

Tamil Arasu



OCTOBER, 1977 50 Ps.

The ulcer of untouchability has gone so deep down that it seems to pervade our life.

When untouchability is rooted out no one will consider himself superior to any other. Naturally, exploitation too will cease and co-operation will be the order of the day.

Mahathma Gandhi.





TRIBUTES TO ANNA

The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Prabhudas Patwari inaugurated a two-day celebrations organised by the State Government in connection with the birth anniversary of the former Chief Minister Arignar Anna on 15-9-1977 at Kalaivanar Arangam. Earlier, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister, and his colleagues garlanded Anna's statue on Anna Salai.

Welcoming the gathering, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Tourism, said some leaders rose above politics and attained national stature and it was the duty of the Government — which ever party was in power, to pay homage to them and honour their memory.

A poets meet and a Pattimandram were part of the programme.

Winding up the two-day celebrations organised by the State Government to mark the birth anniversary of the late Arignar Anna at the Rajaji Hall campus the Chief Minister said the object behind the celebrations was to show to the people the many facets in the life of Arignar Anna and this festival would become an annual feature. The Government was anxious to implement the ideals of Arignar

Anna and was against cheap publicity.

The Chief Minister gave away prizes to winners in various competitions held to mark the celebrations.

The Governor in his tributes to Anna said :

"Anna to me is a leader of the entire humanity, a selfless dedicated and devoted man of integrity.

Great men do not die. They are immortal. Anna was by any test, the darling of the masses. Anna was a many-sided personality. He was a powerful speaker, a journalist, a dramatist, an actor, a social reformer, a politician, a statesman and above all a man of the masses. Humane in his approach, scholarly in his attitude and kind to all, rightly has he been affectionately called as "Perarignar Anna". Anna, was very simple and humble. His wants were very limited.

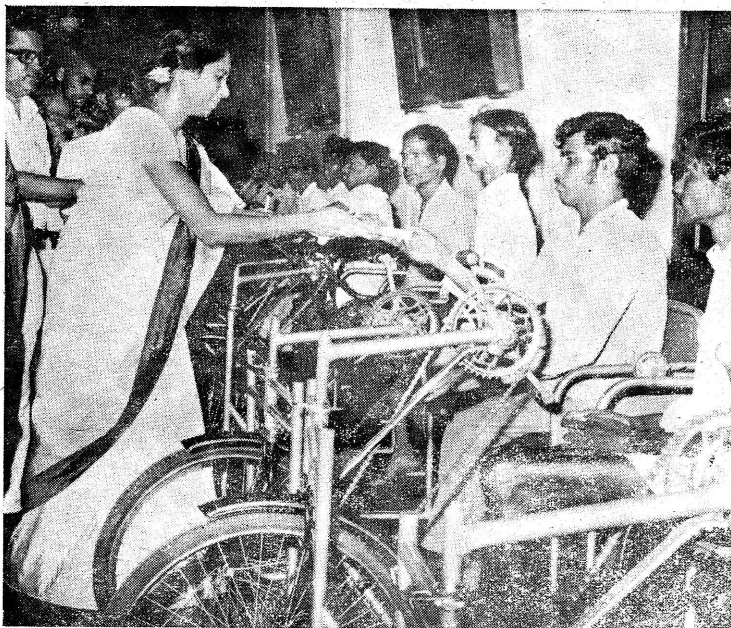
Anna had a great mastery over Tamil. He had a distinct style of his own in his speech. His writings had depth of vision. His plays were thought provoking. His literary criticism was classical. His interpretations were strikingly fresh and original. His inimitable style has become the hall-mark of modern

Tamil. Anna gave a new dimension to the renaissance of modern Tamil in all its spheres.

Anna started his public life as a social reformer. To Anna, political democracy was futile without social emancipation. He realised how caste system had crippled the initiative and progress of the country. He was aware of the fact that orthodoxy and superstition retarded human progress. He therefore fought relentlessly for eradication of social evils.

As a reformist and progressive economic thinker Anna was quite impatient for change but that never drove him to adopt extraconstitutional methods to achieve his goal. He believed and strove for an equitable social order — casteless and classless. He employed all his talents and efforts only towards that end. He strived hard till he breathed his last to establish a new society based on the three cardinal principles of democracy, rationalism and socialism.

If ever a leader in this part of the country could be described as truly charismatic, it was Anna whose speeches had cast a spell on the millions of people who flocked to hear him and accepted



Selvi P. T. Sarāswathy, Minister for Social Welfare, distributes three wheelers to physically handicapped on Anna's birthday

him as their guide, philosopher and Elder Brother—"Anna". Thought-provoking approach, rationality in thinking, cogency of expression, fluency of words, appropriateness of illustrations are some of the special features of the good oratory of Anna.

Anna was wedded to prohibition. He remained a Gandhian and stood firm like a rock against all pressures brought by many powerful publicmen to give up prohibition. He declared in no uncertain terms that his Government under no circumstances will think of giving up Prohibition. Although he knew that prohibition would bring to the State Exchequer a sizeable loss, he had decided to forego the dirty income which would add to the misery of poor households headed by men addicted to this evil. He said, "We have reared a new generation (free from the sight and smell of alcohol) and if in this new generation, even there are some who break the Prohibition Law, we can only take it as the perennial interest which some people have in breaking laws. Just because laws are being broken, it does not warrant any civilised Government to do away with the law itself. Rather, we should find out the ways of plugging the loopholes, of taking into our service, missionary-spirited people to do

Prohibition propaganda and see to it that Prohibition is made a very full success."

Even as a student leader, Anna was keenly sensitive to the political and social injustice around him.

I think there is a Tamil proverb to the effect that the future of the crop is revealed by the sprouting of the seed. (Vilayam Payir Mula-yilay Theriyum). He was very popular as a student.

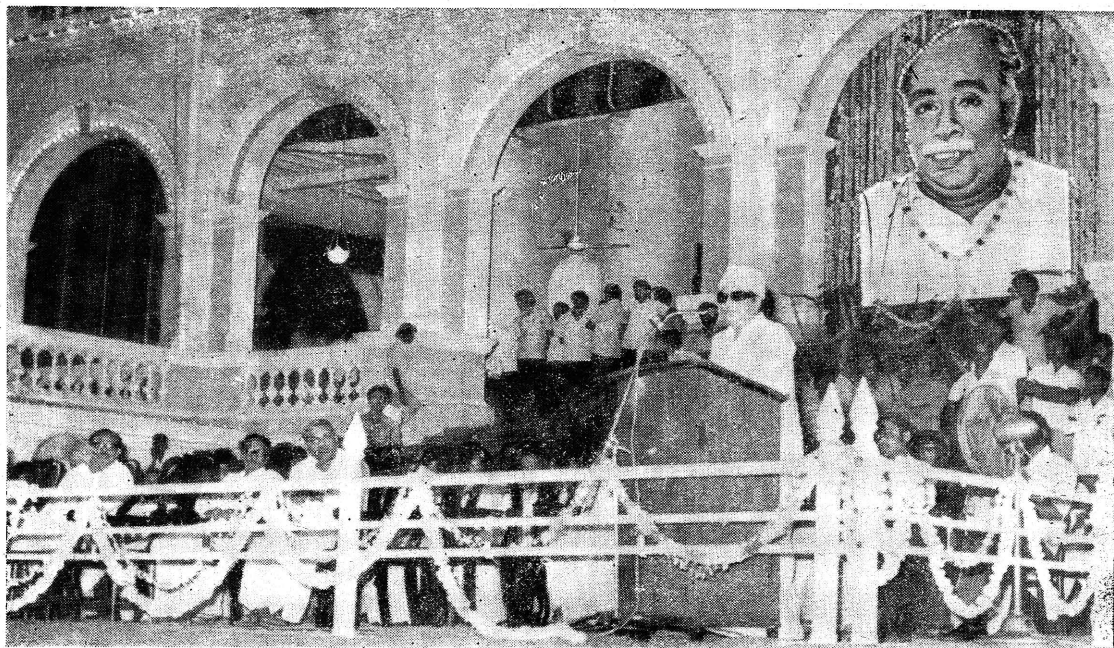
The giving up of the demand for the separation of Dravida Nadu from the rest of India was indeed a great act of his statesmanship and wisdom. It was in the year 1962 that the entire country was shocked by the invasion of the Chinese across the Himalayan borders. The shock was more intense and severe to Anna. He decided that we should all be one in India.

In fact, at that time he was serving his sentence in Vellore Jail for his part in agitating against the rising prices. Without any hesitation whatsoever he came out with a bold statement advising his followers: "In our anger against the Congress regime, we should not commit the mistake of slackening our efforts against the foreign invader. We of the D.M.K. consider it our sacred duty to rush to the help of the Indian Government in its efforts to protect and safeguard the sovereignty of our soil." External danger like the Chinese invasion made Anna to emphasise that Indians should march as one man and should live as one family.

So, Anna, on his release from the Vellore Jail in 1963 declared



The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R., presenting the 1st prize to Thiru Balasubramani Venkataraman, in a poet's competition held during Anna's birthday celebrations



The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R., speaking at the valedictory function of Anna's birthday celebrations at Rajaji Hall on 16-9-77

that his party would suspend all agitations and co-operate with the Government in its war efforts against China.

He emerged as a national figure—as a leader of All India Stature when he entered the Rajya Sabha. His “maiden speech” in the Rajya Sabha, a masterly oratorical performance attracted national, and even international attention. The Press in India hailed it as a “marvellous performance.” His speeches in the Rajya Sabha from 1962 to 1966 made Members hear him with attention and respect. His speeches were full of sobriety and responsibility. He was meticulously careful to avoid any collision with the Centre. In fact he fostered national unity, smoothened the relationship between the Centre and State, while at the same time protecting the rights of the State.

It was a tribute to his scholarship that he was invited to go to U.S.A. as an invitee of the Yale University's Chubb Fellowship Programme. He was the first non-American to receive this honour. Anna, during his visits abroad, was a true ambassador of goodwill. On no occasion had he differed with the foreign policy of the nation while he was abroad. He projected the spirit that lay in the nation's unity and integrity.

Anna always preached and practised the doctrine of duty and discipline.

Like Abraham Lincoln he believed that the best way to win was to make a friend out of the enemy.

Perhaps the key to Anna's greatness lay in his own integrity. Anna never tried to pretend to be what he was not. Nor did he ever have to hide what he was. Duty-Decorum-Discipline (Kadamai Kanniyam-Kattuppadu) is the proverbial motto advocated by him.

He had always been a genuine friend of the working classes. “Tap the rich and pat the poor” underlines his economic policy.

In the legislature, he became a model parliamentarian who could frankly admit that the opposition also may have good points to say. He said “The Jasmine in the garden of the opponent also has fragrance” (Matran Thottathu Malligaikkum Manamundu).

Each and every word of Anna was the outcome of the long and ripe experience and the subtle wisdom of culture.

Anna was not only a politician and statesman, an organiser and

administrator, a scholar and humanist but a literary craftsman of a very high order. Anna himself had once significantly quoted a very beautiful sentence from his favourite author Somerset Maugham; “Beauty as life is nothing but this, each should act in conformity with his nature and his business.”

Anna is no more with us. Yet, he lives in the hearts of the people. Let our people uphold the principles of Duty, Decorum and Discipline enunciated by him and pledge themselves to follow his path in the service of the humanity that was dear and near to his heart. Let us work to our best for the uplift of the poor and the down trodden. Let us work for the unity of the Motherland to our utmost irrespective of religion, caste, community, region or language.

The best way to honour him is to remove ill-will and bitterness from public life, adopt a spirit of compromise and follow a policy of give and take in settling all public problems. We can well say that he who injures another in word or deed is not a true follower of Anna. In short Anna believed in non-violence as a creed. He believed strongly in integrity and character. His public life was transparent. May we profit by imbibing these noble qualities.

There still existed a big information gap about India abroad and this should be bridged adequately to attract more foreign tourists to this country, said Thiru M.G.Ramachandran, Chief Minister.

Thiru M. G. Ramachandran told travel writers from Europe, the U.S. and West Asia who were on a 15 day tour, "Destination South India", "language need not be a barrier for understanding the richness and heritage of Tamil Nadu and other southern States." He inaugurated a seminar on "Destination South India" organised by the Tamil Nadu Government, Department of Tourism.

Presiding over the seminar, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Tourism, urged the Government of India and Air India to arrange for more international flights to touch Madras to boost the tourist trade of Tamil Nadu. He pointed out that Tamil Nadu and the South had been long neglected in tourism promotion and only of late attention was being paid to this region. South India being the gateway for tourists from the East, Far East and Australia, efforts should be made to get more international flights to come to Madras and to attract tourists coming to Sri Lanka also here.

Miss Vatsala Pai, Deputy Director-General, Department of Tourism, Government of India, referred to the steady increase in tourist traffic to the South and said that the object of "Destination South India" programme was to accelerate this trend and to disperse some of the traffic on the high density routes in the north to this area.

As part of its efforts to boost tourism the Department of Tourism had invited about 60 eminent writers from the main tourism generating markets for a two-week familiarisation tour of South India. After spending four days in Madras and Mahabalipuram they followed three different itineraries to cover as many points of tourist interest as possible in two weeks.

The travel writers witnessed an audio-visual presentation on South India arranged by the Tourism Department of the Government of India.



"Language no barrier to understand cultural heritage of Dravidam" —says M.G.R.

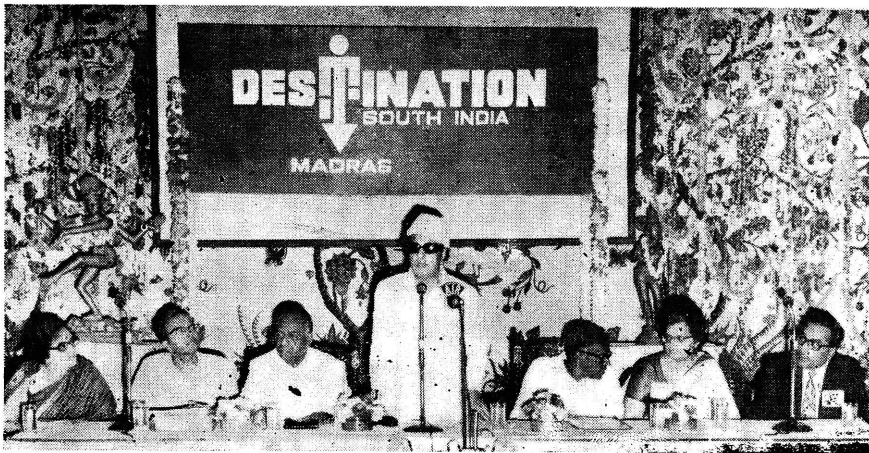
In his inaugural address Thiru M.G.R. said :

"I understand that all of you have assembled to give your valuable suggestions at this seminar on "Destination South India." Holding a responsible position, I would also like to make a few suggestions.

