



TAMIL DEVELOPMENT—CULTURE AND RELIGIOUS
ENDOWMENTS DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE
ON
TAMIL DEVELOPMENT-CULTURE

1999 - 2000

DEMAND No. 51

©
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
1999

TAMIL DEVELOPMENT - CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Language is an instrument through which people express their feelings, thoughts and ideas. It is intermingled with the life style and development of human society. In day to day activities of the society, language is used as a device for exchange of information. Language is not only an instrument for exchange of ideas but also a cultural window-mirror of civilization of the society/race using such language. Language and civilization are interrelated with one another. The glory of a State is dependent on the fertility of the language of that State. When the language is fertile, the people who speak that language would be well cultured and civilized. Development of language and growth of culture form the foundation for the progress of the country in other fields.

The growth of a language is assessed on the basis of the usage of that language. The usage and importance of the language is known by the extent to which that language is in usage and the extent to which the society depends on that language for their day to day activities. From this the development attained by that language is revealed. Patronage of Government, people and scholars are necessary for the growth of the language. In this context, this Government is emphasising the need for upholding its function in all its activities as 'Tamil everywhere and Tamil in everything.'

Official language scheme was given statutory effect in 1956 and implemented in 1957. In the year 1984, the Department of Tamil Development-Culture was established as an exclusive wing of the Secretariat to co-ordinate and monitor the activities of various organisations and institutions which strive for the extensive usage of Tamil in their day to day functioning and in upholding our cultural heritage by preserving, propagating and nurturing our language, art and literature. The institutions and organisations under the control of this department are in three broad based categories viz.. a) those meant for the development of Tamil. b) for preservation, exposition and study of our ancient heritage and c) for encouraging and promoting arts, crafts and culture.

(A) DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE

- I. Directorate of Tamil Development
- II. Directorate of Translations
- III. Directorate of Tamil Etymological Dictionary Project
- IV. International Institute of Tamil Studies
- V. Tamil University, Thanjavur

(B) PRESERVATION AND STUDY OF TRADITIONAL HERITAGE

- VI. Directorate of Archaeology
- VII. Government Oriental Manuscript Library
- VIII. Government Museums

(C) PROMOTION OF PLASTIC AND PERFORMING ARTS AND CULTURE

- IX. Directorate of Art and Culture
 1. Regional Cultural Centres
 2. Government Music Colleges and Music Schools
 3. Government College of Arts and Crafts
 4. Government College of Architecture and Sculpture
 5. Jawahar Siruvar Mandram
 6. Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu
 7. Eyal Isai Nataka Manram

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1999-2000

| HEAD OF ACCOUNT (1) | PLAN (2) | NON-PLAN (3) | TOTAL (4) |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Rupees in Lakhs) | | | |
| 2059 PUBLIC WORKS | | | |
| 01 Office Buildings | | | |
| 051 Construction | .. | 0.30 | 0.30 |
| 053 Maintenance and Repairs | .. | 30.43 | 30.43 |
| 2202 GENERAL EDUCATION | | | |
| 03 University and Higher Education | | | |
| 102 Assistance to Universities | 10.00 | 373.91 | 383.91 |
| 05 LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT | | | |
| 001 Direction and Administration | | | |
| 102 Promotion of Modern Indian Languages and Literature | 10.03 | 48.50 | 58.53 |
| 800 Other Expenditure | 135.00 | 754.37 | 889.37 |
| 2205 00 ART AND CULTURE | | | |
| 001 Direction and Administration | | | |
| 101 Fine Arts Education | 24.94 | 16.45 | 41.39 |
| 102 Promotion of Arts and Culture | 184.76 | 226.05 | 410.81 |
| 103 Archaeology | 131.04 | 276.08 | 407.12 |
| 105 Public Libraries (Govt., O.M.L.) | 46.30 | 250.33 | 296.63 |
| 107 Museums | 5.61 | 26.29 | 31.90 |
| 800 Other Expenditure | 46.45 | 247.45 | 293.90 |
| 2235 SOCIAL, SECURITY AND WELFARE | | | |
| 60 Other social security and welfare programmes | | | |
| 200 Other Schemes | 0.01 | .. | 0.01 |
| DEMAND NO. 51 Total | | | |
| | 624.44 | 2,425.47 | 3,049.91 |

I. DIRECTORATE OF TAMIL DEVELOPMENT

The Directorate of Tamil Development was established in the year 1971. The prime objective of this department is to promote, expand and improve the usage of Tamil as the official language in Government administration and general popular application. Attending to the enrichment of Tamil in arts and literature, is also included in its functions.

IMPLEMENTATION OF TAMIL AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

2. The progress made in the implementation of official language scheme in Secretariat is monitored by Secretary, Tamil Development-Culture and Religious Endowments Department and the offices of the Heads of Departments, Collector's offices and undertakings of the Government by the Director of Tamil Development and the regional / district level offices by the Regional Deputy Directors and subordinate offices in the districts by the Assistant Directors.

SEMINAR ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

3. To ensure effective implementation of the official language scheme, seminars have been conducted in the districts, since 1984. During the year 1998-99 seminars on official language scheme were conducted in 3 districts. A sum of Rs.0.40 lakhs will be provided for conducting seminars in 8 districts during 1999-2000.

AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY DRAFTING AND NOTING

4. With a view to encourage the implementation of the Official language scheme, prizes are awarded for exemplary Tamil drafting and noting. Under this scheme, one office among the Heads of the Department, one Collectorate and one Autonomous body are selected every year. The

selected offices are awarded with a shield and a certificate of merit every year. A sum of Rs.0.55 lakhs was provided in the Budget Estimate for 1998-99 and a sum of Rs.1.03 lakhs will be provided for the year 1999-2000.

