Sasts. II-27—65,006 31 10 50.

Education (1950) Department.

Ms. SERIES. ①

pp 95-96 CE.

Put away

Supdt.

G.O. NO. 527 [illegible]

Dated 20-2-1950

94

[Despatch Abstract.]

Education - Reform of Tamil Script - Committee - Constituted.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1524 Edn 30-5-51	1761 Edn 16-7-1948		1898 Edn 14-8-1952			

2082

~~2082~~ Edn
2-8-67

This is the report of the Committee appointed by Mr T. S. Avinashilingam chettiar informally in 1947

Regular report on Mh 109.120

Report of the Committee for the Reform OF TAMIL SCRIPT

A Committee consisting of the following four members was appointed by the Hon'ble Minister for Education of the Madras Government (with Sri. T. S, Chockalingam as Convenor) to consider the question of reforming the Tamil script to suit the modern requirements and make recommendations:

1. Sri T. S. Chockalingam,
   Editor, "Dinasari" Madras. (Convenor of the Committee)
2. Sri R. P. Sethu Pillai,
   Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras.
3. Sri S. Gopalan,
   All-India Radio (then Station Director, Madras)
4. Sri T. N. Subramaniam.

Five meetings of the Committee were held on the 3rd, 4th, 10th, 17th and 24th September, 1947 and all the four members of the Committee attended the meetings. For all the meetings of the Committee excepting the first, Sri K. P. R. Menon, Deputy Superintendent of the Government Press, Madras and Sri M. Sambandam, Proprietor of M/s Nelson & Co., Type founders, Madras, were also present by special invitation.

It was agreed that the total number of different characters necessary for printing in the Tamil language should be reduced from the present unwieldy figure and also that there should be uniformity in the use of symbols or signs for the different characters. The maximum number of separate characters that could be handled in the Composing machine was taken as the target aimed at. This permits a total of 124 characters (90 on the main magazine and 34 on the side magazine) of which 29 would be needed for the various numerals, punctuation marks and other special signs required for printing, as per details given in

Appendix I, leaving a balance of 95 for the Tamil alphabets.

It was decided that the most fruitful method of arriving at the desired result was the separation of the vowel symbols of the vowel consonants as distinct ones and adoption of these symbols uniformly for the different characters.

Various suggestions and designs were considered and discussed. The final recommendations of the Committee are given hereunder :

Pure Vowels : a, அ; ā, ஆ; i, இ; u, உ; ū, ஊ; e, எ; ē, ஏ; o, ஒ; ō, ஓ···No change.

i (long) ஈ The present form of this vowel is so different from the form of the short vowel that it involves a strain for the people who are learning the language. So it was agreed that the alternative form of the long vowel (ஈ) which is now dropping out of use may be made the standard form, in place of the existing one.

ai, ஐ ; au, ஔ : A certain amount of confusion exists at present in the use of these two diphthong vowels, some persons substituting ***ay*** (அய்) and ***av*** (அவ்) for these two But it is necessary to retain these as separate vowels A consonant character (ள) is being used as an additional symbol to denote the diphthong vowel ***au*** (ஔ) and this leads to a certain amount of confusion. It was decided to change the character (ள) so as to make it distinct (ௗ).

Pure consonants : Even though a considerable reduction in the number of characters could be had by separating the dot on the top of the pure consonants, it was decided that this would be a radical change and it was therefore agreed that separate characters should continue to be used with the dot on top as an integral part.

Vowel symbols of vowel consonants :

a (long) ா, This is used for all consonants except n, ***n*** and ***r*** (ணா, னா, றா) for which separate symbols indicating the vowel consonants as a whole are used. It was decided that the symbol (ா) be used for these three also for uniformity.

ai (ை) : Similarly the symbol for ***ai*** is used for all characters except n, ***n***, l and ***l*** (ணை, னை, லை ளை). The same principle to be applied here also and uniformity maintained.

i, ***i***. (ி, ீ) : The symbols for denoting the vowels i, short and long, are at present attached as ligatures to the existing consonant forms. These may be separated and this would result in a considerable saving of the characters. Several designs were considered and it was considered that the existing ones after separation are easier for use. These would fit in with all the consonants, except ***t*** (ட) which has an opening at the right. But this could not be avoided.

u, ***u***, (ு, ூ) : At present separate characters are used for each vowel consonant of these two varieties and there is also no uniformity of the symbols. Various designs were considered and none were found suitable, except those used for the Grantha character (ு, ூ). If these are adopted, there will be a considerable saving of characters. But it was considered that this would be a radical change that might create difficulties, in the adoption of the recommendations. It is therefore suggested that this change may be introduced at a later stage when it is thought that there would not be any difficulty in the adoption.

e, ***e*** o, ***o***, au (எ, ஏ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ): The existing ones, after the adoption of the distinct symbol of ***au*** (ௗ) to distinguish it from the consonant form, may be continued.

The five grantha characters ஜ, ஷ, ஸ, ஹ, க்ஷ which have already come into popular use are to be retained.

The total number of keys that would now be required to accommodate for the above will be as follows:

Vowels	12	அ ஆ, இ, ஈ, உ, ஊ எ ஏ ஐ, ஒ, ஓ ௗ
ஆய்தம்	1	
Consonants	18	
Pure consonants	18	
Vowel marks	6	ா. ி. ீ, ெ. ே, ை
கு, ஙு etc.	18	
கூ, ஙூ etc.	18	
ஜ, ஷ, ஸ, ஹ, க்ஷ	5	
ஜ், ஷ், ஸ், ஹ், க்ஷ்	5	
ு ூ,	2	
ஷை ஸ்ரீ, ஹு. ஸ்ரீ, உ	5	
	108	

But the total figure of 108 arrived at above, is already in excess of the total of 95 available.

It is therefore suggested that the following need not be provided in the magazines of the Composing machine but provided separately as **pi**.

ஜ, ஷ. ஸ, ஹ, க்ஷ	5
ஜ், ஷ், ஸ், ஹ் க்ஷ்	5
ஙு. ஙூ	2
(Which are practically not used)	
ஆய்தம்	1
	13

We have so far considered only about the existing characters. But the present characters are not sufficient to express other more important sounds which have come into use to meet the growing needs of the language. This very question was discussed some seven years ago by another Committee, representing various interests and in which three members of the present Committee were also members. It was then decided that provision should be made to denote the soft sounds of the hard consonants k, t, th and p (i.e, *g*, *d*, *dh* and *b*) as also *f* and *z*. It was then agreed that instead of creating new characters for these, the following existing ones may be used with the addition of an underline to denote their softness.

க	ட	த	ப	ஃப	ஜ
g	d	dh	b	f	z

This suggestion was brought into use by all the Tamil Daily papers immediately. But it slowly fell into disuse due to various reasons.

It was decided by the present committee that the above suggestions may again be adopted now. For this, 12 new characters would be required (six for ordinary consonants and six for pure consonants with dot on top).

No provision is made separately for the characters of vowel-consonants *u*, long and short, of these six, so that the symbols ு and ூ may be used for these and this will for the present show these as distinct from the ordinary characters, and also pave way for the use of these *u* symbols uniformly for all the characters at a later stage, by familiarising them from now onwards.

5

By adopting the above suggestions, 25 characters would be required to be provided for as '*pi*' over and above the 124 characters provided in the magazines of the composing machine. But when the suggestion of using uniform symbols for the vowel signs of *u*, short and long, in the vowel consonants instead of retaining the existing forms is given effect to, then all these could be provided in the composing machine itself, even leaving a few keys spare for any other extra sign.

Before concluding the report, we would like to mention the special help rendered by Sri M. Sambandam of M/s. Nelson & Co, Type founders, Madras to the Committee by supplying the members with various designs for discussion, preparing typecasts and furnishing them with passages printed, side by side in the existing and proposed types and by Sri. K. P. R. Menon, Deputy Superintendant, Government Press, Madras in attending all the meetings and giving us technical and expert advice.

(*Sd.*) T. S. CHOCKALINGAM,
Convenor, 10 2-48.

APPENDIX I

Total characters required for numerals, punctuation marks and other special signs required for printing.

Numerals :	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0	10
Punctuation marks	, ; : . ! ? = '	8
Spaces (Em, En, Thin)		3
Leader		1
Paranthesis		2
Bracket		2
"Em" dash		1
Reference marks		2
		29

Printed at Navajeevan Press, 2 A, Poonamallee High Road, Madras 3,
M. S. 556—Copies 100. 25—2—'43.

To those who want to use a machine with main & side magazines we suggest the following arrangement.

Magazines Main & Side		Pi
அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ,		
உ, ஊ, எ, ஏ,		ஃ,
ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ,		
ா, ி, ீ, ¬, ூ,		
ெ, ே, ை,		
க், க, கு, கூ,		க், க,
ங், ங,		ஙு, ஙூ,
ச், ச, சு, சூ,		ட், ட,
ஞ், ஞ, ஞு, ஞூ.		
ட், ட, டி, டீ,		
ண், ண, ணு, ணூ,		த், த,
த், த, து, தூ,		
ந் ந, நு, நூ.		ப், ப,
ப், ப, பு, பூ,		
ம், ம, மு, மூ,		
ய், ய, யு யூ,		
ர், ர. ரு. ரூ		வ், வ.
ல், ல, லு, லூ,		ஜ், ஜ, ஜ், ஜ
வ், வ, வு, வூ,		க்ஷ், க்ஷ.
ழ், ழ ழு ழூ,		ஷ், ஷ,
ள், ள, ளு, ளூ,		ஸ், ஸ,
ற், ற று, றூ,		ஹ், ஹ,
ன், ன, னு, னூ.		
ஸ்ரீ, ஷை ஹூ, மீ, உ,		
Numerals ..	10	25
Punctuation Marks ..	8	
Spaces .	3	
Leader ..	1	
Paranthesis ..	2	
Bracket ..	2	
Em dash ..	1	
Reference Marks. ..	2	
	124	

1689

To use the machine with main magazine only we suggest the following arrangement.

Main Magazine

அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ,
உ, ஊ, எ, ஏ,
ஐ, ஒ, ஓ,
ா, ி, ீ,
ெ, ே, ை,
க், க, கு, கூ,
ங்,
ச், ச, சு, சூ,
ஞ்,
ட், ட, டு,
ண், ண,
த், த, து,
ந், ந,
ப், ப, பு, பூ,
ம், ம, மு, மூ,
ய், ய, யு,
ர், ர, ரு,
ல், ல, லு,
வ், வ, வு,
ழ், ழ, ழு,
ள் ள ளு,
ற், ற று,
ன், ன னு,

Numerals	.. 10
Punctuation Marks	4
Spaces	.. 3
Leader	.. 1
Paranthesis	. 2
Em dash	.. 1
	90

Pi

ஏ, ¬, ூ, ஙு,
ஞு, ஜு, ஜூ, டூ,
ணு, ணூ, தூ, நு,
நூ, யூ, ரூ, லூ,
வூ, ழூ, ளூ, றூ, னூ,
ங், ங, ஃ,
ஙு, ஙூ,
ட், ட,
ந், ந,
ப், ப,
வ், வ.
ஜ், ஜ ஜ், ஜ.
க்ஷ், க்ஷ,
ஷ் ஷ,
ஸ், ஸ.
ஹ் ஹ,
ஸ்ரீ, ஷை, ஹு, மீ உ,

Reference Marks..	2
	53

Two copies

Draft I

(6)

Ex P. 17 Depor 9

Letter 14635 R2/48-3 Edn dated 23/3/48

to

The Vice chancellor,
University of Madras
Annamalai University) (with encl 1 copy of report)

Sir,

Subject:- Reform of Tamil Script.

I am to enclose a copy of the Report of the Committee for the Reform of Tamil Script and to request you to kindly obtain and communicate to Govt the views of the University on the report.

Rd 26/3/48

22/3/48

Yrs.

by 31/3/48

P.T.O.

Memo 14635 B2/48 Edn dated 23/3/48

Dept II

Subject:- Reform of Tamil Script.

Five Copies of the Report of the Committee for the reform of Tamil Script are forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction and he is requested to obtain the views of ~~the recognised associations of teachers~~, authorities and institutions interested in the matter (and also of recognised assns of teachers) and to forward to Govt a comprehensive [illegible] report with his own observations.

RB 27/3/48

22/3/48

Despd with encls 30.3.48

To The D.P.I (with 5 copies of the report)

---

(1) As/ B2. 11

C.F. 32 (*a*).

EDUCATION Department

From (Name) Sri D.S. Reddi, M.A.(Oxon),

Designation Director of Public Instruction

Station MADRAS.

Received Registered

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department,
MADRAS.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
10 JUN 1948
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

43024

Enclosures:

R.C. No. 455 L4/48 dated 8th June 1948

Sir,

SUB: Reform of Tamil Script - Report of the Committee - Views submitted.

REF: Government Memo No.14635 B2/48 Edn., dated 23.3.1948.

With reference to Government Memo cited above, I have the honour to enclose herewith the remarks of Sri S. Satchidanandam Pillai, B.A., L.T., (Retired District Educational Officer) on the report of the Tamil Reform Committee . His report is very comprehensive and embodies the agreed opinion of ~~the members~~ many and I also ~~enclose~~ endorse his views.

K.S. Meenambal
9.6.48

for DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

RAMU-9-6-48.

B 9/6

COPY OF: Madras, 4th May 1948.

From

Sri S. Satchidanandam Pillai, B.A., L.T.,
Retired District Educational Officer,
175 A Lloyds' Road, MADRAS 14.

To

The Director of Public Instruction, MADRAS.

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script - Views on Report of Committee submitted.
Ref: Your Rc.No.455 L.4/48 dated 5.4.48.

As the present age demands a largest scale use of typing and printing particularly lino printing - some changes have to be made in the ancient Tamil script. But they can be welcomed only if they are shown to be absolutely necessary and fully justifiable.

I support the recommendations of the Committee as regards the forms of pure Vowels and pure consonants.

I support also the recommendations regarding the following Vowel symbols of Vowel-consonants:-

a (long) ா; ai (ை); i i (ி, ீ) and [illegible]

But I am of opinion that the Committee's hesitation in recommending the reform in the characters used for the vowel-consonants having உ ஊ in them is not justifiable, having regard to the pressing need for simplifying the Tamil script as far as possible. The adoption of the designs used for the Grantha characters (i.e [illegible]) will result, as the Committee itself states, in a considerable saving of characters. But the committee does not recommend this step, as in its opinion "this would be radical change that might create difficulties in the adoption of the recommendations". It wants to wait for some time and pave the way for the reform in the meantime, by using the designs only for the Grantha letters.

I do not share this view. The designs [illegible] and [illegible] are already in use in Tamil for the accepted Grantha letters [illegible] and [illegible]. They are not northern or Sanskritic in origin. They were evolved in the South to meet the needs of the Dravida Desa. In view, therefore, of the advantage in printing Tamil that will accrue by the adoption of these two Grantha designs, I would recommend that these two may also be accepted even now with a very slight modification to pacify ~~the~~ and legitimate sentiment against the adoption of these symbols new to pure Tamil. The modification that I would suggest is that the designs may be shortened a little, as compared with those used in the grantha script.

While I have so far supported the aims and suggestions of the Committee, it is my duty to oppose strongly the Committee's ultra-radical recommendation.
Re - the provision for devoting the soft sounds of the hard consonants K.t, th and p. This reform is not so simple and inoccuous as it may appear at first sight. It will be resented and opposed by most, if not all, of the thoughtful scholars of Tamil. It will be construed as throwing in the thin end of a wedge to pull down Tamil to the level of the other Dravidian languages in their relation to Sanskrit and to injure it seriously. This reform, if once agreed to, will lead soon to the introduction of the remaining other variations of the hard consonants in Sanskrit. The result will be first the multiplication of sounds and characters in Tamil which will make the study of the language unnecessarily difficult. And what is even more dangerous to the interests of Tamil is the natural demand that will grow in a short time that those learning Tamil should know the correct pronunciation of all the original foreign words - Sanskritic or otherwise - used in Tamil. The seriousness of this consequence should be fully realised. The likely demand (1) that the original rounds of the borrowed words should be known to every Tamil child, and (2) that all the different new characters should be correctly used to represent the variants will throw a heavy and unjustifiable burden on the Tamil pupil. This will destroy the carefully planned simplicity of the structure of the Tamil scriptand language which has been preserved intact for countless centuries.

The existing Tamil characters are certainly quite sufficient for all practical purposes in the matter of writing Tamil. We cannot well be adding to the characters to express the original sounds of borrowed words. English which is a world-language does not add to its alphabets to meet this need, for purposes of ordinary reading, writing or instruction in educational institutions. People of every linguistic group will pronounce foreign words in their own way. We are all familiar with the way in which the Englishman pronounces Indian words. In the ancient Tamil Grammars the above fundamental fact has been recognised and rules have been laid down for the transformation of sounds in speaking and writ
borrowed words, in consonance with

now proposed by the Committee will in course of time tend to create or widen the gulf between the existing Tamil literature and the future one. It will lend also to interfere in a way with the rules of Tamil prosidy. Thus, Tamil will suffer in various ways, I submit, therefore, that it is most inadvisable for Government ~~x~~ to accept this recommendation of the Committee, which is sure to prove very harmful in spite of the best of intentions.