When we say "Destination South" I am sure you will be aware of the meaning inherent in the title "Destination Dravidam". You might have also learnt about the four linguistic States of South India and the four languages spoken there and their history.

I would like to point out that Tamil is the mother of the other three regional languages of this

region. These languages, it is said, have evolved through usage of Prakrit and Sanskrit languages. You may not be aware of this. You may wonder why we should discuss the language issue with the tourists. But I am sure you will not raise the question. It is better for everyone to know something about a country's language while visiting another country. It is even better to know about those who speak that language. The owners of a language also have a history of their own. Such a historical background provides the tourist a feast for the eyes, food for thought and relaxation for the mind. When I had been to Nairobi, they asked me, "Is it a fact that the people in your country earn their livelihood by snake charming alone?" I am pointing out this to show how important it is to know the history of a country. The history of a



The Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R. addressing after inaugurating the Seminar Destination South India at the Taj Coromandal on 14-9-77

nation is the sum total of its valour, love, art, literature and language.

The communication gap between the people of one country and another is on the increase. This should be reduced. My colleague Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Tourism in his Presidential Speech referred to the foreign exchange obtained through tourism. Befitting his position he had made those remarks. As Chief Minister, I endorse his views. I would like to stress another aspect. It is not only a matter of earning foreign exchange. It is more than that.

Nations should respect each other. The historians should record the events of their country in such a manner that the common people should be able to understand how the people of the past lived and what kind of people they were and so on. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned its history will reveal how the Tamilians have progressed united by language and nature and became heirs to a rich past. We should develop the art, culture, discipline and dignity which are an integral part of this past history.

The temples of Tamil Nadu are not merely walls with some figures here and there in niches. Each sculpture will unfold a story; they will speak of love, valour, pathos, grief and of the cultural renaissance of those days. Surely the sculptors who produced these masterpieces cannot be ordinary artisans. The sculptures you will see in Tamil Nadu, will reveal this truth to you.

Such a refined product can be turned out only by the chisel of master craftsmen who are dedicated men and not by the whip cord of a king. In essence the art of sculpture in Tamil Nadu reflects the spirit of the people.

As there are different gods and different religions we do have different facets of Mother Nature. For instance Ooty is there for those who would like to feel the cool climate. For a lesser cool climate there is Coonoor and Yercaud. To enjoy warm weather and natural beauty on the plains, we have Courtallam.

You might have heard about Mamallapuram. The place came to be called as Mamallapuram after the title "Mamallan" or "Mahamallan" of the Pallava King who created these monuments. "Mahamallan" means a great wrestler. The monuments at Mamallapuram which you will see were created by the King "Mahamallan" and his father.

It may sound amusing if I tell you that one should also know music to chisel sculpture. Our sculptors who knew music were able to bring out the musical notes in the pillars sculptured out of stone. The basic notes in Carnatic music are "Sa, Ri, Ga, Ma, Pa, Tha, Ni." You can hear these notes by tapping the stone musical pillars of the Madurai Temple which are exactly similar to the sound on a musical instrument. Such sculptural pieces were chiselled throughout the past for thousands of years.

The artistic passion of the people in turn enriches the civilisation. You can see how the sculptures of different times had given shape to the civilisation of the Tamils. One of the Apostles of Jesus Christ had come to Madras several centuries ago and propagated his ideals. The Tamilians of those days were endowed with the insight to receive his ideals.

The sculptors of the past had no desire to publicise themselves and hence did not engrave their names on their works. We cherish their memory with respect and regard.

Such a glorious architecture of Tamil Nadu and its scenic splendours are not entirely known to foreigners. I therefore request you to understand us and our culture so that you can make them known to the world. You have the opportunity to do so. I am confident you will do that.

I have seen many places of interest when I visited Soviet Russia, America and Nairobi and Egypt. I would like to say, when compared to their art architecture and civilisation, the art architecture and civilisation of Tamil Nadu is more progressive.

Our thought and action should be directed towards this end so that the rich mosaic of Indian's ancient history and of Tamil Nadu is made projected to the world."

Prevent Scrub Cattle Grazing Illegally

Domestic livestock enjoy unrestricted grazing in Government Forest areas on payment of no fee or a nominal fee. In villages where no Government forest is situated close by, private owners of grazing lands charge as much as Rs. 30/- to Rs. 40/- per head of cattle while the grazing fee in Government forest is as low as Re. 1/- per head of cattle. We are not practicing any scientific pastoral management in the forests, although now and then some attempts made to restrict and regulate the grazing proved a failure mainly due to the ignorance and non co-operation of the villagers, so much so, the cattle of the area entirely depend on the forest for grazing. Even cattle of distant places migrate during certain seasons resulting in further increase in the pressure on forest land. Although the Indian Forest Policy of 1952 lays down guidelines for management of grazing in forest areas and this subject was discussed repeatedly in the Central Board of Forestry and although the Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha expressed grave concern over the indifference in implementing the Forest Policy, much has to be done to control the grazing and putting it on scientific basis. Grazing is a major problem in all National Parks and Sanctuaries as it is injurious to a Park and Sanctuary. Much more so, in areas where the rainfall is scanty. The demand for grazing is greater in a low rainfall region. Thus grazing

THIRU G. THIRUMAL, I.A.S.,
Secretary to Government
Forest & Fisheries

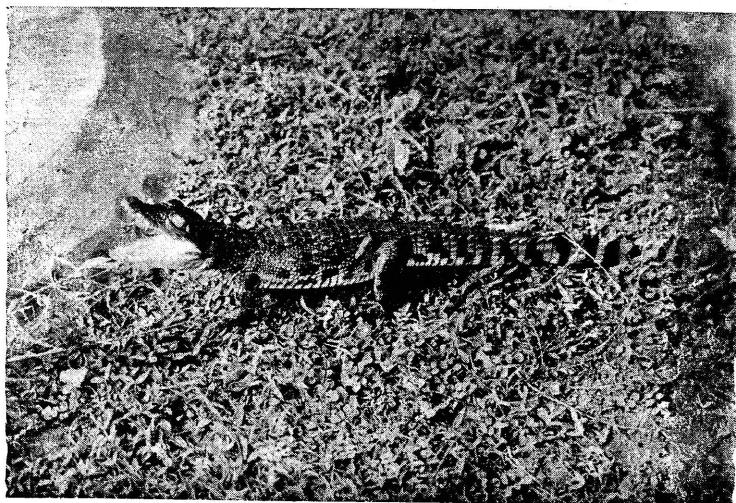
of domestic cattle is in direct competition with the wild animals. The Cow herds cause a lot of disturbances which threaten the existence of our wildlife. In Masinagudi of Mudumalai, the Lower slopes of Anamalai Sanctuary and greater portion of Kalakad and Mundanthurai Sanctuaries as well as Point Calimere, thousands of cattle from the nearby places pose a big hazard to the Deer and Antelope population there. It is noteworthy here that our famous Mudumalai Sanctuary where we used to boast of seeing herds of 50 to 70 gaur (bison) at a time, became completely depleted of this majestic animal in 1969 due to rinder pest, a disease spread by the domestic cattle resorting to grazing. It will take atleast 2 decades of zealous protection to get back its original glory. This is why cattle entering the sanctuary are first inoculated against such diseases. It is argued that grazing has been a part of Indian wildlife and it has been in the forest for hundreds of years. Once a few cattle are allowed, it is not known how many really resort to grazing legally and illegally. But at times of famine or drought, large number of cattle are moved to sanctuaries and the greatest sufferers in this are the wild animals. The Chittal and Sambhar are sacrificed for the sake of generally unproductive scrub

cattle. Once this Sanctuary is disturbed, it takes years for it to recover. So the Wildlife Organisation rightly considers the Sanctuaries as State Farms and in their interest has to resist the pressure for grazing and to prohibit or regulate it.

The total forest area of Tamil Nadu is 20,910 Sq. Km. and the cattle population including the buffaloes, cow, sheep and goats is 23 million. This shows the average pressure of grazing is 1,000 per sq. Km. In practice, it will be four times this figure because it is the outer slopes which bear the brunt more being nearer to the villages where the cattle go and the grazing pressure is not uniformly distributed all over the forest. The area of the 8 sanctuaries of the Tamil Nadu State is about 2,980 sq. Km. i.e., 1/10th of the forest area. By closing this 1/10th of the forest area for grazing and keeping out this scrub cattle from the nearby villages, the economy of the villagers may not be totally upset. On the other hand, they will be constrained to learn by this to maintain a few high quality cattle, which in the long run will be more remunerative than possessing numerous scrub cattle. The ban on grazing inside the Sanctuaries will not only help to recover the wildlife population but also to rehabilitate the degraded forests which are prevented from establishing due to the heavy and continuous pressure of grazing.



SHEDDING TEARS FOR THE CROCODILE



The great concern for the dwindling numbers of the valuable reptile had made many really shed tears for the crocodile. The enormous value for its belly skin and the rarity of the real crocodile leather had caused the trader, who was indirectly responsible for its reduction in number to the extent it had reached the extinction point in many parts of the globe, now take greater interest in its rehabilitation so that not only the animal may be saved from extinction but also that he may not be thrown out of trade. It is not been realised by many that many of the species could be saved from extinction if realistic and expeditious steps are taken to breed them in captivity, with an eye on eventual harvesting of the excess numbers, once the optimum number is achieved for rehabilitation of the species in the wild. One way of saving a species from extinction is by making it an economically valuable commodity and enthrust people to take to captive breeding in an organized manner.

The crocodile with which Tamil Nadu Forest Department is now concerned is crocodile palustris (mugger ; mudalai). It lays about 30 eggs in a cluster. It takes ten to twelve weeks for hatching. The newly hatched siblings are vulnerable to predation and survival to maturity is less than one percent. Under artificial conditions 30 to 50% can easily be achieved in the hatching stage (that had been over 90% in some case). Initial growth is about 50 cm. in a year. By breeding at a

greater rate than in the wild and taking necessary steps to release the young progeny at a stage when they would fend for themselves in their natural habitat, not only can the crocodile be saved from extinction but it can be made a continual part of the eco-system by providing an alternative to the cupidity of man for its leather by organised harvesting of the excess in the breeding centres, instead of wanton destruction of the species in the wild.

Crocodile is a large reptile with bony scutes and horny scales. Some have longevity as much as 100 years. It takes three years to

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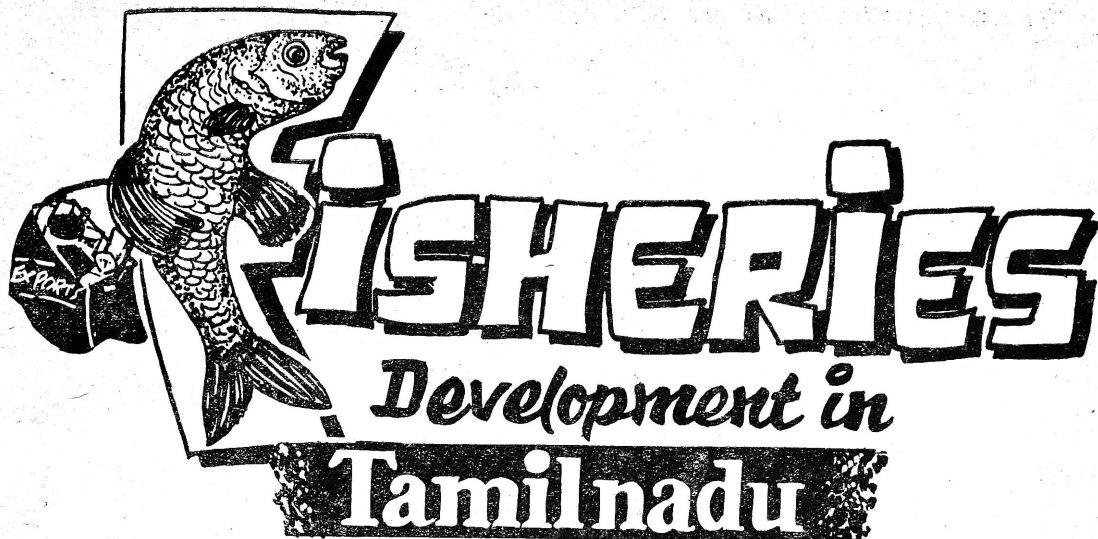
T, JAYADEV, I.F.S.,

*Chief Conservator of Forests,
Madras*

reach a metre in length under artificial conditions. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department will be able to release by the end of seventies one hundred yearlings in the wild if its present programme is continued. Two years ago it was estimated that hardly 300 crocodiles were in the wild in Tamil Nadu. Today inspite of small beginnings the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has over 300 hatchlings in the course of two years of organised egg collection and artificial hatching

of the eggs. The eggs were collected in and around Hogenakkal, Sathanur, Amaravathi, Kilikudu, Elathur, Vakramari. A record collection of 408 eggs were made during 1977 season.

The crocodile lays its eggs in a duster and covers them with a layer of earth. A duster contains about 30 eggs. In nature the percentage of survival of the hatchlings is very low. Added to that there is evidence of cannibalism. Hence the factors for the survival of the species are inimical even in its formative stage than in its adult stage when it had been cruelly hunted for its leather. Harvesting of the species under controlled conditions after sufficient number had been reared for rehabilitating the species in the wild is an assured way for the continual existence of the crocodile. Those who shed tears on even culling of the crocodiles in the course of its rearing, let alone harvesting of the excess, are only paying lip service to the cause nature conservation. Their tears for the crocodile are crocodile tears. Crocodile tears in our phraseology had come to mean hypocritical grief, from the old story that crocodiles which have large lachrymal glands, shed tears over the hard necessity of killing animals for food. Whether or not the belief that the crocodile wept while devouring or to allure its victims, let us not shed crocodile tears, when an organised attempt is made for the multiplication of a dwindling species.



FISHERIES

Development in Tamilnadu

Thiru G. R. EDMUND

Minister for Food

Fishing is an age old profession of man-kind. Fishing industry has also advanced and got modernised along with other industries in the world. In the recent years, many nations of the world are paying greater and greater attention to the exploitation of the marine resources of their sea coast not only for the fishery potential but also for other wealth like oil, minerals, etc. In this context, and particularly as the Government of India have recently proclaimed 200 miles from the outer limits of the territorial waters as the Exclusive economic Zone of our country, we have to necessarily give greater importance to the fishing activities in Tamil Nadu to enable the State to play its part to increase the utilisation of the marine resources for the national benefits.

The long coast-line of Tamil Nadu extending to about 1,000 K.M. and touching the three seas, viz., Bay of Bengal, Gulf of Mannar and Arabian Sea offer great scope for stepping up fishery and for development of the connected industries. As regards inland fisheries, Tamil Nadu has got 3.51 lakh hectares of inland waterspread comprising of rivers and their tributaries, reservoirs, irrigation tanks, back-waters, etc., and the productivity of these resources are stepped up and exploited by intensive stocking and by adoption of scientific and cultural practices and management techniques.