PRIZE SCHEME FOR OUTSTANDING TAMIL BOOKS

5. Books falling under 15 different categories qualify for the award of prizes by the Government every year under this scheme. The first prize carries a cash award of Rs.10,000/-, the Second prize of Rs.5,000/- and the third prize of Rs.2,000/-. Publishers of award winning books are also commended with certificates of merit. The prizes for the 45 best books published during 1997 were awarded at the Thiruvalluvar Day Celebrations held in January '99. In this regard a sum of Rs.2.70 lakhs was provided in the Budget Estimate 1998-99 and a sum of Rs.2.70 lakhs is to be provided for the year 1999-2000.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE BEST BOOKS

6. Financial assistance is made available to deserving authors to help them publish books of recognised value. Applications are scrutinised by a Committee of experts and manuscripts are chosen for assistance. A maximum of Rs.8,000/- or 50% of the estimated cost of publication whichever is less is sanctioned in two instalments as assistance under this scheme. A sum of Rs.2.25 lakhs was provided in the budget for the year 1998-99. For the year 1999-2000 a sum of Rs.2.25 lakhs is to be provided.

SCHEME FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF RARE BOOKS

7. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.20,000/- or 60% of the estimated cost of publication, whichever is less is sanctioned in two instalments as financial assistance. A sum of Rs.1.10 lakhs was provided during 1998-99. A sum of Rs.1.10 lakhs is to be provided for the year 1999-2000.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE BEST TRANSLATIONS

8. This scheme envisages the translation of the best books in Tamil Literature into other languages and vice versa. Under this scheme a sum of Rs.25.000/- or 60% of the estimated cost of publications whichever is less is sanctioned as financial assistance in two instalments. A sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs is to be provided for the year 1999-2000.

CONDUCTING DISTRICT AND STATE LEVEL COMPETITION IN TAMIL

9. This scheme has been instituted in the year 1996-97. The aim of this scheme is to improve the proficiency of students in Tamil language. In order to stimulate the Study of Tamil language, to step up the implementations of official language scheme and to stress the importance of scientific Tamil, it has been decided to conduct competitions among schools and college students at State and District levels through the Directorate of Tamil Development. A sum of Rs.2 lakhs has been provided and this amount has been deposited in the Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Ltd. The interest accrued on the above deposit is to be utilised for awarding prizes in the essay and eloquence competitions to be conducted.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AGED TAMIL SCHOLARS

10. Under this scheme, the aged Tamil Scholars are given financial assistance. Persons above 58 years of age and whose monthly income does not exceed Rs.400/- are eligible for getting financial assistance. Tamil scholars selected for the financial assistance are sanctioned Rs.500/- p.m. So far 459 Tamil scholars have been benefitted under this scheme. A sum of Rs.27.12 lakhs was provided during 1998-99 and an equal amount will be provided for 1999-2000.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TAMIL STALWARTS

11. A sum of Rs.3,000/- p.m and medical allowance of Rs.15/- p.m. is given as financial assistance to the persons who have rendered meritorious service for the preservation and promotion of Tamil language

and culture. After demise of the pensioner, a sum of Rs.1,500/- p.m and medical allowance of Rs.15/- p.m. is given as financial assistance to the legal heirs of the pensioner. Besides free bus pass is also issued.

12. Under this scheme, so far financial assistance has been given to 2481 persons in all comprising 426 legal heirs and 2055 pensioners. A sum of Rs.726.65 lakhs has been provided during 1998-99, and a sum of Rs.726.65 lakhs will be provided for the year 1999-2000. Language ~~Border~~ **protognists** have applied for financial assistance under this scheme. The applications are examined district-wise.

WRITING UP THE AUTHENTIC HISTORY OF TAMIL NADU

13. It has been decided to publish an authentic history of Tamil Nadu in 7 volumes. Three Volumes and the first part of volume IV have already been published. They deal with the pre historic period, Sangam period part-I (Political), Sangam period part-II(Social), Pallava - Pandiya period part I and Pallava - Pandiya period part-II and the period of Chola Monarch, Part I and Part II. Later period of Pandiya-Vijayanagar Empire, Peruvendhu Amaya Kalam and the British period and the post independence period (two parts) are the three volumes proposed to be published in future. The Government have reconstituted the expert committee appointed for the purpose. Two Editors have been appointed on consolidated pay. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has released the part II of Chola Empire (volume IV) on 24.12.98. Action is being taken to provide Rs.5.00 lakhs to meet the expenditure connected with this scheme.

FUNCTIONS AND AWARDS

THIRUVALLUVAR AWARD

14. Thiruvalluvar Award is given to a person who is engaged in the propagation of the ideals of Thiruvalluvar. The Government have enhanced the award amount from Rs.20,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- from the year 1999. A gold medal (8 grms) is also awarded. The award for 1999 was awarded by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, to Dr. V.C. Kulanthaisamy on the Thiruvalluvar Day Celebrations held on 16.1.99.

PAVENTHAR BHARATHIDASAN AWARD

15. Every year, a reputed Tamil poet is honoured in memory of late Pavendar Bharathidasan on his birth anniversary. The award which carried a cash prize of Rs.20,000/- has been enhanced to Rs.1,00,000/- from 1998 and a Gold Medal (8 grms) is also awarded to the receiptient from 1998 onwards. The award for 1998 was awarded by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to Malaysia Murasu Nedumaran on 24.12.98.

