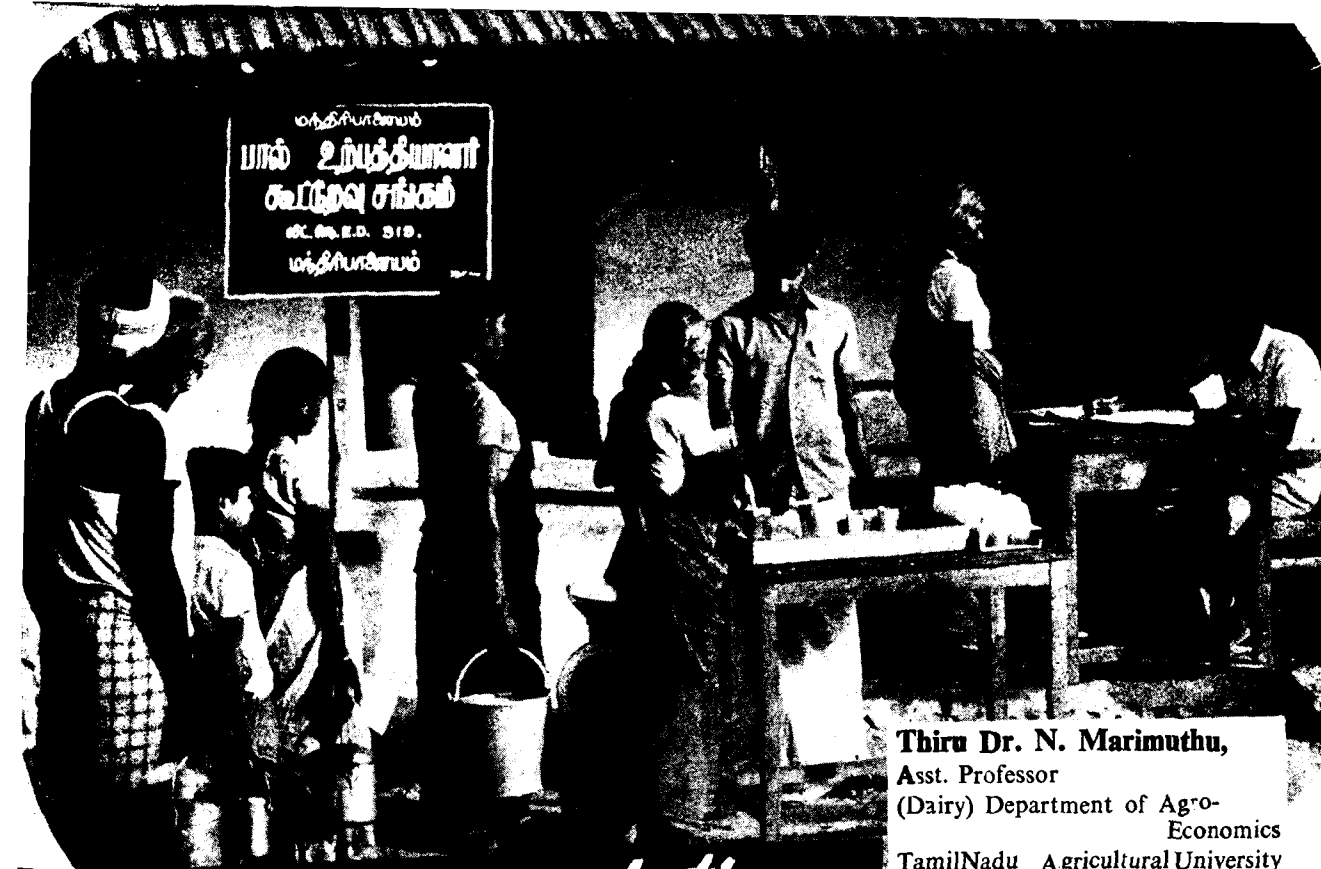


age group is implemented under the Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme. Apart from this it has also been proposed to cover the children below two years and pregnant and lactating women receive ICSM and Bulgar wheat donated by CARE.

Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project

The World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project is being implemented in three Districts of the State viz., Madurai, Ramnad and Pudukottai at present.