In the economic development of Tamil Nadu, the fishing industry has now taken an important place. The earnings from the fishery sector account for 0.83 per cent of the total earnings of Tamil Nadu. The export value of marine products of Tamil Nadu accounts for about 13.43 per cent of total exports from the country. The above position clearly indicates the importance and the vital role the Fishery Sector is playing in the development of Tamil Nadu, as a whole.

The marine fish production which stood at the level of 0.45 lakh tonnes at the beginning of the first plan steadily rose to 2.20 lakh tonnes in 1975-76. Like-

wise, the inland fish production which stood at the level of 0.34 lakh tonnes has also risen to 1.50 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period. The target set for the Fifth Plan is to increase the marine fish production to the level of 4.00 lakh tonnes and the inland fish production to the level of 2.30 lakh tonnes by the end of the Fifth Plan period. In all these developmental activities, the fishermen also play a vital role. To achieve this goal, the objectives set out are briefly given below :—

- (i) To improve the traditional fishing crafts and gear for increased catch effort ;
- (ii) to introduce smaller mechanised fishing boats to exploit the inshore area ;
- (iii) to introduce larger fishing trawlers to exploit the deeper waters ;
- (iv) to introduce diversified fishing methods to exploit pelagic resources and the shoaling species occurring during seasons ;
- (v) to introduce brackish water fish culture to step up fish production in back-waters ;
- (vi) to stock all culturable inland waterspreads and to adopt latest fish culture techniques to step up inland fish production ;
- (vii) to create required infra-structural facilities like fishing harbours, ice plants, cold storages, servicing centres, etc., to facilitate the rapid development of fishing industries ;
- (viii) to improve the socio-economic conditions of fishermen by providing housing accommodation, feeder roads, relief measures, etc.

The outlays provided by the State Government on implementing various fisheries development schemes under the plan programmes :

	Rs. in Lakhs
I Five Year Plan	31.34
II Five Year Plan	75.30
III Five Year Plan	257.27
Annual Plan 1966-67	128.69
1967-68	150.55
1968-69	121.71
IV Five Year Plan	982.51
V Five Year Plan

(Tentative allocation agreed to was Rs. 1,880.00 lakhs)

Though the tentative allocation for the Vth Plan has been reduced subsequently (in 1976) from Rs. 1,880.00 lakhs to Rs. 1,342.00 lakhs still it could be seen that the allocations during the first four years are in no way in any proportion to the overall allocation made for the Vth Plan as a whole. The inadequate allocation for fishery activities is the main cause for this low fish production during the 5th Plan period.

The main targets for the Vth Plan are as follows :— for this low fish production during the 5th Plan period.

- (i) Construction of mechanised fishing —1,000 Nos. (Addl.)
- (ii) Acquisition of trawlers—50 Nos. (Addl.)
- (iii) Ice Plant and Cold Storage—10 Nos. (Addl.)
- (iv) Development of landing and berthing facilities —12 Nos. (Addl.)
- (v) Increasing the fish seed production through induced carp spawning centres—150 lakhs (Addl.)
- (vi) Development of reservoirs—N5os. (Addl.)

The programmes implemented and achievements made are briefly given below :—

Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation.— With a view to secure financial assistance from the commercial banks and step up activities of a commercial nature in the department, like boat building, distribution of boats, establishing major processing units, etc., the Government have ordered the formation of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited, which came into being from 1st July, 1974. The State Government have extended financial assistance to the Corporation for implementing its programme and for taking up certain developmental activities.



The Corporation is running the four Boat Building Yards taken over from the Department, viz., two in Madras, one in Nagapattinam and the other at Mandapam. From 1st July 1974 to the end of 30th June, 1977, 499 boats have been constructed by the Corporation (400 in the Corporation yards and 99 in private yards).

The Corporation has so far distributed 447 boats (as on 30th June 1977—30' boats 254 Nos. and 32' boats 193 Nos. It is reasonably anticipated that the Corporation will be able to distribute about 750 boats by the end of the Vth Plan. The Government have agreed to subsidise the interest on boat loan up to 100 per cent up to 30th June, 1977.

The processing units at Ennore, Mandapam and Tuticorin have been leased out to private entrepreneurs. The Fish Meal Plant at Mandapam, which was also initially leased out to a private party has been taken back by the Corporation and it is now operated by the Corporation, from 1st April, 1977. The Corporation has programmes to establish a big processing complex at the Tuticorin and Madras Fishing Harbours.

The Corporation is acquiring two numbers of 23 metres Mexican Trawlers at a cost, around Rs. 80.00 lakhs. The trawlers are expected to reach Tamil Nadu waters in October, 1977. These trawlers on arrival will be operated for exploiting the resources in the deeper waters. The Corporation has also got schemes for constructing two numbers of similar type of indigenous trawlers in the country.

In order to help the Corporation to intensify its activities in the field of marketing, the Government have ordered to lease out the fisheries rights in six major reservoirs in Tamil Nadu with effect from 1st July, 1977 to the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited.

- (i) Sathanur —North Arcot district.
- (ii) Amaravathy
- (iii) Aliyar —Coimbatore district.
- (iv) Thirumoorthy
- (v) Bhavanisagar —Coimbatore district

The Corporation has already started doing fish marketing in Madras City. It has plans to expand the activity and also enter the export market in due course, i.e., as soon as the Mexican trawlers arrive in Tamil Nadu Waters.

The outlay proposed for financing the Corporation in 1977-78 from the State Funds is Rs. 67.42 lakhs.

Improvement to traditional fishing crafts and gears.—

In order to enable the fishermen to preserve their catches 200 insulated boxes have been constructed for distribution among the fishermen. The supply of insulated boxes is intended to help small fishermen to preserve the prawn catch which is intended mainly for exports.

To mechanise the catamarans and vallams, a study has already been initiated and based on the results a decision will be taken in due course to mechanise the catamarans with out-board motors in larger numbers. Four members of in-board engines 19.6/23.5 H.P. have also been purchased for distribution for installation in vallams or country crafts in order to improve their operational efficiency. After studying the performance of these vallams with in-board engines, the question of going in for larger number of such in-board engines for distribution to small fishermen will be considered.

Assistance to small boat mechanisation.—The scheme of supply of mechanised fishing boats is now implemented by the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited.

The Corporation arranges the supply of mechanised fishing boats under hire purchase system. While 5 per cent of the outlay is expected to be paid by the allottee, 15 per cent is provided as margin money by the Government which is being treated as interest free loan and the balance 80 per cent secured as loan from any commercial bank.

To provide the required servicing facility to mechanised fishing boats, the department has already established Base Workshops and service centres at important fish landing centres. The work on converting the service centre at Rameswaram as a Base Workshop sanctioned last year will be carried out in the current year.

To meet one of the long felt needs of the fishermen, the Government are providing an outlay of Rs. 10.00 lakhs in the current year for the purchase of two numbers of suitable rescue vessels to render assistance to fishermen in distress.

Introduction of larger fishing vessels.—Except a few larger trawlers meant for training and survey purposes under the control of the State and Central Governments, there are no larger fishing vessels operating from Tamil Nadu.

Though the Vth Plan aimed at introducing 50 Nos. of trawlers, on account of various import restrictions and lack of production of proved and efficient indigenous trawlers, practically there has been no larger trawler introduced so far. Against the import of 30 trawlers announced by the Government of India in 1973, the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation is acquiring two Mexican trawlers of 23 metre size and Messrs. E.I.D. Parry and Company, a private concern in Tamil Nadu is acquiring two other trawlers of the same size. These trawlers each costing Rs. 40.00 lakhs are expected to arrive in Tamil Nadu Waters before the end of this year.

Recently, the Government of India have issued a public notice permitting the acquisition of 100 trawlers by private entrepreneurs and enterprises. They have also permitted the import of 60 trawlers from abroad. Action has been initiated by the Fisheries Department to contact the prospective private entrepreneurs and also to contact the Foreign Trade Missions in the City to furnish quotations for foreign made trawlers to enable the entrepreneurs to consider all such offers, decide on suitable offers and send applications to the Government of India for the import. All efforts will be taken to avail of this opportunity to enable the private parties in Tamil Nadu to acquire the quota of trawlers allotted to this State:

The introduction of larger number of big fishing vessels will enable exploitation of the resources in deeper waters which has hitherto not been exploited by us.

Estuarine Fisheries.—Estuarine fishery development has gained importance only in the Vth Plan period. A few pilot programmes have been implemented by the department and they have shown the economic viability of such schemes. Tamil Nadu has an extent of about 80,000 hectares of estuaries and backwaters, of which 27,000 hectares could be utilised for culture of prawns, crustaceans, molluscs and fin fishes. Besides meeting local demands, many of these species could be processed and exported to foreign countries. The Fisheries Department following the work on pilot



schemes, proposes to establish bigger farms for commercial exploitation at Kovalam, Pulicut and Killai. In 1977-78, while such a farm is proposed to be taken up at Kovalam under the State Plan, a farm is proposed to be established at Killai under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The aim is to accelerate the production of backwater species, particularly prawns. In addition, proposals are also under consideration to establish smaller farms of about one hectare in area and to hand over such farms to the local fishermen to take up culture practice by extending technical guidance and also financial help at the beginning. These steps and other conservancy measures proposed to be taken to protect the wealth of the estuaries will certainly step up the fishery in estuarine waters two to three fold.

Survey.—The survey of the inshore area is done by the Inshore fishing-cum-survey stations established by the State. The inshore survey stations are situated in the following places for undertaking regular survey in inshore areas to know the fishery potential :—

1. Madras ;
2. Cuddalore ;
3. Mallipattinam ;
4. Rameswaram and
5. Cape Comorin.

These stations are equipped with only smaller mechanised boats. A few 43.5 ft. boats have been added to some of these stations in the recent past. One more such 43.5 ft. boat is proposed to be sanctioned for Mallipattinam Inshore Survey Station in 1977-78.

We have very limited knowledge about the resources available in the deep sea area of our coast-line. Carrying out survey in the deeper waters of our coast is the responsibility of the Government of India. The State Government in the past had made concerted efforts to persuade the Government of India to associate the United Nations Development Programme to carry out this survey, but so far no tangible results could be achieved. The non-availability of suitable vessels and equipment within the country is another reason delaying this work. As the knowledge about the resources of the deep sea area could greatly help the State in stepping up the marine fish production and also to increase the export of fishery products from Tamil Nadu, it is very essential and also urgent to carry out this survey without any further loss of time. This has become more urgent in view of the recent decision of the Government of India for allowing import of about 100 bigger deep sea fishing vessels. Therefore, the Government are determined to persuade the Government of India to take up this survey as expeditiously as possible so that based on such survey data, potential plans could be drawn up for exploitation of the resources at least during the VIth Plan period.

Ice Plants and Cold Storages.—The department has established 36 numbers of ice plants and cold storages all over the coastal line, mainly for the benefit of fishermen and for the fishing industry. The total processing capacities created by the department are given below (in tonnes) : —

When the Fisheries Development Corporation was formed in 1974, bigger processing units at Ennore, Mandapam and Tuticorin have been transferred to the Corporation.

While the department will continue to provide smaller units mainly for the benefit of fishermen, the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited would undertake establishment of bigger units of commercial nature in the fishing harbours coming up at Madras and Tuticorin. In the current year, the ice plants already sanctioned at Oyyalikuppam in Chingleput District, Periathalai in Tirunelveli District and Bhavani-sagar in Coimbatore District are expected to be commissioned. In addition, the capacity of the 2 ton ice plant at Rameswaram will also be expanded to 5 tonnes in the current year.

Fishery Based Industrial Estate.—In order to encourage the private entrepreneurs to start various fish based industries in Tamil Nadu, Fisheries departmental lands at important fish landing centres have been proposed for allotment to the prospective entrepreneurs. Under this programme, Departmental lands are being allotted at Ennore, Cuddalore, Mandapam and Tuticorin. When the Madras Fishing Harbour is completed, here also the reclaimed lands would be plotted and allotted to the prospective entrepreneurs.

Fishing Harbours and Landing Facilities.—To create landing and berthing facilities for the benefit of mechanised fishing boats under a Centrally-sponsored Scheme, facilities have already been created :

Proposals for establishing a major fishing harbour at Chinnamuttom in Kanyakumari district costing roughly about Rs. 200.00 lakhs is awaiting the approval of the Government of India.

It is likely that in the course of the current year, plans and estimates would be prepared by the Director, Pre-Investment Survey, Bangalore for developing landing facilities in the following two places:—

- (i) Valinokkam in Ramanathapuram district ;
- (ii) Pazhayar in Thanjavur district.

In addition, about 15 more places have also been selected as suitable sites for developing landing and berthing facilities in Tamil Nadu. In these places also, depending upon the availability of resources, after preparing detailed plans and estimates and after getting the approval of the Government of India, work would be taken up in the coming years.

INLAND FISHERIES.

At present inland fish production is of the order of 1.50 lakh tonnes per annum. The Five-Year Plan aims at stepping up the production level to 2.30 lakhs tonnes. The scope for producing fingerlings from natural sources is very limited for want of perennial rivers. The seed production level which stood at 600.00 lakhs fingerlings by the end of IV Plan changed to the position as given below by the end of 1976-77.



Level at Production
the end of IV 1976-1977
Plan.
(in lakhs.)

Fingerlings) production from natural sources	450.00	309.00	
Fingerlings production from induced carp spawning centres.	150.00	198.30	(1322.00 lakhs spawn)
	600.00	507.30	

The short-fall in fingerlings production from natural sources was due to poor and irregular flow of water in the Cauvery River System which is the main source of natural collection. In view of the above position, the Department has gradually developed facilities at 12 centres in the State for production of fingerlings by induced spawning methods. In view of the fact that the inland fish production is dependent on the extent to which we are able to produce fingerlings of economic varieties for stocking the water spreads it is very essential to create adequate facilities in all suitable places for production of fingerlings to the extent required. It has been estimated that for stocking all culturable inland water spreads 1,050 lakhs of fingerlings may be required for Tamil Nadu. For this purpose, the Fisheries Department has programmed to establish five additional induced spawning centres in the V Plan and also to expand the existing centres with a view to step up the production of fingerlings of economic varieties. Already one additional induced spawning centre has been sanctioned at Chembarambakkam in Chingleput District. In 1977-78, it is proposed to establish Induced Carp Spawning centres at Pechiparai, Palar Porandalar and Thirukattupalli in Thanjavur district. As a mea-

sure of increasing the nursery facilities, construction of additional nurseries is proposed to be taken up in 1977-78 at Aliyar, Thirumoorthy Sathanur-dam, Palar Porandalar and Pechiparai. It is anticipated that the fingerlings production level may reach 750.00 lakhs by the end of V Plan, and it is proposed to achieve self-sufficiency in this regard in the VI Plan.

Development of Reservoir Fisheries.

