

# Tamil Arasu

NOVEMBER, 1977 · 50 Ps.





# ERADICATE UNTOUCHABILITY

It appears that there can be no greater evil  
in the world, than the segregation  
of Harijans in India.

**Mahatma Gandhi**

We will be paying our debt  
of gratitude to Mahatma Gandhi  
by eradicating this evil.

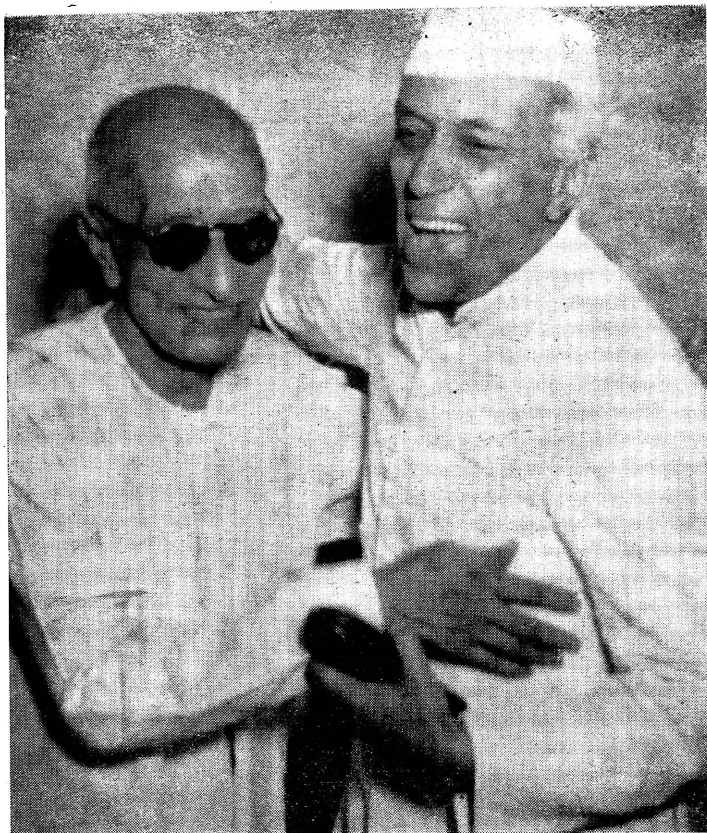


ISSUED BY:



DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION  
& PUBLIC RELATIONS  
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU





# Tamil Arasu

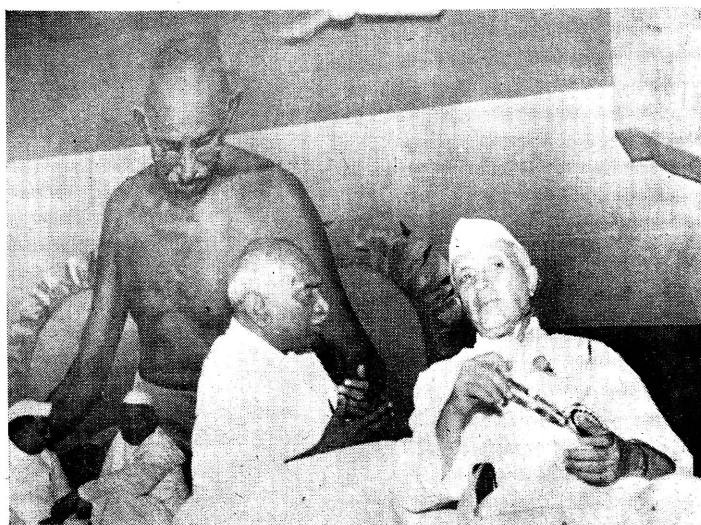
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**T**he two Houses of Parliament, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha which came into existence in 1952 after the first general elections, complete 25 years.

On this occasion, the Exhibition Division of the Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in collaboration with the Lok Sabha Secretariat organised an exhibition entitled "Parliament Through the Years". The exhibition was held for 10 days at Kalaivanar Arangam, with the active help and cooperation of the State Department of Information & Public Relations, Government of Tamilnadu.

It was inaugurated by Thiru R.M. Veerappan, Minister for Information & Tourism, Government of Tamilnadu, on 18-10-1977.

The exhibition through suitable visuals, photographs, charts and rare exhibits depicts the history of the constitutional reforms during the pre-independence period 1857-1947, the evolution of Constitution of India which brought into existence the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and functioning and achievements of these Houses during the last 25 years.

The finality of a Constitution for India was the outcome of a sustained struggle waged by the people for the liberation of their country. To serve as a background, glimpses of such events of freedom movement have been included in the Exhibition which relate to the 1857 mutiny, agitation against Rowlatt Act, Martial Law, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, Salt Satyagraha and Quit India Movement, 1942.

Right from 1861 when for the first time, non-official members were nominated to Governor

General Council, fight for self governing rights also continued inside the chamber. This resulted in introduction of various constitutional measures taken by the British Government in the form of Council Acts. The exhibition displays the portraits of illuminaries who were members of the Central Legislature and played an active role.

A section of the exhibition is devoted to Constitution making which highlights the views expressed by the eminent leaders actively associated with this great task. The portraits of such leaders have also been displayed in this section. Important pages from the Constitution Book such as signatures of the members of the Constituent Assembly and fundamental rights beautifully mounted are an added attraction of this section.

Photographs of the important functionaries of the Government and Parliament under the Constitution such as Presidents Vice Presidents, Prime Ministers; Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Lok Sabha, Vice Chairmen of the Rajya Sabha and leaders of both the Houses find a place in a separate section of the exhibition.

Functions of Parliament and its various committees and their achievements during the last 25 years have also been highlighted through photographs and charts. Visits of Indian Parliamentary delegations abroad and Foreign Parliamentary delegations to India have also been exhibited.

Other notable features of this exhibition are scenes of Lok Sabha elections held so far particularly the sixth general elections which brought a peaceful political change through the ballot.

The exhibition ends with the glimpses of people engaged in building up a new India, economically viable and free from exploitation.



# PROHIBITION

**K**autilya, a profound scholar and administrator, wrote a monumental treatise on the art of Government, between 321 and 296 B.C., wherein the functions and duties of kings, ministers and officials and the art of diplomacy are treated in detail. In this work he has emphasized that the fourfold vices due to desire are hunting, gambling, women and drinking. He considered drinking as the worst evil as it is the mother of all vices.

Some old maxims say : " You can put all the sins in one scale and drinking in the other (they will balance each other)." " A drinking man betrays everything and babbles what is false, on account of his deranged state of mind. Under the influence of drink, he shamefully desires even his own mother."

Unfortunately with the advent of British rule in India, the liquor business got state patronage. The British, with their way of life and club habits, gave prestige to drink. It was thrust on the country as a necessary ingredient of a fashionable society. Due to this, the evil of drink spread fast.

The British East India Company was the pioneer to raise excise revenue on alcoholic drinks and drugs as a great source of financial gain. Some thoughtful and patriotic enthusiasts in the country were alarmed by the irreligiosity and moral degradation of the people and by the widespread calamity

resulting from intemperance and inebriety.

## **Mahatma Gandhi's Efforts :**

It was left to Mahatma Gandhi to mobilize public opinion against drink and drugs on a wider scale. He launched a campaign against the British government for its " Drink and Drug Taxation Policy," denouncing the same as degrading taxation and dubbed it as " Tainted Money." He also organised peaceful picketing of liquor shops, and even hundreds of ladies of noble families picketed successfully in various parts of the Country. Many suffered imprisonment, baton charges and many indignities.

## **Hon'ble Governor**

**Thiru**

**PRABU DAS PATVARI**

When the Congress Party guided by Mahatma Gandhi came to power in seven provinces of India, after general elections in 1937, measures for the introduction of prohibition were initiated.

## **Prohibition and the Constitution :**

When India achieved independence in 1947, and the constitution of the country was enacted, Article 47 contained the following directive principle of state policy :

" The State shall regard the raising of the levels of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties, and in particular the State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption, except for medical purposes, of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health."

As a result, various States of Indian Union adopted varying measures of introducing prohibition in their areas, but within a few years erosion commenced and most of the States, except Gujarat, were lured by the fantastic liquor revenue. Under one or the other pretext they relaxed the law. They forgot that one dollar earned by the State from liquor will cost the consumer four dollars, as there are middlemen's profits and other expenditures. There will be an increase in crimes, accidents, diseases, etc., which will bring great stress and strain on the finances of the Government.

As said before, the law prohibits the manufacture, sale, import, export, transport, possession consumption and use of all intoxicating drinks and drugs. The law also provides for adequate control on some raw materials which form the largest base for the production of alcohol so as to prevent their misuse for illicit distillation. Major offenses such as the manufacture of liquor, the import and sale of liquor, etc., have been made non-bailable, and there is provision to try all prohibition offenses summarily.

The enforcement task of this law has been entrusted to the Police. The law provides for licences and permits for toilet, sacramental, and medicinal purposes and for foreigners. This work is carried on by the excise and prohibition wing of the Government by various rules and regulations. The State policy is to see

"You can put all the sins in one scale and drinking in the other ; they will balance each other"



# Man can be saved from the evil of drinking by means of propaganda and education and not by force of Law.

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Extracts from the Report of  
II World Conference for the Preven-  
tion of Alcoholism and Drug Depend-  
ency.

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that as prohibition is the law of the land no drinker should be given any status or recognition by it. From the popular angle also such permit-holders, though enjoying high rank in the industrial or financial world, do not inspire moral prestige and confidence from the general public.

## **Educational and Promotional Activities :**

Obviously the success of prohibition, being primarily a social reform, depends largely on the willing and unstinted co-operation of the people for whom it is meant. The law alone cannot achieve the desired results. Therefore, most of the educational and propaganda activities are undertaken by the various social organisations and foundations.

## **Politico economic Benefits of Prohibition**

India is economically an under-developed country and a large number of people are poor. During the pre-prohibition period the ex-addicts led a miserable life. The drink habit made them blind to normal requirements of home and they did not hesitate to sell property clothing, cooking utensils, cattle, etc., at throwaway prices or pawn them at usurious rates of interest and utilize the proceeds so obtained to slake their thirst for intoxicants.

The addict did not care for his family and he often ill treated his wife and children. Street quarrels and drunken brawls were common and disturbed peace in the life and environment of most of the addicts.

Twenty-five years of total prohibition have ushered in a revolution in the conditions of society in general, and of the peasants, workers and the weaker sections in particular.

The money which was being spent by the ex-addicts formerly on drinks is now utilized by them for improving their living pattern. Most of them have ceased to be debtors and are having peaceful family and social life. Sights of the drunkards on the streets or rolling in gutters or engaging in brawls have become a thing of the past.

The working class now spends their earnings fruitfully. Productivity has noticeably increased. They have helped industry prosper with

their discipline and efficiency. There are comparatively fewer strikes and lockouts. Industrial relations are extremely cordial and thousands from the labour, the backward class, and the poor section, have become owners of houses and lands. Their children are now receiving all sorts of good education. Liquor made the worker an animal, while prohibition has made him a good citizen.

The ratio of crimes, diseases, and other antisocial activities has gone to a remarkable low level.

## **Temperance and Prohibition :**

One opinion is that man can be saved from the evil of drinking by means of propaganda and education and not by force of law. Of course, educative propaganda against drink is essential, but experience has proved that mere propaganda has little effect.

It is argued that prohibition in America has failed. But recent studies have revealed that in fact the magnates of the liquor industry were responsible for creating the adverse atmosphere. Ample evidence is available that these profit seekers heavily bribed the press and corrupted the administration. And what is the situation today in America ? Drinking is increasing day by day in alarming proportions and its dire consequences — diseases, disorders, accidents, crimes, divorces — are mounting at a surprising speed.

There are many global conferences being convened against the dangers of drink, and scientists, doctors, and others are presenting facts, figures and warnings. What is the result of all these ?

One conference of international character should be convened to have a thorough and critical analysis of the work and results achieved by the deliberations of all world conferences of the last 10 years. Let us not be complacent by pointing out some gain here or there. The over-all picture is bitterly shocking. The demon of drink is advancing more and more in its invasion of civilization, and human values and life itself are the targets.

The time has come to consider very seriously, to think over this vital issue, before irreparable damage is done to humanity.





# PROGRESS OF EDUCATION

**T**he outlay under "Education" in 1977-78 is Rs. 160 Crores, which represents 24 per cent of the total expenditure on Revenue Account namely Rs. 663 Crores. It constitutes the highest single component in the Budget. The expenditure, on education has been steadily rising from Rs. 123 crores in 1975-76 to Rs. 136 crores in 1976-77.

In December 1976 the government announced their final decision to implement the new pattern of 10+2+3 in Tamil Nadu. The Government have also decided that the 10 years of School Education will be divided into 5+3+2 (i.e., under the new pattern the Elementary Schools will have the standards 1—5, the Higher Elementary Schools will have standards 1—8 or 6—8 ; and the High Schools will have standards 1—10, 6—10, or 9—10). It will be ensured gradually that standard 8 (be it in High Schools or Higher Secondary Schools) is handled by teachers better qualified than now.

A Board of Higher Secondary Education under the Chairmanship

of the Director of School Education was constituted in July 1976 to be in charge of +2 stage of the 10+2+3 pattern of Education. Expert Committees were also constituted in September 1976 for framing syllabus for +2 stage. The draft syllabi finalised by the Committees have also been published in the Gazette in March-April, 1977 inviting comments from educationists and the general public. The final version of the syllabi will be finalised after considering the suggestions received and thereafter the work of preparing text-books for the +2 stage taken up.

## SCHOOL EDUCATION

School Education accounts for the bulk of the Education Budget. Out of the Rs. 160 crores under Education Demand in Budget Estimate 1977-78, about Rs. 130 crores is for School Education.

**Thiru C. ARANGANAYAGAM**

*Minister for Education*

## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

### Enrolment :

91.7 per cent of children of age group 6—11 and 54.4 per cent of children of age group 11—14 have already been enrolled in schools in Tamil Nadu. About 2 lakhs under these age groups are likely to be enrolled in 1977-78. The total number of pupils who studied in 1976-77 in the 33,036 elementary schools was 63.13 lakhs and the number of teachers, 1,78,879 ; and the teacher pupil ratio worked out to 1 : 36.

During 1977-78, direct admissions from private study or study in unrecognised schools has been permitted in any standard up to standard 8 (instead of standard 6 in the past.)

### Qualitative Improvement

With a view to improving the teaching of Science in Elementary Schools the syllabi has been revised and grants are also given for the

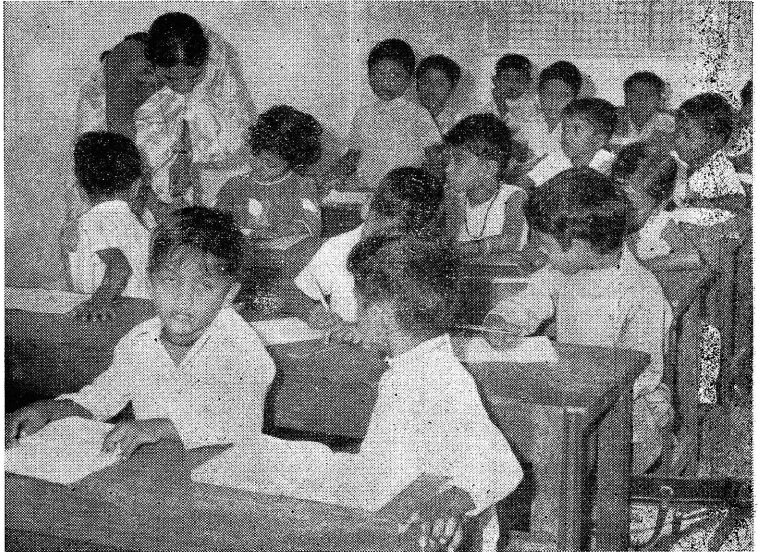
purchase of Science equipment and teaching aids, at Rs. 300 for each elementary school and Rs. 1,000 for each Higher Elementary School. So far, 12,620 elementary and 3,680 Higher Elementary Schools have been benefited. During 1977-78 these grants will be given to 150 higher elementary schools.