THIRU. VI. KA. AWARD

16. An award to commemorate the name of great Tamil Savant, Tamil Thendral Thiru.Vi.Ka. is given every year to the best Literary writer since 1979. The cash prize has been enhanced from Rs.20, 000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- and a Gold Medal weighing 8 Grams is also given to the award receiptient from 1998 onwards. The award for 1998 was awarded by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to Thiru Pulavar Maruthavanan on 24.12.98

BHARATHIYAR AWARD

17. This award has been instituted during the year 1997. The cash prize has been enhanced from Rs.20,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- and a gold medal of 8 grams to the award receiptient from 1998 onwards. This award is being given to a person who dedicates his life-time for propagation of Bharathiyars ideals. The award for 1998 was awarded by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to Thiru Kumari Anandan on 24.12.98.

TAMIL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

18. The Government have reconstituted the Tamil Development Council with the Hon'ble Chief Minister as Chairman, to function as a High level Advisory Body to advise the Government on the matters pertaining to Tamil Development. This Council gives its recommendation to Government for the Development of Tamil. Based on its recommendations the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced that besides Tamil language the subjects in Arts and Maths should be taught in Tamil in Kindergarten and classes upto VIII std.

PREPARATION OF TAMIL ENCYCLOPAEDIA

19. This scheme has been instituted under part II scheme during 1997-98 for the publications of encyclopaedia in Tamil. A sum of Rs.10 lakhs has been provided initially during 1997-98. It has been proposed to reprint the Children's Encyclopaedia published by the Tamil Academy. Hence a sum of Rs.10 lakhs has been sanctioned to International Institute of Tamil Studies. The childrens' encyclopaedia was released on 24.12.98 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. A sum of Rs.10 lakhs has been provided during 1998-99. Action will be taken as per the decisions of the Administrative Council.

PREPARATION OF KEY BOOKS IN TAMIL FOR THOSE WHO WRITE THE I. A. S. EXAMINATIONS IN TAMIL

20. Action has been taken to publish the key books in Tamil for the benefit of those who write the I.A.S. examinations in Tamil. Four committees have been constituted to prepare the key books in the subjects 1) Tamil language 2) History of literature 3) History and 4) Geology. Action is being taken in this regard, by the Directorate of Tamil Development to publish these books.

TAMIL SHORT HAND BOOK

21. Five thousand copies of Tamil Short-Hand books were printed as fourth edition. This book was released on 24.12.98 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The books are being sold by Directorate of Tamil Development and the price of a book is Rs.32/-

NATIONALISATION OF BOOKS

22. All the literary works and books, of Bharathiyar, Perarignar Anna, Pattukkottai Kalyanasundarm, Bharathidasan, Deveneyappavanar, Maramalai Adigalar and the Book 'Viduthalaipporil Thamizhagam' by Silambu Selvar Ma.Po. Sivagnanam have been nationalised and the compensation amount have been disbursed to the legal heirs. During the year 1998 all books of Thiru Vi.Kalyanasundaranar, Thiru Kalki. Krishnamurthy, have been nationalised and a sum of Rs.20 lakhs each has been sanctioned to the legal heirs of both scholars. In connection with

the Golden year celebration of National Independence, the books of the following 13 National Tamil Authors have been nationalised and a sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs has been sanctioned to the legal heirs of the each family.

1. 'Kavimani' Desika Vinayagam Pillai, 2. Thiru P. Jeevanandam. 3. Namakkal Kavignar V. Ramalingam, 4. Thiru V.O. Chidambaranar, 5. Thiru Suddhanantha Bharathi, 6. Thiru A.S.K. Ayyankar, 7. 'Kavi' Ka. Mu. Sheriff, 8. Thiru V. Ramaswamy, 9. Navalar Somasundara Bharathiyar, 10. Parali S. Nellaippar, 11. Thiru Va.Ve. Su. Iyer, 12. Karaikkudi S. Ganesan and 13. Thiru S.D.S Yogi.

INSTITUTION OF TAMIL CHAIR IN THE UNIVERSITIES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

23. The Government has issued orders for Institution of a Tamil Chair in the University of a Foreign Country. It was also ordered that a sum of Rs.50.00 lakhs as an Endowment Grant shall be provided and that a matching grant be provided by the respective University for institution of Tamil Chair. Accordingly, ten foreign Universities were apprised of this. The University of London and the University of Malaya have accepted this scheme in principle.

SCHEME OF FINANCIAL AID / GRANT FOR PROPAGATION AND TO PROMOTE TAMIL

24. This scheme is in operation since 1966. The object of the scheme is propagating and promoting Tamil. This scheme is being executed by the following three ways.

i. GRANT / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INSTITUTE TAMIL CHAIRS / TO CONDUCT TAMIL DIPLOMA COURSES IN THE UNIVERSITIES OF OTHER STATES AND FINANCIAL AID / GRANT TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

25. In order to pave the way to learn Tamil by Tamils in other States and to encourage the other Tamil learners, financial assistance/ grant is being provided for the institution of Tamil Chairs and for the conduct of Tamil Diploma Courses in the Universities of other States.