With a view to increase the inland fish production the Fisheries Department takes over the Reservoirs formed by the Public Works Department for systematic stocking, development, conservancy, exploitation and marketing of the Fish in those reservoirs. There are 36 such major reservoirs taken up so far for development of Fisheries. A production level of 1,200 tonnes has been achieved by the end of 1976-77. For the year 1977-78, a target of 1,652 tonnes of fish has been fixed to be produced from those reservoirs.

It is proposed to take over the Ponnaniar Dam in Tiruchirappalli District during the year 1977-78.

Out of the 36 reservoirs under the control of this Department, 6 reservoirs have been transferred to the control of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Department Corporation Limited, with effect from 1st July 1977.

Fish Farmers' Development Agency.—In order to make individuals to take interest in the inland fishery development and to popularise improved techniques of fish culture, a Fish Farmers' Development Agency has been set up at Thanjavur on 26th March 1976. This is a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme and the Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 4.50 lakhs for the Scheme (Rs. 3.90 lakhs as subsidy and Rs. 0.60 lakh as loan). During the year 1976-77 the Agency has selected 60 hectares of water spreads in Thanjavur District and leased out to 61 members for development of Fisheries. The members were given training in fish culture technique for a period of 15 days. It is expected to increase fish production from 300 kgs. average to 1,500 kgs. per hectare per year by the adoption of composite fish culture. In the current year, it is proposed to take up additional 140 hectares in Thanjavur District under the Agency covering 140 more fish farmers.

Proposals are under consideration to set up similar Fish Farmer's Development Agencies in Dharmapuri and Madurai Districts.

Lease of Fisheries in inland waters.—The fisheries of the provincialised waters are leased out to the Fishermen Co-operative Societies in order to give regular avocation to the working fishermen in that area. In order to enable the Fishermen Co-operative Societies to take interest in regular stocking of fingerlings and to make improvements to the tanks by investing amount, the Government have ordered to lease out the tanks on long term lease for a period of five years (instead of the earlier practice of granting lease for one year) from the year 1976 or from the fasli year 1386 onwards to the Inland/Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies in that order of preference and auction should be resorted

to only when neither the Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies nor the Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies come forward to take up the lease.

This long term lease policy is expected to improve the fish production by proper conservancy from those waters by the Co-operatives taking greater interest in a sustained fishery.

Training.—The Fisheries Department established 6 Marine Fishermen Training Centres and One Inland Fishermen Training Centre in order to make available skilled man-power to operate the mechanised fishing boats and the modern gear. So far 4,153 marine fishermen and 838 inland fishermen have been trained in these centres.

There are various Central Institutes imparting training in certain specialised fields. The Department is availing of these training facilities, by deputing the departmental staff to these institutions. For this purpose, a sum of Rs. 0.50 lakh has been provided in the current year.

Pearl and Chank Fisheries.—Pearl and Chank Fisheries continue to be the State monopoly.

Prior to 1971, fishing rights of chanks were leased out to private parties on tender system excepting in Tirunelveli Coast. In 1971, the Government took a decision and declared chank fishery as a free fishery except in Tirunelveli coast for the benefit of divers.

No chank fishery was conducted in Tirunelveli district during the last season as the divers were not agreeable to collect the chanks at the rates fixed by the Government.

The last pearl fishery was conducted in the year 1961-62. Every year pearl beds are examined to watch the availability of matured oysters for exploitation. The next pearl fishery will be organised when the pearl oysters are found to be matured and ripe for profitable exploitation.

Research.—The department has well established research stations at important centres in the State to carry out fisheries research on Marine Biology, Technology, Limnology, Fresh water Biology, etc. In these stations, several research problems as decided by the State Fisheries Research Council are being studied. A Technical Screening Committee has also been constituted to ensure that only viable schemes are taken up for implementation.

The following special research programmes are being implemented with the assistance of the Indian Council for Agricultural Research and Marine Products Export Development Authority :—

(i) conducting research on the better utilisation of trash fish ;

(ii) conducting research on technological improvements in dried salted fish to maintain good standard for exports ;

(iii) research on production of pearls with cultural techniques :

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS BONDS.

OFFER 13% INTEREST

The new 5-Year National Development Bonds introduced by the Government of India offer attractive 13% p. a. interest. These bonds can be purchased at any Post Office, branch of the State Bank of India or of a Nationalised Bank. The Bonds will mature after 5 years; the maturity values will be as under :

Purchase price	Maturity value
Rs. 10/-	Rs. 16-50
Rs. 100/-	Rs. 165-00
Rs. 500/-	Rs. 825-00

INCOME TAX BENEFIT

Interest on these bonds upto Rs. 3,000 is free of income-tax along with interest on other savings schemes such as Post Office Time Deposits, N.S.C s., Recurring Deposits, Units, etc., Tax will not be deducted at source.

OTHER FACILITIES AVAILABLE

Transfer from one Post Office to another. The Bonds can be transferred from One Post Office to another or from one branch of a Bank to another branch of the same Bank.

Pledging : The Bonds can be pledged as Security and retransferred to the original holder.

Conversion : A Bond can be converted from Single holding to Joint holding and vice-versa.

Nomination : The holder of a single type bond can make a nomination at any time after purchase or at the time of purchase. The nomination can be changed at any time.

(iv) conducting reaserch on brackish water fish farming and mariculture practices; and

(v) composite fish culture for stepping up inland fish production.

HALF A MILLION JOB PROGRAMME (1973-74) AND EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION PROGRAMME (1974-75)

To provide employment to the educated youth, 23 Fishermen Co-operative Societies have been organised under Half a Million Job Programme in 1973-74 and four more societies under Employment Promotion Programme in 1974-75. These societies offered employment to 600 and 118 persons respectively. While persons taken under Half a Million Job Programme were given training for 6 months, persons taken under Employment Promotion Programme were given four months training. Government have sanctioned towards share capital a sum of Rs. 45.93 lakhs and a sum of Rs. 14.13 lakhs during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 respectively, besides a sum of Rs. 150.00 remitted by each member.

Out of 27 Fishermen Co-operative Societies, 4 societies were formed for construction of boats, 4 societies for repairing and servicing the boats, 4 societies for processing and freezing and the remaining 15 societies for operation of mechanised fishing boats. The boat building societies have so far constructed 30 Nos. of 32' boats and 3 Nos. of 30' boats.

The service societies and the processing and freezing societies have not so far commenced their operation.

The 15 Fishermen Co-operative Boat Operating Societies have purchased 31 boats and commenced fishing operation by providing employment to their members.

Extension and Statistics : Taking advantage of a grant-in-aid programme sponsored by the Government of India, an extension unit has been established at Tuticorin by the end of 1976-77. The question of establishing similar units in other places for intensifying the extension work is under consideration.

The propaganda wing of the department is rendering technical advice by the issue of pamphlets, leaflets and by personal advice on methods of fish farming and fish culture to private entrepreneurs and other parties.

DEVELOPMENT OF INFRA-STRUCTURAL FACILITIES IN COASTAL FISHING VILLAGES

The Government of India have called for proposals in 1975 for implementing a scheme for development of infra-structural facilities in coastal fishing villages. In Tamil Nadu, two fishing villages, viz., Valinokkam in Ramanathapuram district and Pazhayar in Thanjavur district have been chosen and proposed under the scheme. Recently, the Government of India have communicated their approval for taking up the programme in Valinokkam at a cost of Rs. 24.045 lakhs. This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the central assistance by way of grant-in-aid will be to the extent of 75 per cent of the outlay.



WELFARE SCHEMES

(i) **Housing.**—There are 3.92 lakhs of marine fishermen living in 331 marine fishing villages scattered all over the coast of Tamil Nadu. In addition, there are 1.20 lakhs of Inland Fishermen in fishing hamlets. They mostly live in huts, in constant danger of destruction by fire, cyclone, sea erosion, etc. The paucity of funds was standing in the way of providing suitable living accommodation to them. In 1975 a decision was taken to provide all fishermen families with suitable housing facilities. Till the end of March 1977 housing accommodation have been provided to 8039 Fishermen families.

As on date 1,692 houses are under construction. In the current year also, a sum of Rs. 100.00 lakhs has been provided to continue the programme. This programme is being implemented in a phased manner and the entire families would be covered in due course.

(ii) **Feeder roads.**—Though there is need to take up larger number of feeder roads, for want of allocation no road-work could be taken up.

(iii) **Co-operative loans.**—The fishermen are provided with loans through the Fishermen Co-operatives for purchase or crafts, tackles and for other various purposes. In 1977-78 also a sum of Rs. 1.00 lakh has been earmarked for distribution as various kinds of loans to the Fishermen Co-operatives in Tamil Nadu.

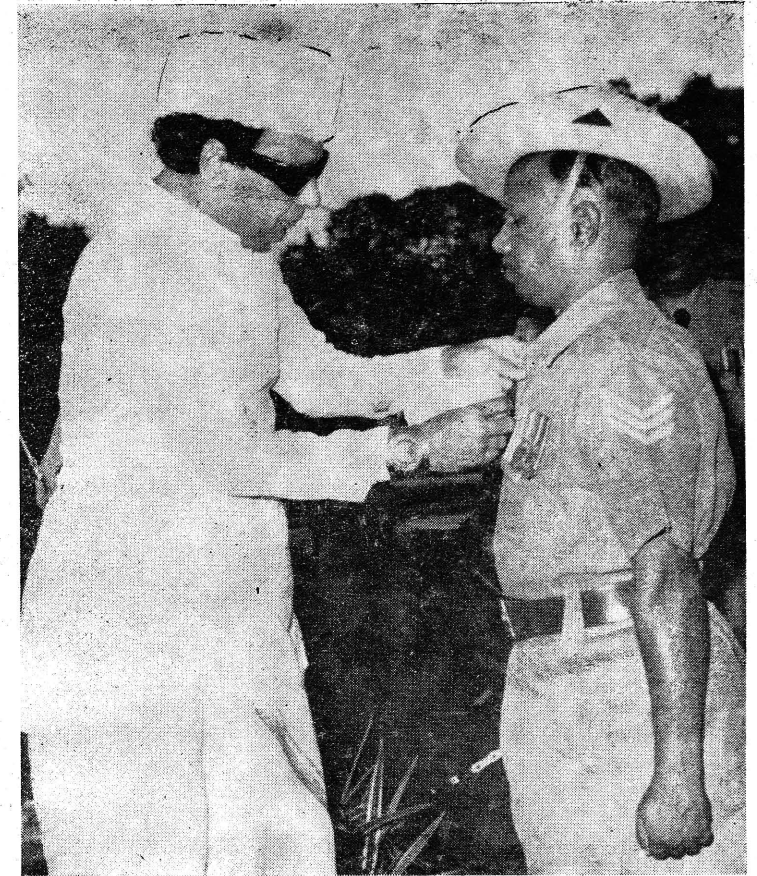
It is also proposed to secure financial assistance from the Reserve Bank of India and National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi to help the Fishermen Co-operatives in taking up fishing, fish processing and marketing activities.

(iv) **Ex-gratia Grant.**—Whenever a fisherman dies while fishing, his family is paid an ex-gratia grant of Rs. 1,000 under this scheme. So far a sum of Rs. 2,89,000 towards the ex-gratia payment was made to the affected fishermen families. It is proposed to enhance the ex-gratia grant from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000 from the current year.



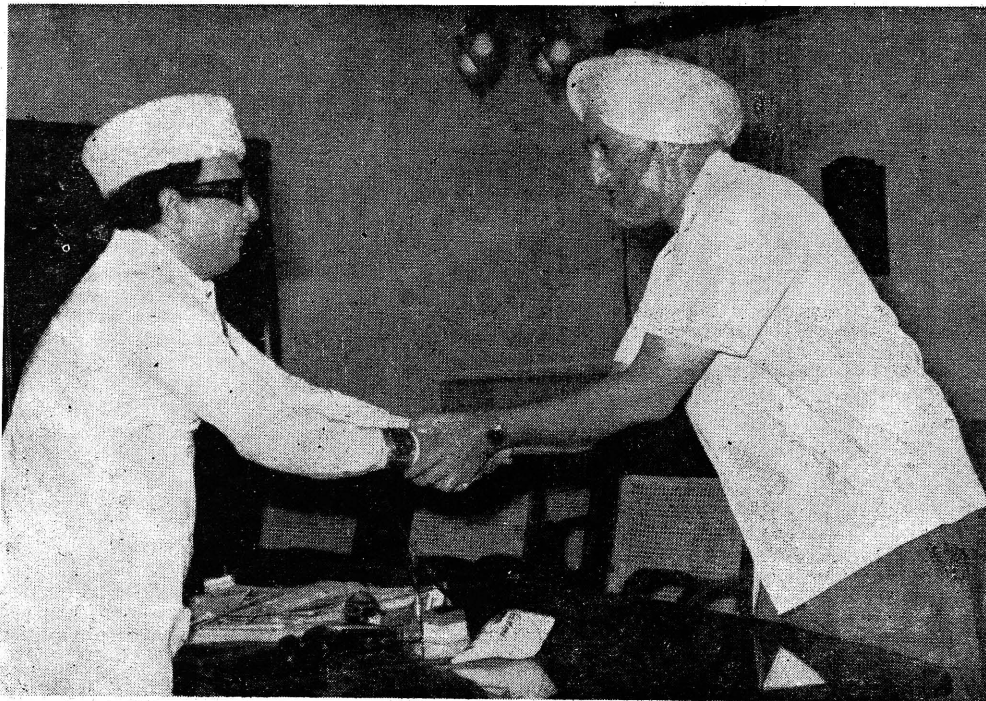
The Prime Minister Thiru Morarji Desai was received at the Meenam-bakkam Airport on 21-9-'77, by the Governor Thiru Prabudas Patwari and the Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R. Thiru M. G. R. is seen garlanding the Prime Minister.

The Chief Minister Thiru M. G. R. presenting the Chief Minister's Police Medal to the meritorious personnel of Police and fire service at the Rajarathnam Stadium on 15-9-'77.



NEWS IN PICTURES

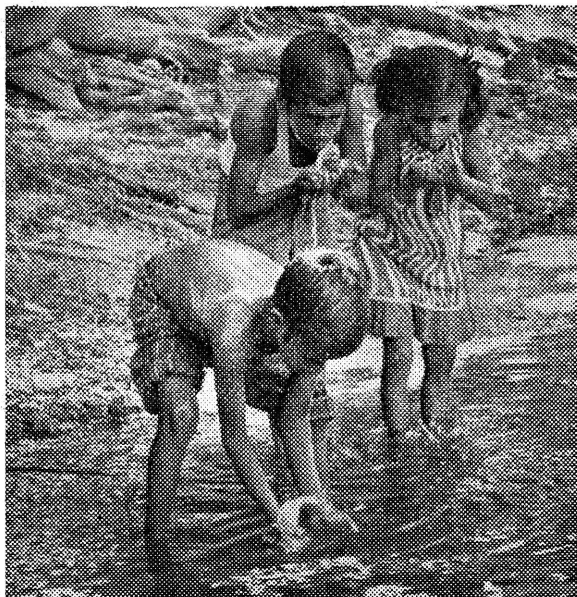
Thiru Gurubachan Singh, India's High Commissioner in Sri Lanka Called on the Chief Minister Thiru M. G. R. at his Chambers on 15-9-'77



The Prime Minister Thiru Morarji Desai opened the Policeman's Colony at Raja Annamalaipuram on 21-9-'77. The Chief Minister Thiru M. G. R. presided over the function



Their's is an endless quest for water



Shocking isn't it, that when most people have just to turn on a tap, these children have to walk miles to get a little drinking water. And that too from sources like rivers and water holes. Invariably bogged down with garbage and waste; breeding grounds for obnoxious bacteria. Is something being done about it?