As regards the two remaining letters which are proposed by the Committee for devoting the f and the Z sound - namely [illegible] and [illegible] - I could at the most recommend only the use of [illegible] for f. There is no equally pressing ~~and~~ need for providing for the correct pronunciation of Z. And there will be no harm if ultimately it is decided to remain conservative in regard to both these foreign sounds.

Sd/ S. Sathhidanandam Pillai,
/TRUE COPY/

T. S. Vrinmanubal
9.6.48
for DIRECTOR OR PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

15

(2)

Edn & P. H. Dept (B2)

Letter No. 14685-B2/48-4 Edn dated 22/6/48

To

Sri T. S. Chockalingam
Secretary, Tamil Script Committee
Editor 'Dinamani', Madras.

Sir,

Sub: Reform of the Tamil script

I am directed to forward to you ~~a~~ ~~copys~~ copies of ~~the letter~~ letters from Sri S. Satchithananda ~~submitted by and of that~~ ~~submitting the former to~~ Pillai ~~and~~ the D.P.I, Madras ~~on the subject~~ on the subject noted above

Yours faithfully

(with copy of pp 11-13 CF)

pp 11-13 CF

20
23/6

Dspd
23/6/48

22/6. 22/6/48

23/6/48

(10) 17

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS,
CHEPAUK,

No. CR3500. B2

Madras, 1 - AUG 1948

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
4 - AUG 1948
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

From
The Registrar,
University of Madras.

To
The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

p 9 ante

Ref: Your letter No. 14635 B2/48-3 Education dated the 23rd March 1948 - Reform of Tamil Script.

58055

I write to inform you that the Syndicate has referred the Report of the Committee in question to the Board of Studies in Tamil for consideration and report. I shall be obliged if you will be so good as to let me have 15 copies of the printed Report of the Committee for purposes of supply to the Members of the Board to facilitate consideration of the subject. The favour of early compliance is requested.

Yours faithfully,

Ag. REGISTRAR.

mks/2/8.

Edn & P. H. Dept (B2)

Letter No. 58055- B2/48 Edn 13/8/48

To

Sri. T. S. Chockalingam
Secretary, Committee for the reform of Tamil Script
'Dinasari' Madras (with encl p.17A)

Sir,

Subj: Reform of Tamil Script

I am to enclose a copy of the letter from the Registrar University of Madras dated 1st August 48 and to request you to supply him with 15 copies of the printed report of the Committee

Yours faithfully

12/8/48

152
13/8

Approved
14/8

p.17 ante

Copy to
The Registrar
University of Madras

Approved
14/8

11/8

11/8/48

(12) 13 21

Telegrams: "DINASARI"

4936 & 4937
Telephone: ~~2445~~

Dinasari

TAMIL DAILY

Editor
T. S. CHOCKALINGAM

POST BOX No. 518
MADRAS-3

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
17 AUG 1948
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

August, 1948.

The Registrar,
University of Madras,
Chepauk, Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref:- Your letter No.C.R.3500 dated the 1st August, 1948, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras in the Education and Public Health Department.

61415

You wanted in your above letter that 15 copies of the printed Report of the Committee be supplied to you for consideration by the Board of Studies. As I told you over the telephone, I have only eight spare copies of the report, which I am sending you herewith. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

T.S. Chockalingam

(T.S. CHOCKALINGAM.)

Enc.8 copies of
Report.

Copy to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Education and Public Health Department with reference to his letter No.58055 B-2/48 dated 13-8-48.

p. 19 ante

No action is called for
E & P.H.

May be added to the memo referred to above

17/8 17/8/48 18/8/48

(14)

Edn + P.H Dept (B2)

Letter No. 86306-B2/48 Edn d/ 24/11/48

25
25/11

To

The Registrar
University of Madras

—

Sir,

Subj: Reform of Tamil Script
Ref: Your letter No. C.R 5850 d/ 19.11.48

p 23 cf

——xx——

I am to invite ~~your~~ attention to the letter of 16.8.48 from Sri T.S. Chockalingam Editor 'Dinasari', addressed to you ~~wherein~~ in which he has stated that eight copies of the Report of the committee for the reform of Tamil Script have been

p-21 cf

sent to you. If ~~further or~~ additional number of copies are required, you may address the Secretary of the Committee (Sri T.S. Chockalingam) direct

Yours ffly

24/11/48

23/11 23.11.48

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(15)

Office of the Inspector-General
of Registration, Madras.

Rv 52494 B
12.9.49

ENDORSEMENT No.475-Genl., dated 8th September 1949.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
12 SEP 1949
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
12 SEP 1949
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Submitted.

U Ranganathan
Personal Assistant,
for I. G. of Regn.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
(with enclosures.)
(a manuscript note book).

71428

15 SEP 1949

KE.9/9.

D. A.

Rev Dept

E & P.H. U.O.

Rev U.O. 52494/B/49
13/9/49

12/9/49

13.9.49

13.9.49

NO 475 Genl

By regd post
5.9.49
6/9

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF REGISTRATION
5 SEP 1949
MADRAS

5/9

KURNOOL,
1st September 1949.

From

Sri. C.P. Kesavulu Naidu,
District Registrar of Assurances, KURNOOL.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works.

Through

The Inspector-General of Registration,
MADRAS.

PROMOTION OF LITERACY

REFORM OF TAMIL SCRIPT URGED

MADRAS, Aug. 22.

An assurance that the Government would give their utmost consideration to any proposal for the reform of Tamil script emanating from Tamil scholars and Poets, was given by Mr. M. Bakthavatsalam, Minister for Public Works, while opening the Adult Education Institute organised under the auspices of the Bharathavar Mahajana Sangham, Royapuram, at the Corporation Boys' School, Royapuram, last evening.

The proceedings began with the singing of a national song by Mr. Chinna Annamalai.

Mr. R. Krishnamoorthi, Editor, *Kalki*, who presided, said that though 20 crores of people were eligible for the vote in the coming general elections, a great majority of them were illiterate. It was high time they educated the people who would be electing their representatives to the Legislature. He quoted the instance of Russia where 90 per cent of the people had become literate within a period of thirty years. If they educated the illiterate adults of this country, they would be doing a great national service. The speaker pleaded for reform of the Tamil script.

Mr. M. Bakthavatsalam, opening the Adult Education Institute, said the educated people had a feeling of superiority, and regarded themselves as altogether a separate class. In the *Sangham* age the poets felt themselves as one with the illiterates and lived among them. In ancient times the temples were means of spreading knowledge and culture. It would be better if those who were in charge of the management of the temples to-day took up the cause of educating the illiterate adults in this country. He hoped the temple authorities would consider it their sacred duty.

Dealing with the question of the reform of the Tamil script which the President of the meeting had touched upon in his speech, Mr. Bakthavatsalam said the Government had tried, as an experimental measure in Trichy, to carry on Government transactions in Tamil. They even hoped to extend the scheme to other districts, if it succeeded in that district. But the Collector of that district had said that much headway could not be made because of various difficulties. One was the lack of Tamil typewriters. He agreed with the President of the meeting that there should be a reform of the Tamil script. He assured the audience that the Government would give its utmost consideration to any proposal emanating from Tamil scholars and poets for reform of the Tamil script.

On behalf of the Bharathavar Mahajana Sangham Mr. R. T. Venugopala Chettiar presented an address to Namakkal V. Ramalingam Pillai, Tamil Poet Laureate.

Sir,

With reference to the marginally affixed press cutting, I beg to submit herewith a Scheme in a book form, for the reform of the Tamil script. below

The system which is dealt with under 3 headings is fully explained in the preface to the book.

I would respectfully suggest that the book may be printed and circulated among educational institutions for their opinion and suggestions for improvement.

Yours faithfully

C.P. Kesavulu Naidu
Registrar
1.9.49

Enclosure
1. Manuscript note Book.

30

(17)

31

Edn. J.P.H. (B2) Dept.

Letter No. 71A28 B2/49-1, Edn, dated 20.9.49

To

The Vice chancellor, /
⊗ University of Madras (with encl.)
Annamalai University. / (Para 2 only)

on loose kept below

⊗ one loose in orgl.

29/21 8

Sub:- Reform of Tamil script.

— : —

I am to forward herewith a scheme ~~of~~ for the Reform of Tamil script proposed in a book form by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu, Registrar of Assurances, Kurnool and to request that the views of the university may be intimated to Govt.

pp. 27-29 C/o

(Reference p. 7 a/w)

⊗ to be omitted in the case of Annamalai

2. I am also invite a reference

(P.T.O.)

D2

to Mr. ~~M.V.~~ Subramanyam's letter No. 1A635 B2/48-3, Edn dated 23.3.48 & enquire when a final reply to it may be expected.

WR. 16.9.49

16/9/49

12/9/49

Yours faithfully,

20/5

---

(18) A52 B2 33/6

V. S. AIYAKANNU MUDALIAR,

V. S. A.

வி. எஸ். அய்யாகண்ணு முதலியார்,

GENERAL MERCHANT,

SHANDAPET GUDIYATTAM.

குடியாத்தம்.

E.P.H. May be examined whether Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam examine this. 8/9

HM. 22 This may be acknowledged & seen. (Relating to proposed reform of Tamil Alphabets. What the initiative was taken by [illegible]. EPh - KB 8.9

31-8-1949.

SECRETARY, EDN. AND [illegible] GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS 27 SEP 1949

தங்கள். 22-8-49ல் சென்னை. ராயபுரம் பரதவர். மகாஜன சங்கத்தில். பேசிய விஷயம் பேப்பரில் பார்த்தேன்

13231 தமிழ் எழுத்துக்கள். திருத்த. விஷயமாக. எனக்குத் தெரிந்த வரையில். எழுதி. இத்துடன். அனுப்பி இருக்கிறேன் தங்களுக்கு [illegible] படுத்துமாறும். ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு ஆவன செய்ய வேண்டுகிறேன்

இங்ஙனம்.

V. S. Aiyakannu

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT 22 SEP 1949

(Re: proposed reform in Tamil Alphabets I have suggested some changes in the Alphabets to the best of my capacity — copy enclosed. If you find [illegible] necessary [illegible] agree.)

2 Drafts

Draft I

(19)

35

Edn. & P.H. (B2) Deptt.

Letter No. 71428 B2/49-2, Edn. dated 11.10.49.

To

The Vice-Chancellor,
University of Madras. (with encls.)

~~Orig to p 35 cb~~
(pp 35-41 & 16 in orig.)

Sir,

Sub:- REFORM OF TAMIL SCRIPT

Ref:- From Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudeliar dated 31.8.49 & Sri R. Govindarajalu Naidu dated 20/9/49.

pages 33 - 37 cb.

(Reply need [illegible])

-:-

I am to forward herewith a scheme for the Reform of Tamil script prepared in a book form by Sri V.S. Ayyakannu Mudeliar & a letter containing certain suggestions

pp 33 to 37 cb.

(P.T.O.)

Bangalore, d/ 12th October 1949

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
B 6810

From
D.Rajarathinam,
9.Lindley Cottage,
Fraser Town, Bangalore.

To
M.Bhakthavatsalam Esqr.,
Minister for Information,
Fort.St.George, Madras.

Secy P.W
MB 14.10

Sir,

Subject.Reform of the Tamil alphabet.

......

80476

17 OCT 1949

Iwas much interested in your speech of the 9th instant at Madras and reprted in the HINDU of the 10th inst, under the heading "Reform of the Tamil alphabet". In this connection I desire to bring the following information for your kind perusal and needful.

For a long time I had been thinking in the same direction for simplifying and reducing the number of Tamil letters in the Tamil Alphabet- so that they can easily be adapted to the Typewriter, Lino-type, Monotype and other printing devices. I have worked out a system by which the 247 letters have been, without much deviation, reduced to the negligible number of 45 and have shown in a diagram how these letters can be adapted to a Typewriter. Also, I have submitted mywork to such notable personalities like the present Governor General of India His Excellency Dr.C.Rajagopalachariar, Sir.S.E.Ranganadhan the then Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University and some College Pundits and they have all given their appreciation of the same.

Recently, I had sent an M.S.S. of my book "Tamil Simplified" to the Minister of Education with the Government of Madras and I have been informed that the matter is under the consideration of a special committee instituted for the purpose- vide copy enclosed. I humbly request you to very kindly take up the matter, if possible, with the Minister of Education and expedite the long-needed reform of the Tamil Alphabet. If desired, I will submit to you an M.S.S. of my book "Tamil Simplified" for your kind perusal and orders.

[illegible]

The favor of an acknowledgement is requested.
Thanking you in anticipation.

Not necy

Yours faithfully

D Rajarathinam

PWD 6820 B/49
15/10/49

PW(B)
B + P.H. 260.
15.10.49

41

②

Office of the
Minister for Education,
Fort St.George, Madras.
7.4.48.

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated 5th instant to the Hon'ble Minister for Education. Your note as well as others received on the reform of the Tamil script has been referred to the Committee appointed by Government and the matter is under consideration.

/ By Order/

Sd/ V.Ananthanarayanan
Personal clerk to H.M.Educat
tion.

To

Mr.D.Rajarathinam.

"COPY"

D.R.
12.10.49.

Bazlullah Road,
Thygarayanagar, Madras, 2nd Aug 1938.

Dear Sir,

I have along been thinking in the same direction as you have done and worked the method out in your book. In fact the identity of my thoughts with your proposals is something marvellous in every detail. I return the book herewith. You may use this letter as you like.

Yours Sincerely,

Copy.

Sd.C.Rajagopalachar.

Copies
DK
12/10/44.

45

The syllabic script in use by the Tamils is defective and offers innumerable difficulties to students, typists and printers. The present work is an attempt to remove these defects and reform the script system. The main feature of this reform consists in the adoption of a uniform system of symbols for the vowel signs added to the consonants. Considerable reduction in the number of symbols is thus achieved. In fact, 45 symbols do the service of the 247 letters of the Tamil language. This alone is sufficient to recommend this simplified system to the reformer.

The author discusses the practical advantages of adopting this system and illustrates them with examples. To my mind, he makes out a strong case for its adoption.

The alphabetic system also is sought to be improved by the addition of symbols for the letters 'f' and 'z'. I am doubtful whether at this stage, this improvement is necessary. If necessary, there is no reason why the author should have stopped with the addition of these two letters alone. Symbols for 'b' 'd' etc., may also be conveniently introduced. I trust this question will receive ~~further~~ fuller consideration in future.

I congratulate the author on his excellent work and I hope the Tamils will not be slow in taking full advantage of the simplified 'Rajan Scheme."

Sd. S. E. Ranganadhan,
26-9-1938.

University Buildings,
Madras.

Copy

47

V.S.AYYAKANNU MUDALIAR
GENERAL MERCHANT.
SANTHAPET, GUDIYATTAM. N. A.

Dated, 17.10. 1949.

SECRETARIAT, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
18 OCT 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

To.
M. வெங்கடராம அவர்கள்.
செக்ரட்டரி.
[illegible] மதராஸ் கவர்மெண்ட்

Sir,

Your. Ref. Letter No. 71428/B2/49-3. EDN

சப்ஜக்ட். தமிழ் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தம்

நாங்கள் கோரியபடி தமிழ்
புதுமுறைத் தமிழ். நெடுங்கணக்கு
(தமிழ் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தம்) என்ற
நூலை இத்துடன் அனுப்புகி
றேன் அத்துடன். கவர்மெண்ட்
காபி இரண்டும் அனுப்புகிறேன்
னேன் அவற்றில். இதுவரை ஒன்றும்
என் அனுப்பியதாக ஒன்றுமே
ரசீதுக் காணோம். வணக்கம்

49

(20)

Edn. Sp. H (B2) Sec 64.

Letter No. 71428 B2/49-4. Edn, dated 29.10.49.

1/2
17/25-10

(B) (N) in orgl.)

To

The President,
Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam,
University buildings.
Madras. (with encl.)

Sir,

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

— : —

I am to forward herewith a scheme for the Reform of Tamil script prepared in a book form by Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar, ~~& a letter containing certain suggestion made by Sri R. Govindarajulu Naidu~~

(P.T.O)

2

53

and to request that the views of Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam may be intimated to the Govt. at an early date.

18.10.49

18/10/49

22/10/49

Yours faithfully,

24/x

---

(27) 002 51

It is requested that all communications should be addressed to The Registrar, University of Madras, Triplicane P.O., Madras, and not to any person by name.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

No. A5511.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS.
CHEPAUK, MADRAS.

26 [illegible] 1949 25 OCT 1949

Enclosures.

FROM

THE REGISTRAR,
University of Madras.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department.

82747

Sir,

Ref: Your letter No. 71428 B2/49-1 Education - Reform of Tamil Script - Scheme by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu.

'A' I am to inform you that the scheme forwarded by you is under consideration and the opinion of the University thereon will be communicated to you in due course.

'B' I am also to state that the proposals previously forwarded under your letter No. 14635 B2/48-3 dated 23-3-48, are still under consideration by the Board of Studies in Tamil, to which the matter has been referred.

Yours faithfully,

R. Kasturirangan

Ag. REGISTRAR.

mks/24106.

9

Edn. & P.H. (B2) Deptt

This may l.o. till 26.11.49 in view of 'A' & 'B' above.

26.10.49

26/10

27/10/49

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

No. 12397/A2 BS II 02 28th Octr. 1949. 53

From

THE REGISTRAR,
ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY
ANNAMALAINAGAR

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil script.