This kind of financial aid was sanctioned to numerous universities of Northern States. But, financial aid is being received now by the universities/institutions which are implementing the scheme at present. As such, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi and the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore are the recipient Institutions. On the Basis of the requests received from the Universities/Institutions/Tamil Sangams, the financial assistance is proposed to be given. During 1999 - 2000, Rs. 10 lakhs sanctioned creating Tamil Chair in Orissa.

ii. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TAMIL SANGAMS

26. Financial Assistance is being provided for Tamil Associations/Sangams in Tamil Nadu, Other States and Foreign countries according to their requirements and demands such as construction of new buildings, renovation of buildings and maintenance of school, etc., Delhi Tamil Sangam, Madurai Tamil Sangam, Mumbai Tamil Sangam are the recent recipients of financial assistance. Further an annual grant of Rs. 15,000/- is sanctioned to the Kamarajar High School, run by Bangalore Tamil Sangam.

iii. GRANT TO THE INSTITUTIONS WHICH INVOLVE IN TAMIL RESEARCH SCHEMES

27. Grant is being provided to the institutions which involve in the Tamil research work, Tamil Studies, Tamil Culture and Tamil Development. The popular institutions which receive the annual grant of this kind are Institute of Asian Studies, Chemmancheri, Chennai, The Southern Languages Book Trust, Chennai and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Thiruvananthapuram.

TAMIL CENTRES IN OTHER STATES

28. This scheme was instituted in the year 1998-99 for setting up Tamil centres in West Bengal and Maharashtra States. A sum of Rs. 12.00 lakhs has been provided during 1998-99. The Tamil Sangam in Mumbai and Calcutta have been requested to procure suitable office accommodation. On securing a space, Tamil Centres will be registered under the Co-operative Societies Act in those places.

GRANT FOR PREPARATION OF DICTIONARIES AND LEXICON

29. A sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs was provided as recurring expenditure during 1998-99 for the purpose. Action is being taken in this regard to reprint the 'Sorpirappu Oppiyal Tamil Akarathi' written by Gnanaprakasa Swamigal and published in 1938.

GRANT FOR PREPARATION OF MEDICAL ENCYCLOPAEDIA

30. The scheme was sanctioned during 1998-99 with the main objective of bring^{ing} out a medical encyclopaedia in Tamil at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakhs. A sum of Rs.2.00 lakhs was provided as recurring expenditure during 1998-99 as a first phase. Action is being taken to publish the medical encyclopaedia Volume V.

PROVISION OF INTERNET AND COMPUTERS IN THE DIRECTORATE

31. This scheme has been approved at a cost of Rs.4.00 lakhs during 1998-99 and a computer has also been purchased.

II. DIRECTORATE OF TRANSLATION

In order to implement the paramount aim of the Government that it should function in a transparent manner and in the language of the people, the Department of Translation renders its assistance. The Department of Translation renders assistance to carry on administration in Secretariat in Tamil. All the essential files in English are being translated into Tamil.

2. Notifications, Reports of the Public Accounts Committee and Public Undertaking Committee, Notes for circulation, State Administration reports, Police Citations, Departmental Notes, Orders, Announcements, Policy Notes, Rules, Sub-rules, Regulations, Confidential files of Public Department, Enquiry Commission Reports, Election Commission Reports, Finance Commission Reports, COFEPOSA files, Government Orders and various other files are translated by this Department.

3. Each year, one section of the Directorate is being deputed to the Finance Department to translate the Budget Estimates and Supplementary Demands, etc.

III. DIRECTORATE OF TAMIL ETYMOLOGICAL DICTIONARY PROJECT.

Compilation and publication of comprehensive Etymological Dictionary in Tamil occupies a significant place in the development of the Tamil Language. With a view to bring out the same in multi-volumes, the Directorate of Tamil Etymological Dictionary Project was created by the Government in the year 1974. The unique feature of this bilingual dictionary is that, apart from being a general purpose dictionary, each entry in the book explains the origin and derivation of words as also their grammatical disposition, besides giving extensive quotations which is immensely useful especially to the Research scholars in Tamilology and Dravidian studies. In addition to quotations from various sources such as Archaeology, numismatics, Epigraphy and Literature, this dictionary is embellished with copious figurative illustrations for rare entries.

2. Under this project, the first part commencing with the letter 'அ', the second part commencing with the letters from 'ஆ' to 'ஈ' and the third part commencing with the letters from 'உ' to 'ஔ' of the vowel series have so far been brought out which have received wide acclamation of the Linguists and the Researchers. Following this, it is proposed to publish the remaining volumes commencing with the letters 'க', 'ச', 'ஞ', 'த', 'ந', 'ப', 'ம', 'ய', 'வ', in the consonant series. Of these, the first part under 'க', is now ready for printing. Two more parts comprising of words commencing with the letters from 'கா', to 'கூ' and 'கெ', to 'கௌ' will be published during the year 1999-2000. The work relating to compilation and codification of the other parts are also in progress.

3. Necessary steps have been taken to expedite the work of publication of the remaining volumes with the help of the Computer Systems, Laser Printer and Photo copier, now available in the department.

IV. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TAMIL STUDIES

The International Institute of Tamil Studies was established in 1970 by the Government of Tamil Nadu to undertake research at a higher

level in Tamilology. The Government of Tamil Nadu meets the financial expenditure of this Institute. There are four departments in this Institute. They are Faculty of Literature, Faculty of Overseas Tamils, Faculty of Sociology, Art and Culture and Faculty of Tamil Language and Linguistics. The Institute is engaged in doing project works related to Tamilology. Publication of books, conducting Tamil Language, Manuscriptology and Translation Courses, conducting Seminars and workshops and publishing Journal.

PROJECT WORKS

2. The academic staff (14 persons) of this Institute are engaged in various research activities. They relate to Tamil Literature, Tamil Language Teaching, Linguistics, History, Sociology, Culture, Folklore, Translation, etc. Short term as well as Long term projects are undertaken by the Staff Members. Also the Visiting Professors Dr. S.N. Kandasamy, Dr. K. Sivathamby (Sri Lanka), Dr. Joanna Kusiyo (Poland) are working on different project works related to Tamilology.