Under the project for improving science teaching in elementary schools with UNICEF assistance the UNICEF has so far supplied free of cost Science kits to 2,300 elementary schools (cost Rs. four lakhs) and to 1,830 higher elementary schools cost Rs. 20 lakhs). Further, under this scheme about 2,600 elementary school teachers and 3,690 higher elementary school teachers have been given In-service Training (20 days for elementary school teachers and 42 days for higher elementary school teachers) at a cost of about Rs. 14 lakhs, of which about half was borne by UNICEF.

Crafts are taught in elementary schools for developing the technical skills and creative talents of pupils and enabling them to learn some useful crafts relevant to the needs of the locality. Most higher elementary schools are already having either full-time or part-time Craft Instructors. During 1977-78, 100 posts of part-time Craft teachers in higher elementary schools, will be upgraded into full-time posts.

#### **Midday Meals Scheme**

The provision of Midday Meals in all elementary schools has a major role in promoting and retaining enrolment in the schools. One third of the total number of pupils of these schools, who come from the poorest sections of the population, benefit under this scheme. About 19.80 lakhs of poor pupils in standards 1 to 8 of elementary and higher elementary schools receive midday meals, including the 1.60 lakhs fed in Harijan Welfare Schools run by the Harijan Welfare Department. The provision for the Midday Meals Scheme in the budget for 1977-78 is about Rs. 4.5 crores. The State Government grant for the Midday Meals Scheme is paid at the rate of 10 paise per pupil per day for 200 days and the local body contribution is 5 paise per pupil per day for 200 days. This is supplemented by about 20,000 tonnes of food received every year as free gift from the CARE organisation. (The School Education Department is moving through its



pipeline not only the share of CARE food consumed by it for the Elementary School Midday Meals Programme (about 20,000 tonnes per annum) but also the CARE food (about 10,000 tonnes per annum) consumed by the Pre-School Nutrition Programmes implemented by the Departments of Health and Family Welfare, Social Welfare, and Rural Development and Local Administration Departments, and the Workers Nutrition Programme of the Labour Department.)

The three districts of Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot are covered by the Central Kitchen Programme, under which meals are cooked in modern ovens under hygienic conditions and transported to the surrounding schools in closed vans. 97 Central Kitchens are functioning in those districts. They were established with CARE assistance at a total cost of about Rupees two crores. They are serving about four lakhs of pupils in those three districts. These kitchens are having about 224 tempo vans gifted by CARE for transporting the food from the kitchens to the schools. In order to reduce fuel costs, these petrol vans are, when they become wornout, replaced by Diesel vans on a phased programme. Eight vans will be so replaced in 1977-78. A workshop for serving, repairing and maintaining these vehicles, as well as the cooking equipments at the kitchens, constructed with CARE assistance at

a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs, is functioning at Vikravandi in South Arcot district.

To facilitate proper storage of the food stuffs required for this programme, eight regional godowns and a Central godown at Adayar have been constructed in Tamil Nadu with the help of the CARE organisation at a cost of about Rs. 30 lakhs.

#### **Free Supply of Books**

Poor pupils receiving Midday Meals in standards I to III get text books free and poor pupils in standard I get slates also free. More than 12 lakhs of pupils get this free supply every year. From the year 1972-73 the cost of text books is met by the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society from its funds. The scheme costs the Society about Rs. 25 lakhs every year. About Rs. three lakhs will be spent from State Government funds in 1977-78 mainly for the free supply of slates to pupils in Standard I.

#### **Elementary School Buildings**

Grants are given to Local Bodies and managements of aided schools towards the construction of school buildings. From 1974-75 the maximum grant payable for an elementary/higher elementary school building is Rs. 10,000/17,000 subject to a minimum contribution by the management of Rs. 5,000/8,000. In 1977-78 provisions of Rs. three lakhs for grants to Municipal and Aided Elementary Schools and Rs. nine lakhs for expenditure on Gov-





ernment Elementary School buildings have been made.

The provision made in the Community Development Budget for grants to Panchayat Union Elementary School buildings in 1977-78 is Rs. 54 lakhs.

#### Local Body Elementary Schools

Out of the 33,000 elementary schools in Tamil Nadu, about 29,000 are in Panchayat Union areas. Out of the 29,000 about 22,900 (about 19,800 elementary schools plus about 3,100 higher elementary schools) are run by Panchayat Union Councils. Under the revised pattern of financial assistance to Panchayat Union Councils for elementary Education, 4/9 ths of the local cess (levied at 45 paise per rupee of land revenue) continues to be paid to the Panchayat Union Elementary Education Fund. The Government are also giving a grant calculated at Rs. 6 per head of population in each block, based on the 1971 census. The balance of expenditure on Elementary Education is shared by the Government and the Panchayat Unions according to the revised classification of Blocks.

The number of Elementary Schools run by Municipalities and the Corporations of Madras and

Madurai is about 1,450 (1,060 elementary plus 390 higher elementary). The Government sanction 50 per cent of the Education Tax realised by a Municipality as Government contribution. They are also meeting the entire net deficit in the Municipal Elementary Education Fund Account except in the case of the Madras Corporation.

#### SECONDARY EDUCATION

Out of 23.46 lakhs of children in the Age group 14—17 in Tamil Nadu in 1976-77, 34.1 per cent namely 8.02 lakhs had been enrolled. There were 72,800 teachers and 17.99 lakhs of pupils in the 3,020 High Schools in the State in 1976-77. During 1977-78, 26 High Schools have been newly opened (Government 18 : and Aided 8).

The revised syllabus provides for the study of science as three separate disciplines, i.e., Physics, Chemistry and Biology from Standard VI onwards. Under the scheme for grant-in-aid to high schools for the purchase of science equipment and setting up of science laboratories a sum of Rs. 55,000 is spent on Science Laboratory for each Government High School selected under the scheme. (Rs. 37,000 for building and Rs. 18,000 for equipment). The non-Govern-

ment schools each get a grant of Rs. 40,200—out of which Rs. 18,000 is for equipment (purchased and supplied by the Director of School Education himself) and the balance of Rs. 22,200 is for the laboratory building (the building grant being given at 60 per cent of the cost or Rs. 22,200 whichever is less). By 1976-77, only 892 High Schools had been covered under this scheme (including 14 covered in 1976-77). The outlay on this scheme has been stepped up to Rs. 25 lakhs in 1977-78 and 50 High Schools will be covered in 1977-78.

There are now 36 Mobile Science Laboratory vans and six more will be added during 1977-78 so that out of the 48 educational districts in the State, 42 will each have one van for catering to the needs of Science teaching in rural High Schools, not yet provided with Science Laboratories.

With a view to improving library facilities in High Schools suitable library books are purchased and distributed to schools. In 1977-78 a large provision of Rs. 5 lakhs, has been made for this scheme, as against only one lakh in 1976-77.

During 1977-78 five 16 mm sound projectors will be supplied as Audio-Visual Aids to deserving Secondary Schools and the State Film Library will be enriched by buying educational films and filmstrips for Rs. 50,000. Educational Television has been introduced in schools in Madras City and neighbourhood.

#### High School Buildings

A provision of Rs. 7 lakhs has been made in 1977-78 for grants to Municipal and Aided High Schools for putting up buildings besides a provision of Rs. 13 lakhs for new building works for Government High Schools.

#### Scholarships

School education in Tamil Nadu is free at all stages. Rural talent scholarships are awarded from 1971-72. Under the scheme, scholarships are awarded every year to two students in each Panchayat Union. The scholarships are tenable for the entire school course. The value of the scholarships when the student is studying in selected high schools, approved for the purpose, is Rs. 1,000 per annum for each boarder and Rs. 500 per annum for each day-scholar. Pupils who get these scholarships but are studying in ordinary schools of their own choice

are allowed Rs. 150 per annum. The total number of scholarship holders in any year is about 2,000 including renewals. Besides this, generous educational concessions continue to be given to the children of the Burma repatriates, Ceylon repatriates, Ex-service and Defence Personnel, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Goldsmiths affected by the Gold Control Act, Political sufferers.

#### Mobile Medical Vans

The scheme of medical inspection of High School pupils through Mobile Medical van is now in operation in all districts except Chengalpattu, Thanjavur and Kanyakumari. The scheme is likely to be extended to those three Districts also in due course.

#### Matriculation Schools

There are 31 Matriculation Schools (with a strength of 31,000 pupils and 1,100 teachers) which levy fees and use English as the medium of instruction. They do not get any Government grant. They were formerly affiliated to the Universities of Madras and Madurai. From December 1976, they have been transferred to the control of the Director of School Education.

### CURRICULUM, SYLLABUS AND TEXT-BOOKS

#### Revision of School Syllabus

From 1972-73 revised syllabi based on ten year schooling was introduced gradually in schools and by 1976-77 standards 1—10 had been covered. In Anglo-Indian Schools revised syllabi had been introduced for all subjects in Standards 1 to 10 by 1976. To enable teachers to handle the new Mathematics and enriched science under the new syllabus, a large programme of in-service training for Maths and Science teachers was conducted during the period 1972-73 to 1975-76 covering 60,000 teachers from elementary schools, 30,000 from higher elementary schools and 12,000 from High Schools.

Under the revised syllabus there is no room for Electives (taught formerly in Standards 10 to 11) and hence Electives were abolished in Standard 10 from 1976-77 and Standards 10 and 11 from 1977-78. The Government have however ordered that none of the 3,200 or so posts of Elective Teachers should be retrenched, but should be continued by redeployment to Standards 8 to 11 of the same school or to other

schools, within the approved teacher-pupil ratio. Hence there has been and will be no retrenchment merely because of the abolition of the Electives.

Similarly the Government have Ordered the continuance in Service in 1977-78 of all the 1,541 teachers engaged in teaching the Bifurcated courses (which are taught only in standard 11 in 1977-78) though they have a reduced workload. Orders will issue in time on the future of these bifurcated courses and their teachers, from 1978-79 onwards.

Recently the view has been expressed from many quarters that the new mathematics in the revised school syllabus need not be inflicted on all students. The Government are examining what are the revisions if any to be made in the Mathematics curriculum.

#### Comprehensive High School Courses

The Kothari Education Commission recommended the concept of comprehensive High Schools with a view to vocationalising secondary education. During 1974-75 and 1975-76 about 70 High Schools were upgraded as comprehensive High Schools by providing for the teach-

ing outside the school hours of useful vocational subjects like the following :

Radio-repairing, Electric motor rewinding, Motor Mechanic, Agricultural Engineering, Salesmanship, Tailoring etc.

These courses will be continued in 1977-78.

#### School Text Books

The Tamil Nadu Text Book Society constituted in 1970 is in-charge of producing and distributing the Nationalised text books for schools. It has done good work in producing books of high quality at reasonable prices. The production programme for 1977-78 envisages the printing of about 2.5 crores of copies of school books (of the face value of about Rs. 3.5 crores).

During the President's Rule in 1976-77 an extensive revision of the school text books, especially for Tamil, English and History had been made. Among others, lessons on Periar Ramaswami (of which one was by Arignar Anna) had been removed from the text books, for standards 8 and 10. Immediately after this Government came to power, we have ordered the restoration of the lessons and







printing and distribution of the lessons as addenda to the books distributed already.

The publications of the Text Book Society are distributed through 47 wholesale co-operative stockists and about 1,600 registered retailers all over the State. This organisation has ensured that the text books are available at fixed prices well in time to the school students.

### TEACHER TRAINING

There are at present 74 Teacher Training Institutes (28 Government—46 Aided) in this State containing facilities for turning out Secondary Grade trained teachers (excluding 3 Nursery, 2 Pre-Primary and one Anglo-Indian Teachers Training Institutes). In view of the large extent of unemployment among trained teachers prevailing for the past many years, admissions for teacher training are made only in alternate years and that too in reduced numbers. In 1977-78 about 2,700 candidates have been admitted at the rate of 35 in each institute.

There are now 9 English Language Teaching Centres. The total number of teachers trained during the period from 1967-68 to 1975-76 is 13,000 in these centres. The scheme will be continued in 1977-78 also. Longterm courses of 3 to 5 months for Graduate Trained Teachers are conducted every year at the Regional Institute of English, Bangalore. About 536 Graduate Trained Teachers have attended such courses at the Institute so far.

With a view to provide qualitative improvement in Government Teacher Training Institutes, B.T.

Assistants are deputed for M.Ed. Course every year. Eighty teachers have been deputed so far and 20 more will be deputed in 1977-78.

### SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS

Till February 1975 the Director of School Education was the ex-Officio Commissioner for Government Examinations. From February 1975, a separate Director of Government Examinations has been appointed (He is also the Director, State Council of Educational Research and Training). He is assisted by a Secretary, Additional Secretary, Personal Assistant and a Senior Accounts Officer at the headquarters. About 24 Examinations are conducted every year, some of them annually and some twice in a year. The S.S.L.C. Public Examination is the major examination and the March session is conducted in about 1,200 centres and the October session in about 150 centres. The number of candidates who appeared for the March 1977 examination was 2,89,452. The percentage of passes is 55%. The computerisation of S.S.L.C. results has greatly facilitated and speeded up the work.

All persons who have completed the age of 18 and who possess a pass in Standard VIII in the recognised schools of the State can sit privately for the S.S.L.C. examinations.

At present, for becoming eligible for admission to college courses, one should pass all subjects at one sitting. The board of Secondary Education has recently recommended

that this may be modified from March 1978 and a system of compartmental pass allowed (*i.e.*, those who pass the subjects at 2 or more sittings be also eligible for admission to college courses). Orders in the matter will be issued after obtaining the concurrence of the Universities and the Board of higher secondary education.

From 1976, the work of conducting the Anglo-Indian School Leaving Certificate has also been entrusted to the Directorate of Government Examinations. In November 1976, 20,56 candidates appeared for AISLC of whom 1,668 candidates passed the examination.

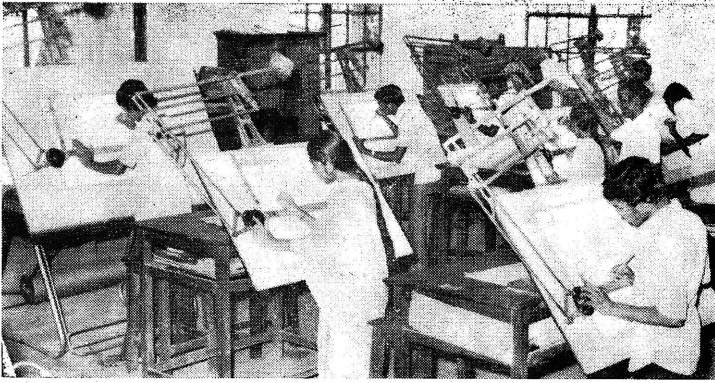
### STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), engages itself in research, innovation and training at all levels of school education. It has organised several result-oriented seminars, training courses and workshops.

A Teachers' Centre has been established in the premises of the SCERT with the co-operation and assistance of British Council. This is a forum for the teachers to meet and discuss academic problems and in short, it acts as a clearing house for mutual exchange of thoughts. Another centre is functioning in Coimbatore, and two more will be opened at Madurai and Tiruchirappalli.

The SCERT has helped in the smooth implementation of the revised syllabus in Maths and Science, by solving the doubts of teachers and by evolving a kit for the Primary Maths teacher. It arranged a workshop in 1976 for the benefit of the teachers of the High Schools run by the Corporation of Madras and helped improve the results for S.S.L.C. in those schools from 21 per cent in 1975 to 36 per cent in 1976.

With UNICEF assistance, the SCERT is implementing two experiments. One is the 'Primary Education Curriculum Renewal Project, under which new curricula are experimented in a few schools. The other is "Developmental Activities in Community Education and Participation" under which combined school, pre-school and Non-formal educational activities are offered in 30 primary schools.