Yes. The Government of Tamil Nadu will divert the proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets for building water supply systems. Bringing drinking water to 4,000 villages, all over the State.

This scheme is already in effect and will continue in full strength, until such time nobody—least of all children like these—walks far to get a pot of water.

More prizes for more people!

- 2 first prizes of Rs. 50,000 each
- 3 second prizes of Rs. 10,000 each
- 5 third prizes of Rs. 5,000 each
- and other prizes including additional consolation prizes in each series.
- Totally 2,655 prizes amounting to Rs. 3,90,000 in each series.

There are 3 series (AI, AJ, AK) for this draw.

Date of Draw: 19-10-77

Cost of ticket: Re. 1 only

Buy a Tamil Nadu Raffle ticket—you'll make someone live better.

Issued by the Director of Tamil Nadu Raffle, Madras 600 002



In Defence of Bharati's Songs

S. SATYAMURTI

I am not exaggerating the feeling of any Member of this House who is a Tamilian, or who knows Tamil, or who is a patriot, or who is not afraid of patriotism, when I say that one wants no arguments to support this vote of censure on the action of the Madras Government in having acquiesced in or directed the City Police to seize what will remain, in spite of the Madras Government's activities, so long as the Tamil language lasts or a single Tamilian exists, as the most priceless and patriotic songs in that great language.

"Sir, late Subrahmanya Bharati was a man on whose tongue the Goddess Saraswati can honestly be believed to have danced the dance of patriotism. If he had been born in any free country, why in any country of the world except India, that man would have been made the Poet Laureate of the country, would have been given honours and titles by a Government which knows how to respond to the feelings of the people, and would have lived and died among the most honoured of the nation. But Sir, being the slave country that we are, he had to live as an exile in Pondicherry, enjoying the hospitality of the French Government and die a broken wreck, because he found no use for himself under the auspices of this Government. But Sir, martyrs and patriots before him have gone to the same fate. Subrahmanya Bharati lived and died a patriot. I want to repeat, Mr. President, that so long as the Tamil language lasts, you may confiscate all the copies which exist even as our sacred Vedas were handed down from generation to generation, for aeons, without a single piece of writing, by the memory of our ancient Hindu ancestors, even as Macaulay was able to repeat every line of Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' I have no doubt that, so long as a single Tamilian lives, these songs will remain the priceless heritage of the Tamil race. I can inform this House, Mr. President, after this ill advised action of the Government, we are starting a propaganda for getting by heart every song of Subrahmanya Bharati, and although the Hon. the Law Member and the Hon. the Home Member may between

them confiscate every printed word of those patriotic songs, human ingenuity has not yet invented any machinery which is able to 'confiscate' thoughts and memories. Thoughts and memories will flourish, and wherever the Hon. the Law Member or the Home Member goes they will hear only these songs sung, and they will have to apply cotton wool to their ears if they want to save themselves from being polluted by hearing these brave and patriotic songs.

"Sir, the origin of this action is not even complimentary to this Government. This Government is here governing the bulk of the Tamilians in whose language these poems are written. These poems are a quarter of a century old. For nearly twenty five years, these songs have been sung throughout the Province, and I appeal to my Hon. friend the Chief Minister who, I know, is a very good student of Tamil whether he has not heard and enjoyed these songs, whether he has not heard and felt his pulse beat quicker, and his blood run warmer in his veins, when these magnificent, soul-stirring songs were sung. I am sorry my two other friends who crossed the floor are not here. If they were here, they dare not contradict me when I say that some of the election methods by which they came to this very Council, which gave them the opportunity to cross the floor and become Ministers, where these patriotic songs sung by boys and girls in public meetings. Sir, do you know that in this Tamil country, if you want to get up a magnificent meeting, if you want to sustain the interest of the audience, the most usual method is to get these songs sung? I wish I had the voice to sing a few of these songs here, which will melt even the stony hearts of the Hon. the Law Member and the Home Member. I will read some of them, and even a prosaic reading of these songs will melt the hearts of these people.

"Then, Sir, what are these songs? I am not going to dwell on their seditious nature, under your ruling. I merely want to tell the House these are songs with the like of which one is familiar in English

Shri S. Satyamurti (1887-1943), popularly known as the 'Fire brand of South India' qualified himself at an early age for legal profession, but opted for a political career. In 1919 and 1926 he went to England and delivered speeches advocating the cause of India's freedom.

About half a century back, when he delivered his maiden speech in the Madras Legislative Council, spearheading his emergence as an able Parliamentarian it was quite appropriate that he championed the cause of school children who were being denied the inspiration of Subrahmanya Bharati's songs.

Five years later, in the same House, Shri Satyamurti returned to the theme when the police seized the copies of Bharati's songs. Reproduced here are some excerpts from the fiery speech of the renowned orator who moved an adjournment motion regarding the seizure of copies of Bharati's songs by the police.

Arrested in 1942 for participating in the Quit India Movement, Shri Satyamurti died while under detention. Let us remember this great champion of freedom also, when we pay our homage to the great national poet, Subrahmanya Bharati.

literature, such as praising the country, praising her natural beauties, praising her great heroes and heroines, praising her great achievements, expressing unmitigated love for the motherland, expressing joy in her present and hope in her future. Are these unworthy of any nation? These have been proscribed. I have got copies here and I can make a present of them to the Hon. the Home Member or the Law Member. I will make a present of them to the Council Library and if the police want them they can go and search there and take them. I shall read from the first book of songs in order to convince the House that there was no need for the Government to confiscate this literature :

*Vande Maataram enbom
Maanila-t-thaayai vanaguvadenbom (Vande)
Jaathi mathangalai-p-parom—Uyar
Janmam iddesattil eythinarayinum
Vediyar aayinum onre—Anri
Veru Kulathavar aayinum onre
Eena paraiyarkalenrum—Avar
Emmudan vazhndhu ingiruppavar anro?
Cheenathaar aay viduvaaro? pira
Desathaarpor-p-pola theengizhaippaaro (Vande)*

“We will worship our Mother, we will not mind to which caste or which religion, our fellow citizen belong ; if they are born in this country, all of them are our brothers. Even if they are called Paraiyas (Harijans), are they foreigners ?

*Onru pattal undu vazhvu — Nammil
Otrumai indril anaiavarkkum thazhvu
Nanri therinthidal vendum—Intha
Gnanam vandaal pin namakethu vendum? (Vande)*

“I commend these lines to the particular attention of the Hon. the Law Member and the Chief Minister and the Home Minister. If we are united we can live ; if we are not united we are all equally humiliated—Treasury Bench and the Opposition alike (Laughter) Then I appeal to the Tamilians. Have you heard any more inspiring lines than these ? I have not.

*Chenthamizh naadenum
pothinile—Inba
Thhen vanthu paayuthen
kaathinile — Engal
Thanthaiyar naadendra
pechinile—Oru
Sakthi pirakkuthu moochinile — (Chenthamizh)*

“I do not know, Sir, if there is any Tamilian in this House or outside whose heart will not melt at these songs. I ask them to remember this, that these songs are now declared forfeited to His Majesty by the action of a Government which are to a certain extent kept in those treasury benches by us. The music of it is so great that even a halting reader of those songs like myself can make an appeal to the members here.

“I have listened to Hon. the Law Member shouting here yesterday ; he has not even read these songs, but still he has forfeited the book. I can understand if the Government has chosen one of those songs or two and said that those songs should be forfeited. They have not done anything of the kind. These two volumes consist of some of the most moving songs on our religion and letters, apart from pure patriotism.

What they sang : “I shall finish by referring to similar songs in English literature which Englishmen sing in their country, which they sing even in our own country in private dinner parties and other places. They sing of the glories of England” “Britain shall rule the waves. Britain shall never be slave but Indians shall always be slaves.” That is the burden of their songs, if they are to be judged by the results of the actions. Lord Tennyson sang :

At her girdle clash
The golden keys of the East and West !
Her mailed hand keeps the keys of such
Teeming destinies

William Blake wrote—

Their mighty wings stretch from east to West
Their nest is in the sea, but they shall roam
Like eagles for the prey.

Then England's message in Parker's words :

Then Courage, all brave mariners
And never be dismayed
Then be bold-work for gold
When the stormy winds do blow.

Lord Tennyson says :

The fleet of England is her all in all
Her fleet is in your hands
And in her fleet her fate.

“I want to point out three capital differences between the English nationalistic literature and ours. English nationalistic literature boasts of its own strength and speaks of the confusion and destruction of their enemies. “God save the King, send him victorious, happy and glorious and confound his enemies.” That is the Englishman's song. The Englishman's psychology is that God has to deal with only two categories, England and her subjects on the one hand and her enemies on the other. That is, God must give up all His other work and constantly save England and confound her enemies. Humanity has come under these two categories, England and her subjects on the one hand or England and her enemies on the other. Whereas the message of Subrahmanya Bharati is the message of all races, of poets, philosophers and seers of all nations.

“Let India be free and happy and the other nations of the world be free and happy. Is it for preaching this message of peace on earth and goodwill to all men that the Madras Government which does not understand the ABC of patriotism or nationalism have ventured to lay its profane hand on this sacred literature? We are constantly told that we are a nation of many races and creeds. Bharati was a Brahmin by birth, and I appeal to non-Brahmins in the South — several of them were his friends and I do not want to name them — to say whether throughout his literature, there is a single trace of caste or communal bias or superiority or inferiority. He talks only of Indians as a whole, he knows no distinction of class or creed, race or religion. He is the most cosmopolitan that I know of among modern authors. Is it for preaching this harmony among men that his books are sought to be forfeited by this Government ? It seems to me that this action of the Government cannot be justified on any basis whatever, either of duty or of reason.

Courtesy : YUVA BHARATI



The Madras Museum is a large multipurpose Museum covering a wide range of subjects and is organized into the following sections : Art, Archaeology, Anthropology, Numismatics, Philately, Zoology, Botany, Geology and a Children's Section. Each of these sections contains extensive collections illustrating the art, history, culture, ethnography and natural history of South India.

The Government Museum in Madras is the largest and oldest of the State Museums in India. Beginning as a Museum of Geology in 1851 its scope was soon extended to cover other fields such as Archaeology, Prehistory and Natural History.

In 1951, the Museum celebrated its centenary, having completed a hundred years of fruitful service to the public as a pioneer educational institution in the State. The Centenary celebrations were inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, on November 27, 1951. The National Art Gallery was also organised and thrown open to the public on the occasion.

It may be of interest to make a brief reference here to some of the most outstanding collections in each of these principal sections of the Museum.

ARCHAEOLOGY

The Archaeological Section of the Museum is the chief centre of

attraction particularly to foreign visitors and tourists. It deals with the acquisition, preservation, study and display of sculptures, antiquities and allied objects pertaining to the various periods of South Indian History. The exhibits in this Section consist of sculptures in stone and metal, inscriptions on stone and metal, architectural pieces, paintings, wood carvings, metalware, textiles and a few original manuscripts. The most ancient antiquities of the historical period of South India contained in this Section consist mainly of Buddhist relics from Andhra Pradesh of which the beautiful Bhattiprolu crystal reliquaries and the inscribed stone caskets which contained them deserve special mention. The Buddhist sculptures from Amaravati which adorn an entire gallery in this Museum constitute by far the most interesting and important record not only of the development of the artistic activities of South India during the five centuries from about 200 B.C. to about 300 A.D., but also about the social life of the people of those times as that period is not attested by any indisputably authentic written records. Again, the Museum's rich collection of bronze icons is noteworthy. The Museum possesses one of the world's richest collection of Bronzes, many of which are superb specimens of

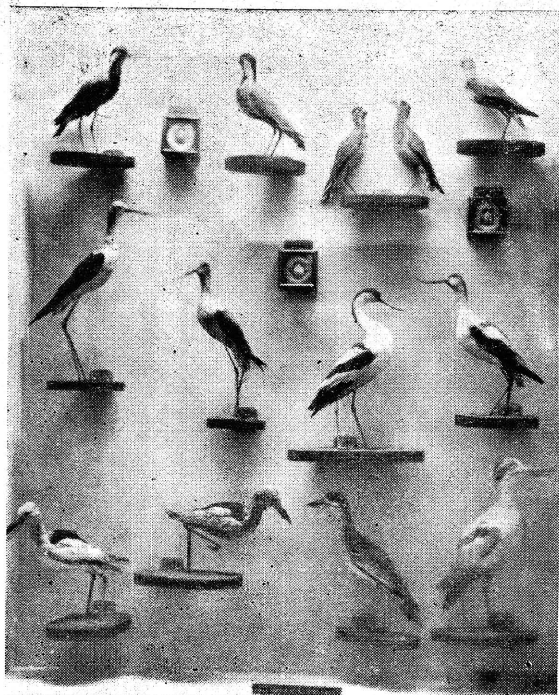
South Indian Art. In the whole world, this Museum may be said to be the only institution where the widest possible range of icons in bronze from a limited area are available for study under a single roof.

ANTHROPOLOGY

The Madras Museum is among the earliest of institutions in India and abroad where ethnology and prehistoric archaeology are represented as Museum subjects. The first palaeolith in India from Attirampakkam, Chingleput District, discovered in 1863 by Bruce Foote, and housed in this Museum, is one of a large collection of prehistoric antiquities possessed by this Museum. An earlier collection acquired in 1878 from J. W. Brecks from the Nilgiris consists of exotic pottery, beads, ornaments, iron implements and bronze vases. The Museum also possesses large collections of iron age pottery, iron tools, bronze utensils and gold ornaments excavated at Adichanallur in Tirunelveli District and Perumbair in Chingleput District, and the stone age collections made later by Mr. F. P. Manley and others have considerably augmented the Museum reserves so that the pre-historic antiquities of this Museum constitute one of the richest collections in the world to-day. Besides, the Museum possesses a large ethnographic collection representative of the tribal and rural cultures of the people of Southern India. —This

DR. S. T. SATYAMUTRI

Director of Museums, Tamil Nadu



includes tribal dwellings, utensils, implements used by tribal folk, their dress, weapons and ornaments. These have been recently augmented by such interesting additions as life-size models of Kathakali characters representing the Dance Drama of Kerala and leather shadow play figures from Malabar, Mysore and Andhra areas.