84992 Ref: Your Office 71428/49 dated 20--9--49. | 631 ante

I request that a copy of Mr.Subramanian's letter No.14635/B2/48-3 dated 23--3--48 referred in the above letter may kindly be forwarded to me for reference as the same is not traceable in this office.

S. Ramachandran 28.10.
for Registrar.

P.N. 29/10

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
2 NOV 1949
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

54

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

R. 11420/A2   30th Sept. 1948.

THE REGISTRAR,
ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

Edn. SP.H. (B2) Dept.

~~Endt. No. 11428 B2/A8-~~ , Edn. dated

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

Ref: Your Office 11428/48 dated 20--9--48.

I request that a copy of Mr. Subramaniam's letter No.14635/B2/A8-3 dated 23--3--48 referred to in the above letter may kindly be furnished to me for reference as the same is not traceable in this office.

R.H.30/10   Registrar.

55

(29)

Edn. SP.H. (B2) Dept.

Letter No. 11428 B2/A8-5, Edn. dated 5.11.48.

52/5-11

JV 5.11

To

The Registrar, ⊗
Annamalai University,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

⊗ with enclosures

C copy of page 9 c.b. + Univ. letter

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil script.

Ref: ~~From the Registrar~~ your letter No. 12397/A2, dated 28.10.48.

p 5 3 cb.

I am ~~enclosing~~ to enclose a copy of Mr. Subramaniam's letter No. 14635 B2/A8-3, dated 23.3.48 as required by ~~the Registrar, Annamalai University~~ you with a c/9 of the refer. referred to therein.

p 9 cb

W.L. A11A8 4/11

4/11/48

Yours faithfully,

By Registered Post.

O.W. ✓ 28/14.11

30

57

Edn. & P.H. (B2) Deptt.

Letter No. 71428 B2/49-6, Edn. dated 14.11.49

To

The Vice-chancellor,
University of Madras. (with encl.)

① pp 57-63 in orgl.
& a book in orgl.
kept below.

(P.C. Concurrent section
before despatch.)

Sir,

Sub:- Reform of Tamil script.

Ref:- Letter from Sri R.N. Sivasambu ~~letter~~
dated 15.10.49 & from Sri
C.P. Kesavalu Naidu, d/28.10.49.

(Reply need not be awaited)

I am to forward herewith a scheme for the Reform of Tamil script (preface) by Sri R.N. Sivasambu and a letter from Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu containing ~~the~~ further Reform of Tamil script in a book form (in continuation of my letter No. 71428 B2/49-2, Edn. dated 11.10.49) and to request that the views of the university

10/11

(P.T.O.)

~~2~~ 58

may intimated ~~to the Govt.~~ at ~~an~~ as an early date as possible.

10.11.49 — 10/11/49

Yours faithfully,

11/11/49

12/+1

---

(31) 002 59

THE TAMIL ACADEMY
(தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம்)
Tamil Encyclopedia Office: Phone 84464
"UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS"
CHEPAUK, MADRAS 5. 12th Novr: 1949.

M.P.Periaswamythooran
Secretary.

The Secretary to the Government
of Madras,
Education & Public Health Department,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

88549

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref: Your No.71428-B2/49-4 Edn.dated 24-10-49. p49 ante

'M' I am placing the Reform of Tamil Script prepared by Sri V.S.Aiyakannu Mudaliar before the next Executive Committee Meeting of the Tamil Encyclopedia. I shall communicate the views of the Committee in due course.

Yours faithfully,

M.P. Periaswamythooran
Secretary.

Edn. & P.H. (B2) Dept.

May l.o. till 15.12.49.
in view of 'M' above.

17.11.49 — 17/11/49

18/11/49

32 B2 A&11 61

TELE { GRAMS: UNIVERSITY, MADRAS.
PHONE: 86914.

All communications should be addressed to the Registrar, University of Madras, Triplicane P.O., Madras, and not to any person by name.

From
THE REGISTRAR,
UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

To
The Secretary to the Govt.
of Madras,
Education & Public Department.

No. A.6644

Enclosures

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
26 NOV 1949
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS,
CHEPAUK, TRIPLICANE P.O.,
MADRAS.

Dated, 25 NOV 1949

Sir,

92523

Ref: My letter No. A.5511 dated 25-10-49 - Reform of Tamil Script - Schemes proposed by (1) the Special Committee (2) Sri C.P. Kesavalu and (3) Sri V.S. Ayyakkannu Mudaliar. — p57 ante

---

x In continuation of my letter under reference, I am to inform you that the schemes for the Reform of the Tamil Script, mentioned above are under consideration by a Sub-Committee of the Board of Studies in Tamil. The Sub-Committee's Report is expected early in December and a reply will be sent to you thereafter.

Yours faithfully,

R. K. [illegible]

REGISTRAR.

Edn. & P.H. (B2) Dept.

mks/2411.

7

May l.o. till 28.12.49.
in view of 'x' above.

[illegible] 28.11.49 — [illegible] 29/11

[illegible] 29/11/49

(33) 63

THE TAMIL ACADEMY
(தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம்)

M. P. PERIASWAMYTHOORAN
CHIEF EDITOR

PHONE: 84464
Tamil Encyclopedia Office:
UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

7 DEC 1949

Ref. No. .... MADRAS-5, 6th Decr. 1949

The Secretary to the Government
of Madras,
Education & Public Health Dept.,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref: Your No.71428-B2/49-4 Edn dated
24-10-1949.

95486

Jugant

With reference to the above, I like to inform you that the Reform of Tamil Script was discussed at length in the Executive Committee meeting held yesterday. It was decided to summon a small Conference of Editors of Tamil Periodicals and Lovers and Scholars of Tamil before arriving at a final decision. The decision of the Committee will be communicated after the Conference.

Yours sincerely,

M. P. Periaswamythooran
SECRETARY.

E & P.H (B2)
File

May l.o.
7.1.1950

W1. 7.12.49

7/12

7/12/49

34

65

It is requested that all communications should be addressed to The Registrar, University of Madras, Triplicane P.O., Madras, and not to any person by name.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

No. A 6400.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS,
CHEPAUK, MADRAS.

17 DEC 1949

Enclosures.

FROM

THE REGISTRAR,
University of Madras.

19 DEC 1949

99777

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department.

Sir,

Ref: Your letter No. 71428, B2/49-2, Edn., dated 11th October 1949 - Reform of the Tamil Script - Proposals forwarded by Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar and Sri R. Govindarajulu Naidu.

I am to forward herewith a copy of the remarks made by the University Professor of Tamil on the two proposals for the Reform of the Tamil Script, which had been referred to him for an expression of opinion. The two schemes are returned.

The scheme proposed by Sri C.P. Kesavalu, forwarded with your letter dated the 20th September 1949, has been similarly referred to the Professor and his views thereon are awaited and will be forwarded on receipt from him.

Yours faithfully,

REGISTRAR.

tst/1612.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

Copy of letter dated 7th December 1949 from the Professor of Tamil, University of Madras, to the Registrar, University of Madras.

The scheme for the Reform of Tamil Script prepared by Mr. V.S.Aiyakannu Mudaliar comprises in all 110 symbols. The twelve vowel signs are retained and for vowel-consonants uniform vowel signs are recommneded. Provision has been made for numerals, punctuation marks, etc., and also for the grantha characters, five in number, which are in common use. These suggestions may be accepted. But his recommendation regarding two new sounds 'F' and 'Z' for which he has introduced two new symbols may not commend itself to the Tamil Scholars. If new sounds are to be added, these are not the only sounds for which provision is to be made in the Tamil alphabet. The scientific and technical terminology which contains many sounds alien to Tamil Grammar have to be considered in due course and a comprehensive scheme may have to be devised after a due consideration of all the requirements.

Regarding the suggestions made by Mr. N.R.Govindarajulu Naidu for the Reform of Tamil Scripts, the total symbols are reduced to 42. The scheme appears to be admirably simple, but is defective in several respects. There is no provision for the numerals, punctuation marks, and the five grantha~~s~~ characters which are in common use. The suggestion regarding the elimination of the dotted consonants is an innovation which will be opposed by a large section of the Tamils.

The enclosures to the letters are returned herewith.

---

tst/1612.

9

69

5,002—24-8-49.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

PUBLIC WORKS (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT

Extract from The Indian Express

of Madras, *dated the* 22nd Dec. 1949

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
28 DEC 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

100539
28 DEC 1949

REFORM OF TAMIL SCRIPT

CHANGES RECOMMENDED

MADRAS, Dec. 22.

Certain changes in the Tamil script so as to make it more flexible, facilitating the introduction of Tamil linotype and an improved type-writer were recommended to the Madras Government by a conference of Tamil Pandits and Editors yesterday.

The Government were requested to effect the necessary changes within a year.

The idea of the conference which was convened by the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, was to evolve uniformity in the vowel signs attached to the consonants, without in any way interfering with the 12 vowels or the 18 consonants in the Tamil alphabet.

The recommendations of the conference were for the most part unanimous.

The incorporation of 'f' sound in the Tamil language was one of the principles conceded by the conference and details of arriving at an appropriate sign to indicate the 'f' sound were, however left to the next meeting of the Kazhagam.

x The conference was an off-shoot of a reference made by the Madras Government to the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, in pursuance of the former's move to introduce suitable alterations in the Tamil script sponsored last year.

The Chairman of the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar presided over the conference, which was attended by about 30 persons including Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty.

The recommendations were adopted after detailed exchange of views lasting over two hours.

Inviting suggestions for suitable alterations, Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar said that the Committee constituted by the Government last year to go into the question had submitted their report and now the Government had called for the views of the Kazhagam which in turn wanted to elicit the views of a representative conference before making recommendations to the GoGvernment. Invitations were issued, not only to Tamil Pandits, Editors of Tamil newspapers and periodicals, but also to Tamil Sangams in the province. Some of the scholars had sent their views in writing.

Pointing to the need for reforming the Tamil script Mr. Avinashilingam said they had to achieve unformity in the vowel signs and thus effect economy in the alphabet, if Tamil newspapers and publications wanted to advance with the times and replace the antiquated "hand-composing" by lino-type. He then gave a summary of the views so far received and elicited suggestions from the audience.

Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, agreeing on the imperative need for alterations, said that in doing so, they should not be solely guided by the requirements of the lino-type. They should also take care to see that the alterations did not make things more difficult for children acquiring a knowledge of Tamil.

Mr. T. S. Chockalingam, Editor 'Dinasari', cautioning against revolutionary changes, said that they should effect alterations to the extent necessary to facilitate operation of lino-type and to suit modern times.

Messrs. R. Krishnamurthy (Kalki), M. P. Sivagnana Gramani, Editor, 'Tamil Murasu', S. Bashyam, of 'Swadesamitran', P. Alalasundaram Chettiar (of the Madras Christian College), S. Guruswami, (of 'Viduthalai') and K.A.P. Viswanathan offered their suggestions.

Mr. Viswanathan did not agree with some of the suggestions made at the conference, and opposed any changes which ran counter to the purity of Tamil culture and language. He also opposed innovations in the Tamil language.

Mr. Guruswami made a strong plea for effecting the changes without delay, which he considered "inevitable" under the modern conditions.

After adopting certain unanimous recommendations to unify the vowel signs, the conference, with a sole dissident voice, favoured the adoption of international (Arabic) numerals.

Exp#
KM
28/12

Edn. H. H. (B2)

may be added to the main file. The ~~decision~~ remarks of the Tamil valarchi Kazhagam may be awaited.

27/12

27/12/49

B2

71

1689

It is requested that all communications should be addressed to The Registrar, University of Madras, Triplicane P. O., Madras, and not to any person by name.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

No. A6483.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS,
CHEPAUK, MADRAS.

24 DEC 1949

Enclosures. (2 Mss. Vols. &
1 file (4 sheets)

FROM

THE REGISTRAR,
University of Madras.

SECRETARIAT
28 DEC 1949

101180

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department.

Sir,

Ref: Your letters No. 71428 B2/49-1 Education, dated 20-9-49 and 14-11-49 - Reform of Tamil Script-Schemes by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu and Sri R.N. Sivasambu.

In continuation of my letter No. A. 6400 dated 17-12-49 I am to forward to you herewith a copy of the remarks*by the University Professor of Tamil on the schemes referred to above. The two (2) manuscripts forwarded by you are returned herewith, the receipt of which may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

R Raudaram

REGISTRAR.

* Copy of the remarks by the University Professor of Tamil.

Sub: Tamil Reform Scripts - Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu.
Ref: Your letter No. A. 5697 dated 4-11-49.

The Scheme for the Reform of Tamil Scripts prepared by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu retains the existing form of all the vowels excepting the diphthong 'Ow' ஔ, for which he suggests a sign which is liable to be confounded with the numeral '2'. As regards consonants, he is in favour of introducing all the sounds found in Sanskrit. He has devised new symbols for denoting the additional sounds. This is a very controversial subject and the advisability of introducing the new sounds and symbols which are not countenanced by Tamil grammar either ancient or modern should be discussed in all its aspects by a body of competent scholars.

In Section II regarding the simplification of characters, (a) and (b) can be accepted, and a few Tamil Journals have already adopted this method. With regard to the suggestion made in (c) various objections can be raised against the symbols suggested.

p.t.o.

Section III, viz., abbreviations, suggests a new symbol which by context is expected to denote five different consonants. This suggestion is opposed to the principle of Tamil Grammar and therefore cannot be accepted.

B

Duplicated consonants are sought to be indicated by a dot below the vowel consonants. This device will only increase the number of symbols without having any advantage. The existing practice of denoting these consonants which are called kutteluttu. கூட்டெழுத்து appears to be better than the new symbol suggested.

The other scheme prepared by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu entitled 'The Phonetic Latin Script(professes to be a scheme rendering the Latin Script with some alterations suitable for writing all languages phonetically. This is a matter which should be discussed at a meeting of the representatives of all languages including Latin.

There is a scheme for the Reform of the Tamil Script by Sri R.N. Sivasambu. He has prepared a chart in consonanance with his suggestions. The scheme retains the existing forms of the pure vowels and consonants but the changes introduced in vowel-consonants are entirely opposed to the existing method. For the sake of simplicity, arbitrary signs and symbols are introduced which will not be easily accepted by the Tamil public.

The original scripts are returned herewith.

---

mks/

38

73

THE TAMIL ACADEMY

(தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம்)

M.P.Periaswamythooran
Chief Editor

Phone 84464
Tamil Encyclopedia Office:
"UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS"
CHEPAUK, MADRAS 5.

82

Dated, 17th January, 1950.

The Secretary to the Government
of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department,
Madras.

20 JAN 1950

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref: My letters Nos. Nil dated 12-11-49 & 6-12-49 respectively.

4840

I am herewith sending a report of the Conference held under the auspices of the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam on 21-12-1949 to consider the Reform of the Tamil Script under the presidenship of Sri T.S.Avinashilingam Chettiar, President of the Kazhagam.

The Executive Committee of the Kazhagam considered the suggestions for the Reform of Tamil Script by Sri V.S.Aiyakannu Mudaliar and various others. The decisions arrived at at the Conference were considered and it was resolved to recommend to the Government to bring into effect the following Reforms unnanimously accepted by all who attended the Conference.

(a) To adopt the symbol "ா" for all consonants like
ணா, றா, னா.
(b) To adopt the symbol "ை" for all consonants like
ணை, லை, ளை.
(c) To adopt the symbol "ொ" for all consonants like
ணொ, றொ, னொ.
(d) To adopt the symbol "ோ" for all consonants like
ணோ, றோ, னோ.
(e) To separate the symbols ு,ூ for all consonants like
கு, கூ, ஞு, ஞூ etc., make them separate in such a way that they will be as near as possible to the consonants with which they are used and to occupy half the space of any other letter.

A Tamil version of the unanimous decisions is also sent herewith for clarification. The Committee feels that there would be no difficulty in introducing these Reforms and requests the Government to consider these recommendations and to give effect to them within a year.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY.

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE FOR THE REFORM OF TAMIL SCRIPT

The Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam convened a Conference to consider the Reform of Tamil Script. The following persons and organisations were invited for the Conference:--

Sri	A.N.Sivaraman,	Editor	Dinamani, Madras
"	C.N.Annadurai,	"	Diravidanadu, Conjeeva
"	C.R.Srinivasan,	"	Swadesamitran "
"	T.S.Chockalingam,	"	Dinasari, "
"	N.Ramarathinam,	"	Bharatha Devi, "
"	S.Guruswamy,	"	Viduthalai, "
"	Adithan,	"	Thina Thanthi, "
"	R.Krishnamurthi,	"	Kalki, Kilpauk, "
"	K.V.Jaganathan,	"	Kalaimagal, "
"	S.S.Mariswami,	"	Kandipam, "
"	T.N.Subramaniam,	"	Dinasari Office "
"	N.Regunatha Iyer,	Asst. "	Hindu Office, "

Prof: R.P.Sethu Pillay, University Buioldings, "
Dr. M.Varatharajanar, M.O.L., Professor in Tamil, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.

Vidwan T.P.Minakshisundaram Pillay, M.A., B.L., Chintadripet High School, Madras.