The Districts of Tirunelveli, North Arcot and Chingleput will be covered shortly. The primary aim of this project is to increase the efficiency, coverage and overall impact of the Government Nutrition efforts. This is being accomplished by a systematic concentration on the nutritionally vulnerable age group of 6 to 36 months. The project also aims to improve the focus quality and reach of nutrition services for the nutrition risk groups like pregnant and lactating women. It also envisages a communication component where the participation of the community is ensured. The Project commenced operation from November 1981 in Kottampatti Pilot Block of Madurai District and at present there are a total number of 4098 Community Nutrition Centres in the Districts of Madurai, Ramnad and Pudukottai. The principal components of the Project are Nutrition Delivery services, rural health services and Communications with a view to improving community participation in Nutrition Education.



Thiru Dr. N. Marimuthu,
Asst. Professor
(Dairy) Department of Agro-
Economics
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

Green revolution augments milk production

In India, Dairy Industry is becoming more and more important especially in Rural areas where Small Farmers/Marginal Farmers and Agricultural labourers are encouraged to establish through Rural Integrated Programmes. These farmers are given dairy loan through either Nationalised Banks or Co-operative or Scheduled Banks and Subsidy is also extended to minimise the loan burden for these people.

Importance of Dairying

Dairy Industry can profitably combine the crop production to provide gainful employment for the rural family members throughout the year by which assured daily income can be expected through successful dairying. Thus Agriculture and Animal Husbandry are complementary to each other. Agriculture provides feeds and fodder to the livestock maintained by these Agriculturists while Animal Husbandry provides not only nutritious milk and milk products, but also provides animal power-bullocks and valuable

organic manure for enriching the Agricultural field in addition to biogas which will be useful for lighting and energising pumps for irrigation purposes.

Improvement of genetic potentiality of the animals

In order to improve the genetic make up of the dairy animals cross breeding programmes in White cattle of exotic origin and up grading of Buffaloes with Murrah Buffaloes have taken through Animal Husbandry Department as well as Dairy Development Corporations. Milk Production has been increased manifold due to the implementation of OPERATION FLOOD I & II in India by intensive mass programme by Utilisation of Frozen Semen obtained from exotic Proven Bulls and through animal health cover. Due to the integrated approach potentiality of Milk Production has been considerably increased and further progress can be achieved if adequate attention is paid for sufficient fodder production.

There is a wide gap between the need and supply of feeds and fodder. In foreign countries like Denmark, Australia, United States of America, etc., there are permanent pasture lands meant for grazing of animals and hence Dairy Industry is gaining importance but in India there are no such facilities with the result the dairy animals are not accessible to get adequate fodder and hence low production. In Tamil Nadu the area under fodder cultivation is about 1 to 2 of the cropped area while the area under fodder cultivation is more than 10% in Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi.

Model Scheme to increase Green Fodder

Here a model scheme is suggested that can be adopted any where, when irrigation and marketing facilities are viable. With regard to marketing of fodder there will be no problem because in each village the Milk Producers' Co-operative Society is being organised to which the green fodder can be marketed easily with reasonable price and this system will be economical to the farmer - cultivator. The type of fodder suggested is BN2 as this grass is grown well every where and relished by Cattle.

The green fodder production is expected to be 1250 kg daily on the

basis of 100 tonnes per acre with all inputs made available.

It may be noted that there will be daily income of Rs 118.90 during the first year of fodder transplantation and subsequently the daily income will be Rs.172.70 from the second year onwards. Thus the Farmer-cultivator will be getting a regular assured income through the fodder cultivation and marketing it properly.

Tie up arrangements for effective disposal of Fodder

There is no problem in marketing fodder in the village whenever there

an agreement between the President and the Society members stating that

each society member will get green fodder and the cost of amount for the fodder supplied may be deducted from the milk amount. Thus the society members are assured of getting daily fodder supply thereby there will be increased milk production. Thus the dairy man will get regular income through this self-employment.

Benefits derived from this Model Fodder Scheme:

1. The Farmer who cultivates green fodder will be kept assured of

A which will facilitate regular conception and calving resulting profitable dairying.

5. Due to assured permanent income to all the Milk Society members the economical status is getting increased leading to higher standard of living.

6. Due to regular availability of milk and production, the nutritional status of all the family members is increased.

7. Above all there will be WHITE REVOLUTION through this planned GREEN REVOLU-



is a Milk Producer's Co-operative Society, where there is ever increasing demand for green fodder to feed the dairy animals maintained by the society members. For effective system of fodder production and disposal, there should be a tie-up between the Farmer - Fodder cultivator and the President of the Milk Producers' Co-operative Society by which the green fodder produced will be supplied daily to the Milk Society and the payment for the supply of fodder will be made from the milk amount of those society members who purchase the fodder daily and pour the milk to the society. Again there should be

daily regular income just like from any other business.