NUMISMATICS

The Madras Museum is noted for its large and unique collections of coins, particularly of South Indian and Mughal coins. There are over 30,000 coins in the collection, belonging to various dynasties, but for reasons of security these original coins are kept in a strong room as a study collection and only electroplated metal casts and plaster casts of a few selected coins illustrative of the evolution of Indian coinage are exhibited in the public galleries.

NATURAL HISTORY

The Natural History collections of the Museum are very extensive and are displayed in its vast Zoological, Botanical and Geological Galleries.

The Zoological section is one of the largest sections in the Museum, handing the collection, preservation, storage and display of all types of animal forms from the lowly organized one-celled Protozoan to the gigantic whale. Although the scope is limited mainly to South Indian fauna a few interesting specimens of foreign animals and birds, especially a few beautiful birds of remarkably brilliant plumage such as the Mandarin Duck, Macaw Parrot, Tragopan, Monal and the Golden Pheasant, have been added to enrich the collections particularly in recent years.

The Botanical Galleries include systematic, ecological and economic sections. In the Gallery of economic products, a large number of vegetable raw materials, forest products, timbers, indigenous medicinal herbs and cottage industry products are exhibited.

The Geological Gallery of this Museum is a veritable treasure house of Indian minerals and has been recently rearranged so as to present to the lay man a fairly complete picture of stratigraphy and the range and variety of the mineral wealth of India. Some

exhibits which specially attract the attention of visitors in this Gallery are the gem stones, gold ores, building stones, meteorites and a gigantic fossil Ammonite which is a close relative of the living Cuttlefish.

THE GALLERY OF ECONOMIC BOTANY

The economic products are classified into various categories such as fibres, beverages, oils and oil seeds, drugs, narcotics, condiments, etc. Similarly, attractive displays of South Indian timbers and plant morphological models, etc., have been installed.

GALLERY OF BIRDS

Birds in their natural haunts include Egrets and storks, Night Herons with their nests, Sea Gulls and Terns, Jungle Fowl, Peacock and Peahen, Brahminy Kite, Rock Horned Owl, Flamingoes, Demoiselle Crane and the Great Indian Bustard.

ETHNOLOGY GALLERIES

The first floor of the front building of the Museum houses the Ethnology Galleries containing objects illustrating tribal culture and folklore. The ornaments, weapons, musical instruments, costumes, models of tribal dwellings and other objects pertaining to the material culture of the various tribal folk are attractively displayed in these roomy modernised show cases, supplemented by enlarged photographs and bust models of the typical men and women of the respective tribes of Tamil Nadu and neighbouring areas, each show case being devoted to a separate tribe. One of these galleries devoted to Kathakali, the classical Dance Drama of Kerala, folk-lore, mythology and votive offerings, etc., is a small and compact one and is particularly impressive with its attractive illuminated display of folk arts, sorcery figures, models of temple cars, etc., in a partially darkened atmosphere.

In one of the other two larger Ethnology Galleries which have been modernised, specimens of tribal jewellery, ancient fire-making appliances, writing implements, tribal fishing equipment, etc., are tastefully displayed and a small diorama depicting Yama's Darbar with an almost theatrical colour effect stands out as a key piece.

South India and particularly Tamil Nadu is rich in its output of artistic metalware and a profusion of lamps, vessels, embossed plates, trays and other metal objects used in worship, with exquisite designs, are attractively presented in this Gallery.

THE CHILDREN'S GALLERY

An outstanding development effected in recent years at the Madras Museum partly with the aid of Central financial assistance is the newly organised Children's Gallery. It is a particularly attractive and colourful section of the Museum meant specially to cater to the needs of children of the school-going ages. It consists of a series of modern, internally illuminated cases of more or less uniform pattern containing exhibits of special appeal and educative value to the children including a few working models such as the telephone, earth satellite and miniature trains. An attempt has been made to present the child with a glimpse into the entire panorama of life, although in a greatly abbreviated scale, and, as far as possible, each exhibit has been designed, arranged and captioned so as to tell a connected story in a simplified manner. The series begins with an instructive portrayal of the story of the origin of the solar system and the earth, followed by displays illustrating the mineral wealth of India, miniature models of extinct animals, the story of early man, his tools and his way of life and the variety and sequence of plant and animal forms on this earth. Models illustrating the various organ systems of man and of the main animal types, dressed dolls illustrating the traditional costumes of India and the various classical dances of India and miniature models illustrating the story of the evolution of human transport are also dramatically displayed.

THE NEW BUDDHIST ANTIQUITIES

The newly organized buddhist Antiquities gallery contains many rare specimens of Buddhist antiquities excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India in the earlier years from Buddhist sites in South India such as Amaravati, Sankaram and Peddamudayam. This Gallery also contains scale models of monuments from Nagarjunakonda and is decorated with a series of mural paintings depicting scenes from the life of the Buddha.



Modern Art Gallery : In the floor of the rear room of the National Art Gallery, a small additional Gallery devoted to Modern Art was organized in recent years. This gallery contains some reproductions of paintings by French masters such as Matisse, Chagal and Pablo and is intended to help in the comparative study of modern art.

Philately Gallery A gallery that has been organized in this Museum in recent years is the Philately Gallery. This gallery is housed in a separate room adjoining the Botanical galleries on the first floor in the main rear building of the Museum and contains nearly 50,000 postal stamps of different periods from almost all countries of the world. This is the only Museum in India which has a full fledged philately Gallery, apart from the Philately Museum in New Delhi.

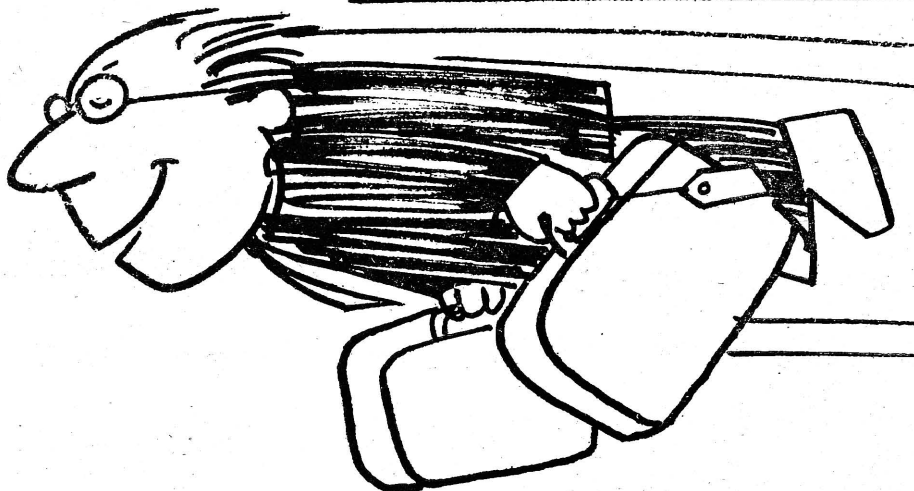
Numismatics Gallery : This Museum has a very rich collection of coins numbering more than 30,000 but for security reasons they are stored in a strong room. The need for showing atleast metal casts of a representative selection of coins in a regular public gallery was therefore keenly felt, and in September, 1976, a Numismatics Gallery was organiz-

ed and thrown open to the public in the front room of the first floor of the Bronze Gallery. The Gallery contains electroplated metal casts of selected coins of various dynasties of South India, plaster casts of coins of the Guptas, Indo-Greek, Kushans, etc., and some original medals, seals and important historical documents attractively displayed.

Puppet Gallery : The latest Gallery to be organized in this Museum is the Puppet Gallery which was opened to the public in April, 1977. In this gallery are displayed selected specimens of leather puppets from Karnataka and Kerala and string and glove puppets from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh with appropriate theatrical backdrops. During the past three decades the Museum has acquired nearly three hundred leather puppets not only from within India but also from foreign countries like Java, Malaya and Indo-China.

A modern museum has several distinct functions to perform and it plays its unique role as an instrument of popular education as well as science research and like all progressive museums, the Madras Museum has also been endeavouring to discharge these functions as effectively as possible.

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CONSERVE NATURE TO PRESERVE WILD LIFE

Conservation has been defined as the management of the resources of the environment namely, air, water, soil, minerals and living species including man so as to achieve the highest sustainable quality of human life. It is a matter of much concern that the natural environment has been seriously altered since man started using natural resources of this planet. More often, his interference has brought destruction to the vegetation leading frequently to complete or partial change in the various eco systems of the earth, so much so ultimately, it is feared that further destruction of eco system would be perilous for his very existence.

From the earliest times, unrestricted felling, shifting cultivation, grazing and fire have been responsible for the degeneration of many a habitat and consequent extinction of many a plant and animal species. This destruction is more marked in tropics and subtropics, which form about 2/3 of World's population.

In Tamil Nadu though Forest Conservancy and Scientific working of the forests are over hundred years old the steady deterioration in the fauna and flora was not realised or preceptible till last decade. The total area of the forest in Tamil Nadu is 20,910 Sq. Km. which works out to 16% of the land area against the All India average of 22%. And the per capita forest area is only 1/20th of an Hectare against an average of 0.14 hectare for whole of India. This shows the urgent need not only to zealously conserve the environment but also to reverse the process of degradation without delay.

As a first step to nature conservation Tamil Nadu Government have declared number of sanctuaries to preserve the diminishing wildlife. There are 8 sanctuaries in the State and 16 Water-fowl refuges. The areas of these 8 sanctuaries is 2,089 sq. Km. That is, about 1/10th of the forest area is given absolute protection, managed by special staff with emphasis on conservation of fauna and flora.

Mudumalai Wild Life Sanctuary in the Nilgiris (321 sq. Km.) is

noted for Elephants, Gaur, Chital, Panther, Tiger and a variety of birds. Mundanthurai Tiger Sanctuary in Tirunelveli District (567 sq. Km.) a sanctuary created in 1963 for the protection of the tiger therein. Though the present population of tiger is small here, we see herds of chital, sambhar and a few panthers and troops of Nilgiri Langur and Lion tailed macaque, as well as bonnet monkey and common langurs.

S. A. RAHMATULLAH, I.F.S.,
Chief Wildlife Warden

Kalakad sanctuary was created about a year back with the entire Kalakad Reserve Forests of 223 sq. Km. mainly for the protection of the endangered species — viz., Lion tailed Macaque which occurs only in the Western Ghats.

Annamalai Wild Life Sanctuary was notified in 1971 comprising of 958 sq. Km. and is known for elephant, gaur, tiger, panther and primates.

Point Calimere Sanctuary (17.3 sq. Km.) is a unique one on the sea-coast with the large population of Black Buck, semi wild ponies and large number of migratory birds, water birds like Flamingoes, Pelicans, herons etc.

The Guindy Park in the heart of the Madras, metropolitan town (2.82 sq. Km.) supports the Coastal thorn forest and it is proposed to declare it as National Park very soon.

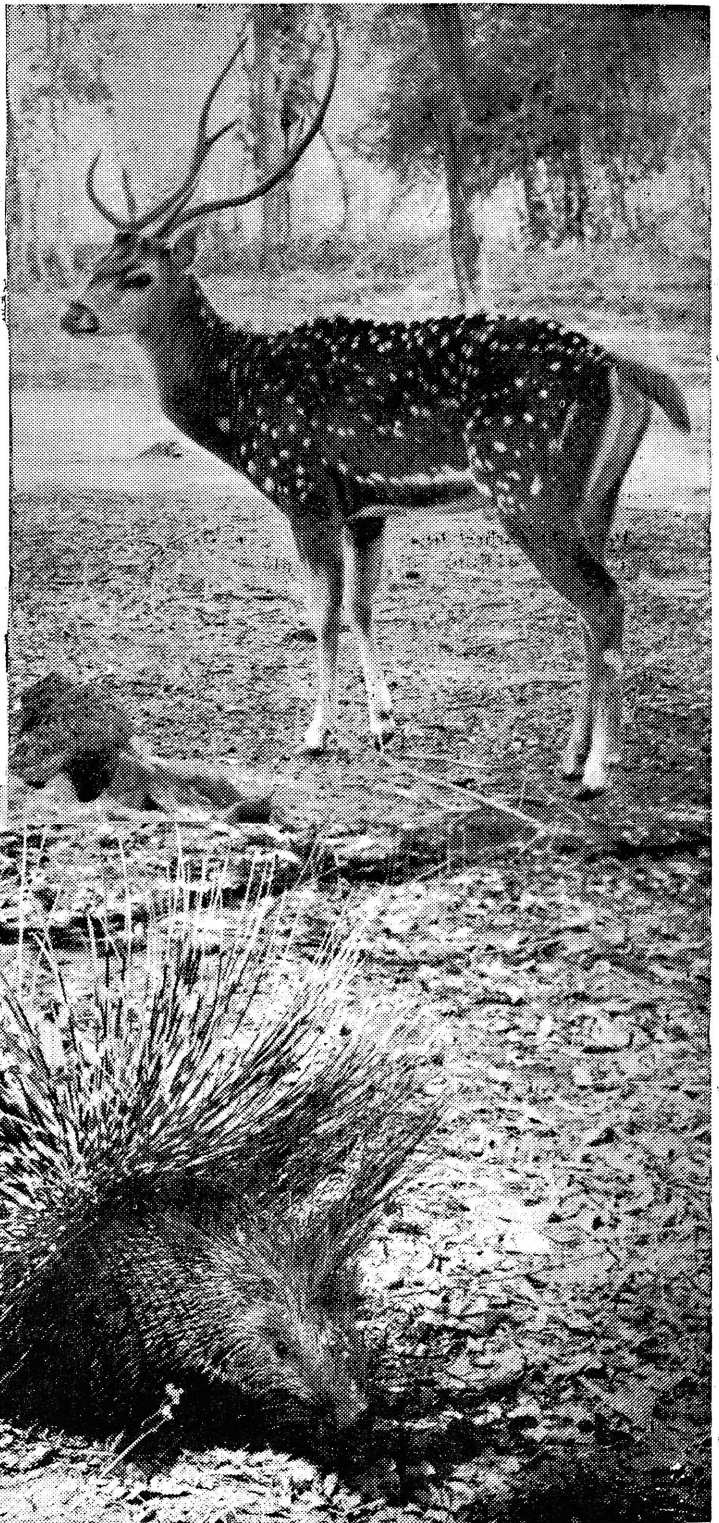
Of the 18 water fowl refuges two have the status of sanctuary. The first is Vedanthangal, internationally known Bird Sanctuary situated 80 Kms. south of Madras. The other one is Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary about 50 Km. from Madurai towards



East, and is noted for its mixed heronry during rainy season.