Sri A.S.Gnanasambandam, Lecturer, Pachaiyappa's College, "
" Alalasundaram Chettiar, Madras Christian College, Tambaram. "
" Karamuthu Thiagaraja Chettiar, "
" V.Govindan, Editor, Sakthi, Royapettah, Salem.
" Devaneya Bhavanar, Tamil Lecturer, Salem College,
Dr. A.Chidambaranathan Chettiar, Professor of Tamil, Annamalai University.
Raja Sir M.A.Muthiah Chettiar, Chettinad House, Adayar, Madras.
Sri V.Ra. Nungambakkam, Madras.
Sri Ramaswamy Gownder, Principal, Salem College, Salem.
Sri Duraikannu Mudaliar, Head Master, Chintadripet High School, Madras.
" S.Arumuga Mudaliar, Teachers College, Madras.
" A.Srinivasaraghavan, Professor of English, Vivekananda College, Madras
" M.P.Sivagana Gramani, Editor, Tamil Murasu, Triplicane, Madras.
Professor, K.Swaminathan, Principal, Govt. Arts College, Madras.
Hon: Sri T.S.S.Rajan, Minister for Public Health, Madras.
Sri O.P.Ramaswamy Reddiar, Ex: Premier, Omandur, South Arcot.
" K.A.P.Viswanathan, Editor, Tamilar Nadu, Tiruchirapalli.
Dr. R.K.Shanmugam Chettiar, Trichy Road, Coimbatore.
Sri Bashyam, Swadesamitran Office, Mount Road, Madras.
Sri Sarangarathnam, Swadesamitran Office, Mount Road, Madras.
" N.M.R. Subaraman, Ravi, Chokkikulam, Mathurai.
" I.M.Subbaramaniya Pillai, Tamil Pandit, Tyagarajanagar High School, Madras.

Tirupanandal - Mutt.
Dharmapuram Adinam - Mutt.
The Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Madras.
The Vice Chancellor, University of Ceylon, Colombo.
The Vice Chancellor, University of Travancore, Trivandrum.
The Bishop of Tuticorin, Tuticorin.
Sri S.Natesa Pillai, B.A., B.L., F.R.E.S., Ramanathan College, Colombo.
Sri S.Somasundra Bharathiar, M.A., B.L., Pasumalai, Mathurai.
Swami Suddananda Bharathi, Pondicherry.
Kavi Mani Desika Vinayagam Pillai, Puthaneri, Nagercoil.
Sri Anbu Ganapathi, Pachaiyappa's College, Chetpat, Madras.

Karanthai Tamil Sangam, Tanjore, Madurai Tamil Sangam, Mathurai.
Sennai Tamil Sangam, Madras.

The Editor	Sakthi	Madras
"	Kalaimagal	"
"	Chinthanai	"
"	Dinasari Madal	"
"	Viduthalai	"
"	Diravida Nadu	"
"	Swadesamitran	"
"	Kandeepam	"
"	Prasandavikatan	"
"	Tamil Murasu	"
"	Dinamani	"
"	Dinasari	"
"	Bharatha Devi	"
"	Thina Thanthi	"
Daily Paper.	Dinamani	"
	Thina Thanthi	"
	Swadesamitran	"
	Malai Mani	"
	Bharatha Devi	"
	Veduthalai	"
Weekly.	Kalki	"
	Annanda Vikatan	"
	Kandeepam	"
	Prasanda Vikatan	"
	Hanuman	"
	Hindusthan	"
	Sivaji,	Tiruchirapalli.
	Diravida Nadu	Conjeevaram.

Leno Type Machinery Ltd.,
10/29, Mount Road, Madras.

Sri A.M.Sambantham, 372, Triplicane High Road, Madras.

The Conference was held in the Office of the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, University Buildings, Madras, on 21-12-1949 at 6 P.M.

Sri T.S.Avinashilingam Chettiar presided over the Conference.

The following were present at the Conference:--

Sri R.Krishnamurthi, Editor, Kalki, Kilpauk, Madras.
" M.P.Sivagnana Gramani, Editor, Tamil Murasu, Triplicane, Madras.
" Sarangarathinam, Asst. Editor, Swadesamitran, Mount Road, Madras.
" S.Bashyam, Asst. Editor, Swadesamitran, Mount Road, Madras.
" C.M.Vasudevan, Reporter, Indian Express, Mount Road, Madras.
" M.S.Venkataraman, Reporter, Hindu,Mount Road, Madras.
" S.Swaminathan, Reporter, Inba Nilayam, Madras.
" K.M. Balasubramaniyam, Tamilarasu Kazhagam, Madras
" Narana Duraikannu, Editor, Prasanda Vikatan, Madras.
" T.N.Subramaniyam, No.11, Fourth Street, Gopalapuram, Madras.
Prof: Chandrasekaran, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.
Prof: K.Swaminathan, Principal, Govt. Arts College, Mount Road, Madras.

Prof: N.Annantha Vaidyanathan, Vivekananda College, Mylapore, Madras.
Sri P.Alalasundaram Chettiar, Prof: Madras Christian College, Tambaram.
Prof: R.N.Selvam, M.A., Professor of Physics, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras
Sri T.S.Chockalingam, Editor, Dinasari, Madras.
" S.Guruswami, Editor, Viduthalai, Madras.
" K.A.P.Viswanathan, Editor, Tamilar Nadu, Tiruchirapalli.
" V.Jagadesam Chettiar, Palakarai, Tiruchirapalli.
Dr. R.K.Shanmugam Chettiar, Trichy Road, Coimbatore.
Sri M.P.Periaswamythooran, Chief Editor, Tamil Academy, Madras.
" P.M.Somasundaram Pillay, Asst. Editor, do. do.
" N.K.Nagarajan, do. do. do.

The following sent messages for the success of the Conference and suggestions for the Reform of Tamil Script:-

1. Hon: Sri T.S.S.Rajan, Minister for Public Health, Madras.
2. Dr. M.Varadarajanar, M.O.L., Professor of Tamil, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
3. S.Somasundra Bharathiar, M.A., B.L., Pasumalai, Mathurai.
4. Sri K.V.Jagannathan, Editor, Kalaimagal, Mylapore, Madras.
5. Sri Devaneya Bhavanar, Municipal College, Salem.
6. Vidwan Dhandapani Desikar, Dharmapuram.
7. " S.Arumuga Mudaliar, Teacher's College, Madras.

1. Sri T.S.Avinashilingam Chettiar in his presidential remarks stressed the need for the Reform of Tamil Script and also about the advantages if in Typewriting and Printing if such reform is made. He also mentioned the fact that there are no letters in Tamil for certain sounds like "F Z" and suggested that the Conference might consider the desirability of introducing new letters for them.

Dr. R.K.Shanmugam Chettiar spoke next. He agreed that Reform of Tamil Script was necessary but suggested that it should not make the learning of Tamil more difficult to the Children. He also suggested that it would be better to find a letter to the sound "F".

Sri T.S.Chockalingam, Sri M.P.Sivagnana Gramani, Sri Bashyam, Sri Alalasundaram Chettiar, Sri K.A.P.Viswanathan, Sri R.Krishnamur Sri S.Guruswamy and Sri M.P.Periaswamythooran also spoke about the Reform of Tamil Script and took part in the ensuing discussion.

Generally all agreed about the necessity of Reform in Tamil Script. But th was difference of opinion as to what reforms should be made and how to make

The following Reforms were accepted unanimously by all present:

(1) The symbols used to denote the following ~~xx~~ consonants must be uniform throughout and there should be no exceptions:-

(a) To adopt the symbol " ா " for all consonants like ணா, னா, றா.

(b) To adopt the symbol "ை" for all consonants like ணை, லை, னை.

(c) To adopt the symbol "ொ" to all consonants like ணொ, னொ, றொ. etc.

(d) To adopt the symbol "ோ" to all consonants like ணோ, னோ, றோ. etc.

(e) To separate the symbola ு, ூ for all consonants like கு, கூ, து, தூ, etc., make them separate in such a way that they will be as near as possible to the consonants with which they are used and to occupy half the space of any other letter.

2. There were differences of opinion about the following:--

(a) Some suggested the desirability of introducing separate symbols for consonants like ஞு, டு, டா. But others did not support the idea-

(b) Some suggested the introductions of new letters for sounds " F, Z"; others considered that they were unneces Some suggested that more time should be given for conside ing this Reform.

3. Some were of the opinion that there should be no changes as far as t vowels were concerned. Some also felt that itwould not be advisable to make Reforms at this stage.

4. As for as the numerals were concerned all except Sri K.A. P. Viswanathan were in favour of adopting the Indo-Arabic numerals-

Sri K.A.P.Viswanatham Said that the Tamil numerals must be retained.

5. Finally it was agreed to recommend to the Government the Reforms unnanimously accepted and to suggest that these must be given effect to within a year.

SECRETARY.

ஏகமனதாக ஒப்புக்கொள்ளப்பட்டக் கீழ்க்கண்ட சீர்திருத்தங்களை ஒரு வருடத்திற்குள் அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவரலாம் என்று தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம் சிபார்சு செய்கிறது.

1. கீழ்க்கண்ட எழுத்துக்களின் குறியீடுகள் எல்லா உயிர்மெய் எழுத்துக்களுக்கும் ஒரே மாதிரியாக அமையவேண்டும்.

a) ஆகாரம் ஏறிய மெய்யெழுத்திற்கு கால் / ா / குறியீட்டையே இடுதல். உ-ம். கா ணா றா

b) ஐகாரம் ஏறிய மெய்யெழுத்திற்கு சுழி / ை / குறியீட்டையே இடுதல். உ-ம். கை லை ணை

c) ஒகரம் ஏறிய மெய்யெழுத்திற்கு எல்லாவிடங்களிலும் கொம்பு, கால் / ெ ா / குறியீட்டையே இடுதல்,

உ-ம். கொ ணொ றொ

d) ஓகாரம் ஏறிய எல்லா மெய்யெழுத்துக்களுக்கும் இரட்டைக் கொம்பு, கால் / ே ா / குறியீட்டையே இடுதல்.

உ-ம். கோ ணோ றோ

e) இ, ஈ ஏறிய மெய்யெழுத்துக்களுக்கு இப்பொழுதுள்ள குறியீட்டையே வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் அவற்றை எழுத்திலின்றும் பிரித்து கூடிய வரை அந்த எழுத்தோடு சேர்ந்திருக்கும்படியாகத் தனிக்குறியீடாகச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

உதா. கி கீ
தி தீ

M. P. Periasamy Thooran
Secretary.

E.S.H. (B2)

D.O. No. 71428 B2/49-7 Edn., dt — 1.2.50

My dear Krishna Menon,

Please inform me whether in the Edn. dept. there are any philologists who can be associated with the work of reforming the Tamil script &, if so, who they are. The names of other philologists who are outside Govt. service and who can be ~~the~~ thought of for the purpose, may also be given.

Yo. Sincerely,

1/2/50

Sri V.S. Krishna Menon,
M.A., L.T.,
Dy. D.P.I.

P.G.
2

1.2.50

46

89

D.O.

Office of the Director of
Public Instruction,
Madras, 3rd February 1950.

p103 and

4 - FEB 1950

My dear Balakrishna Menon,

Ref: Your D.O.No.71428 B2/49-7 Edn., dated
1st February 1950.

There are no philologists as such in the Department. But I can suggest Mr. K. Swaminathan, Principal, Government Arts College, Madras as a suitable person to consult as he has been interested in the subject and is in touch with others interested also. I am enclosing a list of persons outside the department as well; the list has been prepared in consultation with Mr. Swaminathan.

1. Dr. M. Varadarajan, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
2. Sri T. Sadasiva Pandarathar, (Tamil Dept., Annamalai University).
3. Sri M.S. Duraiswami (English Dept., Annamalai University).
4. Rao Sahib S. Vaiyapuri Pillai, Gandhinagar Adyar.
5. Prof. K.A. Nilakanta Sastri, Edward Eliot Road, Mylapore.
6. Sri T.P. Minakshisundaram Pillai, Chintadripet.
7. Sri T.N. Subrahmanyam.
8. Dr. C. Narayana Menon, Benares.
9. Dr. S.K. Chatterjee, Calcutta.

Yours sincerely,

Sri I. Balakrishna Menon, BA.,
Asst. Secretary, Edn. & Public Health Dept.,
FORT ST. GEORGE.

B2 91

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

No Roc 12394- A2/49   9th Feb. 1950

From

The REGISTRAR,
ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY,
ANNAMALAINAGAR

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
12 FEB 1950
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

10945

Ref: Correspondence ending with your letter No.71428-B2/49-5 dated 5--11--49.

I request you to be so good as to send me ten copies of the report of the Government Committee for the Reform of Tamil Script as they have to be sent to the members of the Board of Studies in Tamil for consideration and report before the opinion of the University called for could be communicated to Government. The favour of an early compliance is requested.

Yours faithfully,
S Ramachandra 11.2.50
Registrar.

P.N.9/2

Edu. & P.H. (B2) Dept.

The main file was sent to Finance on 10.2.50. No action is called for on this. ~~This~~ May be added to the main file after its return from Fin.

14.2.50

14/2/50

E. & P. H. Dept. (B2)

EDUCATION - Reform of Tamil Script - Committee - Constituted.

G.O. (Ms.) No. 527 Edn., dated 20-2-50

121/20

The question of reform of Tamil script has been engaging the attention of Government for sometime past. Several suggestions have been made in this connection. The Government consider that a special committee should be asked to examine the matter. They accordingly direct that a special committee be constituted with the following members:-

Members of the Committee already constituted by the former H. M. p1 cf.

1. Sri T.S.Chockalingam, Editor, "Dinasari", Madras.
2. Sri R.P.Sethu Pillai, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras.
3. Sri S.Gopalan, All-India Radio (then Station Director, Madras)
4. Sri T.N.Subramaniam.
5. Sri K.Swaminathan, Principal, Government Arts College, Madras.
6. Dr. M.Varadarajan, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
7. Sri T.P.Meenakshisundaram Pillai, Chintadripet, Madras.

A

The members may elect one from among themselves as the Chairman of the committee.

2. The non-official members will be paid t.a. and daily allowance at the rates applicable to members of first class committees - vide Appendix to G.O. No.853-Finance, dated 13-8-49. The officials on the committee will draw the allowances at the rates admissible to them under the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules. 3. The Dy.D.P.I. (~~Ely. Edn.~~ Finance) will be the officer to countersign the Bills presented by Members. The expre. involved will be met from the appropriation under the budget head "37.Edn. -o. Direction".

dl- (B)

4 The Committee is requested to examine whether it is necessary to reform the Tamil script and if so, to recommend on what lines the script should be revised. The Committee is requested to consider in this connection

p.t.o.

the various suggestions already made in the matter, and others suggestions which they may recommend to the Committee ~~after~~ by invitation

10/2/50

10/2

To

The members concerned (each with copy of G.O. 853-Fin., dated 13-8-49)
The D.P.I.
The Registrar of University of Madras (with enc.)
The A.G. thro' Fin.
(2 scs.)

(Ask section for enclosure to be sent in orig.)

69

95

1689

Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department
G.O.Ms.No. 527 Education, dated 20th February 1950

Abstract.

EDUCATION - Reform of Tamil Script - Committee - Constituted.
x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.

READ:-

ORDER:-

The question of reform of Tamil script has been engaging the attention of Government for sometime past. Several suggestions have been made in this connection. The Government consider that a special committee should be asked to examine the matter. They accordingly direct that a special committee be constituted with the following members.

1. Sri T.S.Chockalingam, Editor, "Dinasari", Madras.
2. Sri R.P.Sethu Pillai, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras.
3. Sri S.Gopalan, All-India Radio (then Station Director, Madras)
4. Sri T.N.Subramaniam.
5. Sri K.Swaminathan, Principal, Govt. Arts College, Madras.
6. Dr. M.Varadarajan, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
7. Sri T.P.Meenakshisundaram Pillai, Chintadripet, Madras.

The members may elect one from among themselves as the Chairman of the Committee.

2. The non-official members will be paid travelling allowance and daily allowance at the rates applicable to members of first class committees - vide Appendix to G.O.No. 853 Finance, dated 13-8-49.

-2-

96

The officials on the committee will draw the allowances at the rates admissible to them under the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.

3. The Deputy Director of Public Instruction, (Finance) will be the officer to countersign the bills presented by members. The expenditure involved will be met from the appropriation under the budget head "37 Edn.-o.Direction".

4. The Committee is requested to examine whether it is necessary to reform the Tamil Script and if so, to recommend on what lines the script should be revised. The Committee is requested to consider in this connection the various suggestions already made in the matter and other suggestions which they may receive by invitation.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

J.M.Lobo Prabhu,
Secretary to Government.

To The Members concerned (with encl)
To The Director of Public Instruction.
To The Registrar, University of Madras. (with encl)
To The Accountant-General thro' Finance.
S/C

/True copy-Forwarded-By order/

Superintendent.

RA/20-2

97

Education Dept. (C).

LETTER NO. A99AC/50-1 EDN. DATED 28.3.50

To

Sri T.S. Chockalingam,
Editor, "Dinasari",
Madras.

Depasd
28/3

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

---

199 (X)

With reference to your conversation with the Hon'ble Minister for Edn. , I am to say that the Madras and Annamali Universities, which have been aske to forward their views on the Reform of Tamil Scrip have not sent any final reply. You may yourself contact the University authorities and obtain their views for consideration by ~~of~~ the Committee.