### SPORT, PHYSICAL EDUCATION ETC.

Physical Education is compulsory in all Elementary and Secondary Schools. In Standards 6—8 of all higher elementary schools with a Physical Education teacher on the staff and in all High Schools, Physical Education is an Examination subject also. In all these schools, the marks obtained in Physical Education by pupils in Standards 6—10 standards 6—9 in the case of ten year scholars is taken into account for purposes of formulating the principles of promotion to the next higher class.

The State Sports Council and the District Sports Councils render valuable service for promoting sports and games not only among the students but also among the public. The grant to the State Sports Council is being increased to Rs. 16 lakhs in 1977-78, as against only Rs. 12 lakhs paid in 1975-76. The increased grant will enable the District Sports Councils to encourage sports more vigorously among the rural non-student youth. A scheme is being drawn up to assist educational institutions to provide gymnasias for students and a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs will be spent for the purpose in 1977-78.

### Scouts and Guides

The Tamil Nadu Scout Association had a total strength of 1,05,281 boy scouts and girl guides in 1976-77. During 1977-78, 7,000 students will be additionally enrolled as scouts, at a cost of Rs. 60,000. The Tamil Nadu Scouts got the credit of sending the highest number of 650 scouts and guides for receipt of the Presidents Award of Certificates and Badges in 1976.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCES

In order to mobilise local effort and initiative in improving the facilities in the schools, 456 school improvement conferences have been conducted till 1976-77 and assistance in the order of Rs. 14.15 crores has been secured from the public. The programme is being continued vigorously with an accent on science-cum-library improvement. As a result of voluntary effort, 40.46 lakhs of pupils have been given free uniforms at a cost of Rs. 2.66 crores till 1976-77.

### WELFARE OF TEACHERS AND NON-TEACHING STAFF OF SCHOOLS

There are at present 2.50 lakhs of teachers working in the schools in Tamil Nadu.

Unlike many other States, in Tamil Nadu, the State Government bear the entire expenditure on the emoluments of the teachers in aided schools also. The expenditure on salaries of teachers on all the schools in the State has gone up from about Rs. 55 crores in 1970-71 to about Rs. 100 crores in 1977-78.

The teachers in aided schools are eligible for the same leave benefits are admissible from time to time to teachers in Government service.

The Tamil Nadu Family Welfare Fund Scheme for State Government employees (under which a sum of Rs. 10,000 is paid to the family of a person dying in harness) is also applicable to aided and Local Body school teachers.

During the year 1976-77 a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was disbursed to about 500 deserving teachers

from the collections under the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare.

State Awards to teachers of elementary and high schools at the rate of two elementary school teachers and two high school teachers in each educational district continue to be made.

### COLLEGE EDUCATION

The provision for College Education has increased from Rs. 11 crores in 1976-77 to Rs. 20 crores in 1977-78. This huge increase is due to (i) the adoption of the university grants commission scales of pay and (ii) the introduction of the revised pattern of grants to Aided Colleges. In 1976-77 there were 189 Colleges of Arts, Science and Commerce functioning in Tamil Nadu, as against only 24 in 1947. The number of students in Colleges has also increased from about 17,000 in 1947 to 2,03,000 in 1976-77.

### New Universities

The University Grants Commission, New Delhi which considered the proposals of this Government for the establishment of two new Universities at Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore suggested the setting up of a Committee to examine the level of development of the Post-Graduate University Centres at Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore and the possibility of developing these centres as autonomous institutions. The Government have accordingly constituted in June 1976, a Committee (consisting of the Education Secretary, four Members of Syndicate of the University of Madras and two representatives from the University Grants Commission) for making appropriate recommendations to the Government. On receipt of the Committee's report the Government will take further action to constitute the new Universities as early as possible. During 1976-77, the Gandhigram Rural Institute was accorded the status of a deemed university.

Out of the 189 colleges in Tamil Nadu 51 are directly run by the Government and the remaining 138 are Aided Colleges. Of the total budget of Rs. 20 crores for Collegiate Education in 1977-78 about Rs. 10 Courses will be spent on Grants-in-Aid to the private colleges. The bulk of the students in Colleges at present are studying in Aided Colleges 1.47 lakhs in aided Colleges, as against 0.56 lakhs in Government Colleges. Government Col



leges are charging lower fees than most of Aided Colleges and are helpful in taking College Education to students who come from the weaker sections of the community, who cannot afford the expense of education in private institutions.

### Qualitative Improvement

The emphasis on qualitative improvement is the chief feature of the development of Government Colleges during the Fifth Plan period. Sanction has been accorded for the starting in Government Colleges from 1977-78 of additional Degree Course—four in Science, one in Arts and one in Commerce, beside an additional Post-graduate Course in Science. Laboratory facilities in Government Colleges will be improved in order to promote Science education. A sum of Rs. five lakhs will be spent for the purpose in 1977-78. Rs. one lakh will be spent in 1977-78 on providing adequate number of text books and reference books, including books in Tamil for setting up Text Book libraries in Government Colleges for the use of students who may not be able to buy them in view of high costs of books. For student amenities in Government Colleges like tiffin sheds, canteens and cycle sheds and for improvement of playgrounds, purchase of games articles,

etc., Rs. five lakhs have been provided in 1977-78.

Schemes for improving the academic attainments of teachers of Government Colleges are also being implemented. Professors are deputed for research in particular subjects leading them to the Ph.D. Degree. A sum of Rs. 2.28 lakhs has been provided for this purpose in 1977-78. Visiting professors are being appointed on contract basis. Orientation courses are being conducted for the benefit of the teachers who teach through Tamil Medium and 2,915 teachers have been covered so far. A sum of Rs. one lakh has been provided for this purpose in 1977-78.

In the field of continuing education, the Evening Colleges and Correspondence courses are playing an useful role. Evening courses were conducted in Colleges in 1976-77 and about 8,000 students were studying in them. The Madurai University has introduced Correspondence Course for B.A. etc. It has proved very popular with the student community. The rush for admission into the Evening Colleges has eased to some extent after the introduction of the correspondence course.

### University Grants Commission Scales

The Government have announced their decision to implement the Revised Universities Grants Commission Scales for the teaching staff in Universities in Tamil Nadu as well as teachers in Government and Aided Colleges with effect from 1st April 1976, monetary effect being extended from 1st January, 1977. This involves an extra cost of about Rs. 7 crores per annum to Government. Formal orders in the matter will issue shortly, settling the matters of detail.

### Scholarships and Stipend

No tuition fees are levied in the Pre-University Class. The scheme of free Pre-University education costs the exchequer nearly Rs. two crores per year. Details of the Tamil Medium stipends are given in the relevant section. Besides the above, there are a number of scholarships and stipend schemes, the more important of which are :

From 1974-75, the expenditure on the National Scholarships and the National Scholarships to the children of school teachers is met by the State Government. There are also schemes of scholarships for

the Physically Handicapped, for children of the Defence Personnel, for children of Freedom Fighters, for children of Burma and Ceylon Repatriates, etc. Students belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Tribes and Backward Classes get scholarships from the funds administered by the Directors of Harijan Welfare and Backward Classes.

An *Ad Hoc* merit grant of Rs. 300 is paid to all the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students including converts to Christianity (irrespective of the income limit of the parents of the students) who (i) obtain 60 per cent and above in the S.S.L.C. Examination ; and (ii) pass in first class in the P.U.C. Examination. This grant is to enable them to prosecute higher studies of their choice and is over and above all other facilities and concessions to which they are eligible as students belonging to the scheduled Castes and Tribes. This scheme costs the Government about Rs. 9 lakhs per annum.

### Tamil Medium in Colleges

Tamil was introduced as an alternative medium of instruction in the Pre-University (Humanities) from 1966-67, in the B.A., from 1967-68, in the Pre-University (Science) from 1968-69 in the B.Sc. from 1969-70. By way of encouraging the imparting of higher education through the Tamil Medium incentive stipend/book allowance is also paid at Rs. 180 per year for students studying through Tamil medium B.A. and B.Sc. and Rs. 50 per year for those in the Pre-University Class. From the year 1975-76 onwards, the assistance was given in the Pre University and I year degree class in the form of text books, reference books and stationery instead of cash and the mode of giving books instead of cash was extended to II year degree class from 1976-77 and III year degree class from 1977-78.

It will be seen that the Tamil Medium has not been progressing as well as it should. The Government propose to look into the reasons for this and take steps to popularise the Tamil Medium courses.

The Tamil Nadu Text Book Society has so far published 737 books in Tamil Medium for college students. It is gratifying to note that more and more of these publications are being recommended by



the Universities in the State for use by students as text-books and reference books. The Society proposes to bring out another 125 titles in 1977-78.

#### **Aided Colleges**

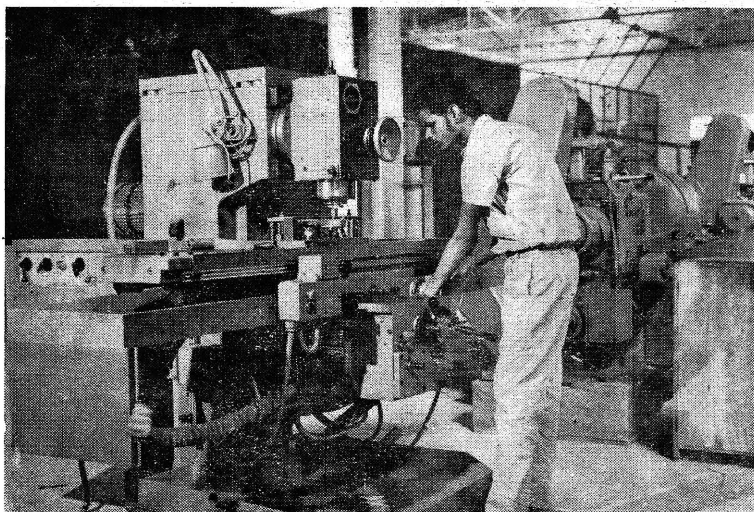
The Government have taken steps to ensure prompt and full payment of salaries to the teaching and non-teaching staff working in aided colleges in the State (Arts and Science Colleges, Training Colleges, Oriental Colleges, Colleges of Physical Education and Institutions imparting instruction in Social Work) by introducing a revised pattern of grant in aid from the 1st July, 1977.

#### **National Cadet Corps**

The strength of the National Cadet Corps in Tamil Nadu is now 52 Senior Division Units with about 32,000 cadets and 674 Junior Division Troops with about 67,000 cadets. These include 5 Girls' Senior Divisions with a strength of about 3,000 Senior Division Girls and 53 Girls' Junior Division Troops with a strength of about 5,300 Junior Division Girls. The expenditure on the National Cadet Corps from this Government's funds in 1977-78 will be about Rs. 105 lakhs. The Tamil Nadu Contingent of the National Cadet Corps regained the coveted All-India Banner in the Republic Day Parade held in January, 1977.

#### **National Service Scheme**

The National Service Corps has been launched with the aim of providing college students with opportunities to devote their leisure time in the service of the nation, particularly in the field of education. The Universities which are implementing the scheme get a grant calculated at Rs. 60 per student per annum, of which Rs. 35 is met by the Government of India and Rs. 25 by the State Government. The students and teachers of colleges participate in this scheme on a voluntary basis. The number of students who participated in the scheme in 1976-77 was 20,000 regular plus 10,000 special Camping during vacations. During the floods in Madras City and environs in December 1976, about 3,000 National Service Scheme students took an active and laudable part in flood relief and rehabilitation operations. The strength of the National Service Scheme has been increased in 1977-78 to 25,000 regular plus 12,500 special camping. A provision of



Rs. 14 lakhs has been made for this scheme in the State Budget for 1977-78.

#### **Legal Studies**

The strength of the Madras Law College has increased from 1,045 in 1968-69 to about 2,457 (1,648 in regular degree courses, 695 in evening degree courses and 114 in M. L. courses) in 1976-77. A new college was opened at Madurai during 1974-75 and 320 students were admitted in that college in that year in the I.B.G.L. Course. The strength of that college in 1976-77 was 829 students in full time courses. From 1977-78, an Evening Law Course has been started with one section (80 students) in I.B.G.L.

#### **TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

The provision for Technical Education in 1977-78 is Rs. 6 crores, inclusive of the provision for Technical Education buildings, etc. The Department has under its direct control 7 Engineering Colleges, 39 Polytechnics (including 3 Women's Polytechnics and 6 Special Diploma Institutions and 3 Arts and Crafts Institutions) and 14 Technical High Schools. The present level of annual intake is about 1,300 students for degree courses in the Engineering Colleges, 5,000 students for diploma courses in the Polytechnics and 840 students in the Technical High Schools (The other five Engineering Colleges in the State, which are University Institutions or autonomous institutions, are the Alagappa Chettiar College of Technology, Guindy, the Indian Institute of

Technology, Guindy, the Madras Institute of Technology, Chrommpet, the Annamalai University's College of Engineering and Technology and the Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli.)

#### **Technological University**

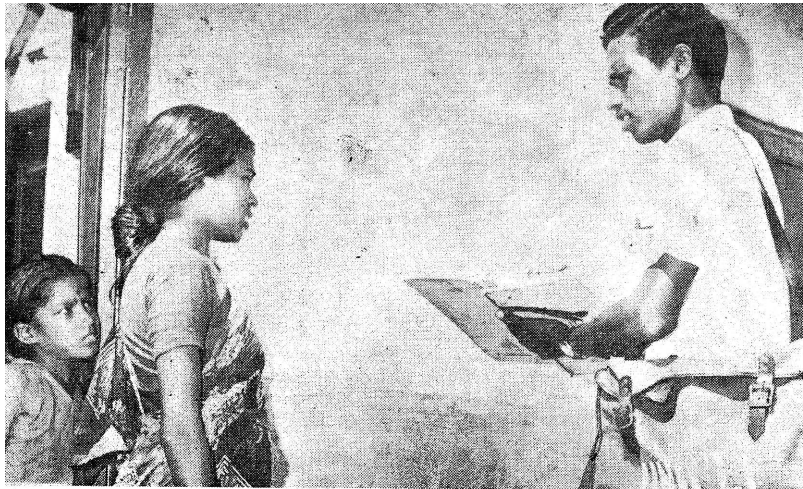
With a view to fostering the growth and development of higher education and research in Engineering, Technology and allied Sciences in the State, to ensure that the system is sensitive to changing demands and quick to respond adequately, and to develop a centre that will provide the necessary leadership for the growth of Technical Education in the State of Tamil Nadu, it has been decided already by the Government of Tamil Nadu to set up a Science and Technological University in the State.

The University will be of the Unitary type and the College of Engineering, Guindy, which is a premier educational institution in the State and which has all the facilities needed to be developed into a Technological University will be the principal seat of the proposed University.

The University will provide facilities and opportunities for higher education and research in Engineering, Technology and allied Sciences; devise and organise relevant programmes; foster co-operation and exchange of ideas between academic and research community and industry; and promote the spirit of entrepreneurship and professional dedication among the students.



# A PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME



*Village Health Volunteer Educating the People in Cleanliness.*

**M**ALARIA, a serious infectious disease of man occurs most often in tropical and sub-tropical countries. The word malaria comes from two Italian words that means bad air. The disease got this name because of the association with the musty, bad-smelling air of the swamps.

Malaria ranks as a leading cause of death in many tropical regions of the world.

**Cause :** Parasitic one-celled animals, called protozoa, of the germs plasmodium cause malaria. These parasites spend part of their lives in the red blood cells of human beings. But they also must spend part of their lives in female Anopheles mosquitoes. These mosquitoes carry and spread the malaria parasites. When an Anopheles mosquito bites a person who has malaria, it sucks up the blood cells that contain the parasites. The parasites develop and multiply in the mosquito's stomach. Then moves into its salivary or mouth parts. Where the mosquito bites another person, it injects saliva containing the malaria parasites into the victim. The parasite enters the person's red blood cells. There they grow and burst the blood cells, causing anaemia.

**Symptoms :** A person who has malaria suffers intense attacks of chill, fever, sweats and great weakness. There are three kinds of malaria. The falciparum, or estivo-autumnal, type ranks as the most dangerous. In this type fever and chills occur at irregular intervals. In the second type, quartem malaria, In the most common type, vivax or tertian, malaria, the fever often

occurs every other day. Although vivax malaria is relatively mild, it causes much chronic illness. Person with this type of malaria often have relapses, or recurrent periods of fever.