3. The Documentation on Tamilology Project compiles Books, Articles, Research works, etc., related to Tamilology with a short descriptive notes about them and they will be stored in the computer. Later this will be fed to Internet so that people all over the world can know about Tamilology. The International Institute of Tamil Studies can become an "Information Centre for Tamilology" through this project work.

PUBLICATIONS

4. The Institute has published 320 books till now. These are the research projects of the Academic staff of this Institute, various Endowments Lectures, Edition of Palm-leaf manuscripts and books written by other scholars. Dr. K. Meenakshi has translated Panini's "Ashtadhyayi" into Tamil. The Central Institute of Indian Languages (Mysore) financed to publish this translation. It has three parts.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

5. Seminars of various kinds like Friday Seminars, Monthly Seminars, Annual Seminars etc., are being conducted. Further, Department Seminars and Workshops are also conducted. Papers are presented in the seminars by Academic Staff of the Institute. Research Scholars and other Tamil Scholars - Seminars and workshops are being conducted by the Institute itself with the financial assistance of other institutions. The

International Institute of Tamil Studies has conducted a seminar in collaboration with the National School of Drama, New Delhi with the financial assistance of South Zone Cultural Centre on "Tamil Drama Yesterday and Today"

6. A National Seminar on "Tamil Documentaion" was also held Seminar cum workshop as 'Linguistic Approaches to Literary Studies' was held in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore Seminar on 'Drama Festival and the History of Tamil Stage Drama' was held with the financial assistance of the Culture Department, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi, Seminar on 'Translation' was held with the financial assistance of University Grants Commission.

ENDOWMENT LECTURE

7. Twenty endowments are there in the Institute. They are distributed among the Academic Staff and the Endowment Lectures are arranged by them.

LIBRARY

8. There are 47,083 books in the Library. Plans are a foot to maintain the library well and to increase its space to facilitate the better use of it by the visitors. Works are being undertaken to catalogue the books through computer. The DELNET Delhi has financed to catalogue the books through computer which will be fed to internet. The cost of the project is Rs.37 lakhs. The International Institute of Tamil Studies in South India and the Patiala University in North India are the two privileged Institutions which had been selected to undertake the project works.

V. TAMIL UNIVERSITY, THANJAVUR

The Tamil University, Thanjavur a Higher Level Unitary Research Institution has been striving since its inception in 1981 for academic excellence. The main aims are to undertake advanced research in the domains of Tamil Language, Literature, Grammar, Philosophy, Culture, Tamil Land and Tamil Society. Also this University aims at developing Tamil language as an effective vehicle for modern science and technology and for achieving this aim, it has undertaken various projects through its 5 faculties and 23 departments, Some of the projects which were undertaken since its inception are still continued while some new projects have been initiated on the basis of the felt need.

2. The Tamil University has formulated certain proposals for the development of the university during the Ninth Five Year Plan. Accordingly the activities of the university during the year 1999-2000 form part and parcel of the Ninth Five Year Plan Period. As regards the projects that are continued from the beginning, the following are worth mentioning. 16 volumes of the encyclopaedia have been completed and the remaining 4 volumes are being edited. During 1998-99 books have been published in Tamil on Engineering, Medicine etc., Many volumes of Technical glossary have been completed.

3. The Tamil University has been conducting refresher courses to the university and college teachers during the past and similar programmes will be conducted in the new and emerging areas where the teachers need the exposure. The Tamil university had also been conducting training programme for the IAS, IPS and IFS trainee who belong to other States. The Government of Tamil Nadu had been continuously deputing these officers for language training. This programme is also being continued for the future. The Tamil university had been continuing International and National seminars in collaboration with the international and national organisation. Since these seminars provide for interaction of scholars of national and international repute, such seminars are also continued during the year 1999-2000. The Tamil University has been offering M.Phil., and Ph.D., programme in specialised areas which are not offered in other universities. Nearly 150 M.Phil., and Ph.D., students are recruited every year. To start with, Diploma and certificate courses have been started in 5 Faculties and admission of students has commenced since January 1999. Scholarships are disbursed to students from the interest received from the Endowments created by the Tamil Nadu Government in the name of Bharathiyar and A.T. Panner Selvam.

4. The Tamil University was having extension centres at Kancheepuram, Mandapam, Chennai and Udagamandalam during its formative years. Due to administrative problem these centres had been brought to Thanjavur for effective supervision. However, now it is thought that the extension centres can grow only when they are situated in the places where they were originally started. As a first step, it has been proposed to shift the school of Philosophy to Kancheepuram which is a place of religious and cultural activities. Similarly, the Centre for underwater Archaeology of Tamil University is proposed to be shifted to the Mandapam Camp in its own lands and buildings which would enable the centre to grow as centre of excellence.

5. The university has proposed the establishment of a centre for language planning to fulfill the need of the society in the use of language as well as to aid the policies of the nation. This centre would be undertaking various types of Lexicographical studies, Translation studies, Encyclopedia studies and in view of the preparation of glossaries of technical terms and publication of text books.

6. Translation is an important area for the development of the language. The Tamil University has felt the need for translation and brought out many publications in the past in the field of English and Tamil literature. A workshop on translation was conducted in which many scholars had participated and the university has planned for the translation of all the Didactic works in Tamil into English. These works will be published during the year 1999-2000.