28.3.50

Yours faithfully,

28/3

28/3/50

28/3

T.RAJARAM
Reporter
INDIAN REPUBLIC

46, Seshachala Mudaly st.,
Saidapet, Madras.
7th April 1950.

F 98

9.4

SECRETARY

Edn

Sir,

I have pleasure to enclose herewith a cutting from "Bharatha Devi" of Sunday the 2nd issue in which an article contributed by me regarding the reform of Tamil scripts appeared.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
11 APR 1950
EDUCATION

7438

I hope the article explains the matter fully and I shall only be too pleased to furnish any further information on the subject. This reform has to be viewed in the light of the tremendous possibilities of development of Tamil Lino-composing and Typewriting. While it is now possible to adopt the Tamil script easily for Lino, it would enable the Tamil typist to achieve double speed over the one he is able to attain at present. It is known that for the Madras Govt. Technical Examination whereas the lower grade speed test for English typing is 25 words per minute, it is 15 words for Tamil typing. This illustration would show how badly a reform is necessary in Tamil script. I claim that the reform now contemplated and the Tamil Typewriter Key Board designed by me would enable Tamil typists to achieve the same speed as the English typists are able to achieve at present.

I now leave the subject for your interest and shall deem it a high favour to receive your comment on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Raj

Hon'ble M.Bhaktavatsalam Esq.,
Minister for Information & Publicity,
Fort St.George, Madras.

Education (E).

May be transfered to C. section

24/4/50

99

Education Deptt (C)

Letter No 7438 C/50-1, Edn., dated 29.4.50

8/29/4

To

✓Sri. T.S. Chockalingam,
Editor, "Dinasari",
Madras (with encl.)

Pl. ask Section before typing!

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

— x —

I am to forward a copy of the letter dated 7th April 1950, from Sri. T. Rajara Reporter, Indian Republic, about the reform of Tamil Script and to request that the views of the committee ~~for~~ on the reform of Tamil Script may be obtained & forwarded to Govt.

Cf.

I am also to request ~~that~~ you

(P.T.

~~2~~ 8

15

[illegible] when the report called for in para 4 of G.O. No., 527 Edn., dated 20-2-'50 may be expected.

p 63 cf. of (Y).

W.R.
28.4.50.

28.4.50.

28/4/50

Yours faithfully,

---

107 ~~15~~

Telegrams: "DINASARI" Telephone 4936 & 4937

DINASARI

THE MOST POPULAR TAMIL DAILY

Editor:
T. S. CHOCKALINGAM

Post Box No. 518
MADRAS 3.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
13 MAY 1950
11261
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

12TH MAY 1950

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education Department,
Fort Saint George,
MADRAS.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script - Your letter No. 7438-C/50-1, Education dated the 29th April 1950. p 3 ante

****

The report of the Committee on the reform of Tamil Script is under circulation among the members of the Committee and will be sent to the Government as soon as it is finally -- approved.

Yours faithfully,

T. S. Chockalingam

T.S. CHOCKALINGAM.

Edu (C) deptt

May l.o. till 12.6.50.

W.R.
15.5.50.

15.5.50.

15/5/50

102

Edn. (C) Deptt.

Letter No 7438 C/50-2, Edn, dated 19.6.50

To

Sri T.S. Chockalingam,
Editor, "Dinasari",
Madras

29/19/6.

21/6

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

Sir,

I am to invite your attention to ~~Govt~~ my letter No. 7438 C/50-1, dated 29.4.50 & to ~~request~~ enquire ~~to~~ ~~that~~ when ~~forward~~ the views of the Committee ~~for~~ on the Reform of Tamil Script may be expected. Please see also ~~Attention~~ in this connection ~~is also invited~~ ~~to the report called for in~~ para 4 of G.O. No 527 Edn., dated 20.2.50.

p 3 cf

p. 93 cf of (Y)

Yours faithfully.

Wb. 15-6-50 16/6 16/6/50.

58

C

603

X

TELEGRAMS: "DINASARI"

TELEPHONE: 4936 & 4937

Dinasari

THE MOST POPULAR TAMIL DAILY

Editor:
T. S. CHOCKALINGAM

Post Box No. 518
MADRAS 3.

23rd June 1950.

The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras,
Education Department,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
24 JUN 1950
17038
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Your letter No.7438 - C/50 -2 Education
dated 19th June 1950.

603-4 [illegible]

X The reply called for in your letter No.7438-C/50-2 Education dated 29.4.50 was already sent to you on the 12th May 1950, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. The report of the Committee will be sent to the Govt., in the first week of July 1950.

Yours faithfully,

T. S. Ch[illegible]

(T.S. CHOCKALINGAM)

Encl : 1.

Edn(C)

May l.o. till ~~25.7~~.50
in view of X above.

29/6

28/6

2/7/50

Telephons: 4936 & 4937

Telegrams: "DINASARI"

DINASARI Ltd.,

THE MOST POPULAR TAMIL DAILY

Post Box No. 318
MADRAS 3.

Editor:
T.S. CHOCKALINGAM

56

64

12th May 1950.

The Secretary to the Govt ~~of Madras~~,
Education Dept.,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
24 JUN 1950
17043
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script-
Your letter No.7438 -C/50-1
Education dated 29th April 50.

The report of the Committee on the form of Tamil Script is under circulation among the members of the Committee and will be sent to the Government as soon as it is finally approved.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. T.S. Chockalingam.

(TRUE COPY)

1689

67

Education (C) Department.

Letter No. 7438 C/50-3 Edn. dated 4.8.50

To

Sri. T.S.Chockalingam,
Editor, 'DINASARI'
MADRAS

47
4/8

5/8

Sir,

Sub:- REFOR OF TAMIL SCRIPT.

I am to invite your attention to my letter No.7438 C/50-1, Edn. dated 29-4-'50 and also to para 4 of G.O.No.527 Edn. dated 20-2-'50 and to request you to expedite the ~~views~~ report called for ~~XXXXX~~ therein, as the matter has been pending for a long time.

p A c6

p 93 of (4)

2.8.50 2/8 3/8

Yours faithfully,

Telegrams: "DINASARI"
Telephons: 4936 & 4937

DINASARI Ltd.,
THE MOST POPULAR TAMIL DAILY

Editor:
T.S. CHOCKALINGAM

Post Box No. 518
MADRAS 3.

C 186

9th August 1950.

The Secretary to the
Government of Madras,
Education Department,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
10 AUG 1950
23193
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

13 aug

Dear Sir,

Sub: REFORM OF TAMIL SCRIPT
Letter No.7438/ C/50-3 (Edn)
dated 4th August 1950.

The report of the Committee is under print and will be sent to the Government in a week.

Yours faithfully,

T. S. Chockalingam
T.S. CHOCKALINGAM.

Edn (C)

May l.o. till 25.~~10~~8.50.

10.8.50

11/8

12/8

C 59

107

~~107~~

TELEGRAMS: "DINASARI"

TELEPHONE: 4936 & 4937

Dinasari

THE MOST POPULAR TAMIL DAILY

Editor:
T. S. CHOCKALINGAM

Post Box No. 518
MADRAS 3.

16th August 1950.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
17 AUG 1950
24167
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Secretary to the
Government of Madras,
(Education Department),
Fort St.George,
MADRAS.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of the Tamil Script.
G.O. Ms. No.527 Education dated 20th Feb. '50

Enclosed please find the report of the Special Committee appointed by the Government to consider the above question, printed in English and Tamil separately.

19-3

Spare copies of the report, one hundred in each, are also sent to the Government in a seperate packet.

The bill of cost for printing this report will be sent to the Government as soon as the same is received from the printers.

Yours faithfully,

T. S. Chockalingam

(T.S. CHOCKALINGAM.)

Encl:2

(60)

109

REPORT

●

The Government of Madras in their order MS. No. 527 Education, dated the 20th February 1950 appointed a Special Committee with the following members to examine whether it is necessary to reform the Tamil script and, if so, to recommend on what lines the script should be revised.

1. Sri T. S. CHOCKALINGAM, Editor, " Dinasari ", Madras.
2. Sri R. P. SETHU PILLAI, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras.
3. Sri S. GOPALAN, All-India Radio (at present, Secretary, Film Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of India).
4. Sri T. N. SUBRAMANIAM, *Madal* - Editor, " Dinasari ", Madras.
5. Sri K. SWAMINATHAN, Principal, Government Arts College, Madras.
6. Dr. M. VARADARAJAN, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
7. Sri T. P. MEENAKSHISUNDARAM, Chintadripet, Madras.

Sri T. S. CHOCKALINGAM served as Convener of the Committee.

The Committee met seven times on the 6th, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th March and the 5th and 10th July 1950 and examined the matter in its various aspects. Sri S. Gopalan attended only the first meeting of the Committee.

The question of reform of the Tamil script has been engaging the attention of the public, the press and the Government for some years past. Several suggestions have been put forward by various persons and bodies. On the 29th August 1947, the Hon'ble Sri T. S. Avinasilingam Chettiar, then Minister for Education, convened a Committee of four members to consider the question and the Committee sent in its report on the 10th February 1948. The question has also been discussed again, both by the public and the Press.

The Special Committee now appointed examined the entire question of reform of the Tamil script in all its aspects.

There are two questions to be considered and answered :— (1) whether it is necessary to reform the Tamil script and (2) if so, on what lines the reform should proceed.

There is unanimity of opinion as regards the first of the two questions. It is generally agreed that the total number of different characters necessary for printing in the Tamil language should be reduced from the present unwieldy figure and also that there should be greater uniformity in the use of symbols or signs for the vowel - consonants (*uyir-mey*). It is thus necessary to reform the Tamil script, both in the interests of mechanical efficiency and in the light of educational psychology.

Now comes the question, on what lines the script may be revised. And this is the question on which we have a divergence of opinions and proposals.

The Committee feels that, in introducing any change, the existing script should not be altered so drastically as to make it appear entirely new, thus making it difficult for the reading public to follow it with ease. Hence the maximum chance of acceptance by the public and the minimum requirements of printing, typing and uniformity were kept in view in framing the proposals for reform.

The final recommendations of the Committee are as follows:

I. VOWELS. Only two changes are recommended for the vowel forms.

(a) ஈ *i* long. The present form is quite different from the form of the short vowel இ. The alternative form of the long vowel ஈ, which is occasionally used, may be made the standard form, as it will be easier to learn, being a modification of the short form.

(b) ஔ *au*. The present form gives rise to a certain amount of confusion. The consonant character *la* ள which is being added to *o* ஒ leads to the confusion. This should be made distinct as ௗ so that it may not represent the consonant character *la* ள.

The existing symbols for the remaining vowels, அ, ஆ, இ, உ, ஊ, எ. ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ are to be retained as they are.

II. CONSONANTS. This consists of two groups: pure consonants and vowel-consonants.

The pure consonants are now denoted by a dot on the top of the character, without which it would represent the vowel-consonant with the *a* added. One of the suggestions put forward is to have the dot removed from the top of the character and placed by the side at the right, as a separate symbol. Even though this may reduce the number of characters, it is considered that this will be a radical change. So the existing arrangement of having the dot at the top may be allowed to continue.

III. VOWEL-CONSONANTS. To ensure uniformity and make the script more easy, it is desirable that as far as possible the symbols or signs for the vowels in vowel-consonants be separated and that only one symbol be used uniformly for each vowel-consonant.

Thus it is proposed that ா should be used uniformly as a separate symbol for *all* consonants to denote the vowel *a* long.

Similary ி and ீ may be used as separate symbols (not attached to the main characters as at present) for the vowels *i* short and long respectively.

So also ெ, ே and ை for *all* vowel-consonants *e* short, *e* long and *ai* respectively.

For *au* the existing symbols, after the adoption of the change of ள to ளு to distinguish it from the consonant *la* as recommended above, may be used.

The only other two vowels are *u* short and *u* long. At present separate characters are used for each vowel-consonant of these two series and there is also no uniformity in the symbols used. It is however proposed that the existing symbols be allowed to continue for some time, without any change, and that the introduction of uniform symbols for *u* short and *u* long be considered at a later stage if necessary.

These recommendations contain the maximum acceptable and the minimum needed changes required to make the Tamil script uniform and conveniently accommodated in type-composing machines and type-writers.

The Appendix gives (a) the alphabet as it will look after the revision proposed, and (b) a page of print in the reformed script.

T. S. Chockalingam
T. S. CHOCKALINGAM
Convener
16-8-50

APPENDIX I

Vowels. அ ஆ இ ஈ உ ஊ எ ஏ ஐ ஒ ஓ ஔ
and
ஃ (aytham).

Consonants

Pure Consonants. க் ங் ச் ஞ் ட் ண் த் ந் ப்
ம் ய் ர் ல் வ் ழ் ள் ற் ன்

Vowel Consonants.

with a : க ங ச ஞ ட ண த ந ப ம ய
ர ல வ ழ ள ற ன

Vowel Consonants.

Symbols for all medial vowels, except *u* short and long to be used uniformly.

As a specimen for ண :

a long	ணா
i short	ணி
i long	ணீ
e short	ணெ
e long	ணே
ai	ணை
o short	ணொ
o lorg	ணோ
au	ணௌ

u short கு ஙு சு ஞு டு ணு து நு பு மு யு
ரு லு வு ழு ளு று னு

u long கூ ஙூ சூ ஞூ டூ ணூ தூ நூ பூ மூ
யூ ரூ லூ வூ ழூ ளூ றூ னூ

Thus the total No. of separate characters required for the Tamil script as per the revised scheme ...	91
Total No. of such characters as at present ...	133

APPENDIX II

‘சிட்டுக் குருவி’ என்னும் தலைப்பில் மகாகவி பாரதியார் எழுதிய கட்டுரையின் ஒரு பகுதி இப்போதுள்ள எழுத்திலும் புது முறையிலும் தனித் தனியே அச்சிட்டுக் காட்டப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இப்போதுள்ளபடி	புதுமுறையில்
சிறிய தானியம் போன்ற மூக்கு ; சின்னக் கண்கள் ; சின்னத்தலை ; வெள்ளைக் கழுத்து ; அழகிய மங்கல்-வெண்மை நிறமுடைய பட்டுபோர்த்த வயிறு ; கருமையும் வெண்மையும் இவை கலந்த சாம்பல் நிறத்தாலாகிய பட்டிற்குப் போர்த்த முதுகு ; சிறிய தோகை ; துளித்துளிக் கால்கள்.	சிறிய தானியம் போன்ற மூக்கு ; சின்னக் கண்கள் ; சின்னத் தலை ; வெள்ளைக் கழுத்து ; அழகிய மங்கல் வெண்மை நிறமுடைய பட்டுப் போர்த்த வயிறு ; கருமையும் வெண்மையும் இவை கலந்த சாம்பல் நிறத்தாலாகிய பட்டிற்குப் போர்தத முதுகு ; சிறிய தோகை; துளித்துளிக் கால்கள்.
இத்தனையும் சேர்த்து ஒரு பச்சைக் குழந்தையின் கைப் பிடியிலே பிடித்து விடலாம். இவ்விதமான உடலைச் சுமந்து கொண்டு என் வீட்டிலே இரண்டு உயிர்கள் வாழ்கின்றன. அவற்றில் ஒன்று ஆண். மற்றொன்று பெண். இவை தம்முள்ளே பேசிக்கொள்கின்றன. குடும்பத்துக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தேடிக்கொள்கின்றன. கூடு கட்டிக்கொண்டு, கொஞ்சிக் குலாவி மிக இன்பத்துடன் வாழ்ந்து முட்டையிட்டுக் குஞ்சுகளைப் பசியில்லாமல் காப்பாற்றுகின்றன.	இத்தனையும் சேர்த்து ஒரு பச்சைக் குழந்தையின் கைப் பிடியிலே பிடித்து விடலாம். இவ்விதமான உடலைச் சுமந்து கொண்டு என் வீட்டிலே இரண்டு உயிர்கள் வாழ்கின்றன. அவற்றில் ஒன்று ஆண். மற்றொன்று பெண். இவை தம்முள்ளே பேசிக் கொள்கின்றன. குடும்பத்துக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தேடிக் கொள்கின்றன. கூடு கட்டிக் கொண்டு, கொஞ்சிக் குலாவி மிக இன்பத்துடன் வாழ்ந்து முட்டையிட்டுக் குஞ்சுகளைப் பசியில்லாமல் காப்பாற்றுகின்றன.

அறிக்கை

சென்னை அரசாங்கத்தார் தம் எம். எஸ். நெம்பர் 527 (கல்வித் துறை) 20-2-1950 உத்தரவில் கீழ்க்கண்ட உறுப்பினர்களைக் கொண்ட ஸ்பெஷல் கமிட்டி ஒன்றை ஏற்படுத்தினர் ; தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களில் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டுமா என்றும், செய்யவேண்டுமானால் எவ்வாறு சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் ஆராய்ந்து தெரிவிக்குமாறு கோரினர்.