**Treatment :** Doctors treat malaria with drugs that destroy the parasites. For centuries doctors used quinine to prevent and treat this disease. But during World War II, the supply of quinine from the East Indies was cut off. Scientists then developed many new compounds that were even more effective than quinine. Among these were atabrine, chloroquine, primaquine and pyrimethamine.

**Control and Prevention :** Malaria may be controlled and prevented by destroying the Anopheles mosquitoes and their breeding places. This can be done by draining swamps and by spraying breeding places with oil or chemicals that destroy the larvae. But extensive drainage projects are impractical. Therefore, a highly effective method to control the disease has been developed. The method is to kill infected mosquitoes, by the use of insecticides. Many of these mosquitoes bite only when they are indoors at night. Immediately after biting, they normally seek rest on a nearby surface. The walls and ceilings of the rooms should be sprayed with insecticides such as D.D.T. which remains active for a long time. When a mosquito rests on these surfaces, the insecticide destroys it.

## RURAL AREAS

In rural areas, the insecticidal spray D.D.T. is usually used. If

it is found that mosquitoes are resistant to D.D.T. alternative insecticides like B.H.C. and malathion are used.

### Points to remember :

All the rooms in the houses should be sprayed with insecticides. The cattle sheds also should be sprayed.

Calendars, photographs and other wall hangings should be removed before spraying the walls.

The eatables and fodder should be covered before spraying.

Every house in the village should be sprayed. Otherwise, mosquitoes surviving from the houses and cattle-sheds which have not been sprayed will infest other places.

A house should be sprayed completely. No part of the house or room should be overlooked.

Houses should not be white-washed or plastered with mud for a period of two to three months after the use of the insecticide, otherwise the effect will be lost.

There is a belief that drugs like chloroquine should not be taken when the temperature is high. This is not correct. The drug can be taken when the temperature is high. However, if the temperature does not subside, the patient should consult the doctor.

It is important to remember that the drug should not be taken on an empty stomach.

If there is a case of fever, free medicine and consultation can be had from the health worker, health centre, dispensary and panchayats.

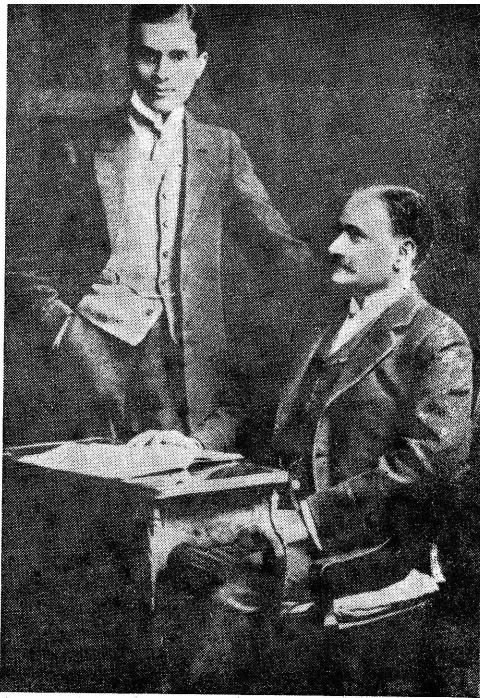
Drugs like chloroquine are supplied to all the shops.

In the eradication of malaria, the health service and social services organisations have an important role to play. As an initial step they should educate the people in the prevention and control of this disease. Then this can become a people's programme.

\* \*



△ Nehru at the age of 5  
 ▽ Nehru with his parents, Thiru Motilal Nehru, his father and Swarooprani his mother

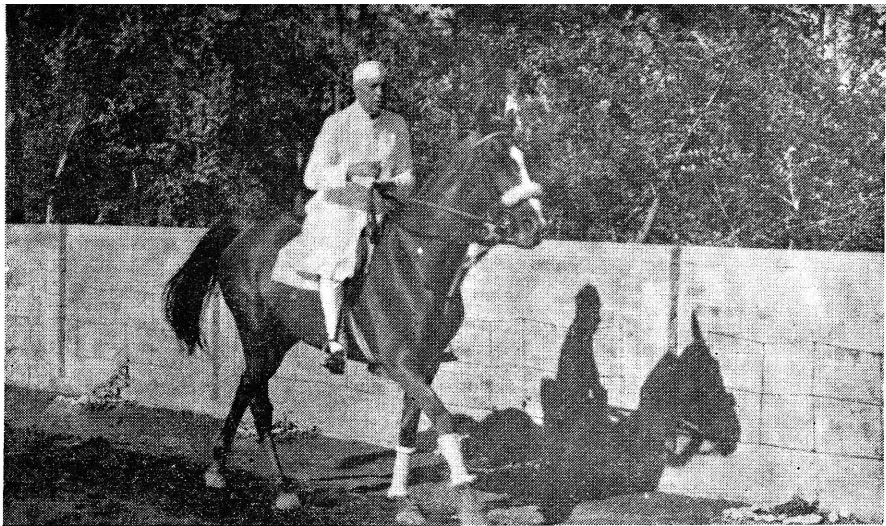


Nehru with his father in the Law Chambers at Allahabad (1912)

# MEMORABLE EVENTS IN NEHRU'S LIFE

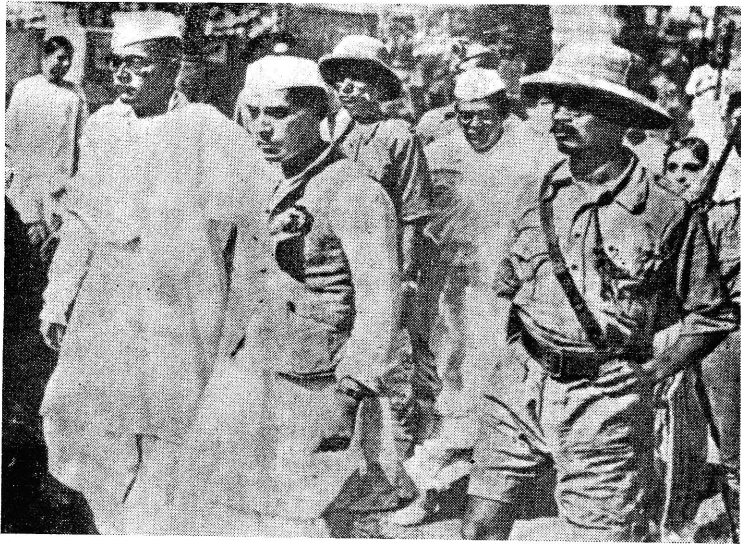


Nehru with his wife Kamala and his daughter Indira (1931)

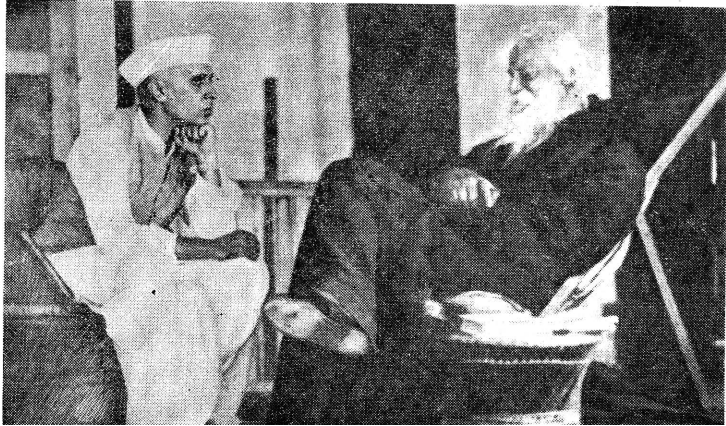


Nehru taking "the reins of the horse" for a brief spell.

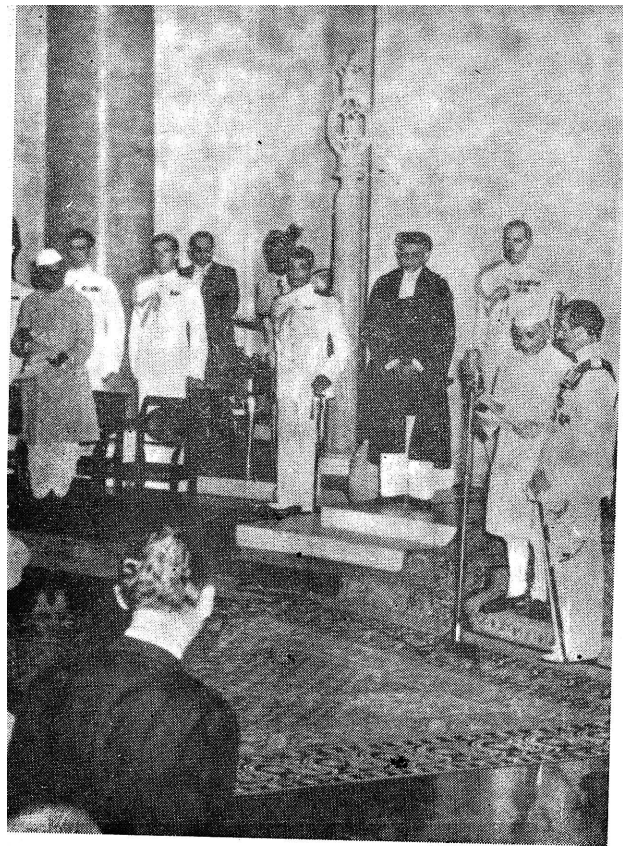
Nehru with Subhas Chandra Bose (1937) ▽



Nehru with Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, the Poet Laureate, at Santiniketan (1936) ▽



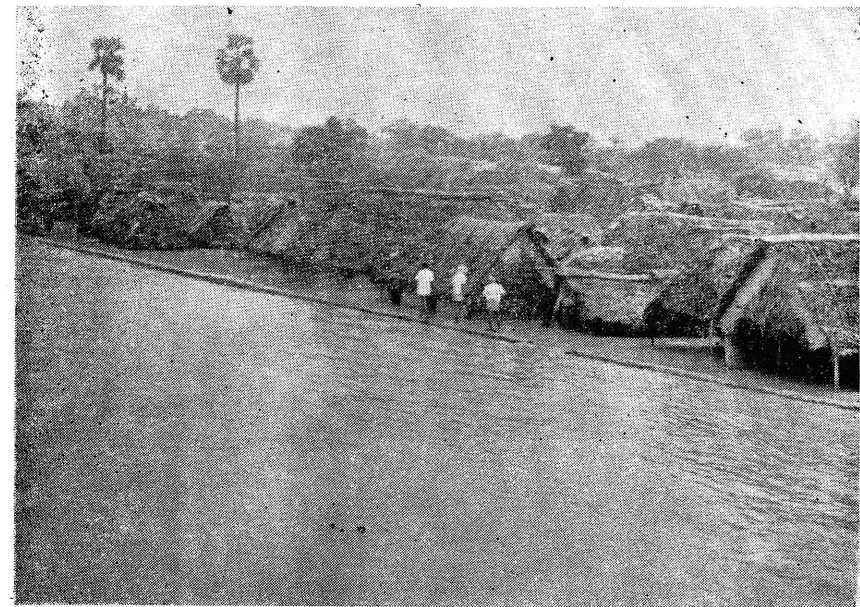




Jawaharlal Nehru being sworn in as the first Prime Minister of India on 15th August, 1947.



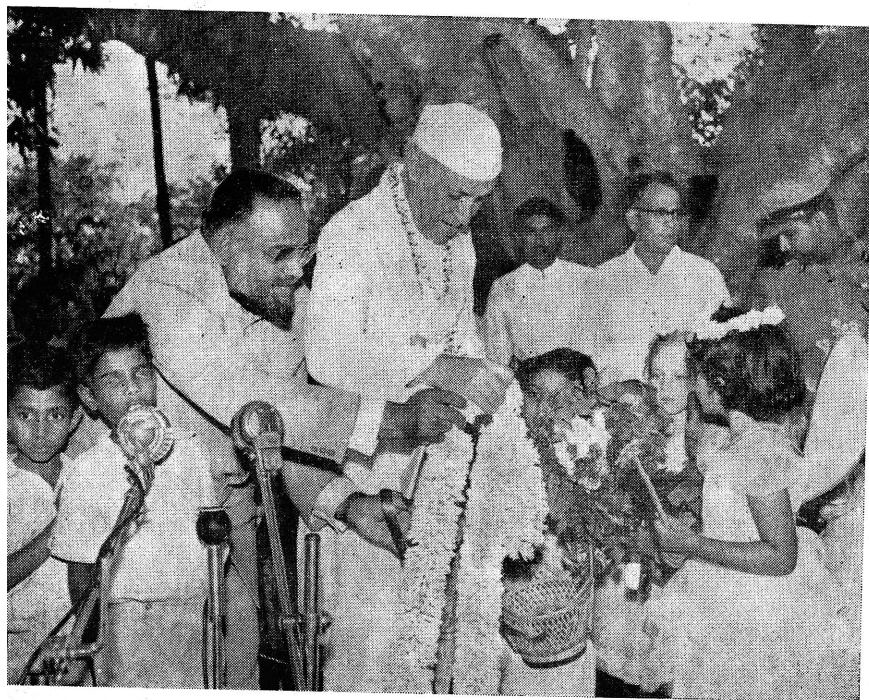
Nehru met George Bernard Shaw at London when he called on the latter.



## Havoc Caused By

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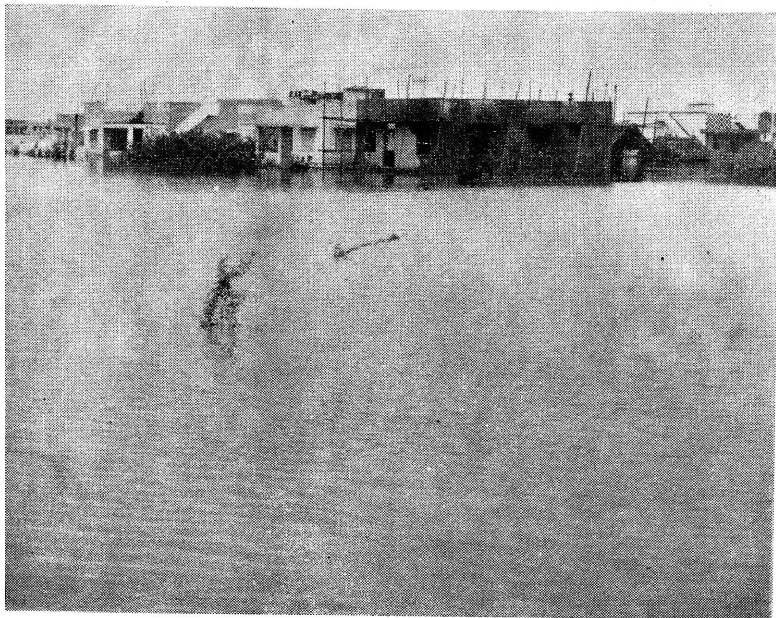
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Nehru with children during his visit to Tamil Nadu.







## RELIEF FOR RAIN-HIT PEOPLE



With the onset of the North-East monsoon, there was wide spread rain in Tamil Nadu, a fortnight ago. The irrigation tanks and reservoirs received copious supplies raising the hopes of a good samba crop.

But the depressions formed in the Bay in the third week of October shattered all such hopes. The intermittent rains in the city and state great caused havoc to people. The incessant rains which lashed the city flooded several thorough fares and inundated a number of hutments, rendering thousands homeless.

The heavy rains water logged the roads and the traffic was cut off. Rail traffic on the broadguage was disrupted due to rain water overflowing the tracks. Due to bad weather planes were diverted.

Among the worst affected areas in the city was Vysarpadi in North Madras, where flood waters had entered the hutments. The corporation authorities arranged for alternative accommodation and distribution of food packets to the affected people. Other affected areas in the city were parts of Nungambakam, Adyar, Otteri and Chingleput.

All the school buildings and community centres of the Corporation in the affected areas were thrown open to the flood hit people. The health Department of the Corporation took precautionary measures against outbreak of epidemics.