Re-organisation of the Wild-life Unit :

Tamil Nadu is the pioneer State in India in having reorganised the Wild Life wing by integrating the forestry works and Wild Life management in all the sanctuaries under a wholetime Chief Wildlife Warden. Each of the big sanctuaries is under the control of Wildlife Warden who is primarily a Warden i.e., a Conservationist and also functions as a District Forest Officer on all administrative matters. In these sanctuaries grazing has been stopped except in some places where, for lack of other pasture, it is curtailed considerably, though not totally banned. Exploitation of firewood, timber, Minor Forest Produce have been given up in most of the places ; and where it is inevitable due to economic consideration it is being continued on a much smaller scale with an ultimate object of stoping these activities. Clear-felling and planting for monoculture is also discouraged. In short the process of denudation and degradation has not only to be arrested but reversed



back towards its original status. The forest areas and non-forest areas outside the sanctuaries are also under the surveillance of wildlife protection staff.

Implementation of Wildlife Act and Rules :

The most important step taken towards Wildlife Conservation is the extension of the Wildlife protection Act, 1972 to Tamil Nadu and the Rules framed under this Act. Better conservation and protection of Wildlife has been afforded by bringing under control the trade in wild-life and animal products and streamlining the issue of licences for hunting. Effective protection is assured by making the Act also applicable to all areas outside the Reserved Forests. Tamil Nadu is a Pioneer State in implementing this Act, and even before a countrywide moratorium on Tiger shooting was issued in 1970 all over India, Tamil Nadu had ordered protection to this grand animal as early as 1963.

Wildlife is to be managed by dedicated personnel. It is necessary that people concerned with wildlife management should have an inherent love for wildlife. With this object in view, Forest Department has started Youth Clubs for wildlife. Students who have aptitude and love for wildlife and forests

are spotted out and suitable facilities and scholarships for the study of this science afforded to them so that the knowledge and training that might be gathered from their young age may equip them better to become either wildlife managers or their advocates in the future.

Scientific research is considered as an integral part of Wildlife conservation. For proper and intensified management of wildlife a knowledge of the ecology of wildlife and its habitat is essential. Towards this direction, a full time Biologist has been employed in Kalakad sanctuary to study the behaviour of the animals in their habitat.

Trained personnel are the key to the success of Wildlife conservation. Therefore, selected officers are offered special training in Wildlife in India or abroad.

Breeding of Endangered species :

The Tiger, leopard, crocodile, four horned antelope, black buck, lion tailed macaque, Nilgiri tahr and many more are becoming rare and are now a threatened species. With the financial assistance from the Government of India, the Tamil Nadu Government has taken measures to arrest the further extinction

of these endangered species and also to rear it up by Captive Breeding Programme.

A project for developing Crocodile farms in Sathanur has been started in 1976-77 and rearing ponds and pools are completed and the collection of eggs and hatching has been a success and now Tamil Nadu can boast of having hundreds of siblings in Captive breeding at centres located at Madras, Sathanur, Hognekal and Amaravathy in fact more in Captive breeding than perhaps in the natural waters.

Black buck which is fast dwindling is afforded effective protection in the Guindy Park, Kodikadu Reserve Forest in Thanjavur district and Sujikottai near Bhavanisagar in the State. In this also, Government of India has sanctioned a handsome amount for developing the Point Calimere sanctuary.

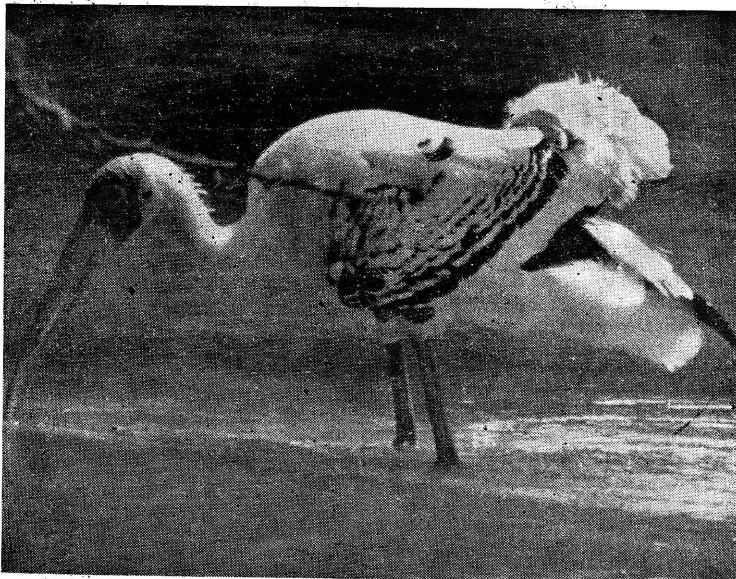
The lion tailed monkey occurs only in Western Ghats in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. To develop the sanctuary of Lion tailed Macaque, Government of India have offered Rs. 4.25 lakhs and it is being utilised for forming roads and bridle paths improvement of Rest Houses, research on this species and its habitat.

Facilities for Tourist :

The facilities for tourist, foreign as well as local, have been improved by adding new Rest Houses and dormitories to afford not only sight seeing, but also research scholars and naturalist to go round and stay in the different sanctuaries. Transport facilities for going round inside the sanctuary are improved by forming better roads, suitable for all weather, watch towers, providing vans, mini buses, jeeps, elephants at nominal rates.

Wildlife associations in the State engaged in publicizing the philosophy of conservation and educating the public and students are given financial assistance to carry on this good work of publicity and protection.

This State is also the first to form the State Wildlife Advisory Board with eminent naturalists and conservationists, as members, and by now two meetings have been conducted as required by the Indian Wildlife Act and the resolutions of the meetings are being implemented.



The sight of a confined wild animal arouses an emotive sympathy among many. The pacing to and fro of the larger carnivores, in their cages, is identified with that of a prisoner in his cell, obsessed with the thought of freedom. Even the most up-to-date Zoological Garden is regarded by some extremists, as no longer than a prison house and the zoo staff as prison warders with a penchant for sadism.

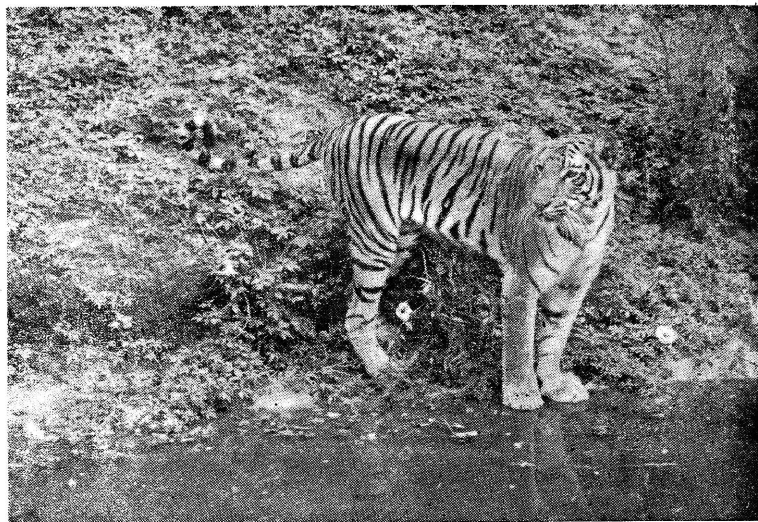
The most popular idea concerning wild animals is that in nature they are fancy free and able to roam at random over wide areas, in a state of blissful and unfettered freedom, under which they eat and sleep at will and mate at will. Nothing could be further from the truth. No animal (bird or reptile) or groups of animals are blessed with the unhampered freedom conceived by man and ascribed to animals — a clear case of anthropomorphism.

The great majority of the animals including mammals and the other groups are confined to restricted territories and all their activities are restrained by space and time, relations with their enemies or prey, food, biological rank among different species inhabiting an area and the social rank of each within the group. Added to these there is considerable lack of freedom to mate.

Let us consider these in some detail.

The territory is the living area of a single individual, a pair or a social unit, the group represented by the chief individual. Several territories form a larger area known as the biotope, the home of the species. Several biotopes coalesce into a still larger area called the habitat, an area which meets particular needs of a particular species. The much larger area on the earth's surface in which a particular species is found distributed is the geographical range.

An example will make this clear. Spotted deer is found say throughout India, and India will be the geographical range of the species. Wooded lands containing specific fodder and water sources will be the habitat. The Guindy Deer Park is the biotope, comprising territories of individual groups. Another example will be the case of the House lizard. The geographical



cal range will be all the states where the species are found. The habitat will be all the residential houses. The biotope will be every residential house and the territory will be, as most of us have observed, a portion of the ceiling or wall held by one or a pair of lizards.

These spatial units for different species often overlap. The house crow and the babbler, the lion and the hyaena, the tiger and the jackal

the use of excrement, urine or glandular secretions. As a rule, the defence of a territory is left to the male against rivals of its own species; seldom or not at all against animals or other species. The tiger is indifferent to the presence of a jackal in its living area, but will never tolerate a rival of its own race. The territory is defended by voice, hooves, horns, claws and teeth. The victor takes over one considered favourable and the vanquished, if alive, has to make do with a less favourable one.

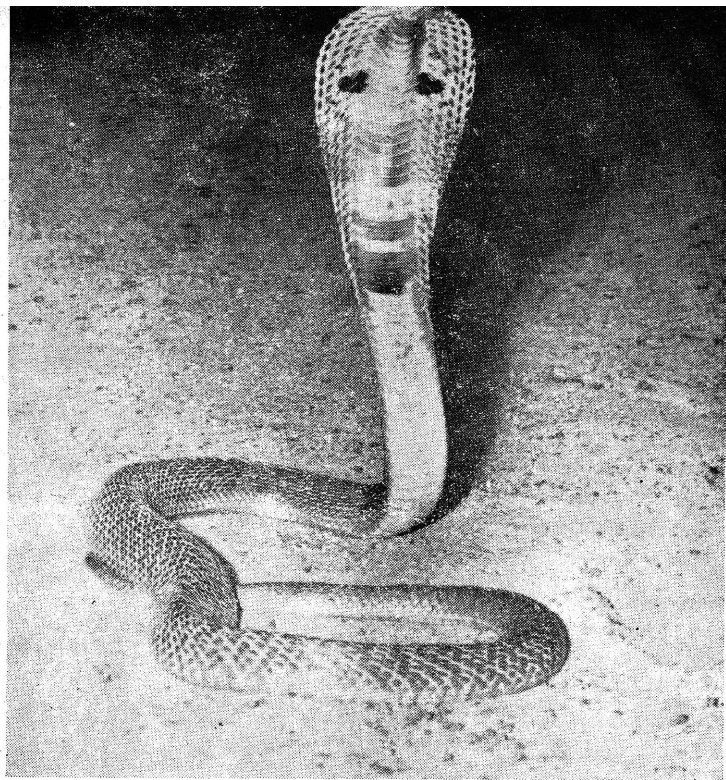
IN SUPPORT OF CAPTIVE ANIMALS

by

V. M. NARASIMHAN, I.F.S.,
Wildlife Warden

may live in the same territories. The territory is first rendered distinctive by its owner (or owners) in a particular way and defended by it. The limits of the territory are usually demarcated by a variety of devices such as, optical, acoustic, olfactory or combinations of these. The giraffe is said to use the optical method. The monkeys and frogs, by means of howls and creaks define the limits. The dogs and cats and several other species have their favourite olfactory method —

Movements within the biotope do take place during emergencies, but the tendency to appropriate living spaces by an individual or a group continues even though to be held for very short periods. The activities within a territory, or across territories are compelled or restrained by a time factor. The animals move at definite times according to a time system co-ordinated with the space system. In other words at definite times and places an animal must perform definite activities. The practice of shooting from a stand depends, on this every day fact. A striking punctuality has been observed among animals and birds passing or using one particular spot at a particular time. In the case of migratory birds, even though the migration is across vast stretches of the globe, they seek the same territory year after year. At the time of migration an overwhelming compulsion takes hold and the birds leave the nesting sites, abandoning every other activity and they



move off towards the new site. Thus, there are two space and time systems operating, the lesser one comprising the activities of the animal within twenty four hours inside its territory such as search for food, and the greater space and time system which includes seasonal activities of a wide range at greater intervals.

The enemy prey relationship is an important factor in the life of a wild animal. Man is the universal enemy of nearly all animals in the free state. In the presence of an enemy the animal shows a characteristic escape reaction, specific for sex, age, enemy, and the surroundings. It does not, on the approach of the enemy simply run or fly away, but exhibits various behaviour mechanisms such as crouching, hiding, freezing and all the while watching. Only when the enemy approaches within a definite distance, the prey animal takes to flight. This distance is known as the flight distance which varies from species to species, and even for animals of the same species according to the environment. In the mosaic of overlapping territories several species living in freedom are interconnected, besides the enemy-

nery relationship. There is a biological competition for food, moving space and choice of resting and sleeping places. Even among groups of the same species there is a social hierarchy in which there is a leader — in some cases a female and in others a male. A definite behaviour-ceremonial has been observed to be present in regard to the intercourse of each grade with its fellows. An infringement of this ceremonial attracts a painful rebuke or fighting. If the leader of the group happens to be a male, other males of socially inferior status rarely have a chance to mate with the females in the group. The social inferiors have to go without sexual gratification. A fight for the leadership and the possession of the harem decides once again on whom the mantle falls.

Thus, it is emphasised, that the popular conception of golden freedom among animals in nature is purely a product of the human imagination, and certainly not a biological fact.

Many animals are born in captivity and they know nothing of the so-called freedom. But a captured wild animal suffers a little in the transition phase from freedom

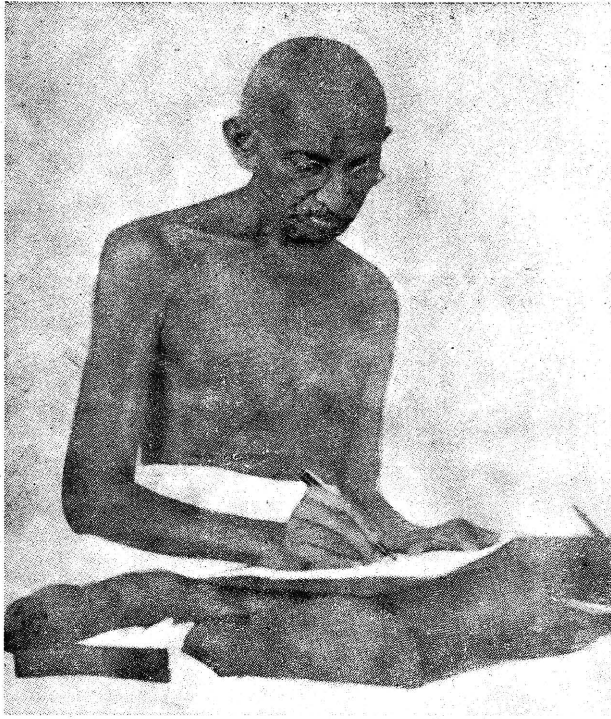
to captivity. The sudden severance of the various stimuli to which it has been used to, causes some anguish to the new captive. The main urge in nature being the compulsion to escape from an enemy, especially from man, the animal is unable to put its flight distance between itself and man and so it remains in a state of excitement. Since in practice, it is impossible to fit the size of the cage, to the flight distance of the animal, the only solution will be to reduce the flight distance to nil to bring the animal to a state of rest. In other words, this is achieved by taming. In this process the wild animal ceases to consider man as its enemy and the urge to flee from him gets dissipated.