உறுப்பினர்கள்

1. திரு. டி. எஸ். சொக்கலிங்கம், ‘தினசரி” ஆசிரியர், சென்னை.
2. ,, ரா. பி. சேதுப்பிள்ளை, தமிழ்ப்பேராசிரியர், பல்கலைக் கழகம், சென்னை.
3. ,, எஸ். கோபாலன், அகில இந்திய வானொலி நிலையம், டில்லி.
4. ,, தி. நா. சுப்பிரமணியன், ‘தினசரி மடல்’ ஆசிரியர், சென்னை
5. ,, கே. சுவாமிநாதன், தலைவர், அரசாங்கக் கலைக் கல்லூரி, சென்னை.
6. ,, டாக்டர் மு. வரதராசன், தமிழ்ப் பேராசிரியர், பச்சையப்பன் கல்லூரி, சென்னை.
7. ,, தெ. பொ. மீனாட்சி சுந்தரம், சிந்தாதிரிப்பேட்டை, சென்னை.

திரு. டி. எஸ். சொக்கலிங்கம் இக்கமிட்டியைக் கூட்டுபவராக அமைந்தார்.

1950-வருஷம் மார்ச்சு 6, 8, 15, 22, 29 தேதிகளிலும் ஜூலை 5, 10 தேதிகளிலும் கமிட்டியார் எழு முறை கூடிப் பலவகையாகத் தமிழ் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தம்பற்றி ஆராய்ந்தனர். திரு. எஸ். கோபாலன் முதல் கூட்டத்திற்கு மட்டும் வந்திருந்தார்.

தமிழ் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தம் பற்றிச் சென்ற சில ஆண்டுகளாகவே, பொதுமக்கள், பத்திரிகைகள், அரசாங்கத்தார் ஆகிய

எல்லோரும் எண்ணி வருகின்றார்கள். தனிப்பட்ட அறிஞர் பலரும் பல கழகங்களும் இதுபற்றிப் பல வழிகளை எடுத்துக்காட்டியுள்ளார்கள். 1947 ஆகஸ்டு 29-ல் அப்போது கல்வி அமைச்சராயிருந்த திரு தி. சு. அவினாசிலிங்கம் செட்டியார் அவர்கள் நான்கு பேர் கொண்ட ஒரு கமிட்டி ஏற்படுத்தி இதைப்பற்றி ஆராயச்செய்தார். அந்தக் கமிட்டி 1948 பெப்ரவரி 10-ல் அதன் முடிவை அறிவித்தது. அதற்குப்பிறகும், பொதுமக்களும் பத்திரிகைகளும் இதைப்பற்றிப் பேசி ஆராய்ந்ததும் உண்டு.

இப்போது ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்ட இக்கமிட்டியார் தமிழ் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தம்பற்றி முழுதும் பலவகையாக ஆராய்ந்தார்கள்.

ஆராய்ந்து முடிவு காணவேண்டிய பகுதிகள் இரண்டு: 1. தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களைச் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்ய வேண்டுமா என்பது; 2. செய்ய வேண்டுமானால் எவ்வகையில் சீர்திருத்த வேண்டும் என்பது.

இந்த இரண்டில் முதலாவதைப் பற்றி ஒருமித்த கருத்தே உள்ளது. இப்போது தமிழில் அச்சிடுவதற்குத் தேவைப்படும் தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களின் மொத்த எண்ணிக்கை மிகுதியாக இருப்பதால் எழுத்துக்களைக் குறைத்து அளவு படுத்தவேண்டுமென்றும், உயிர் மெய்யெழுத்துகளுக்கு உரிய குறியீடுகளில் கூடியவரையில் ஒரு வகைப்பட்ட ஒழுங்கு இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் கமிட்டி பொதுவாக ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வந்தது. ஆகையால் அச்சுக்கலையில் பெறும் நன்மைகளைக்கருதியும், எழுத்துக்களைக் கற்பதில் உள்ள இடர்களைப் போக்கக் கருதியும் தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களில் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்ய வேண்டியது அவசியம் ஆகின்றது.

எவ்வகையில் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டும் என்பதே இனிக் கருதவேண்டியது. கருத்துவேறுபாடுகளும், முறைவேறுபாடுகளும், பல இதில் உள்ளன.

மாறுதல் எதுவும் செய்யப்படும் பொழுது, இப்பொழுதுள்ள தமிழ் எழுத்து முற்றிலும் புதிதாகத் தோன்றுமாறு அவ்வளவு இருக்கக்கூடாதுஎன்பதும், பொதுமக்கள் புதிய எழுத்துக்களை எளிமையாகக் கற்றுக் கொள்வதில் இடர்ப்படக்கூடாது என்பதும் கமிட்டியின் கருத்தாகும். ஆகையால் பொதுமக்கள் பெரும்பாலோர் ஒத்துக் கொள்ளக்கூடிய வகையிலும்; அச்சு, டைப், ஒரேவகை ஒழுங்கு முதலியவைகளுக்காகக் குறைந்த அளவு மாறுதலாக இருக்கக்கூடிய

வகையிலும் எழுத்துச் சீர்திருத்தத் திட்டம் வகுக்கக் கருதினார்கள். கமிட்டியார் முடிவாகச் செய்த சிபார்சுகளாவன :

I, **உயிர் எழுத்துக்கள் :—** மாறுதல்கள் இரண்டு :

(i) உயிர் நெடில் "ஈ" இப்போது உள்ள "**இ**" என்னும் குறில் எழுத்துக்கு மாறுபட்டவடிவமாக உள்ளது. "ஈ" என்று சிறுபான்மையாக வழங்கிவரும் மற்றொரு வடிவம் இதற்குத் தகுந்த நெடிலாகக் கொள்ளத்தக்கது. குறிலின் வடிவத்தில் சிறுமாறுதலாக இருப்பதால் அது கற்பதற்கும் எளிதாகும்.

(ii) **ஒள**—இந்த வடிவம் சில இடங்களில் ஒருவகை மயக்கத்திற்கு இடம் தருகிறது. '**ள**' என்னும் மெய்யெழுத்தின் வடிவத்தை '**ஒ**' என்னும் உயிர் எழுத்தோடு சேர்ப்பதால் இவ்வாறு மயங்க நேரிடுகிறது. ஆகையால் '**ள**' என்னும் மெய்யெழுத்துக்கு வேறுபட்டதாகக் காணுமாறு அதை '**ௗ**' என்று எழுதலாம்.

மற்ற உயிர் எழுத்துக்களின் வடிவங்கள் — **அ, ஆ, இ, உ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ** என இப்போது உள்ளவாறே இருக்கலாம்.

II. **மெய்யெழுத்துக்கள் :—** மெய்யெழுத்துக்கள் மேலே இடப்படும் புள்ளியோடு எழுதப்படுகின்றன. புள்ளி இல்லையானால் அவை 'அ' என்னும் உயிர் சேர்ந்த உயிர்மெய் எழுத்தாகும். மேலே உள்ள புள்ளியை அங்கிருந்து தள்ளி மெய்யெழுத்தின் வலப் பக்கத்தின் மேற் பகுதியில் தனி எழுத்தாக எழுதலாம் என்று ஒரு வழி கூறப்பட்டது. இவ்வாறு செய்வதால் எழுத்துக்களின் எண்ணிக்கையைக் குறைக்கமுடியும்; எனினும் இது அடிப்படையான பெரிய மாறுதலாகும் என்று கருதப்பட்டது. ஆகையால் இப்போது மேலே புள்ளியிடும் முறையே இருக்கலாம்.

III. **உயிர் மெய்யெழுத்துக்கள் :—**

ஒரே வகை ஒழுங்கு ஆக்குவதற்காகவும், எழுத்து வடிவங்களை எளிமை ஆக்குவதற்காகவும் கூடிய வரையில் உயிரெழுத்துக்களின் குறியீடுகளைத் தனியே பிரித்து மெய்யெழுத்துக்களின் பக்கத்தே எழுதுவதும், ஒவ்வோர் உயிர் எழுத்திற்கும் ஒரே குறியீடு வைத்துக் கொண்டு ஒழுங்காக எழுதுவதும் நன்மையாகும்.

ஆகவே "ஆ" என்னும் உயிர் நெடிலின் குறியீடாக 'ா' என்பதையே ஒரே ஒழுங்காக எல்லா மெய்யெழுத்துக்கும் சேர்க்கலாம்.

இவ்வாறே ி ீ என்னும் குறியீடுகளையே இ, ஈ, என்னும் குறில் நெடில் உயிர்களை உணர்த்துவதற்காக மெய்யெழுத்துக்களை அடுத்து (இன்றுள்ளவாறு மெய்யெழுத்தோடு சேர்க்காமல் தனியே பிரித்து) எழுதலாம்.

எ, ஏ, ஐ, என்னும் உயிர்களுக்கும் இவ்வாறே, முறையே ெ, ே, ை, என்னும் குறியீடுகளை அமைத்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

ஔ என்னும் உயிர் எழுத்திற்காக **ள** என்னும் வடிவத்தை **ௗ** என்று சிறிது வேறுபடுத்தி எழுதலாம்.

எஞ்சியுள்ள உயிர்கள் **உ, ஊ** இரண்டுமாகும். இப்போது ஒவ்வொரு மெய்க்கும் ஒவ்வொரு வகைக் குறியீடு சேர்த்து உயிர் மெய்யாக எழுதப்படுகிறது. அதனால் இவற்றின் குறியீடுகளில் ஒழுங்குமுறையில்லை. ஆயினும் இப்போது உள்ள குறியீடுகளையே இன்னும் சில காலம் மாறுதல் இல்லாமல் எழுதி வருதல் நல்லது என்றும், தேவையானால் வருங்காலத்தில் இவற்றிற்கும் ஒழுங்கான ஒருவகைக் குறியீடுகளை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொள்ளலாம் என்றும் கருதப் பட்டது.

தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களை ஒழுங்கு படுத்துவதற்காகவும், அச்சுக் கோக்கும் யந்திரங்களிலும், டைப் யந்திரங்களிலும் வசதியாக அமைப்பதற்காகவும் பெரும்பாலோர் ஒத்துக் கொள்ளக் கூடிய வகையில் குறைந்த அளவு மாறுதல்களே கமிட்டியால் வகுக்கப் பட்டவைகளாகும்.

சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யப்பட்ட தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களும், அந்த எழுத்துக்களைக்கொண்டு அச்சிடப்பட்ட ஒரு பக்கமும் இணைப்பில் உள்ளன.

T. S. Ch
(டி. எஸ். சொக்கலிங்கம்)
கன்வீனர்
16-8-50

இணைப்பு I

உயிர் எழுத்துக்கள்—

அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ, உ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ,
ஆய்தம் ஃ

மெய்யெழுத்துக்கள்—

க் ங் ச் ஞ் ட் ண் த் ந் ப் ம் ய் ர் ல் வ் ழ் ள் ற் ன்

அகர உயிர் சேர்ந்த உயிர்மெய் யெழுத்துக்கள்—

க ங ச ஞ ட ண த ந ப ம ய ர ல வ ழ ள ற ன

மற்ற உயிர் மெய் யெழுத்துக்கள்—

உ, ஊ தவிர மற்ற எல்லா உயிர்களுக்கும் ஒருவகைக் குறியீடுகளே வழங்கலாம்.

எடுத்துக்காட்டாக:— ண என்ற மெய்க்கு

ஆ	ணா
இ	ணி
ஈ	ணீ
எ	ணெ
ஏ	ணே
ஐ	ணை
ஒ	ணொ
ஓ	ணோ
ஔ	ணௗ

உ— கு ஙு சு ஞு டு ணு து நு பு மு யு ரு லு வு ழு ளு று னு

ஊ— கூ ஙூ சூ ஞூ டூ ணூ தூ நூ பூ மூ யூ ரூ லூ வூ ழூ ளூ றூ னூ

ஆக, சீர்திருத்தப்பட்ட முறைப்படி தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களின் தொகை— 91.

இன்று உள்ளவாறு தமிழ் எழுத்துக்களின் தொகை— 133

இணைப்பு II

'சிட்டுக் குருவி' என்னும் தலைப்பில் மகாகவி பாரதியார் எழுதிய கட்டுரையின் ஒரு பகுதி இப்போதுள்ள எழுத்திலும் புது முறையிலும் தனித் தனியே அச்சிட்டுக் காட்டப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இப்போதுள்ளபடி	புதுமுறையில்
சிறிய தானியம் போன்ற மூக்கு; சின்னக் கண்கள்; சின்னத்தலை.; வெள்ளைக் கழுத்து; அழகிய மங்கல்-வெண்மை நிறமுடைய பட்டுபோர்த்த வயிறு; கருமையும் வெண்மையும் இவை கலந்த சாம்பல் நிறத்தாலாகிய பட்டிற்குப் போர்த்த முதுகு; சிறிய தோகை; துளித்துளிக் கால்கள்.	சிறிய தானியம் போன்ற மூக்கு; சின்னக் கண்கள்; சின்னத் தலை; வெள்ளைக் கழுத்து; அழகிய மங்கல் வெண்மை நிறமுடைய பட்டுப் போர்த்த வயிறு; கருமையும் வெண்மையும் இவை கலந்த சாம்பல் நிறத்தாலாகிய பட்டிற்குப் போர்தத முதுகு; சிறிய தோகை; துளித்துளிக் கால்கள்.
இத்தனையும் சேர்த்து ஒரு பச்சைக் குழந்தையின் கைப் பிடியிலே பிடித்து விடலாம். இவ்விதமான உடலைச் சுமந்து கொண்டு என் வீட்டிலே இரண்டு உயிர்கள் வாழ்கின்றன. அவற்றில் ஒன்று ஆண். மற்றொன்று பெண். இவை தம்முள்ளே பேசிக்கொள்கின்றன. குடும்பத்துக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தேடிக்கொள்கின்றன. கூடு கட்டிக்கொண்டு, கொஞ்சிக் குலாவி மிக இன்பத்துடன் வாழ்ந்து முட்டையிட்டுக் குஞ்சுகளைப் பசியில்லாமல் காப்பாற்றுகின்றன.	இத்தனையும் சேர்த்து ஒரு பச்சைக் குழந்தையின் கைப் பிடியிலே பிடித்து விடலாம். இவ்விதமான உடலைச் சுமந்து கொண்டு என் வீட்டிலே இரண்டு உயிர்கள் வாழ்கின்றன. அவற்றில் ஒன்று ஆண். மற்றொன்று பெண். இவை தம்முள்ளே பேசிக் கொள்கின்றன. குடும்பத்துக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தேடிக் கொள்கின்றன. கூடு கட்டிக் கொண்டு, கொஞ்சிக் குலாவி மிக இன்பத்துடன் வாழ்ந்து முட்டையிட்டுக் குஞ்சுகளைப் பசியில்லாமல் காப்பாற்றுகின்றன.

66

(121)

EDN. DEPT. (C).

III DRAFTS.

DRAFT I.

Letter No. 7438 C/50- 4, Edn., dated 11.9.50

6-7-8
12/9
Dpd WE
14.9.50

To

The Registrar,
University of Madras (with encl. in orgl.).

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

I am to forward herewith the report of the committee constituted by the Govt. for the Reform of Tamil Script and request that the recommendations contained therein may kindly be examined and that definite proposals may be made to Govt., if any reform is called for. I am to add that the opinion of the Annamalai University and of other bodies and persons interested in Tamil learning may also be obtained on the need for reform before proposals are ~~formulated~~ sent to Govt.

Y.F.

Dpd WE
14.9.50

Copy to the D.P.I.

2.9.50
7/9
9/9/50
7/9

DRAFT II.

Letter No. 7438 C/50- 5, Edn., dated 11.9.50

Dpd WE
14.9.50

To

The Registrar, Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar (with encl. in orgl.)

Secretary, The Tamil Academy [illegible] university [illegible]

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

I am to forward herewith the report of the committee constituted by the Govt. for the Reform of Tamil Script and to say that the Madras University has been requested to examine the recommendations contained therein in consultation with the Annamalai University and other bodies and persons interested in Tamil learning and to forward definite proposals to Govt., if a reform is called for in this regard. I am to request that the

P.T.

views of the Annamalai ~~University~~ Academy on the need for reform may kindly be forwarded to the Registrar, University of Madras.

Yours faithfully,

2.9.50 7/9 9/9/50 16/9

Copy ~~to~~ the D.P.I

DRAFT III.

MEMO. NO. 7438 C/50- 6, Edn., dated 11.9.50.

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

A copy of the report of the committee constituted by the Govt. for the Reform of Tamil Script is forwarded to the D.P.I. and he is requested to obtain the views of experts in Tamil in the Dept. in the matter and place them before the Madras University for consideration.

2.9.50 7/9 9/9/50

To

The D.P.I. (with encl: in ore)

14.9.50

67

THE TAMIL ACADEMY

(தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம்)

M. P. PERIASWAMYTHOORAN
CHIEF EDITOR

PHONE: 84464
Tamil Encyclopedia Office:
UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

Ref. No.

MADRAS-5, 18--9 - 1950

The Secretary to Government,
Education Department,
Government of Madras,
Ft.St.George,
Madras.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
19 SEP 1950
28536
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref: Letter/Ref No.7438 C/50 5 Education
dated 11---9---1950.

With reference to your letter cited above, I like to inform you that the Reforms suggested are almost the same as those recommended by our Academy on 17-1-1950 the only exception being the new symbol for [illegible] where a new symbol [illegible] is suggested in the Pamphlet. I shall place your letter and the report of the Committee before the Executive Committee of our Academy and inform you as well as the Registrar, University of Madras, Madras, about its decision.

Yours sincerely,

M. P. Periaswamythooran
Chief Editor.

69 C 125

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

From
The Registrar
Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Education Department,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George, Madras.