The Government had geared up the machinery to cope up with the situation following heavy rains in the city and the districts.

All the affected slum families were shifted to places of safety.

The corporation authorities had been directed to push through cholera inoculation programmes.

Four relief centres were opened. About 1.5 lakhs food packets were distributed throughout the city among the rain affected people.



*Chief Minister Thiru M. G. R. going round the flood hit areas.*

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R. presided over a high-level conference of senior officials to discuss immediate and long-term measures to tackle the problems arising from excess monsoon rains. He suggested that a question of forming a chain of reservoirs around the city to absorb and conserve the flood waters should be examined.

The Chief Minister said as far as Madras was concerned the relief measures already undertaken would be continued.

The question of increasing the capacity of the Chembarambakkam tank as well as diversion of the inflows into it should be examined.

An official team headed by the Revenue Board member in charge of flood relief measures has been asked to study the impact of the inundation and flooding noticed in the belt areas of Madras city and suggest measures for the redress of the grievances of the people in those areas.

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R. has set up "the Chief Minister's public relief fund"

Thiru M.G.R. in an appeal urged the philanthropic public to come forward with liberal contribution towards flood relief measures initiated by the State Government in Madras city and belt areas as well as in the affected districts in the wake of heavy monsoon rains.

The Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues visited the flood affected areas, consoled the grief-stricken victims and supervised the relief measures undertaken.

73 persons had lost their lives in the recent rains. 136 heads of cattle had been lost and 5,848 hutments collapsed.

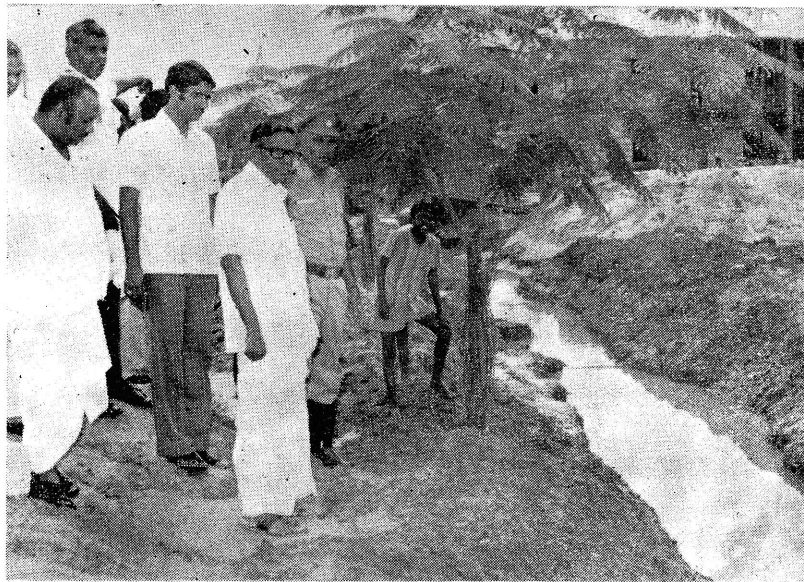
A sum of Rs. 2,000 will be given as relief to the family where the bread-winner had lost his life.

So far, 1,95,450 lunch packets per day were distributed to the winners. 10,000 children were provided with milk.





*Thiru R.M. Veerappan, Minister for Information visited the flood affected areas.*



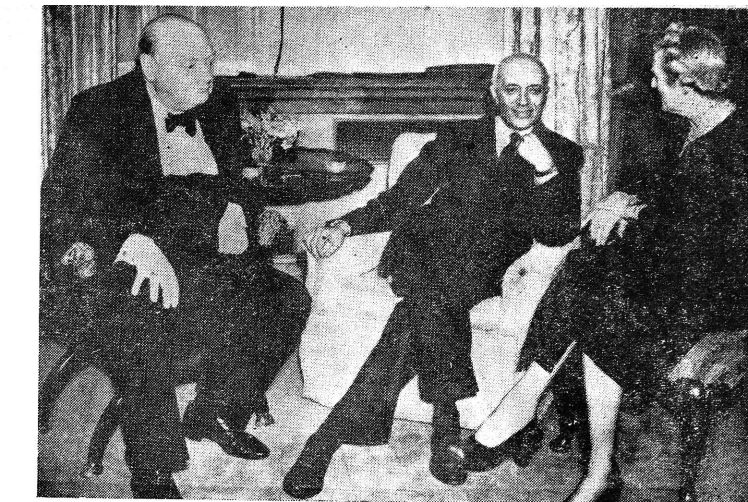
△ Nehru is here seen with Lord Atlee in 1947.

Jawaharlal Nehru with Presidents Nkruma, Nasser Sukharna and Tito. >

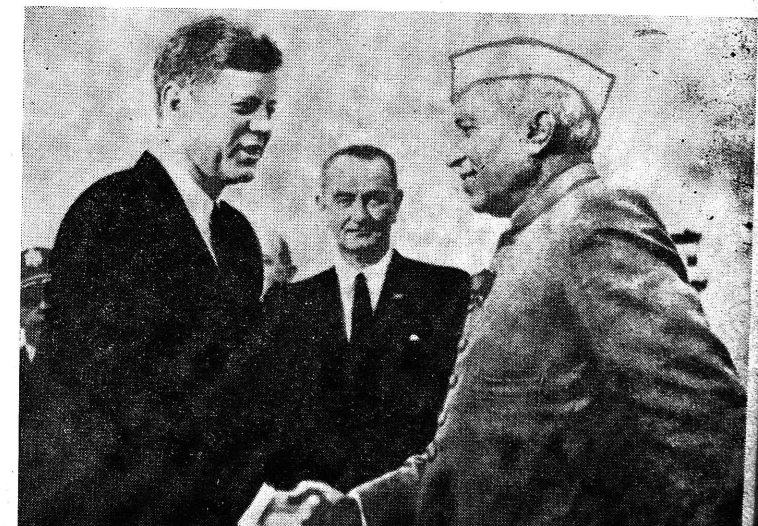


President Kennedy welcoming Jawaharlal Nehru when the latter visited U. S. A. ▽

Jawaharlal Nehru greeting the Chinese-leader Mao-Tse-Tung when he visited China in 1954. ▽



△ Jawaharlal Nehru paying a visit to Sir Winston and Lady Sarah Churchill (1949).





# AN INNINGS WITH A WINNING SMILE



*Jawaharlal Nehru,  
the man who made  
a tryst with destiny,  
taking the country to victory with  
A Winning Smile.*



# VEDANTHANGAL

## Paradise for Bird Lovers



"Bird-lovers flock to the place to watch the myriads winging their way to their wonted feeding grounds.

Shortly after 5 p. m. the birds start coming in flocks or in threes, fours and fives. Their formation flying, wheeling swiftly in an arc, or diving from above much like an airliner, is a delight to watch."

The rainy season attracts water birds from cold countries of Northern Asia and Europe to migrate to warmer southern countries. The birds nest and breed, usually in colonies, sometimes in large mixed colonies. If the birds are not disturbed, they use the same nesting site every year.

53 miles away from Madras in the district of Chingleput nestles one of the unique and most fascinating bird sanctuaries in India, known as Vedanthangal. Many different kinds of water birds have been breeding every year in large numbers in a grove of Barringtonia trees. This mixed heronry is one of the most spectacular in India. Nowhere else do so many thousand birds of so many kinds breed in such close proximity, in a tight colony. During the years when there is good rainfall no less than 14 species may be found breeding at this nesting colony. During the height of the breeding season in November, December and in January Vedanthangal provides a wonderful panoramic view of a large mixed heronry, and the sustained clamour and bustle of nesting and feeding activities, and the frequent overhead flights of birds setting out or returning home, cannot fail to fascinate and intrigue the watcher.

When the lake receives its full supply of water, it affords complete isolation to the trees rendering them well nigh impossible of approach or harm by men and cattle, specially wild cat and mongoose who cause enormous damage to eggs and chicks. Coupled with this security, the care and interest evinced by the villagers in protecting them seems to have endeared the birds to this place.

In short, immunity from danger, facilities to nest and breed, availability of food in this waters, and the adjacent numerous lakes are considerations which appear to weigh with these feathered visitors to congregate at this lake from distant centres during the breeding season. Year after year, the birds have been colonising these trees and deserting them when the lake gets dry and the fledgelings are able to take to wing.

The droppings of these birds enrich the lake waters to such a degree that there had been no need for any manure in the ayacut of the lake. The excrement of birds is the richest nitrogenous and phosphoric fertilizer in the world.

Birds, particularly water-birds which are highly adapted to a specialized mode of life, do not go by reason or intelligence but by powerful instincts by a set of inborn impulses that are unreasoned, compulsive and fully developed in their skills, being incapable of improvement by practice or through experience. Many water birds prefer nesting trees which are insulated by surrounding waters. At Vedanthangal, the grove of Barringtonia trees in the middle of the tank is so insulated when the tank fills up, and nesting is invariably commenced in the trees placing the bund which are the first to have their trunks partially submerged when the water comes in with the rains.

Further, the food requirements of the colony of nesting water-birds are staggering. The insatiable fledgelings can conserve more their own weight of food in a day, and

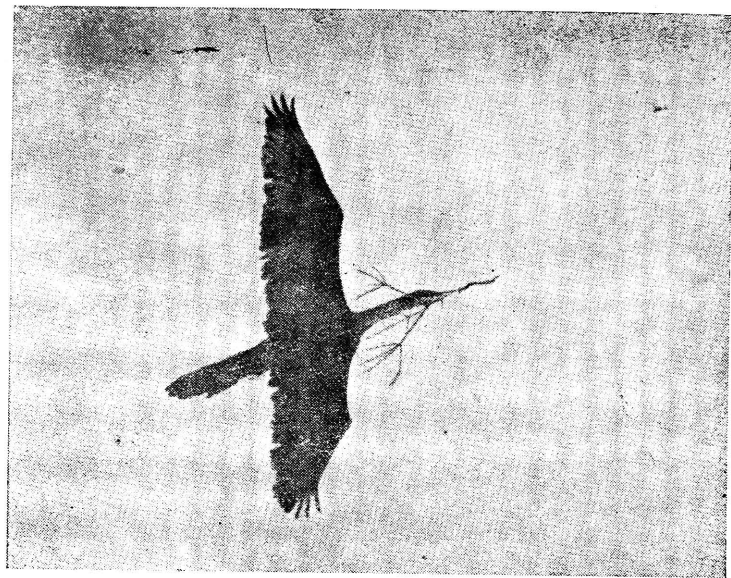
grow at a great pace. Waterbirds as a class are silent, many even voiceless, but the almost continuous yickering and yapping of the fledgelings, the hunger cry of the young, can be heard a considerable distance away at any mixed heronry. These birds feed on fishes, frogs and tadpoles, molluscs and other aquatic fry, though a few species also take in some aquatic vegetation. Vedanthangal is situated in the midst of varied feeding grounds, the tanks and inundated waste lands around teeming with just the kind of prey that the breeding birds require. Later, when the water dries up, the home-tank itself serves to feed the fledgling and fast growing young birds, and other sheets of water are not far away. The partly submerged scrubs around provides adequate reserves of thorny twigs for nest building, and the Barringtonia trees at the home tank offer not only nesting sites for the breeding birds, but also roosts for the non-breeding birds early in the season and, at the end of the breeding enterprise, safe perches for the growing young.

The Barringtonia grove is of great importance to the nesting colony. The Vedanthangal tank is 70 odd acres in extent, and the grove occupies only half of this area, being placed somewhat off centre. There are over 500 trees in this compact grove, though from the bund they seem no more than a hundred, or two at best--so closely contiguous are they in their growth. The trees are only some 20 feet high many are only 15 feet high, with flattish crowns and a much gnarled and twisted lateral spread of their boughs and many tough twigs - ideal nesting trees for water birds.

## The breeding colony

The birds arrive at the tank soon after it begins to fill up, about August, September when the North-east monsoon is neither belated nor meagre. Some of them arrive in breeding livery, some in non-breeding condition. All the birds of a species do not arrive together; each species comes in inflights which may be quite large or consist only of half-a-dozen birds, and immediately proceeds to colonise the available trees. This colonisation is progressive and promiscuous and seems to be continued right up to November; birds of different species settle on the same tree as they arrive, and promptly proceed to build nests as they are already in breeding condition; more and more trees are made available for nesting as the water fills up the tank, and as the birds keep coming in, these trees are utilized; the trees facing the bund are the first to be submerged and these are the first to be colonized, the trees behind them occupied later. Usually, by April the season is over and the birds have departed, but this naturally varies from year to year, depending on how soon the tank dries up.

Although each occupied tree is crowded with nests and presents a motely appearance, due to the intermingling of the blacks of the cormorants and the white of the egrets, spoonbills and ibises, and the greys of the openbills and herons, it is nevertheless true that some species



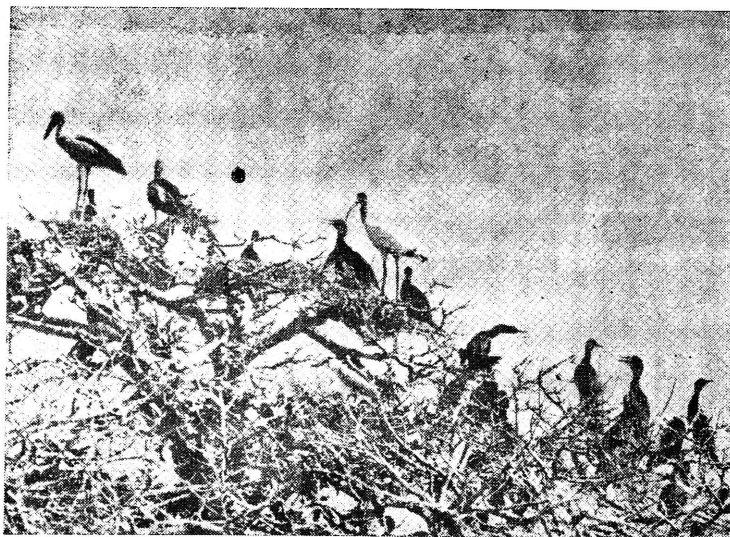
Shag bringing a twig home for nest building

do dominate certain nesting trees there are, of course, no trees that are colonized entirely by any one species. Openbills and herons occupying the outlying trees at the north-western corner of the grove, spoon bills, egrets and cormorants dominates opposite the centre of the bund, and the trees on the rocky southern corner of the colony are the stronghold of the night herons.

Three species of the egrets (the little egret, the median egret

and the large egret) the cattle egret, the night heron, the pond heron and the grey heron, the open billed stork, the spoon bill and the white ibis, three species of cormorants the little cormorant, the shag, and the large cormorant) and the darter.

The numbers of these birds vary from year to year depending on rainfall. At the height of the breeding season the tank may hold from five to six thousand birds, including the non-breeding birds roosting here and the young.

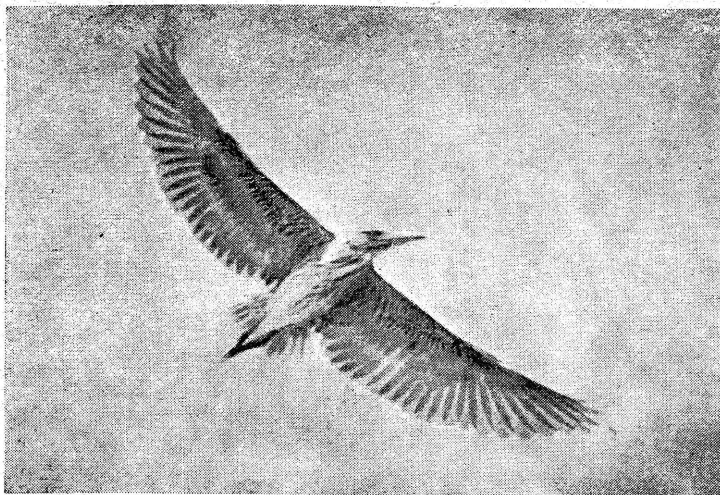


Open bill, white Ibis and Shag on the tree-tops at Vedanthangal

Nesting material is gathered from the surrounding countryside and brought to the colony. The bulk of the nesting material consists of thorny twigs, laboriously fetched from afar. From September till December, it is a common sight at Vedanthangal to see flights of various birds coming home with twigs in their beaks, to build and repair their nests-sometimes, they may be observed squabbling over a twig that has fallen down to the tank's surface.