7. The Tamil University is a pioneer university among the language universities in South India, to enrich and develop the respective languages. A uniform approach for the language development was considered necessary and a forum of Language universities was created among these universities and the interaction between these universities would help exchange of scholars and literary materials among themselves. It is proposed to undertake more inter-university programmes in the language research development.

RESEARCH CENTRES

8. New Research Projects such as Tolkappiyar's Paviyal Study, A sociolinguistic profile of Tamil Nadu, reference grammar of Tamil, Beach placer Minerals, etc., have been undertaken. The Department of Ocean Development has chosen the Departments of Earth Sciences for setting up a Research Cell for Beach Placer Minerals during 9th Five Year Plan.

9. The Tamil University is well aware about the dawn of the 21st century and it is preparing itself to meet the requirement of the technical advancement. The library of the Tamil University is already equipped with the computer information service and INFLIBNET facility. During the year 1999-2000 it is proposed to provide INTERNET facility so as to provide access to the entire world universities. Similarly the departments are also being provided with computer facilities for modernisation of their research activities.

10. The UGC has approved three academic centres and 2 posts of lecturers in each centre and sanctioned Rs. 150 lakhs viz., Centre for Per-

forming Arts, Centre for Language Planning and Centre for Historical Studies during the 9th Plan period. A proposal will be sent to UGC for the establishment of special cell for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.

11. With a view to generate funds to the univeristy and help the students of Thanjavur, Trichy and Nagapattinam Districts who aspire for IAS, IPS and IFS entrance examinations the Tamil University is going to organise and conduct Tamil coaching classes from 1999 Onwards.

VI. DIRECTORATE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

The Department of Archaeology has been functioning in Tamil Nadu from 1961 onwards with the objectives of copying all the inscriptions available in TamilNadu and printing them in book form, conducting excavation at historical sites, setting up site museums, registering the art objects and antiquities of 100 years old, preserving ancient monuments and historical sites and collecting, preserving and publishing palm-leaf manuscripts by the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS

2. In Tamil Nadu 82 historical sites have been identified for archaeological conservation. Among them special mention may be made of the following 1. Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal, Madurai, 2. Heritage Buildings in the palace complex, Thanjavur, 3. Manora at Sarabendra Rajapattinam. 4. Ramalinga Vilasam at Ramanathapuram, 5. The Danish Fort, Tharangambadi.

3. The repair works that need urgent attention in Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal have been carried on under first phase and are being continued. So far the repair works were completed to the tune of Rs.52 lakhs out of the sanctioned amount of Rs.76.30 lakhs. Conservation works to Ramalinga Vilasam at Ramanathapuram and restoration of paintings drawn on the walls and ceiling of it have been started at an estimated cost of Rs.15 lakhs. Restoration of wall paintings of this palace has been taken up in a phased manner.

EPIGRAPHICAL SURVEY

4. During 1998, 63 inscriptions were copied. Epigraphical survey has been conducted in four villages. One year Post Graduate Diploma Course and Three Weeks summer course in Epigraphy and Archaeology

for teachers are conducted every year. Tamil Nadu is the only State having half of the inscriptions totally found in India. It is believed that more or less 70,000 inscriptions are available in Tamil Nadu. Among them, 50,000 inscriptions were copied by Central and State Departments. Out of 50,000 inscriptions, only twenty thousand inscriptions were printed and published. To copy the remaining inscriptions expeditiously one lakh rupee was sanctioned in first phase. During 1999-2000 Rs. 3 lakhs is sanctioned for conducting Archeological Seminar.

COMPILATION OF EPIGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

5. A dictionary dealing with the special terminology found in epigraphical texts is being compiled by this department. The words beginning with 'அ' found in the inscription were collected and the suitable meanings for them, both in Tamil and English were prepared. A High Level Committee is constituted for the above purpose.

ONSHORE EXCAVATION

6. On shore excavations are being conducted every year. So far excavations have been carried out at 22 historical sites. Valubale artefacts were unearthed. During 1999-2000 it is proposed to conduct excavations at Theriruvelli at Ramnathapuram District and Mahgaimeedu in Cuddalore District by this department.

OFFSHORE EXPLORATIONS

7. The offshore explorations of Pumpuhar had been carried out in four phases in association with the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa. In this connection, a sum of Rs.56.74 lakhs had been spent so far out of the earmarked Rs.2.2 Crores. Five structures of the glorious city of Pumpuhar assignable to 6th-5th Century B.C and a ship wreck of 18th Century A.D. have been located.

COLLECTION OF PALMLEAF MANUSCRIPTS AND ARTEFACTS

8. Rare sculptures, palmleaf manuscripts, coins and other artefacts are being collected by the Archaeological Officers of this department at the district level. Necessary steps have been taken to preserve them at the respective site Museums after giving requisite chemical treatment.

SITE MUSEUMS

9. Site Museums have been established in order to display the artefacts unearthed from excavations near the excavated sites to create an awareness among the local people about their cultural heritage. Educational lectures are being arranged at the Site Museums by inviting eminent scholars who are versatile in Tamil Literature, History and Archaeology. A few special exhibitions had also been conducted on different subjects at these site museums. A museum on Tamil Culture has to be set up at Thanjavur. Improvement to Thirumalai Naicker Mahal Museum have been taken up. Action is being taken to construct own buildings for two site museums.

REGISTRATION OF ANTIQUITIES

10. 1078 applications have been received in respect of art objects that are more than 100 years, for registration during the year 1998. Of these, 436 objects have been registered and certificates issued. Totally, applications for 47,266 objects have been received for registration, of which 34,239 have been registered and certificates were issued so far. In addition to their normal duties, the Registering officers are attending courts for giving evidence in cases relating to idol thefts. They also make frequent visits to temples to verify the registered objects.