A2/17297 dated 23rd Septr. '50.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
26 SEP 1950
29355
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil script.

Ref: Your letter No.7438 C/50-5 Education dated 11-9-50.

I request you to be so good as to send me 10 spare copies of the report of the Government Committee for the reform of Tamil Script; as they have to be sent to the members of the Board of Studies in Tamil for consideration.

The favour of an early compliance is requested.

Yours faithfully,

For Registrar.

P.N.25/9

69 12

Edn (C) Dept.

Letter No. 7438 Edn dated 30.9.50

26/30/9

To

The Registrar
Annamalai University
Annamalainagar.

5/10

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

135 f

With reference to your letter No A2/17297 dated 23rd Sep 1950 I am directed to say that all spare copies of the Report of the Committee on the Reform of Tamil Script have been forwarded to the Registrar University of Madras. You may kindly obtain necessary copies from the Registrar of the University ~~of Madras~~.

yours faithfully

28/9

29/9/50

12
70

THE TAMIL ACADEMY

(தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகம்)

M.P.Periaswamythooran
Chief Editor

Phone 84464
Tamil Encyclopedia Office:
"UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS'
CHEPAUK, MADRAS 5.

Dated, 10th October, 1950.

The Registrar,
University of Madras,
Madras.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
31751
12 OCT 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref: Letter fromthe Secretary to Govt., Govt. of Madras
Education Department, No.Ref.No.7438 C/50-5
Education dated 11th September 1950.

With reference to the above, I would like to inform you that the Executive Committee of the Tamil Academy in its meeting held on 9-10-1950 considered the recommendations of the Committee constituted for the Reform of Tamil Script. The Committee is of opinion that a new symbol ([illegible]) need not be introduced to denote [illegible]. The other recommendations are the same as that of the Tamil Academy sent to the Government on the 17th January, 1950. So they are accepted by the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

M. P. Periaswamythooran

SECRETARY.

25 Sept

May be added to the file

16/10/50

14/10

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Government of India, (Education Department), Fort St.George, Madras, for information in ref: to his Joint letter cited above.

130

All communications should be addressed to the Registrar, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar, by designation and not by name.

71

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

No. A2/18945

16th October, '50 193 .

From

THE REGISTRAR,
ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
24 OCT 1950
32857
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

To

The Secretary to Government of
Education and Public Health Department,
Madras

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

Ref: 1) Your letter No. 7438 C/50 E. dated 6.10.50.
2) This office letter No. A2. 17297 dated 23.9.50.

7125 (4)

In enclosing a copy of reply received from the Registrar, Madras University who was addressed as desired in your above letter regarding the supply of copies of the report of the Committee on the 'Reform of Tamil Script, - I am to request you to be so good as to issue necessary directions for the supply of at least 10 copies of the report for consideration by the Tamil Board of Studies of this University .

Yours faithfully,

S. Satchidanandam Pillai

Registrar.

21/10

Sent to [illegible] on 24/10

K.K. 20/10.

Where are the papers ref[illegible] - Please show

21/10

72

132

From

The Registrar,
University of Madras.

To

The Registrar,
Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar.

Sir,

Ref: Your letter No. A2/17297 dated 7-10-50-Report of the Government Committee on the Reform of Tamil Script.

I am to inform you that copies of the 'Report' referred to by you are not available in this office. You may address Government in the matter.

(Sd.) ....

K.K. 20/10.

a
20/10/50

1689

6 10/11

13 Ed & P H deptt (C)

Memo No. 7438 C/50 – 7 Edn dated 3-11-50

Reform of Tamil Script – Committee's report – cost of printing report.

Letter from the D.P.I. No. 370 L.4 dated 14-10-50

The D.P.I. is authorised to sanction an expenditure of Rs 60-15-0, being the cost of printing the report of committee for reform of Tamil Script appointed in G.O. No. 527 Edn. 20-2-1950, the amount being debited to the allotment for contingencies for the Director's office.

Issued 2/11/50

28
3/11

95-96 CF

To the D.P.I.
" A.G. Mas.
Finance

4-11-50

19/10/50

Note: Finance U.O. for acceptance.

19/10/50

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
34194
2 NOV 1950
Edn (C) Dept.
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
7438 C/50

ADDITIONAL DEPUTY SECRETARY
88486
24 OCT 1950
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Fin U.O. 88486 EB-1
31-10-50.

Rec 26.10.50

Finance (Exp B)

The draft memo above may be accepted

31/10/50

Edn

---

74 186

Letter No. 7438 C/50-10 Edn dated 3-11-50. Edn (C) Dept.

From

The Assistant Secretary to Government,
Education Department

To

The Registrar (10 copies kept below as enclosure)
Annamalai University.

4/11/50

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

With reference to your letter No A2/18945 dated 16th October 1950 ten copies of the report of the committee on "the Reform of Tamil Script" are furnished.

30/10

2/11/50

31/10/50

8

137
2/11

2/11

TELE { GRAMS : UNIVERSITY, MADRAS.
PHONE : 86914.

It is requested that all communications should be addressed to The Registrar, University of Madras, Triplicane P.O., Madras, and not to any person by name.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

No. A4441.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS,
CHEPAUK, MADRAS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
2 NOV 1950
34268
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

1 -- NOV 1950

Enclosures.

FROM

THE REGISTRAR,
University of Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education Department, Madras.

Sir,

Ref: Correspondence resting with your letter Ref. No 7438 C/50 Education dated 11th September 1950 - Report of the Committee on reform of Tamil scripts.

- - -

I am to inform you that the Syndicate has referred the matter to a Special Committee for favour of detailed consideration and report. I shall be glad if you will kindly let me have twelve more copies of the "Report" for the use of the Committee.

Yours faithfully,

D. Narayanan
for REGISTRAR.

ks/311074

~~10~~

39

2/11

---

(76) ~~1410 C~~

POST COPY OF TELEPHONIC MESSAGE No.370 L4/50 dated 27.10.49.

31 OCT 1950
33923
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

From

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education Department,
Madras.

Sub: REFORM of Tamil Script.

Please furnish me with 9 copies of the Report on the Reform of Tamil Script urgently as they are required for reference by the South India Teachers' Union.

30/10/50
for Director of Public Instruction.

Jd.28-10/-

28.10

(77)

Two drafts — 1&2

Edu. Dept (C)

Memo: 32857-C/50-1 Edu. dated 15-11-50.

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

Ref: D.P.I.'s T.M. No. 370 L4/50 dated 27-10-50.

35 & 35A
16.11.50

The D.P.I. is informed that ~~no~~ spare copies of the Report on the Reform of Tamil Script are not available ~~for supply~~. Only very few copies are kept in the Secretariat for reference.

TO
The D.P.I.
20/11

US
8/11

13/11/50

14/11/50

P.T.O.

143

(18)

144 ~~18~~

Edu. Dept (C).

Letter No. 32857-C/50-2 Edu. Dated. 15-11-50.

TO

The Registrar
University of Madras. 20/11

35 A
16/11/50

Sir,

Sub: Reform of Tamil Script.

Ref: Your letter No. 44441 dated 1-11-50

I am to say that ~~no~~ spare copies of the report on the Reform of Tamil Script are ~~not~~ available ~~for Supply~~.

Yours faithfully,

18/11

18/11/50

14/11/50

4.

79

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

5 DEC 1950
38956
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

From

The Director of Public
Instruction, Madras.

To

The Registrar,
Madras University,
Chepauk, Madras.

****

R.C. No. 370 L.4/50 Dated 2-12-1950.

Sir,

C/ P/22eF

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

Ref:- Government Memo No. 7438 C/50-6 Edn. dated 11-9-1950.

In enclosing herewith the views of Dr. A.C. Chettiyar of Annamalai University, Sri. S. Natarajan, President, South India Teachers' Union and Sri. T.M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, Chairman of Madras Public Service Commission, who were consulted in the matter, for placing them before the Madras University for consideration, I support the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee constituted by Government.

Yours faithfully,

4/12/50

3/4

for Director of Public Instruction.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Education Department.
.S./2-12.

Copy of letter dated 9th October 1950 from Dr. A.C. Chettiar M.A.Ph.D. Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Ref:- Your letter R.C. No. 370 L.4/50 dated 4-10-1950.

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

*****

I am in receipt of the letter cited above asking me to express my views on the subject.

2. This Committee's recommendations seem to be much more acceptable than the recommendations of the Committee which met on 10th February 1943, which contemplated certain violent changes.

3. The man in the street or the child in the school, however, belonging to the Tamil Country does not experience any great difficulty in learning the present Tamil Script, which may appear to a foreigner to be somewhat complicated. There is a great deal to say in favour of the retention of the present system of writing, for after all any writing becomes settled by convention and the present conventional signs have been in vogue for over eight centuries at least.

4. A point which has got to be considered carefully is this: that to-day we have got all the books in Tamil printed in the present script. Books belonging to all ages of Tamil literatures, namely classical; medieval and modern (from the fourth or fifth century before Christ down to the present age) are available today in print in the present script. Steps will have to be taken to re-print all those books in any reformed script, if changes in the script are finally decided upon.

5. Therefore, if changes are inevitable from the point of view of daily newspapers which employ the lino-type, it is advisable to keepk the changes down to the minimum.

6. Considered in that light, the recommendations of the 1950

Committee appear to be much more acceptable than the recommendations of the 1948 Committee.

7. If there are going to be two sets of scripts in the country, one the old and the other the reformed, there will be some sort of confusion until one replaces the other. The older generation accustomed to read through the present script will have to adjust themselves to new conditions, which adjustment is quite possible. However, what I am afraid of is that books (printed in the presentscript) which are all treasures of several ages should not become sealed ones to the younger generations and to posterity. I am not therefore in favour of adopting a reformed script by concerted action unless it is guaranteed that all the existing books will be printed and published in that script.

8. There seems to be no great objection, however, to the newspapers and the typewriters agreeing by common consent to make use of the reformed types suggested by the 1950 Committee. English is occasionally printed in "script" and very largely in Roman. Similarly, two kinds of types may be made available, one for books and the other for newspapers.

9. I am of the view that the reform should be introduced only by stages.

10. For example (1) in the first five years the reformed script may be introduced by the news-papers. Helps to decipher the script should be furnished in the shape of keys and illustrations in the daily newspapers, it being understood that with a view to making any fresh reader not stunable. The management of the newspapers will undertake to spare some space daily for this purpose. (2) it may be notified that all books and periodicals should be printed after the lapse of this five years period in the new script only. (3) that after three years from the introduction of the reform by the newspapers publishers may be given the option to adopt the new script in case of books which they are re-publishing.

11. I further recommend (1) that Heads of Mutts and the Executives of the Universities may be requested to take up the publication in the new script of all rare and valuable books in Tamil which are not commonly prescribed as text books and hence are not likely to attract publishers; and (2) that Government should come forward to subsidise work of this kind.

Copy of letter U/477 dated nil from the President The South India Teachers' Union, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Ref:- Your letter R.C. No. 370-L.4/50 dated 4-10-1950.
Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

I studied the recommendation of the Committee on the Reform of the Tamil Script. While I am not unaware of the mechanical difficulties in Tamil Typewriting and Tamil Lino or mono-printing and also of the factors that retard speed in typing or composing, it is doubtful if the reforms suggested would be of any appreciable help. Further, the suggested reform would create serious hardship for script writing. Script writing will continue to be in the present style for many years. Again, the classics in Tamil are all in the present style of scripts and a change over will lead to considerable confusion. Under the circumstances it is not desirable at the present time to consider any reform of the script.

(P.T.O)

80

Copy of letter ~~dated 21st~~ November 1950 from Sri. T.M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, ~~dated 21x~~ to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Sub:- Reform of Tamil Script.

I agree with the suggestions of the Committee that the existing script should not be altered drastically and that it should not be made difficult for the reading public. In the circumstances I agree to the suggestions made by the Committee.

(True Copies).

N. Pillai
6/12/50

A.S./2-12.

for Director of Public Instruction.

Edn (C)

Submitted for perusal. ~~Final reply from the D P I to the memo on [illegible] 20-2-50 may be awaited~~

8/12/50. These papers may be attached with G.O. No. 527 Edn dt 20.2.50

8/12/50

8/12/50

150

The Hon'ble, (81)
~~The~~ Minister of Education
Madras.

SECRETARY
12 DEC 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
40025
12 DEC 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
9 DEC
GOVT. OF MADRAS

Sir,

Tamil Language [illegible] Scripts.

Many a time the Minister of Education, Madras had expressed his opênion that a change of the Tamil script was quite essential, before Tamil being made the Official language of the Madras Presidency.

The Government of Ceylon is considering to introduce shortly Tamil as the chief language of the school in Tamil districts. I have suggested to the Government of Ceylon that a change of the Tamil script also should be considered while the ~~the~~ question of language in schools was being decided, for the Tamil literature of Ceylon should be in allignment with the Tamil literature of India.

The present Tamil scripts are written in various shapes that many a literate man today will not remember or write the scripts correctly. And also they are too numerous to set them in a common key board similar to an English typewriter. The present day Tamil script is not the one that existed some hundreds of years ago. The Tamil script has undergone various changes during the past. The Tamil speaking public, I hope, will not look at the reform of the Tamil script with any prejudice.

I give below a new method of Tamil script which a child can pick up and remember easily. It can also be conveniently inserted in an English key board of a common typewriter.

M. Ponnambalam.
M.Ponnambalam.

190, Grand Bazaar,
Jaffna.
7th, Dec. 1950.

அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஒ	ஓ	ஔ	
க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ	க்
ங	ஙா	ஙி	ஙீ	ஙு	ஙூ	ஙெ	ஙே	ஙை	ஙொ	ஙோ	ஙௌ	ங்
ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ	ச்
ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ	ஞ்
ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ	ட்
ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ	ண்
த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ	த்
ந	நா	நி	நீ	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ	ந்
ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ	ப்
ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ	ம்
ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ	ய்
ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ	ர்
ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ	ல்
வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ	வ்
ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ	ழ்
ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ	ள்
ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ	ற்
ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ	ன்

ஸ ஷ ஜ க்ஷ ஹ ஸ்ரீ ஙு ஞ சா ஙா ய

Summary:

உயிர் எழுத்துக்கள்	12
மெய் எழுத்துகள்	18
உயிர் மெய் ா, ி, ீ, ு, ூ, ெ, ே, ை.	8
வட எழுத்துகள்.	6
தமிழ் இலக்கம்.	5
	49. Scripts

190, Grand Bazaar.
Jaffna.

Ponnambalam.

7.XII.50.

153

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C

SECRETARY
18 DEC 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
18 DEC 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

40641

190, Grand Bazaar,
Jaffna, (Ceylon)
14th December 1950.

The Hon'ble,
The minister of Education,
Madras.

I have referred it to D.P.I. & Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam with him

KM

I do not know what I have done with it. I must have sent it to the office. – RM

Ap1-3 ante

Sir,

New method of Tamil Script.

I sent you a letter on 7-12-1950, enclosing a new method of Tamil Script for your approval and necessary action. I regret I have had no reply for it as yet.

I am unable to know whether you have persued the script with any interest and kept it for further action or had thrown it in the waste paper basket considering it as nonsence.

Excuse me for wasting your valuable time.

Yours faithfully.
Ponnambalam.
M.Ponnambalam.

155

156

80

Edn Dept

Letter No: 40075-C/50-1 Edn dated 28-12-50

Ref

To

67
28/12

30/12

Sri M. Ponnambalam
190- Grand Bazaar
Jaffna

Sir,

Reform of Tamil Script -
Ref: your letters to the Hon'ble
Minister for Edn and Law
of 7.12.50 and 14.12.50

cf

With reference to your letters cited, I am directed to state that this Govt appointed a committee to examine the question of reforming the Tamil script. The Committee has forwarded its report to Govt. Copies of the report have been sent to the Madras and the Annamalai Universities and the Tamil Academy, Madras for sending definite proposals to Govt for reforming the Tamil Script, if any reform is called for. It is understood that the Universities are at present considering the matter. I am accordingly to request you to get into touch with the Universities.

Yours faithfully

19/12/50

OSM
21/12/50

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1689

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P. H. DEPT.
1 MAR 1948
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
2 MAR 1948
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC

Secretary, E.& P.H.

Please see herewith a report of the Committee for the reform of Tamil script submitted by it which I had informally appointed. The matter may be examined and put up.

TSA
1-3-48
H.M. Education.

Submitted that with regard to the reform of the Tamil Script, it seems desirable to obtain the experts' opinion of the persons who are well known for their erudition in Tamil literature and of those who are known for their interest in the language. The views of the Tamil Sanghams, the two universities (Annamalai & Madras), ~~and~~ such other institutions who ~~devote themselves~~ are conducting necessary ~~to~~ research in the language may be also necessary. It is felt that it is also necessary to ascertain the feelings of the public in the matter X In the circumstances, perhaps the Director may be asked to circulate the report of the informal Committee to all those whose opinion he desires to obtain & to submit a report to Govt in due course.

X views of associations of teachers also may well be ascertained.

Ly

2

It is also for consideration whether the reform of Tamil script is a matter in regard to which the Govt. should take the initiative and whether it was not be left to the public and learned societies to undertake the reform. Attention is also invited to the papers at (P) relating to the adoption Roman alphabet for Tamil text books.

There is nothing inappropriate in Govt. taking the initiative.