It is known for a fact that the great majority of the animals in captivity are far healthier and better fed than those in the wild and also have an average longer life. It is doubtful whether lack of space is a very serious consideration when providing suitable accommodation for animals. Species which do range over wide territories such as elephants, the larger ungulates and birds of prey are among the easiest to keep in menageries and generally live to a ripe old age.

The desirability of maintaining zoos cannot be gain said. No one can deny the great pleasure given to a large section of the population, by the opportunity of seeing the living animals. Theoretically, of course, the best way of seeing animals would be to see them in their natural surroundings. But, how many have the time, means and inclination to do so? And how many can see the wild animals in different parts of the globe in their natural surroundings.

Several species of animals exist today due to facts learnt about them in zoological gardens.

Examples are the American Bison, and the Koala. Some species of animals now extinct in freedom continue to live in captivity as for example the European Bison, the wild horse, the Pere David deer and the Barbary lion. In regard to many species of animals, birds and reptiles that are threatened with extinction, the only hope of their survival will be their maintenance and breeding in captivity. An animal stands to gain through the spread of the knowledge of animals and of love of animals due to Zoological Gardens.



GANDHI

The Writer

No one has used the stuff of words on a massive scale has been as passionately purposive as Gandhi. No one has used words with such intense-longing to be down to earth on the one hand and, paradoxically, to reach for the stars with the other.

He has plainly stated his objective "I write as the spirit moves me at the time of writing. I write to propagate my ideas. The reader can have no idea of the restraint I have to exercise . . . in the choice of topics and my vocabulary. It is a training for me. It enables me to peep into myself and to make discoveries of my weaknesses. Often my variety dictates a smart expression or my anger a harsh adjective. It is a terrible ordeal but a fine exercise to remove these weeds."

A writer could be illimitably more than the words he spins out. And the words could be a vast deal more meaningful than their stark face value. A writer is his thought, his dream, his dedication. Provided, of course, that he gives all these an outer habitation in terms of language. That is a compulsion he lives for. Without that he could be an idealist, a man of

wisdom, a seer, but certainly not a writer.

Gandhi set down in clear-cut lucid prose in his mother tongue Gujarathi, in Hindi and in English. It was inevitable that he wrote for more in English than in Indian languages—every shade, every nuance of his thought. He laid bare each passing phase of his inner development and the main-springs of motivations behind every significant deed. He grew within himself all the time, year after year; decade after decade, and naturally there had to be contradictions in what he said. The unabashed self-stripping, the uninhibited revelation of inner frailties and soul storms, the deadly struggle to reach out towards truth at any cost — all these mark not only the pages of the brilliant Autobiography he wrote (aptly calling it, "The story of My Experiments with Truth"), but also a large area of his enormous literary output.

Gandhi's English wordage alone exceeds two million. Most

of his work appeared in *Young India*, the weekly journal he founded in 1919, filling it mainly with the product of his own pen; and besides this was his Gujarati weekly *Navajivan*. Gandhi founded the *Harijan* in 1933, and this was also a weekly. *Harijan* was issued in English and several regional languages.

As far back as 1908, Gandhi wrote *Hind Swaraj*, or *Indian Home Rule*. Neglected when first published, it attracted the highest acclaim thirty years later. For instance John Middleton Murry, reviewing a reprint of the book stated: "The greatest Christian in the modern world is Gandhi: and *Hind Swaraj* is (I believe) the greatest book that has been written in modern times."

The "Indian Opinion" was meant to voice the feelings of the Indians in South Africa and to improve their lot. "Indian Opinion" was a mirror of part of Gandhi's life. "Week after week, I poured out my soul in its columns, and expounded the principles and practice of Satyagraha as I understood it." During the ten year span

By

Bhabani Bhattacharya

1904-1914, there was hardly any issue of the journal which failed to carry a contribution from his pen, except when he was in prison. The best compliment that Gandhi paid to it was when he declared that Satyagraha would probably have been impossible without "Indian Opinion."

"Is this monstrous injustice to be really done?" he asked, in regard to the anti-Indian regulations which were steadily growing in number. "Even at the eleventh hour . . . we cannot abandon hope that the better nature, the truer self, of our white brothers will yet assert itself." He kept on repeating this hope in numerous editorials until at last exasperated, he stated: "Perhaps in the Transvaal, people are living in the Middle Ages."

The editorials and the columns of letters apart, it carried several features of popular interest, biographical sketches of eminent men and women in many parts of the world were used.

The self-discipline he tried to improve on his countrymen in South Africa—he never spared hard words in regard to their drawbacks — was a prelude to the reorientation of the paper in later years as a mouth piece of the passive resisters and a weapon in the Satyagraha struggle. Meanwhile, he kept his readers informed about happenings in India and gave his support to every progressive movement. He wrote in strong protest against the partition of Bengal and encouraged the boycott of foreign goods. He supported the adoption of "The Heroic Song of Bengal," "Bande Mataram," as India's national anthem; calling it a "passionate prayer."

Gandhi's letters, thousands—written to people of all kinds, the great and the humble, old and young and even children; selectively issued in several collections, they are a mirror of several facets of their writer's personality.

The English weeklies Gandhi founded and edited in India had a somewhat limited circulation. Yet, let it be recorded that at one time the sale of Young India went up to 40,000 copies a big figure in those days in Indian journalism. Navajivan was no less popular.

Young India and Harijan commanded indirectly a varied, eager and truly massive readership all over the country. It is astounding that the flow of Gandhi's contributions to his periodicals never slackened through the long years; he kept up the quantity as well as the qualitative standard even in the crucial periods when the country was ablaze with a national conflagration, and the obligation to direct countless masses of people engaged in a "Do or Die" struggle imposed on the Supreme Leader the heaviest strain and stress. Writing in Young India, he stated "I have taken up journalism not for its own sake but mainly as an aid to what I have conceived to be my mission in life. My mission is to teach by example and precept under severe restraint the use of the matchless weapon of Satyagraha."

The fruition of those historic decades in India was the outcome of seeds sown far beyond the seas in the settlement named Phoenix.

Gandhi the writer grew up surprisingly fast in the years preceding his imprisonment in 1922. His spectacular evolution in the realm of ideas in that period is understandable. It is not easy, however, to explain the superb literary power his pen achieved. He was too busy to read books that could help. To cultivate a capacity for self expression by a variety of time consuming processes was beyond his purview. And he was certainly not a born writer.

The Indian opinion had helped him mould a business-like prose style; simple, straight forward, orderly, precise; well-reasoned, lucid, adequately condensed and above all else, single-minded, persuasive. But Young India, which maintained and strengthened all these elements, added to them something new, something that made Gandhi's writing power-packed. This happened with amazing speed. His economy in words was his reflection of his fast growing inner restraint; he could use pithy sentences that contained the very essence of what he wanted to say. The most significant development, however, was that he now wrote impassioned passages that could set the reader's blood afire. Anger was beyond his range of emotions;

yet, sometimes the words he used could spring into action as a chastising whipcord.

The view of an American admirer, J. H. Holmes, may be quoted in this context:

"Gandhi's literary achievement is the more remarkable in view of the fact that he was never a literary man — seldom if ever, in his writings did he rise to heights of eloquence and beauty — Gandhi's interests were never aesthetic, but rather pragmatic. He had no desire, no ambition, no time, to be an artist. So he wrote with disciplined simplicity, seeking only to make himself understood. The result was the one most important quality of literary art — namely — clarity. Gandhi mastered his medium. He wrought a style which was perfect" — for his purpose of communication.

The style that Gandhi evolved in both Gujarati and English was all his own. Indian writing in those days was marked by pomposity. Pomposity was reckoned a literary grace. Gandhi's writing was a sharp departure from "ornateness and artistry," the current literary ingredients, and whatever art there was in it was "artless." He simply expressed what he felt deep down in his heart, and the words took good care of themselves.

The net result of literary assimilation amid the new-found abundance of leisure could not fail to give added strength to the familiar elements in his way of self expression and, at the same time, contributed unfamiliar ones. Critics have seen something biblical in his English. That is true only of what he wrote in a particular frame of mind. Comparisons with Ruskin and Thoreau are likewise, apt in a limited sense. His pen faithfully followed his changing moods. But one thing is certain; he was never at a loss for the right word. His mastery of simple, direct, lucid English and the invariably high standard of his massive productivity strongly influenced the writing of the time. Many journalists tried to emulate the Gandhian style. Indian writing was already getting purged of the ample decorativeness of the old Macardayan diction, long in vogue. Gandhi hastened this process.

K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar has said : "Gandhi had neither the time nor the inclination to cultivate the so-called art of writing . . . No straining after emphasis, no colour, no irradiating brilliance. Yet they are Gandhi's words, and their very bareness constitute their strength. This may be compared to Edward Thompson's statement : "Perhaps his unsurpassed command of English idiom comes partly from this perfect control over his mind. The hardest thing in our language for a foreigner is in our prepositions. I have never met an Indian who had mastered them as Gandhi has."

With the start of Satyagraha in India, with vast masses of men and women involved in a deadly struggle, Gandhi wrote in "Young India" "I long for freedom from the English yoke. I would pay any price for it. I would accept chaos in exchange for it. For, the English peace is the peace of the grave. Anything would be better than this living death of a whole people. This satanic rule has well-nigh ruined this fair land materially, morally and spiritually."

"My ambition is much higher than independence. Through the deliverance of India, I seek to deliver the so called weaker races of the earth from the crushing heels of western expectation in which England is the greatest partner. India's coming to her own will mean every nation doing like-wise."

In an article in Navajivan before he took it over, he outlined his diffidence and limitations in an article titled "Our Aim" At the same time, he stated that a newspaper would be the best instrument by means of which he could place his doctrine of Satyagraha before the people of India.

"For me, Satyagraha is not a mere copy book maxim ; it is my very life. To me nothing but truth has any interest. I am convinced that the country can never benefit by untruth. The more we strive to realize an ideal, the farther it recedes. To pursue it the more vigorously is the only object worthy of endeavour. We may stumble and fall, but shall rise again; it should be enough if we did not run away from the battle."

The great satyagraha movement that Gandhi was to launch in India

was not far ahead. There was no room in his philosophy for violence in any form. He wrote in Young India "No country has ever risen without being purified through the fire of suffering. The mother suffers so that her child may live. The condition of wheat-growing is that the seed grain should perish. Life comes out of death. Will India rise out of her slavery without fulfilling this eternal law of purification through suffering" . . . Progress is to be measured by the amount of suffering undergone by the sufferer. The purer the suffering, the greater is the progress."

Many of Gandhi's writings are deeply concerned with the ageless query, "What is Satya ?" and has provoked numerous answers. Gandhi's answer is that truth is what the voice within tells you ; however, since that voice differs according to the evolution of individual minds, "What may be truth for one may be untruth for another." The key-point is disciplined conscience. Lack of it brings about untruth. "Everyone should realize his limitations before he speaks of his inner voice."

Satyagraha . . . excludes every form of violence, direct or indirect, veiled or unveiled, and whether in thought word or deed. It is a breach of Satyagraha to wish ill to an opponent. The right of Satyagraha is for the strong in spirit, not the doubter or the timid. Satyagraha teaches us the art of living as well as dying. Birth and death are inevitable among mortals. What distinguishes man from the truth is his conscious striving to realise the spirit within."

The Harijan, a weekly was devoted mainly to the welfare of "the man of God." It was a challenge to the orthodox Hindus. "The abuses that they are hurling" at me are wonderfully refreshing, Gandhi wrote. "The more I ignore the abuses, the fiercer they are becoming. But it is the death-dance of the moth round a lamp. . ."

The country was ablaze with the "Quit India" call. Gandhi wrote an article in Harijan, "To every Briton," in which he made a passionate appeal to the British to retire from their Asian and African possessions. In the first week of August, 1942, he told the delegates to the Congress Working Committee.

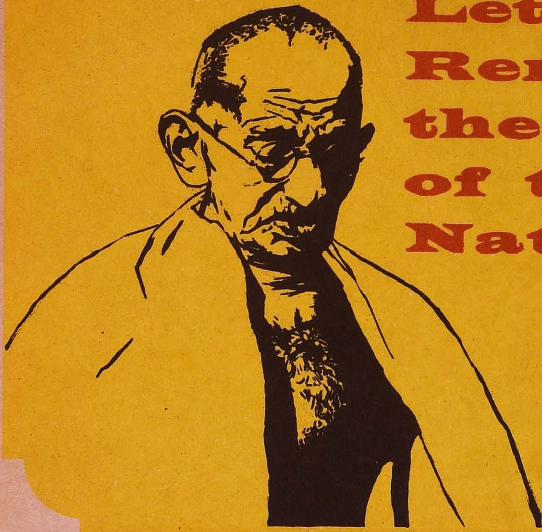
"Here is a mantra, a short one that I give you. You may imprint it on your hearts and let every breath of yours give expression to it. The mantra is "Do or Die." We shall either free India or die in the attempt ; we shall not live to see the perpetuation of our slavery. Every true Congress man or woman will join the struggle with an inflexible determination not to remain alive to see the country in bondage and slavery. Let that be your pledge."

A correspondent complained that the English edition shall be stopped ; it was getting more importance than the Indian language editions. Gandhi replied : "I cannot stop the English edition . . . My relations with the west are increasing every day . . . I cannot cast out the English language from my small store of knowledge. I do not wish to forget that language, nor do I wish all Indians to give up or forget it... Its international position cannot be disputed."

He went on writing for the Harijan upto almost the last day of his life, January 30th, 1948. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur who had been associated with the Harijan for many years wrote :

"To those of us who had the privilege of working with Gandhiji every week when Harijan was being edited by him, it seems strange to be writing for its columns without submitting the same to the searching gaze of the prince of journalists. The care and thought he bestowed on whatever he himself wrote, the eagle eye with which he vetted every word of what even a man like Mahadev Desai wrote : "his insistence on right expression, on adherence to truth where facts were concerned, on the necessity of not using one word more than necessary, his appreciation of a good literary style, his ruthless weeding out of much of wholesale discarding of what one thought was good, all these are never to be forgotten lessons. But the remembrance of them makes one pause and wonder whether any one of our poor efforts can ever come up to the high standard of journalism which was Gandhiji's incomparable contribution to public life."

Courtesy : N. B. T.



**Let us
Remember
the Father
of the
Nation**

“Drink is a Social evil. It reduces man to the level of a beast. It is our duty to take steps to erradicate this evil.”

—MAHATMA GANDHI



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