VII. GOVERNMENT ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY

The Oriental Manuscripts Library functioning at the Madras University Complex is one of the best manuscripts libraries in the whole world. It has more than 70,000 titles of manuscripts written in various languages such as Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Urdu, etc. An air conditioned unit has been set up at a cost of Rs.13.32 lakhs to preserve the manuscripts. So far 419 manuscripts have been brought out in book form. It has been decided to publish 6 more manuscripts during this year, for that Rs.4 lakhs has been sanctioned. A Micro Film Unit is to be purchased copying all manuscripts.

VIII. GOVERNMENT MUSEUMS

The Government Museums, Chennai is the oldest and the largest among all the State Museums in the country. The museum is renowned for its rich and rare collections. It has been preserving the objects and

artefacts relating to multifarious fields like art, archaeology, anthropology, natural science, geology, children items, etc. It is a powerful centre for the conservation of our national heritage. It is well known to the world for nearly one and half century for its rich and valuable collection and maintains to attract large number of visitors from other States of India and foreign countries. It is growing with regular additions to its collections. It is also involved in activities oriented to safeguard the things and materials related to the greatness of our heritage and culture.

2. In pursuance of the policy of the Government to establish museums in every district of the State, seventeen district museums have been progressively established at Pudukkottai, Salem, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Cuddalore, Erode, Uthagamandalam, Coimbatore, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Krishnagiri, Sivagangai, Tiruvarur, Palani, Nagapattinam and Kancheepuram.

3. Chennai Government Museum is famous for its collection of stone sculptures. Nearly 450 sculptures are on display in the gallery. At present huge collection of stone sculpture are kept in the storage room. They are presently kept on the ground and it is proposed to improve the bronze storage room at a cost of Rs.5 lakhs. For purchase of new books for various sections in the Government Museum, Chennai and for the district museums a sum of Rs.1.50 lakhs is provided. For reprinting of Museum publications that are out of stock and printing of new books a sum of Rs.5 lakhs has been provided.

4. Government Museum, Chennai functions as an educational, cultural, recreational and research institution. Through its collection, status and research it is becoming an international organisation. At this stage, in order to collect information from other institutions both at home and abroad and make it easy to exchange technical know-how with other museums and research institutions world-wide, provision of Fax, E-mail, Internet facilities are essential. For this purpose Rs.2.50 lakhs is provided.

5. The Museum Theatre is the best air-conditioned Theatre in the whole of Asia enjoying all acoustic properties. To undertake the repairs to bring the theatre to its pristine beauty, a sum of Rs.5 lakhs is allotted.

IX. DIRECTORATE OF ART AND CULTURE

Tamil attained the foremost and highest glories, not only due to its richness in literature and ancient origin but also due to its special

features in the field of Art and Culture. In order to preserve and promote art and culture, various Arts related institutions functioning under different departments were brought in 1991, under a single umbrella, called "the department of Art and Culture". Six Regional cultural centres, four music colleges, ten Music Schools, two Arts and Crafts Colleges, one Architecture and Sculpture College, 18 Jawahar Siruvar Mandrams including Chennai, 2 Rural Siruvar Mandrams, Tamilnadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu and Tamilnadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram are functioning under the control of this department.

REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTRES

2. In order to expand the cultural activities of this Department, four regional cultural centres were started in 1997-98 and two more regional cultural centres were created in 98-99. They are not only acting as subordinate offices but also functioning as Centres of Coordination between Siruvar Mandram, Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu and Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram. Art camps, Arts training, "VIDUTHALAI PONVIZHA" "PORSUDAR OTTAM", Music festivals, Art exhibitions are also conducted by these Regional Cultural Centres. It is also programmed to conduct vizhas relevant to the districts like Kurinji Vizha, Mullai Vizha, Neythal Vizha, Paalai vizha, Marutha Vizha, Inthinai Kalai Vizha, Nallinakka Vizha, Music festivals, Manitha Neya Vizha, Panorma of Art and Culture, Muthamizh Vizha, Nattupura Kalai Vizha, Sirkali Moovar Thamizh Isai Vizha and Mayiladuthurai isai vizha. Cultural troupes were sent to Mysore in 1998-99 to participate in the All India Folk Arts Festival by the Regional cultural centres. It is also planned to conduct the Art festivals and training at State level and National level at a cost of Rs.16 lakhs.

MUSIC COLLEGES AND MUSIC SCHOOLS

3. Government Music Colleges are functioning in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Thiruvaiyaru. Classes are conducted and practical training is imparted in various art subjects such as Vocal, Veena, Violin, Bharathanatyam, Flute, Folk Arts, Nathaswaram and Thavil. The Central Karnatic Music College which was started in the year 1949 was subsequently renamed as Tamilnadu Government Music College during 1973. The college is celebrating its, Golden Jubilee this year and it is proposed to conduct many more functions during this golden jubilee year. The publication of 'Tamil Isai Kalanjiam' at a cost of Rs.2.42 lakhs is also under progress.