We need not consider this.

11/3/48 S

11/3

I think it will be necessary for us to take up this matter. I propose convening a Conference for this purpose after the matter is considered more fully.

TSA
12-3-48

A draft memo to the D.P.I and a letter to the Vice chancellor of each of the two universities are submitted ~~for app~~ below for approval. It is presumed that views of the above ~~persons~~ authorities are necessary before the question is taken up further.

22/3/48 S

p.p.1-2 CF

21/3

22/3/48

(Issued memo 14635 B2/48-3 dt 23.3.48 to D.P.I & letter to Vice chancellor Annamalai & Madras universities)

3

Secretary, E.& P.H.

Please see herewith some suggestions given for the reform of Tamil script. This may be kept in the relevant file.

TSA
23-3-48

H.M. Education.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
24 MAR 1948
22456
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
24 MAR 1948
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

From the D.P.I R.C. No 455 - L 4/48 dt 8.6.48

p. 13 CF

The D.P.I has forwarded the views of Sri S. Sachidanandam Pillai on the reform of Tamil script with which he also has expressed agreement. The file may be submitted to HM for perusal.

12/6.

12/6/48

14/6/48 S

15/6

15/6

The views may be forwarded to Sri T.S. Chockalingam, the Secretary of the Tamil script Committee.

TSA
21.6.48

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
24 JUN 1948
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

A draft letter to Sri T.S. Chockalingam, Secretary of the Tamil script committee is put up for approval.

22/6.

22/6/48

23/6/48

p. 17 CF

Letter from the Registrar University of Madras No. CR 3500 dt 1.8.48

Copies of the printed report on the reform of Tamil script are not available here. The Secretary to the committee may be requested to supply

C.No. 71428 B2/49

the copies direct to the Registrar. A draft letter is subtd for approval

BM 12/8/48

p 47 cf

11/8/48

[Letter No. 58055-B2/48 Edn d. 13.8.48]

Sri. C.P. Kesavalu Naidu, District Registrar of Assurances, Kurnool has forwarded a scheme ~~for~~ for the Reform of Tamil Script in a book form. The question of Reform of Tamil script has been left to be discussed first by the university of Madras & Annamalai university. Please see the letter to the Vice Chancellors at p 9 cf. It is not known whether the universities have considered the question & when they ~~it~~ will ~~be~~ forward their ~~its~~ views to Govt. The scheme prepared by Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu may be forwarded to the university of Madras.

2. A draft letter is submitted below for approval. For orders as to circulation.

WR 16.9.49 16/9/49 BM 19/9/49 S 20/9

Please see the further communications received & added to the cf. Sri. Ayyakannu Mudaliar of Gudiatham & Sri. R. Govindarajalu Naidu of Mannargudi have made certain suggestions for the reforms in the Tamil script. H.M. (P.W.) & H.M. (E&L.) have made certain observations on the letter of the former. The question of reform of Tamil script has first been left to be discussed by the Madras & Annamalai

pp. 33 to 37 cf.

p 33 cf

87

universities ~~in the matter~~. They have been reminded in the matter. Recently proposals made by Sri. Kesavalu Naidu have ~~was~~ also been forwarded to the university of Madras.

p 31 cf.

2. For orders whether the present letters ~~this may~~ also be forwarded to the university of Madras. If so, a draft letter is submitted below for approval. A draft letter to Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar acknowledging the receipt of his letter is also submitted below for approval.

3. The file may be circulated to H.M. (E&L) & H.M. (P.W.)

WR 28.9.49 24/10/49 BM 5/10/49 S

6/10.

HM (Edn & Law) ✓

HM (P.W.) ✓

Draft may issue. I would like the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam also consulted as I have already minuted.

6/10

MB 7.10.

ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
7 OCT 1949
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

With reference to H.M.'s minutes above it is submitted that there is only one manuscript copy on the Reform of Tamil Script. If the Tamil Valarchi Kazagam is also to be consulted another copy may have to be obtained from the author. It is not known whether he has another copy of the pamphlet and whether he

P.T.O.

can send a copy for reference.

For orders whether the pamphlet now received may be sent to the University of Madras with the draft letter.

2. A para has since been added to the letter addressed to Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar requesting him to send another copy of the pamphlet for reference.

Yes

W.I. 8.10.49 — 8/10

10/10/49 S

10/4

(Issued as Lr. No. 71428 B2/49-3 d/ 11.10.49)

From Sri V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar Lr. d/ 17.10.49

p 37 cf

p 47 cf

— : —

A draft letter to the President, Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam is submitted for approval.

~~Further~~ A communication from Sri. D. Rajarathinam of Bangalore has been received ~~today~~. It ~~is~~ ~~for orders~~ ~~seems no action is called for on that letter~~. ~~For orders~~. It is seen that the papers on reform of Tamil Script were sent by the gentleman to the previous HM. Perhaps the former HM ~~had~~ forwarded the papers to the University. They were not seen in the Sectt.

pp 39-45 cf

22/10/49 S

24/4

19/10/49

Please see the letters from Sri R.W. Sivasambu, Proprietor, Modern Publicity Company, Madras & Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu lin the cf. They have made certain suggestions for the Reforms in the Tamil Script. Similar suggestions received from Messrs Ayyakannu & Govindarajalu have been forwarded to the Registrar University of Madras. For orders whether ~~these may~~ they may

pp 57-61 cf

(P.T.O.:-

---

also be forwarded to the University of Madras.

If so the draft letter ~~is~~ submitted below is for approval.

W.I. 10.11.49 — 10/11/49

11/11/49 S

12/11

pp 35-36 cf [Issued as Letter No. 71428 B2/49-2 d/ 11/10/49]

pp 65-67 cf. [From the Regr. University of Madras No. A. 6400 dated 17.12.49]

— x —

p 67 cf.

'B'

Para 2 on p 65 cf.

The Registrar University of Madras, has forwarded a copy of the remarks made by the University Professor of Tamil on the two proposals (Sri. V.S,Aiyakannu Mudaliar and Sri. R.Govindarajalu) for the Reform of Tamil Script. As regards the scheme proposed by Sri. C.P.Kesavalu, the Registrar has stated that it has been referred to the Professor, and his views thereon are awaited. The proposal at 'B' above may be examined ~~as and~~ when ~~the receipt of~~ the Prof's views on the scheme proposed by Sri. C.P.Kesavalu are received ~~received~~ from the Registrar. This may lie over till 20-1-'50

pp 69-76

W.I. 20.12.49 — 20/12

20/12/49

X X

p 1 nf.

When the previous minister (Sri. T.S. Avinasalingam Chettiar) was in office he took up the question of the Reform of Tamil Script. An expert committee was ~~also~~ constituted by him. The report of the Committee was forwarded to the D.P.I. & the Universities of Madras & Annamalai for remarks. The D.P.I. furnished to Govt.

pp 1-8 cf.

pp 9-10 cf.

the views of Sri. Satchithanandam Pillai voicing the opinion of the many interested in Tamil learning. These ~~were~~ communicated to the chairman of the Committee. The opinion of the universities has not yet been received. They have been reminded.

pp 15 C.f.

2. In the meanwhile suggestions for the Reform of Tamil Script have been received from the following gentlemen:-

1) Sri C.P. Kesavalu Naidu (p 29 C.f.) (Book form kept in section)
2) " V.S. Aiyakannu Mudaliar p 33 C.f. (Book kept in section)
3) " R. Govindarajalu Naidu pp 69-72 C.f.
4) " R.N. Sivalambu. pp 81-85 C.f.

The university of Madras & the Tamil Academy have been consulted on their suggestions. The replies from them are in the current file.

pp 65-67
pp 79-80
pp 89-101 from the Tamil Academy

3. The question for consideration is whether any action should be taken by ~~the~~ Govt. for the Reform of Tamil script. The question is one to be considered by persons interested in Tamil learning & by the lovers of the language. No action can it appears be taken by Govt. to revise the script of a particular language. The matter is one to be decided on expert opinion and by the general feeling of the public who are conversant with Tamil. It appears that the ~~whole~~ papers may be sent to D.P.I. and he may be asked to hand over ~~the papers~~ them to the Tamil Department of the Madras university or to a committee of experts & lovers of Tamil so that the necessary reform may left to be undertaken by the general public itself. For orders. The file may be circulated to H.M.(E&L) & H.M.(P.W.).

W.I.
24.1.50

25/1

25/1/50

It is obviously only Government which can give a lead in this matter and should do so. The lead can be

given by introducing the new script in our schools, new text-books being in that script and of teaching, at least in the infant year class, being accordingly. This is bound to influence the general public including the Press and the literary classes, which can also be addressed to support the change.

The question however is of selecting the appropriate script. The views of the University on the Special Committee appointed have not been received. Their views on individual proposals are not related to each other in order to enable Government to make their choice. It is suggested that in view of the urgency of finding a script which will increase the efficiency of education and reduce the large number of failures to acquire literacy in our schools, we may give the whole question a chance to be immediately examined and settled. Perhaps the best course would be to invite the existing Committee to examine the new proposals and their authors. The Committee also may be strengthened by addition of the Professors of Tamil at the Universities of the Madras and Annamalai.

28/1

H.M.(E.& L.)
H.M.(P.W.)

28/1

28.1

~~18/1~~.

p 1 C.F.

The special Committee was appointed by the previous H.M. in his individual capacity. If this Committee is to be asked by Government to examine further the question, it should be formally constituted by the Government themselves. The Committee consisted of four members. The Professor of Tamil of the Madras University is a member. It seems sufficient, if the Professor of Tamil of the Annamalai University is also appointed to the Committee. For orders.

2. The question also arises whether any travelling allowance should be allowed to the members of the Committee. The four existing members are resid~~ent~~ing in the Madras City. Travelling Allowance may become payable only to the Professor of Tamil of the Annamalai University for his attendance at the meetings.

3. Finance may see prior to circulation.

S.S.
31-1-50

BM
31/1/50 S

Fin

Have we any philologist in our service or outside it.

1/2

The information required by the Secy. is given in the letter on p 105 CF.

BM
4/2/50 S

As Prof of Tamil (Madras) is already a member, Dr K. Swaminathan may be appointed in the place proposed for the professor. (Annamalai Univ.)

Perhaps one or two more members, out of the list at page 105 cf may be added, as the committee so far is only of six and may not be very representative.

H.M. (E & L)

H.M. Edn may select. I would prefer Meenakshi Sundaram as one

4/2

H.M. (C.W)

6/2

I agree that Sri K. Swaminathan may be a member. And among the list at p 105, Dr M. Varadarajan and Sri T.P. Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai may be selected. 7.2

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
7 FEB 1950
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

It is presumed that the Government should constitute the Committee. It is also presumed that the non-official members will agree to serve on the Committee and that their specific consent need not be obtained. A draft Order is submitted for approval.

May be sent to Finance for acceptance.

8.2.50 8/2

BM
8/2/50 S

10/2 Fin

Edn. ~~E.H.~~ U.O.
71428 B2/49-8
10.2.50.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
11 FEB 1950
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Cn 9665

Finance (CSR)

The notes of E&PH Dept and the orders in circulation from xx on page 7 above may be perused. The draft order below may be accepted and the case returned to E&PH. H.M. (Fin) may please see the case before it goes.

13.2.50. 13.2.50

13/2/50

Fin Cn 9665 CSR.1
14.2.50
E&PH

E&PH
13.2

14 FEB 1950

The file may be circulated to H.M. (Edn).

BM
14/2/50 S

14/2

H.M. (Fin)

17.2

Od. 25
16.2.50

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
24 FEB 1950
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

(91) 13 Education dept
C

1689

Reform of Tamil Script.

G.O. No. 527 Edn. dated 20.2.1950. in which the Govt. appointed a committee to consider the question of the reform of Tamil script is placed below. The report of the committee first appointed by the former Hon'ble minister for Education to report on the same subject is on pages 1 to 7 of the G.O.

27/3/50

27/3/50

H.M. (E. & L.).

Mr. Chockalingam Editor of Dinasari wanted the old report in connection with the new Committee. Phone up to Mr Chockalingam & ask him what papers he wants & send them if there is no objection.

28/

SECRETARY
28 MAR 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

It ~~is~~ has been ascertained over the phone, that the Editor "Dinasari" wants information by twelve-o-clock to-morrow in regard to the replies, if any, received on the report of the Committee for the Reform of Tamil Script constituted by the former H.M. The views of the Madras and Annamalai universities on the Reform of Tamil Script initiated by the former H.M. have not been received. Sri Chockalingam may be asked to contact the Universities concerned and get their views for examination. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

161-8 06

28.3.50 28/3

28/3/50 S

28/3

92

15

1689

C.No. 7A 38/50

Education Dept (C)

Sub :- Reform of Tamil Script.
Ref :- Letter from Sri T. Rajaram,
Reporter, Indian Republic,
dated 7.4.50.

— x —

Cf.

Please see the letter from Sri. T. Rajaram, Reporter, Indian Republic addressed to the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works in the current file.

Cf.

In G.O. No., 527 Edn., dated 20-2-50, the Govt. have constituted a special committee to consider the question of Tamil Script. In the same G.O. the committee was asked to examine whether it is necessary to reform the Tamil script and if so, the lines on which the script should be revised. No report has so far been received from the Committee till now. The suggestion of Sri. T. Rajaram may be put up to the committee for consideration. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

p.p. 95-96 cf ob (Y)

para A on page 93 ob (Y)

28.4.50

28/4/50

28/4/50

28.4.50

p17 Cf

(From the Convener, the committed of Reform of Tamil Script letter d/ 16.8.50)

— x —

The convener of the committee appointed for the Reform of Tamil Script has submitted a report containing the recommendations of the committee in the matter of Reform of Tamil script. It is submitted that the Secretariat is not competent to examine whether the suggestions ~~is~~ are desirable or not. The question is, as noted on page 8 of the N

16

file to the G.O. at (Y) ~~is~~ one to be ~~decide~~ decided by experts in Tamil language and by persons & bodies interested in Tamil ~~language~~. learning. According to the office note then recorded it might not be desirable on the part of the Govt. to revise the script of a particular language and ~~that~~ it would be more proper to leave the matter to universities and other ~~experts~~ bodies in Tamil.

'M' on p 8 n/f. 46 (Y)

2. The Secretary, then in office, however expressed ~~the~~ a different view. According to him it was Govt. who should give a lead in the matter by introducing the new script in their schools & by ordering publication of text books in the new script.

'N' on pp 8-9 n/f 46 (Y)

3. The question now ~~under~~ for consideration is whether the new script suggested by the committee should be introduced in Govt. schools and ~~the~~ in schools under Local bodies straight away. If the new script is introduced in Govt. schools and in ~~the~~ schools under Local bodies, private agencies which receives grants from ~~provincial~~ State funds will also ~~have to~~ introduce the new script in their schools.

4. The question ~~should~~ also ~~be~~ ~~considered~~ arises whether the opinion of the D.P.I. should be obtained on the Reform of Tamil Script. He should also be consulted as to whether it will be possible for the department to introduce the new script forthwith and if so what preliminary arrangements are necessary to introduce the new script.

5. The file may be circulated to H.M. (E&L), H.M. (P.W.) & H.C.M. for orders

W.L. 23.8.50 28/8

This is a technical subject. The Universities alone can decide the need for reform. Copies of the Report may be forwarded to the Madras and Annamalai universities and they may be asked to examine the recommendations and forward definite proposals to Govt, if any reform is called for. For orders.

29.8.50

29/8/50

29.8.50

SECRETARY
31 AUG 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

HM (E&L) Yes. Also send to D.P.I as also to the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam.
HM (PW)
30.8 30/8
HCM
31/8.

Please see the orders in circulation above. Two draft letters & a draft memo are submitted below for approval.

W.L. 8.9.50 8/9

9/9/50

11/9

17

3

93

18

94

19

Edn(L)

Education - Reform of Tamil script -

pp 1-5 CF From Sri M. Ponnambalam letters dated 7-12-50 and 14-12-50.

Please see the letters ~~from~~ of Sri M. Ponnambalam regarding the reform of Tamil script and H.M's minute thereon. In G.O. No. 527 Edn dated 20-2-1950, the Govt. constituted a special Committee to examine the question of reforming Tamil script with Sri T.S. Chockalingam, Editor, Dinamani and others. The report of the Committee is ~~still awaited~~ on pp 109-120 CF of the G.O. ~~The report has been referred to the Registrar, Madras University, Registrar, Annamalai university and the D.P.I for obtaining the opinions of experts and making definite proposals to the Govt.~~ ~~It is for orders whether the letter of Sri Ponnambalam may be sent to the D.P.I for further necessary action~~ ~~HM (E&L) may see.~~

D/pp 95-96 CF

D/pp 121-122 CF

19/12/50.

pp 121-122 of Ⓓ

Copies of the report have been sent to the Registrars of the Madras and Annamalai Universities, and Secy, Tamil Academy*, ~~Chepauk~~, University Buildings, Chepauk ~~and to the D.P.I.~~ with the request ~~to forward~~ that definite proposals for reform may be forwarded to Govt, if any reform is called for. It has recently been reported to Govt that the question is under the consideration of the Universities. Sri Ponnambalam may get into touch with the universities. A draft letter ~~to Sri Ponnambalam~~ is subd.

* same as Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam

pp 123-125 & 138 of Ⓓ

19/12/50.

21/12/50