Vedanthangal also serves as a feeding ground to a number of visitors. Migrants like sandpipers and teals and indigenous visitors are not uncommon. Blackwinged stilt may usually be found in a small party at the northern edge of the water. Pelicans arrive singly, in pairs and in parties.





Subadult Night Heron

Occasional coots may also visit the tank and at times the river tern may be found patrolling the water. Kingfishers are quite common.

Naturally, at a large breeding centre where there is an unavoidable percentage of infant mortality, and opportunities for nest-raiding, a number of scavengers and predators are also to be found. The house crow, the Pariah kite, barbers, and an occasional short toed eagle or white scavenger vulture are the chief of these. The brahmyn kite, common over the water, seems to frequent the sanctuary mainly out of its interest in aquatic prey.

One of the features of the rainy season is the superabundance of waterside insect life. It is no surprise therefore, to find a number of insect-eating birds here, and the vegetation of the bund also attracts seed and fruit eaters. The avifauna of the bund is of considerable interest, especially late in the season when a pair or two of pied crested cuckoos, blackheaded cuckooshrikes, ashy swallow shrikes and other such birds frequent the place.

### THE BIRDS OF THE NESTING COLONY

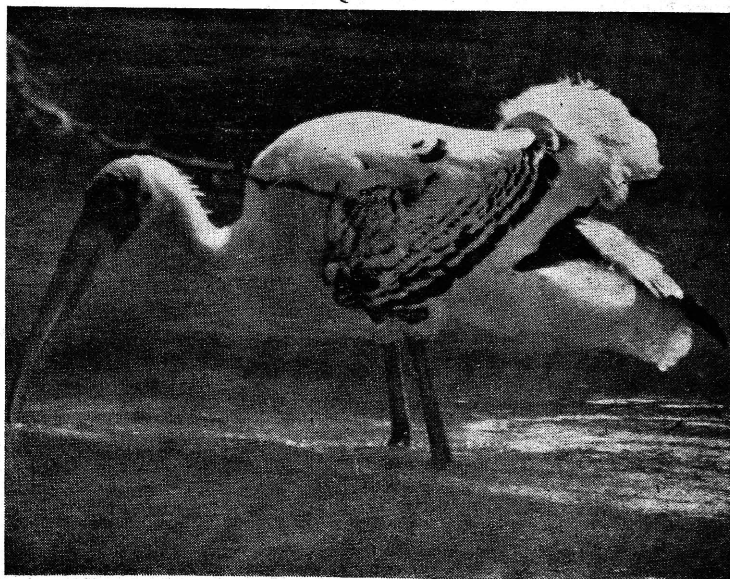
The three cormorants are hard to tell apart—they are all obviously and unmistakably cormorants, dark (they look black from a distance and one has to get quite near to see that there is some dark grey and brown also in their plumage, and a

scaly pattern on the body visible in some lights), with short, broad, webbed feet and hook-tipped bills. They are swift fliers and even more at home in the water than in the air—a cormorant swimming has only its head and neck showing above the surface, and the slightly upward tilt of the head and beak is characteristic. As everyone knows, cormorants are expert divers and hunt their prey (mainly fishes of various kinds) under water; frequently, they hunt in company.

The Little Cormorant is the smallest of the tribe, being only a little larger than a crow. It occurs in large numbers, entire trees looking black with the nesting cormorants. Returning from excursions abroad, it usually flies home in large flocks, and sometimes these swiftwinged flights, instead of making for the trees, hurtle into the water at a sharp angle.

The Shag is larger. Shags in breeding plumage sport an elongated white disc like mark on each side of the head, behind the ear-coverts; when not in breeding condition there is often some white speckling on the throat—the Little Cormorant has often a white patch here. Both have much the same habits, and both are highly gregarious. The young of both have the trick of regurgitating swallowed fish (or other prey) when frightened.

The Large Cormorant usually two or three pairs are to be found nesting at the colony. The nesting trees of these birds appear to be in the interior of the grove. It does not exhibit the white patches on the flanks by which it is identified elsewhere; the white filaments on the head, when the bird is in nuptial plumage, are clear through glasses, and even with the naked eye and from some distance its size, and the yellow skin on the face and throat, serve to distinguish it.

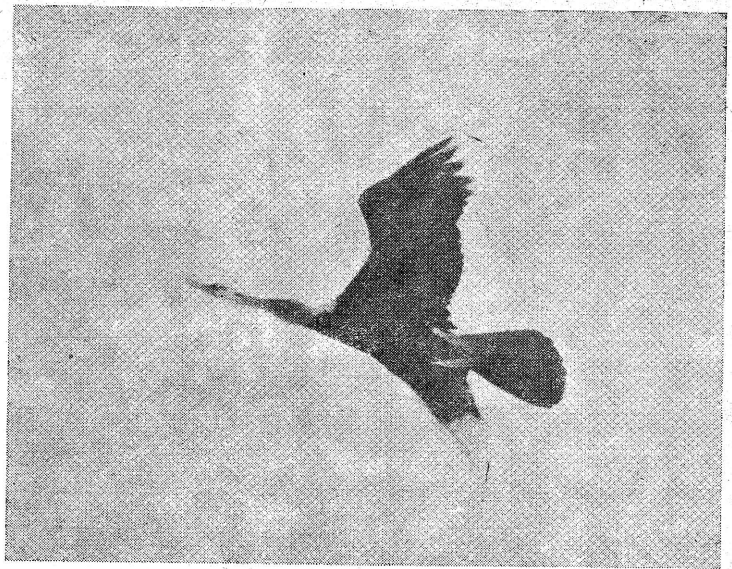


The Ibis

All Cormorants are called 'Near-Kaakkai' in Tamil.

The Darter or Snake-bird is an ally of the cormorants and has many of their habits. It is big and black, with the white-shafted plumes on the back and sides giving it a scaly, rather reptilian look; the S-shaped neck is snaky and has a powerful kink in its curve, the head is small and the beak dagger shaped; there is a lining of white on either side of the sinuous neck. When it is in the water, with only its neck and head showing above the surface, it is at once clear why it is called the Snake-bird. It is a splendid diver, that chases and catches its prey under water. When alarmed it will drop straight into the water from its perch. Frequently it may be seen sitting on a tree, with its wings spread out to dry. The flight is swift, and consists of an alternation of vigorous wing beats and glides; it is also given to soaring. It has been claimed that this bird usually transfixes its prey, the dagger bill and the powerful thrust of the kinked neck enabling it to do so. Darters catch their prey like any other fish-hunter, between the mandibles, sometimes jerking the fish up into the air to catch and swallow it.

The name for the darter in Tamil is 'Paambu-thaara' meaning 'snake-duck';



Darter in flight

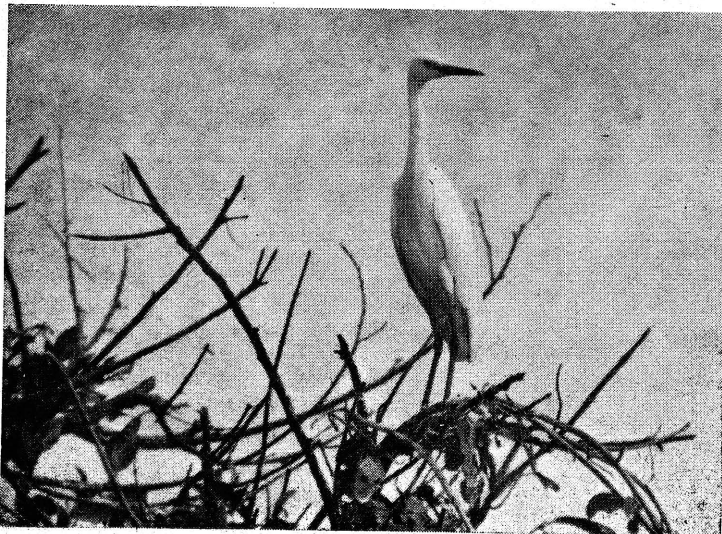
Of the three true egrets the Little Egret is the smallest in size, and numerically the largest. This dainty egret, perhaps the most graceful of all water-birds in slow flight, is the easiest of its tribe to identify, especially in flight when the feet are clearly visible. It is comparatively small in size, has dazzling white plumage, black beak, and black legs with a patch of yellowish colour on the feet. Long, exquisitely dissected plumes are

developed on the breast and lower back, and two drooping plumes at the back of the head, adding to the airy grace of the bird.

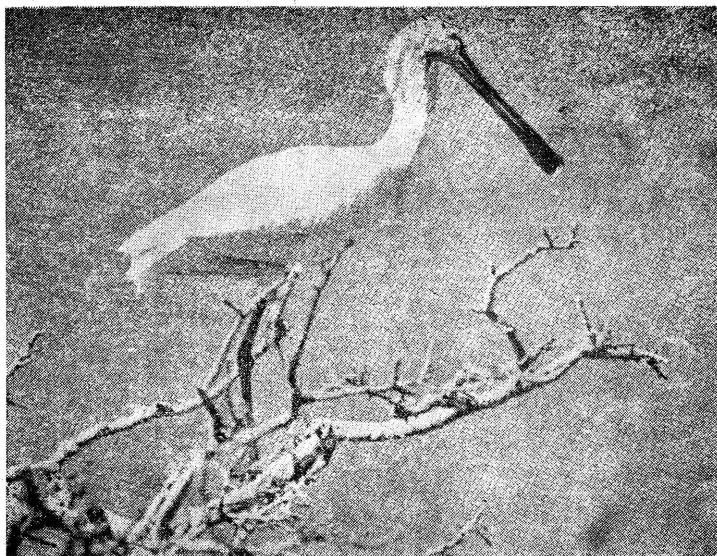
The Median Egret is larger. When not in breeding condition its bill is yellow, when breeding black; the legs are dark and there is no patch of yellow on the feet. This egret, too, develops delicate plumes on its breast and lower back when it is ready to mate and nest, but lacks the drooping plumes on the head.

The large Egret is much larger than the Median Egret, standing as tall as a Grey Heron. It has dark legs and feet and a dominantly yellow bill. The Tamil name for egret is "Vellai kokku" or Venkokku.

The cattle Egret found in flocks at the edge of the tank, in the paddy fields, and following grazing cattle in the scrub around, is about the size of the Little Egret but much more dumpy in build. Its white is not the cold, dazzling white of the Little Egret and the Median Egret, but a somewhat warm, yellowish white; The Cattle Egret's bill is yellow all the year round, and its legs and feet dark. Late, in the season these birds get into breeding condition, when the head, neck and back turn a golden buff. The Tamil name is 'Maattu Kokku' or Unni-Kokku'.



White Ibis



Spoonbill in breeding livery

The Pond Heron or Paddy-bird, is a steady brown bird, rather smaller than the Cattle Egret, to be found at the water's edge and in the paddy fields, sitting humped up with its neck completely retracted between its shoulders. So still does it sit, so perfectly do its earthy, mottled browns blend its surroundings, that it is easy to overlook the bird even from close quarters. When alarmed it spreads its broad wings and flies away, the flashing white wings hiding the brown body, so that one is considerably surprised to see such a conspicuously white bird suddenly materialise from the earth. In breeding livery the back is covered with fine maroon feathers and a drooping crest of white plumes developed. The Tamil name of the bird is 'Madayaan', and is also known as 'Kuruttu-kokku'—the bird is not blind, but that it blinds the onlooker with its camouflage!

The highly gregarious Night Heron occurs in very large numbers at the sanctuary. Larger than the Cattle Egret and squatly built, it is more nocturnal. In the fully adult bird, the body is grey, the top of the head and the top of the back are black, and the underside white; there is a black crest with two long white plumes dropping down over the nape. Subadult birds are a streaky brown all over, somewhat like a paddy-bird at rest, but with the typical build of the night heron. The heavy build and flapping flight are distinctive, and unlike most

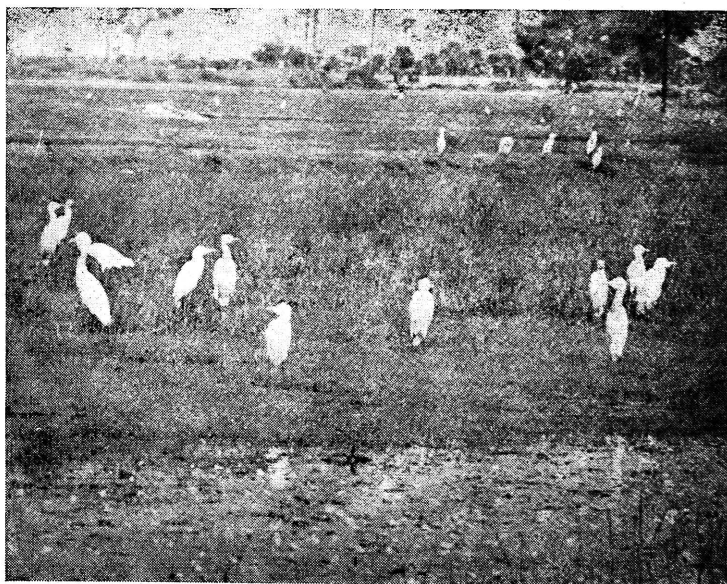
water-birds it is highly vocal on the wing, coming out with a hollow 'waak'! Normally the legs are a horny grey, but in the breeding bird they turn almost vermilion. The Tamil name of the bird is 'Vakka'.

The Grey Heron is another bird with a very wide distribution—It is as large as a small stork, slightly taller than the Openbilled Stork,

and much more graceful in flight and carriage. Ash-grey on the body with a black crest, whitish head and neck, and a speckled black line down the neck, it is a handsome bird, and its yellow bill and legs contrast neatly with its grey, white and black. It has large wings, and the graceful flight and broad, sail like wings identify the bird from a considerable distance. The Tamil name for the bird is "Narayana Patchi."

In many ways it is the Openbilled Stork that dominates the breeding colony, not by its numbers, but by its habit of nesting in the exposed, outlying trees, and its spectacular return flights in the evenings. This is the smallest of the storks, being only heron-sized, with a humped back. The body is a light grey, or greyish white, the wings being broadly tipped with black—the tail is black. The beak is a horny greenish grey and reddish in places, and the legs a dull, dark pink.

On arrival at the colony to breed almost all the openbills look white-and-black; as the season progresses, especially towards its close, the white in their plumage is replaced by a smoky grey. During the last weeks of the season, shortly before they disperse, the young openbills, now almost the size of their parents and similarly grey-and black, congregate by themselves on the treetops-trees in the interior of the grove.



Cattle egrets



Openbills are given to soaring on high in company when the weather is not too cloudy or rainy, soaring very high. When they return from their feeding flights to the colony in the evenings, the openbills often arrive in flocks and soar above the colony, descending in a series of almost vertical, sharply-angled dives at dizzying speed; these dives are executed with such certainty and speed that the birds, high up in the sky at one moment, are over the nesting trees the next; they then spread out their wings to break their momentum, and flap their way to their nests. The Tamil name for the bird, is 'Nath-thaikuththi Naarai'.

The quaint-looking spoonbill is also one of the features of this breeding centre. A plump largish white bird with long black legs, and a horny black spatulate bill tipped with yellow. There is a crimson patch of naked skin at the throat, and in breeding livery the bird develops a thick white crest

of feathers right at the back of the head-and the breast feathers take on a blush of yellow. Spoonbills arriving to breed at Vedanthangal are already in breeding plumage and retain their nuchal crests right till the end of the season.

Spoonbills usually feed in company, in rows or strings, wading in the shallows with their partly opened bills immersed in the water-sometimes, when they reach down after prey, the head is completely immersed. They move their heads and bills in a partial sweep from side to side, and any prey encountered is caught and swallowed-they also take in some measure of aquatic vegetation. Late in the season, spoonbills may occasionally be seen feeding at the shallow eastern edge of the tank. Spoonbills are said to be dumb, except for an egrete like grunt the bill is opened and closed as this sound (which is not produced by the clattering together of the mandibles) is produced.