2. The society members of the Milk Society are able to get the required quantity of green fodder at a reasonable price.

3. The turn over of the Milk Society in that Village will be more due to increased milk production and procurement.

4. There will not be any sterility and infertility problems among dairy animals due to assured and adequate supply of green fodder which contains abundant quantity of Vitamin

TION in each village by which the rural economy will definitely be improved.

Conclusion:

In view of the above facts, greater attention needs to be paid in the rural area for more green fodder cultivation to enhance the milk production so that this system will not only help the Farmers to get assured daily income through fodder cultivation and milk production but also assists to increase the nutritional status as well as standard of living of the rural mass with greater impact on rural economy.

News in Brief..

NEW FIVE-YEAR LAW COURSE INAUGURATED

Inaugurating the five-year law course under the auspices of the Directorate of Legal Studies, His Excellency the Vice President Thiru M. Hidayatullah on 2nd November, 83— said the new scheme would turn out sound lawyers since professional aptitude and background of good education were both linked in it. "I must say that Tamil Nadu has been very forthright in coming forward and setting this example.

150 Libraries to be opened in City

One hundred and fifty new libraries including 135 branch libraries and 15 circle libraries one each for the 150 Corporation divisions in the City will be opened under a new scheme of the Directorate of Public Libraries.

Governor Lauds Noon Meal Scheme

His Excellency Tamilnadu Governor Thiru S. L. Khurana addressing the 11th annual day celebrations of the Women's Voluntary Service of Tamilnadu on 8th November 1983, lauded the State Government's nutritious noon meal scheme for children and said that it would benefit over 65 lakh students who would grow into useful citizens.

Proposals of Six Hydel Project sent to Centre :

The Tamil Nadu Government proposes to set up six hydro-electric projects at a cost of Rs. 200 crores to generate a total of 420 mw, Hon'ble Minister for Dairy Development Thiru K. A. Krishnaswamy said.

The projects to be set up in Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Tirunelveli and Madurai districts, were under the Centre's scrutiny.

TTDC Agents for Europe under Study

The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) is examining the question of appointing agents in West Europe to improve the State's tourist potential.

This was announced by Hon'ble Minister for Information and Religious Endowments Thiru R. M. Veerappan.

Tamil Nadu Government Allots Land For Space Centre

The Tamilnadu Government has decided to allot about 355 acres of land to the Department of Space for the establishment of a liquid test facility centre, Minister for Revenue Thiru S. D. Somasundaram, said.

Cloud-Seeding Around City 'A Success'

The artificial rainmaking effort by the Tamil Nadu Government had been a success resulting in three times the normal rainfall around Madras City, Hon'ble Minister for Labour Thiru Raghavanandam, said.

Science Centre to be set up in City

A science centre and observatory, to be named after Periyar, will soon be set up in Madras at an estimated cost of about Rs. one crore, Hon'ble Minister for Education Thiru C. Aranganayagam said on 16th November, when inaugurating the tenth state-level science exhibition organised jointly by the State Education department and NCERT, New Delhi, at a private higher secondary school. He also announced that a science centre would come up at Tirunelveli.



V. SAMBANDAM, B.A.,
Associate Editor, Tamil Arasu (Reid.)

To the doctors, nurses and other para medical staff who had toiled day and night at the Diabetic Research Cell, which had been now rightly upgraded into the 'Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Diabetes' it was not only the realisation of a dream but also a promise for the future to the unfortunate poor victims of Diabetes—a promise for extending better facilities and for a brighter future despite Diabetes.

History

DEFEAT TUBERCULOSIS
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MAGAS

94/88

Out of the 1,200 new cases registered here every year about 100 are found to be juvenile diabetics, i.e., below 20 years of age. They come from various rural areas and from the neighbouring districts. They are insulin dependent diabetics. They do not get insulin in their villages. So they stay in the Hospital to get their quota of insulin and doctors.

afternoons special clinics like the Diabetic heart clinic, diabetic neurology clinic, and diabetic orthopaedic clinic will function with specialists coming from other institutions.

Out of the 1,200 new cases registered here every year about 100 are found to be juvenile diabetics, i.e., below 20 years of age. They come from various rural areas and from the neighbouring districts. They are insulin dependent diabetics. They do not get insulin in their villages. So they stay in the Hospital to get their quota of insulin and doctors.



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