4. The opportunity for learning music and art was broad-based. In order to fulfil the commitment of opening District Music schools every

year, ten music schools were opened in the district headquarters of Tiruvarur, Pudukottai, Trichirapalli, Salem, Tirunelveli, Cuddalore, Karur, Perambalur, Tuticorin, and Villupuram. Vocal, Thevarn, Bharathanatyam, Nathaswaram and Thavil are taught in these schools. It is also planned to open two more music schools during the current financial year. Refresher courses were also conducted for Music school teachers and refresher courses in office administration were conducted to headmasters of the music schools. It is also planned to conduct such regular, refresher classes in the forthcoming years also. In order to celebrate the musical works of the legendary figures like Vedanayakam pillai, Gopalakrishna Bharathy and Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai an Isai Vizha was conducted at Mayiladuthurai in 1998-99. Tamil Isai Moovar Vizha was celebrated in Feb 1999 in Sirkazhi to commemorate the Tamil Music Trinity namely Thiru Muthuthandavar, Thiru Marimutha Pillai and Thiru Arunachala Kavirayar.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGES OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

5. Chennai College of Arts and Crafts which is a century and half old, offers various courses in the field of Painting, sculpture, Textile Design, ceramic Design and Kumbakonam Arts & Crafts College which offers the same was started 100 years ago. Post Graduate courses in visual communication design was started in 1998-99 in the Chennai College and P.G. Course in Sculpture at Kumbakonam. It is decided to purchase equipments for the computer for college of Arts and Crafts, Chennai, at a cost of Rs.3 lakhs.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE, MAMALLAPURAM

6. It is needless to emphatically say that Mamallapuram is famous from time immemorial for its splendid sculptures. Therefore the Government College of Architecture and Sculpture was started here. This is the only institution in South India which offers courses in Temple Architecture and Sculpture. The construction of Workshed in the College premises is also under progress. The republication of Book "Sirpachchennool" which is useful for the art lovers and students is also in progress. Scholarships is also given to the students of this college.

TAMILNADU JAWAHAR SIRUVAR MANDRAM

7. Jawahar Siruvar Mandram was started in 1978 at Chennai, it slowly expanded its wings to Pudukottai(1980), Madurai (1986) and

Ponpudupatti (rural centre) (1988) and now is functioning at 20 places. It is also planned to conduct monthly programmes such as quiz / seminars in all Siruvar Mandrams in the year 1999-2000. It is also planned to conduct art camps, art training, seminars, arangetram in Siruvar Mandrams during vocation. Library grants is also given to the Siruvar Mandram started during last year. Jawahar Siruvar Mandram is also engaged in promoting and preserving arts and culture within and outside the State, Districts, State and at National levels, by way of participation and getting prizes and awards. It is significant to note here that a workshop was conducted by this Siruvar Mandram jointly with the Delhi Tamil Sangam to teach Tamil Notation in Key Board, during November '98, and it also conducted Handicraft Workshop there. It is also planned to conduct Art camp (including Workshops and All India Programme) at National level during September '99. It is also planned to conduct Tour by way of Inter-State exchange programmes.

TAMILNADU OVIA NUNKALAI KUZHU

8. Though the Oviz Nunkalai Kuzhu was started in 1975 for preserving and promoting fine arts, it gained momentum to implement more schemes only after the formation of the present Government. Talented students of the Arts and Craft Colleges, Architecture and Sculpture were awarded scholarships during 1998 - 99. Grants were also given by the Kuzhu to conduct one-man shows and group shows. Contemporary art exhibitions were conducted and awards were given to talented persons. "Kalaichemmal awards" were given to two persons. "NUNKALAI" journal is also published. Art Exhibitions, Art camps, Arts training were also conducted in Kancheepuram, Thanjavur, Virudhunagar and Salem with the help of Regional Cultural Centres. Its is also planned to conduct the same in forthcoming years also. It has been proposed to publish in Tamil an Art Directory on leading artists of Tamilnadu. The first volume on 35 artists was issued last year and work is on the other volume. Exhibitions were conducted by Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu in New Delhi in Nov. 1998 and Calcutta in January 1999.

TAMILNADU EYAL ISAI NATAKA MANDRAM

9. Tamilnadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram is a cultural organisation functioning under the Directorate of Art and Culture. Various schemes

such as financial assistance to indigent artistes, financial assistance to families of deceased artistes, encouragement of young talented artistes, grants to professional troupes in Dance and Drama, Commemorative function of eminent deceased artistes, Grants for publication of rare Art Books, fellowships to poor talented students in Fine arts, documentaion of Art forms, financial assistance to Folk Art troupes for buying dresses, ornaments, and art materials, grants to private bodies engaged in the promotion of art and culture, encouragement to puppet Theatre, stipends to young artistes to learn arts, fellowships to Tamil Isai Artistes and organisation of Fine Arts festivals, exhibitions with cultural programmes in other States through Inter-State exchange of cultural activities etc. are carried out by Tamilnadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram. The work on the construction of a Art Gallery in the premises of Tamilnadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram is in progress. Financial assistance of Rs.2.25 lakhs was given to the bereaved family of the famous script writer Thiru M.K. Thanikachalam (a) Ilangovan. Art shows were also conducted by the Mandram at New Delhi in November 1998 and in Calcutta during January '99 along with the Tamil Sangams there. The work on the publication of books on Tamilnadu Folk Arts with the help of Folk Art Research Centre of the St. Xaviers College at Palayamkottai is also in progress. Steps are also taken for the documentation of rare art forms 'Therukoothu' and publication of quarterly jounal of the activities of the mandram. It is also planned to conduct All India Folk Art festival during 1999 - 2000 at a cost of Rs.2.00 lakhs.

10. Kalaimamani Award and Porkizhi are given by TamilNadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram. Indira Vizha^{ya} also conducted by TamilNadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram. Under the scheme of financial assistance to indigent artistes and their dependants, the number of beneficiaries has since been enhanced from 300 to 500 during this year and orders accordingly were issued to sanction financial assistance to 500 artistes at the rate of Rs.500/-per month.

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