The spoonbill is called 'Mamti-vaayan', 'Manvettivaayan'.

The White Ibis. This bird is almost as nocturnal as the night heron-large flights may occasionally be found soaring over the sanctuary, sometimes along with soaring spoonbills. The head and neck, which are bare of feathers in the adult, are black, and the black bill has a sickle-shaped curve; the legs are also black and the rest of the bird is white. The young are very similar, except that they have grey feathers covering the neck and the back of the head. The local name for this bird, aptly enough, is 'Arivval-mookkan'.

The Indian Moohen may be found swimming in pairs and parties under the trees of the middle. It is called 'Kaanaankozhi'.

The much smaller Dabchick or Little Grebe is more a bird of the open water. In February, pairs, accompanied by half-grown young are observed, suggesting that the bird probably breeds here. \*\*

## FLAMINGOES AT VEDARANYAM

According to geologists, South America evolved in isolation for nearly 70,000,000 years and this has resulted in the development of distinctive bird groups. The scarlet ibis is very conspicuous by its colour and is found inhabiting the South American mangroves.

Scarlet ibis is now common only in the island of Trinidad and is not found anywhere else. There is an estimated 10,000 of these beautiful birds in their natural state. A mass flight of scarlet ibis is an unforgettable spectacle.

There are about 25 species of these medium large birds and they are related to the storks. They have slender curving and sword-like bills. Ibises live peacefully with other water birds like spoonbills, openbills, herons and egrets.

Ibises are a common attraction in several of the bird sanctuaries in India like Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu), Ranganathittu (Karnataka) and the well-known Bharathpur Ghana bird sanctuary (Rajasthan). The ibis found in India are usually the black and white variety.

At Point Calimere near Vedaranyam (Tamil Nadu) during the winter months one would be rewarded with the sight of one of nature's most remarkable birds with incredibly long

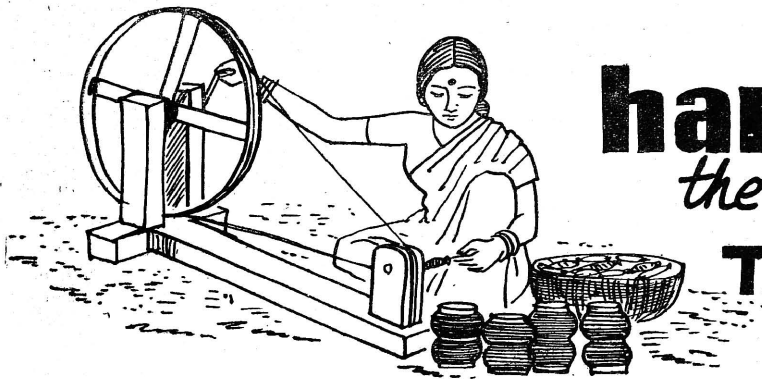
legs and necks walking cautiously step by step in the brackish waters. These are the flamingoes in one of their favourite feeding grounds in South India and the other noted place is the great Rann of Kutch.

There are six species of these gregarious large water birds. Most of them are rosy white with scarlet shoulders except the American flamingo which has bright vermilion shade. Flamingoes are found throughout the world in tropical and sub-tropical areas with large stretches of shallow salt or brackish water. They breed in huge colonies in sub-tropical America, South America, India, Bahamas and Africa.

A flamingo colony may contain thousands of birds and it is a magnificent sight to watch them fly in great flocks.

The nest is a crude cone of clay or mud piled up and a single chalky white egg is placed in the hollow of the cone. Both the parents take turns during the incubation period of one month. Ridiculously small, the chicks abandon the nest in about three or four days and are fed by partly-digested food thrown by the parents. In less than three months the chicks become independent.

Courtesy : The Hindu



# handloom

*the pride of*

## TAMILNADU

### INDIAN WEAVERS

Weavers, weaving at break of day  
 Why do you weave a garment  
   so gay?  
 Blue as the wing of a halcyon wild  
 We weave the robes of a new-  
   born child

Weavers, weaving at fall of night  
 Why do you weave the garment  
   so bright?  
 Like the plumes of a peacock purple  
   and green  
 We weave the marriage veils of  
   a queen

Weavers, weaving solemn and still  
 What do you weave in the  
   moon-light chill?  
 White as feather and white as cloud  
 We weave a dead man's funeral  
   shroud.

—Sarojini Naidu

### HANDLOOM THE PRIDE OF TAMIL NADU

The Muslins from India were in demand as far back as 5,000 B.C. to enshroud the Egyptian mummies. Legend has it that these fine Muslins when moistened and spread on grass became almost invisible. It is difficult to believe that human hands could weave fabrics so fine.

The Indian weaver has been the artisan as well as the artist — his hands executed what his imagination visualized. And his natural sensitivity to rhythm and colour, line and curve have made him a perfect designer and a master craftsman. The skill has passed from father to son, so that in the course of time a tradition has been built and sustained.

Each state has its own distinctive weave, design or style. The gorgeous saris, and celebrated brocades of Varanasi, the Himrus of Hyderabad, the beautiful silks of Kancheepuram, the traditional designs of Adyar, the delicate work of Chanderi, Maheshwaris of Madhya Pradesh, the Patan Patolas of Gujarat, the chikan Muslins of Lucknow, the prints of Farukabad, Bombay and Jaipur are all fascinating to the fashion conscious.

**Thiru K. RAJA MOHAMMAD,**  
Minister for Handloom & Textiles

Dress designers the world over have taken an increasing interest in the handloom textiles of our country as fashion fabrics with great potentialities. The shades and designs are too numerous to choose from as also as the materials to work with.

### Historical Background :

The handloom industry is ancient and has passed through many vicissitudes. Its modern history can be said to have begun when in 1640, a year after the Fort St. George was built by the East India Company, 400 families of weavers had emigrated to the village, then called Madras Pattinam, north of the Fort. The Company encouraged the weavers. During the early years steps were taken to direct their labour to manufacture such clothes were promising for export. Cotton cultivation was also encouraged to procure cheap raw materials for the company's weaving establishments. When the company assumed administrative functions encouragement to the weavers continued for some time. The "Moturpha" a tax on weavers was abolished. When this tax was reimposed for

revenue reasons the company weavers were exempted from it. Cultivation in weavers' lands was rent free. To direct and improve the industry commercial residents were appointed in all districts. The other measures adopted to encourage the weavers were division of the wind-fall profits among them and supply of grain allowances during the periods of famine.

The second phase of the industry came towards the end of the 17th century. With the growth of the British cotton textile industry, the use of Indian textiles declined in England either by complete prohibition or by the imposition of heavy import duties. British goods began to flood world markets. The reaction in Madras was the closure of the entire commercial establishments of the East India Company in 1835, causing great distress of the weavers. A large number of weavers were forced to seek their livelihood in agriculture or emigrate as coolies to Ceylon, Burma and Mauritius. During the second half of the 19th century there was a revival of industry when high-priced hand-spun yarn yielded place to cheap machine-spun yarn and with the consequent reduction in prices foreign markets in handloom fabrics once more expanded. Even so the prosperity did not last long, as the price differential between handloom and mill cloths was adverse to handloom cloths. The powerlooms made inroads into the range of goods formerly produced by the handlooms. Once more there was a decline in the handloom industry.

Levy of stiff excise duties besides cess and additional sales-tax made mill cloth costlier. In addition certain varieties of production of cloth were reserved exclusively for handlooms, while a curb was

introduced on mill production of dhoties and saris.

### The helping hand of the Government:

The handloom industry holds a very high place in the economy of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is known for its silk saris like Koranadu, Kanchipuram and Arni saris, handkerchiefs, lungis, angavasthirams and dhoties.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been helping this industry substantially through the co-operative sector, several welfare schemes for the development of this industry have been implemented by the Government.

form of organisational set up for ensuring proper development of the weavers, several steps have been taken to bring more and more handloom weavers in the co-operative sector and to implement the various handloom development schemes through these weavers co-operative societies.

(i) Weavers are given loan assistance upto Rs. 100 per person for making their initial share capital contribution. While joining the existing or new weavers co-operative societies. During 1976-77, Rs. 14 lakhs have been sanctioned under this scheme of which Government of India provided Rs. 7 lakhs on a matching basis. With this assistance and with the financial

and Erode were started in 1976-77 to cover 11,000 looms in the course of 3 years.

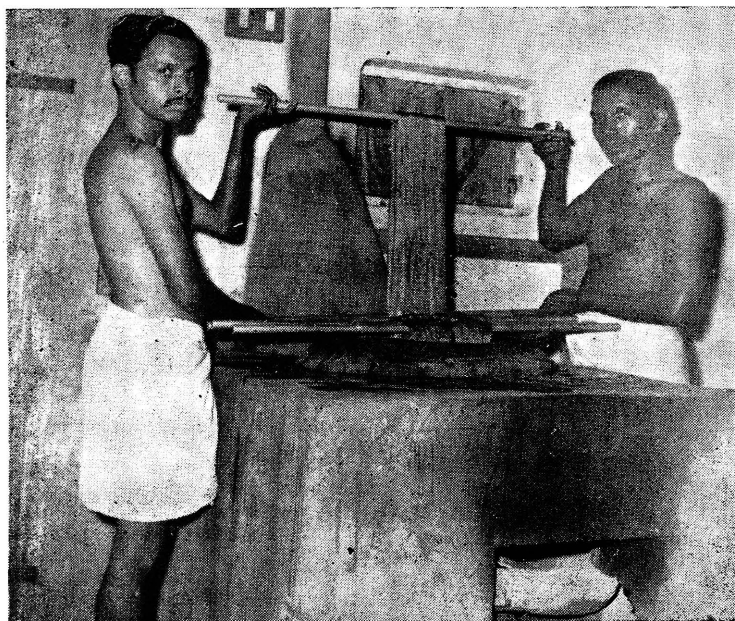
(iii) It has been proposed to set up 50 Industrial Weavers Co-operative Societies for the benefit of the loomless weavers within a period of 2 to 3 years. During 1976-77, three such societies have been started with a total financial outlay of Rs. 10 lakhs. These units have been started at Dharmapuri, Ramanathapuram and Madurai to provide employment to 300 loomless weavers.

(iv) The Government of India have approved the production of dhoties and sarees under the controlled cloth scheme on handlooms. About 5,000 handlooms are engaged in the production of these varieties. As against the target of 17 million metres about 6 million metres have so far been produced. Government of India have sanctioned an advance subsidy of Rs. 33 lakhs at the rate of Re. 1 per square metre on the actual deliveries of controlled dhoties and sarees produced by handloom sector in the State.

(v) For the welfare of the Handloom Weavers working under the co-operative fold, the 'Co-operative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme' has been started with effect from 15th November 1975. Under this scheme, in the event of death, the nominee of the subscriber will get a minimum insurance cover of Rs. 500 besides the subscriber's contribution and Government contributions. The Weavers members are required to contribute 6 per cent of their wages towards their premium payment. The total amounts are funded with Government which allows an interest of 7 per cent on the accumulations. So far about 57,000 weavers have been brought within the scope of this new scheme.

Apart from the implementation of the Handloom Development Schemes financed by the Central and State Governments, additional schemes are being implemented with financial assistance from the National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi :—

(a) Expansion of 9 Co-operative Spinning Mills to a capacity of 25,000 spindles each, with a financial assistance of Rs. 176.65 lakhs.



The yarn is being dyed.

Out of the 5.56 lakhs of handlooms functioning in the State, about 1.80 lakhs handlooms have been organised as 872 Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies. Under the scheme of increasing Co-operative coverage, it is proposed to bring 60 per cent of the handlooms in the State Co-operative coverage within a period of 2 to 3 years. The total production of handloom cloth by the 1.80 lakhs handloom weavers within the co-operative sector, works out approximately to Rs. 40 crores per annum. As co-operative provides the best

assistance of Rs. 36 lakhs secured from Commercial Banks, 37,416 weavers were brought into the co-operative fold and 119 new Weavers Co-operative Societies were formed during 1976-77. It is programmed to bring about 30,000 private weavers into the co-operative fold annually till the co-operative coverage of handloom weavers is increased to 60 per cent.

(ii) One Handloom Export Production Project at Karur and two Intensive Handloom Development Projects at Kancheepuram





Yards and yards of yarn goes into the loom to make attractive sarees.

(b) Setting up of 3 Readymade Garment Manufacturing units by Co-optex at Madras, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli at a cost of Rs. 45 lakhs (The National Co-operative Development Corporation has so far sanctioned Rs. 26.49 lakhs).

(c) Setting up of 5 modern dye houses with the financial assistance of Rs. 60 lakhs from the National Co-operative Development Corporation through the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills Limited, Erode.

(d) Expansion of the Processing activities in the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills, at a cost of Rs. 22.50 lakhs.

### TAMIL NADU HANDLOOM WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED (CO-OPTEX)

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society, popularly known as "Co-optex", is the apex organisation to which all the Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies are affiliated. The main object of this society is to procure and supply raw-materials required by the Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies and also to procure and market the handloom cloth

produced by the primaries. It runs 18 yarn depots at all important weaver centres in the State where yarn produced by the 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills in the State are stocked and distributed to the Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies. The Co-optex is also running 226 retail selling units within the State and 97 selling units in other States in the country. Besides, they have appointed 200 private dealers who have been entrusted with the work of selling handloom goods on commission basis. Under the present arrangement, the Co-optex is able to sell goods to the value of about Rs. 19 crores per annum.

When 60 per cent of the total weavers are brought into the co-operative fold, the production in the co-operative sector will increase to about Rs. 80 crores per annum. It is expected that the Co-optex may then have to handle stocks of the value of Rs. 50 crores per year to maintain the present level of procurement of 50 per cent of the total production of the primaries. To enable it to handle a business of such a magnitude, the Co-optex is implementing a number of programmes to strengthen its marketing arrangements.

(i) Opening of 100 show rooms at State Capitals and at important cities in Tamil Nadu and in other States at a cost of Rs. 133 lakhs. They have so far opened 30 new show rooms and modernised 18 existing show rooms ;

(ii) Opening wholesale godown at important market centres within the State and outside to boost up bulk sales ;

(iii) Setting up a separate export wing called "Co-optex International" to attend exclusively to trade enquiries from exporters in India and also directly export ;

(iv) Helping the primaries to diversify their production and to meet the export needs, etc., by supplying improved appliances like Jacquards, arranging the production of polyester-blended sarees and by suggesting new designs ;

(v) Provision of share capital assistance to the Co-optex to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs to enable it to expand its marketing activities. (National Co-operative Development Corporation has so far sanctioned Rs. 20 lakhs).

### RAW MATERIAL REQUIREMENT

(1) **Cotton Yarn** : There are 212 textile mills in Tamil Nadu including 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills producing about 75,000 bales of cotton yarn per month. The total requirements of yarn by the handloom industry both in the co-operative and private sectors is about 20,000 bales per month. Though the State is surplus in the production of cotton yarn, it has to depend entirely upon Maharashtra and Gujarat State for its supply of cotton. In the past few months there has been a steep rise in the prices of cotton of different varieties. In view of the increase in cotton prices, most of the textile mills in the State including the Co-operative Spinning Mills have been incurring heavy cash losses and experiencing acute financial difficulties. The State Government have written to the Government of India for regulating the price line for cotton at a reasonable level.

The handlooms outside the co-operative fold are drawing their requirements of yarn from private mills and yarn dealers. Due to high prices of yarn they have been representing that adequate arrangements should be made to supply yarn to them at reasonable prices.

Negotiations have been held with the mills of the National Textile Corporation and the member mills of the Southern India Mill Owners Association for opening yarn depots in important weaving centres in the State.

**(2) Art Silk Yarn :** The total requirements of art silk yarn by the weavers of Tamil Nadu are about 5,000 cases of 100 kgs. each per month. Out of the 8 spinning mills producing art silk yarn in the country, the South India Viscose is the only unit in Tamil Nadu. There is no control over prices or distribution of art silk yarn. Under a voluntary agreement between the producing mills and the actual users of art silk yarn, a part of the production of the mills is allotted to users associations by Central and Regional Committees. However, these arrangements are not working satisfactorily and the genuine handloom weavers of this State do not get their adequate requirements. The Government of India have agreed to associate the Director of Handlooms and Textiles with the Central Committee so that the requirements of the co-operative societies could be allotted directly to the State. Arrangements for obtaining this direct allotment are being finalised.

## CO-OPERATIVE SPINNING MILLS

The 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills in the State produce good quality yarn and supply it at reasonable prices to the handloom weavers within the co-operative sector thereby stabilising the market prices of yarn. These mills with total installed capacity of 2.12 lakhs spindles are producing about 5,000 bales of yarn ranging from 10s to 120s every month.

**(1) Finance.**—The total paid up share capital of the 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills is Rs. 536.42 lakhs including the Government contribution of Rs. 367.91 lakhs. The Government have also assisted the Co-operative Spinning Mills by providing loan facilities from time to time to enable the mills to survive in the continuing recession in the industry. During the period under report, the National Co-operative Development Corporation granted financial assistance to the extent of Rs.

45.875 lakhs to 9 co-operative Spinning Mills towards margin money for working capital. The State Government also provided an equal amount to these mills on a matching basis. In respect of mills which have embarked on schemes of substantial expansion, the Government have provided equity capital to the extent of Rs. 351.30 lakhs during the period with the assistance from National Co-operative Development Corporation and Government of India. The Government have also extended guarantee assistance to enable the mills to purchase machinery on deferred payment. The outstanding under loans and guarantee assistance

**(3) Expansion programme.**—The Co-operative Spinning Mills have embarked of schemes of substantial expansion increasing their capacity up to 25,000 spindles each, involving a total project cost of Rs. 11.71 crores. The Co-operative Spinning Mills at Vellore, Salem, Mayuram and Melur have since completed their expansion programmes. The expansion schemes in the remaining mills namely at Aramboly, Pettai, Karur, Dharapuram and Kancheepuram are in different stages of progress and are likely to be completed by the end of 1977. When the expansion scheme in all the mills is completed the total installed capacity will increase to 3.26 lakhs



A weaver at the loom.

provided by the Government amounted to Rs. 143.45 lakhs and Rs. 828.28 lakhs respectively as on 30th June, 1976.

**(2) Production.**—During the year 1975-76 of the Co-operative Spinning Mills produced a total quantity of 118.67 lakhs kgs. of yarn and sold 113.31 lakhs kgs. valued Rs. 17.87 crores. Bulk of the production was supplied to Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies through the net work of yarn units maintained by the Co-optex, at the prices fixed by the yarn price Sub-Committee. The working results of the mills resulted in a total accumulated loss of Rs. 636.97 lakhs up to 30th June 1976, while the total accumulated reserves amounted to Rs. 680.63 lakhs.

spindles and the monthly production will be of the order of about 9,500 bales.

## TAMIL NADU HANDLOOM FINANCE AND TRADING CORPORATION

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Finance and Trading Corporation which was set up with the objective of financing the handloom industry outside the co-operative fold has diversified its activities by taking up trading in handloom fabrics. Loans upto a maximum of Rs. 1,250 per loom are advanced to individual weavers, for purposes like procurement of raw materials, preparatory processes including bleaching, mercerising dyeing of yarn and production and marketing of cloth. It has taken up recently marketing

of handloom fabrics produced by its members.

The Corporation has been continuously working on profit and has been declaring dividends up to 1975. During the year 1976, it has incurred a net loss of Rs. 68,438.00.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Corporation has entered the field of exports with tie up arrangements with Co-optex, Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation and All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Society. It has opened a liaison office-cum-show room at New Delhi to attend to the trade enquiries from wholesalers and foreigners. In addition, 5 more show rooms have also been set up at Madras, Bangalore and Tirupathi. It is proposed to open 54 show rooms within and outside the State during the year 1977.

In addition to the Export Oriented Handloom Project and Handloom Intensive Development Projects which are working as units of the Corporation, it has independently set up production centres at Salem, Omalur, Sellur and Kurunjipadi. Mostly exportable varieties are being produced in these projects. The Corporation has also set up a modern Garment Factory with 120 power driven machines at Madras with an annual capacity of about 2 lakh pieces.

#### HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Pursuant to the recommendations made by the High Power Study Team appointed by the Government of India 6 Handloom Intensive Development Projects and Handloom Export Oriented Projects have been sanctioned for implementation in the State.

The entire outlay of the Export Production Projects will be provided by the Government of India while in the case of Intensive Handloom Development Projects the cost will be shared by the Central and State Governments at 75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. When the full coverage is achieved in all these 6 projects, 22,000 handlooms in the private sector will be covered by the projects and concerned weavers will get assured work and income through out the year.

#### EXPORT OF HANDLOOM GOODS

Handloom products like lungies, towels, shirtings, bedspreads, furni-



The exotic designs bring in foreign exchange.

shing fabrics, etc., are being exported to various foreign countries. In view of the growing export market and increasing production in the co-operative sector, the Co-optex has set up a separate export wing with necessary technical staff. It has appointed agents in foreign countries and it is making sustained efforts to secure orders for export of handloom fabrics. By providing financial assistance for modification of looms the Co-optex has succeeded in the course of the last one year in converting a sizeable number of handlooms in different centres to take up the production of export varieties of towels, shirtings, lungies, etc. When the 3 garment units proposed to be set up by the Co-optex are commissioned, the Co-optex will also undertake export of ready-made garments as well as fabrics. There are about 450 individual exporters who have registered themselves with the Handloom Export Promotion Council. The total value of handloom goods exported through Madras Port during 1976-77 was Rs. 3,400 lakhs.

#### THE TAMIL NADU ZARI LIMITED

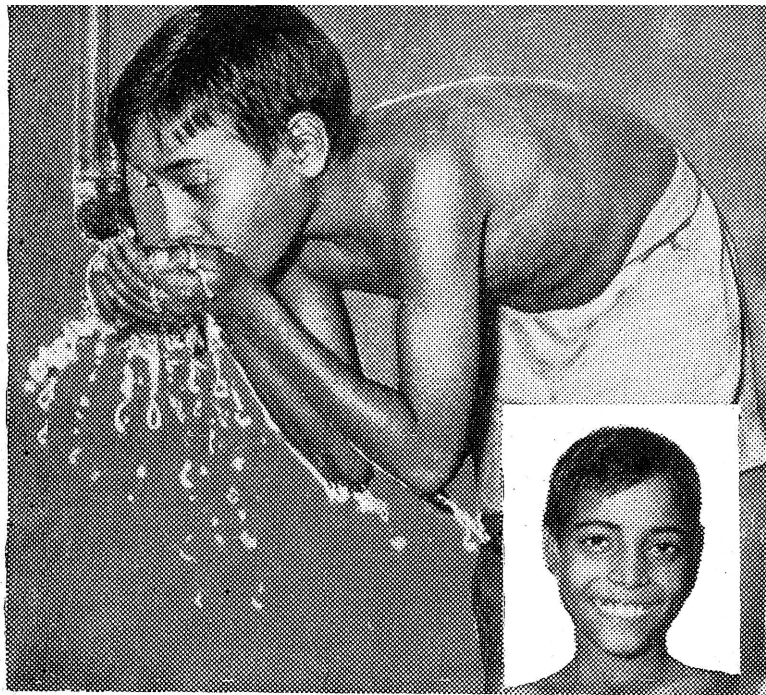
In order to overcome dependence on Surat for the zari required for silk weavers in Tamil Nadu, the Government have constituted a public limited company called "The Tamil Nadu Zari Limited." It was

registered in December 1971, commenced production during March, 1973. Government have so far invested Rs. 7 lakhs in the share capital of the unit. The present capacity of the unit is 8,500 marcs of zari per annum, which works out to roughly 1/8th of the requirements of silk handlooms in Tamil Nadu. The unit is getting allotment of gold from the Government of India.

The entire production of zari is disposed of through Co-optex primarily to Weavers' Co-operative Societies. In order to get regular supply of silver wires, the unit has installed a silver wire drawing unit with the technical assistance from M/s. Textools Limited Company, Coimbatore and trial runs are being taken. The unit has obtained a term loan of Rs. 9 lakhs from the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation for setting up of the Silver Wire Drawing Unit.

The rising trends of improvement in the handloom industry are indeed visible today in no small measure. The implementation of various schemes have no doubt paved the way for the consolidation of this large and most important industry. With proper guidance and assistance from the Government and the continued patronage of the consumer, it is hoped that the progress of the industry will be more impressive.





## HELP LITTLE MUNUSWAMI OF PUDUPATTI TO SMILE!

When ample drinking water is supplied to his village, little Munuswami will smile with joy.

He will not have to walk miles to quench his thirst anymore!

You can help.

Buy Tamil Nadu Raffle tickets.

Because Tamil Nadu Raffle is a welfare scheme.

The proceeds go to drinking water supply in rural areas.  
Help yourself, help others!

## BUY TAMILNADU RAFFLE TICKETS

### PRIZE STRUCTURE PER SERIES

PRIZE	AMOUNT Rs.	NO. OF PRIZES	TOTAL Rs.
I	50,000	2	1,00,000
II	10,000	3	30,000
III	5,000	5	25,000
IV	1,000	25	25,000
V	500	100	50,000
VI	100	500	50,000
VII	50	2000	1,00,000
CONSOLATION PRIZES:			
I	1,000	4	4,000
II	500	6	3,000
III	300	10	3,000
Total 2655			Rs. 3,90,000

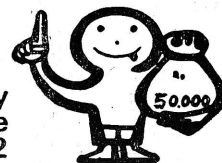
2 FIRST PRIZES in every series

Rs.  each

Cost per ticket Re. 1/- only

**DRAW DATE -19.11.1977**

issued by  
Director of Tamilnadu Raffle  
Madras 600 002



**The** Co-operative Training College, Madras is one among the 16 Training Colleges of its kind in India which are engaged in the task of imparting training to the intermediary level cooperative personnel. The Central Committee for Co-operative Training of the Reserve Bank of India started "Regional Co-operative Training Centres" in different parts of the country in 1954 and later years. With the transfer of the management of these 'Centres' from the Reserve Bank of India to the National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi in 1962 the word 'Regional' was deleted from the nomenclature of the institutions. In 1967 the name was changed to "Co-operative Training College."

#### Administration

The College is directly controlled by the National Council for Co-operative Training (NCUI) New Delhi. By means of annual budget allocation, funds are provided by the Ministry of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India through the National Council for Co-operative Training. The major policy matters relating to the training programmes, administration etc. are decided by the Council. For the day to day administration of the College there is a Special Co-operative Training Committee in Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union, Madras. The Committee which is headed by the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union consists of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, some Heads of the Departments and non-official co-operators.

#### Aims of the College

The following are the aims of the College.

- (i) To assess the training requirements of the Co-operative Department and Co-operative Institutions of Tamil Nadu and other States.
- (ii) To conduct training programmes for co-operative departmental/ institutional personnel of intermediary category.

- (iii) To evaluate the effectiveness of the training.
- (iv) To undertake research studies and case studies in co-operative sector.
- (v) To provide consultancy service to the Co-operative institutions.

#### Training activities :

The College offers four Diploma Courses and a large variety of Short Term Courses.

# The Co-operative Training College

**Co-operative Banks.** Being an induction course it covers different aspects of the co-operative movement and there are 7 subjects namely : (1) Principles and history of Co-operation and Planned Development, (2) Co-operative Credit and Banking, (3) Constitution, functions and working of Non-credit Co-operatives, (4) Co-operative Law and other allied law, (5) Co-operative Accounts, (6) Co-operative Audit and (7) Principles and Process of Co-operative Management. For this course the College caters to the requirements of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. So far the College has conducted 31 sessions.

**(b) Diploma in Co-operative Banking** This course is for a duration of 16 weeks and intended for the personnel working in co-operative banking institutions and the co-operative department officers connected with credit activities. Generally, the course is attended by the middle level personnel of the State and Central Co-operative Banks. The College has been vested with the responsibility of providing training to the institutional and departmental personnel working in or connected with credit in the southern and eastern region of India. Since the trainees undergoing this course normally have considerable period of experience, only the latest trends and the most essential information relating to Co-operative Law and Practice, Co-operative Banking, Practical Banking and Co-operative Accounts are provided to the participants. Starting from the third session the College has conducted 31 sessions.

**(c) Diploma Course in Co-operative Audit** This is yet another course aiming at the provision of in-service training to the institutional and departmental officers. The course draws its candidates from the Southern Region mainly from the audit wing of the Co-operative Department and to some extent from the internal audit section of the institutions. Apart from providing training in the technicalities of audit the course also prepares the participants in the presentation of financial statements to facilitate the financial analysis and better appreciation by the management and members of the financial position and programmes. In the 12 weeks of training the participants are taught : (i) Financial Accounting,

(ii) Cost Accounting and (iii) Principles and Practice of Auditing. So far the College has conducted 32 sessions of Diploma in Co-operative Audit.

#### (d) Diploma Course in Industrial

**Course :** The College extends its activities to the departments other than co-operation but which have under them the administrative control of certain types of co-operatives. Newly recruited as well as experienced personnel belonging to the Department of Industries and Commerce, Khadi and Village Industries Board, and Handlooms undergo this training along with the institutional candidates from the industrial co-operatives, weavers co-operatives etc. During the 18 weeks duration of the course the trainees are provided with adequate knowledge on the working of different types of industrial co-operatives with emphasis on management. The subjects covered are (i) Industrial Development and Industrial Co-operation, (ii) Co-operative Law and other laws, (iii) Co-operative Accounts and Audit and (iv) Industrial Co-operative Management. Seven Diploma Courses have been conducted in this College and the VIII th Session is in progress. In addition to the officers of the Department of Co-operation, State Government & Co-operative Institutions within India, Scholars are sponsored for various training programmes to undergo training at our College from the UNDP, ILO, SCAAP organisations.

In all the four Diploma Courses one common feature is that the training will be divided into "Theoretical" and "Practical." The interspersal is also so arranged that after acquiring sufficient background knowledge of the institutions, the trainees will be sent to the field for first hand information. On the job training is also arranged for the trainees during their practical training visits. The Higher Diploma Course in Co-operation and Industrial Course trainees are provided with the opportunity of studying the institutions in other states also. During the practical training the trainees are given job charts and they are expected to make a meaningful, critical and analytical study on the basis of which they are to submit a report at the end of the tour.

While undergoing the theoretical training the trainees are to

"adopt" certain areas for co-operative development and visit them periodically. During the weekly or fortnightly visits made the trainees take up the developmental activity and help the societies situated in and around Madras in the matter of expanding membership, collection of dues, bringing the accounts up to date, increasing the deposits of the society etc.

**Staff :** There is a multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary faculty in the College belonging to different institutions such as National Council for Co-operative Training, New Delhi Co-operative Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu and Department of Industries and Commerce. Co-operative Bank etc. The class room lectures by the faculty members are supplemented by guest speakers who are subject matter specialists from different institutions such as Government departments, universities, banks, research institutions and management associations.

#### Teaching Techniques

The trainees are exposed to different types of teaching techniques such as group discussion, syndicate study, panel discussion, debate and seminar. The participation of the trainees in these have always been found to be encouraging. Terminal and final written examinations and viva-voce are also conducted. On the basis of the marks obtained in these examinations and the performance of the trainees in the practical training and assignment studies the evaluation is made and Diploma is awarded with different categories.

#### Short Term Courses :

Realising the need and requirement for the conduct of Short Term Courses the College conducts several orientation, functional and refresher courses on different areas of co-operation for the personnel belonging to different departments and co-operatives. To mention only a few the College is conducting courses for various sectors like the consumers marketing, urban credit, weavers, short term and long term credit, animal husbandry, small farmers development agency, fisheries etc. To meet the growing need for the conduct of such short term courses the College has in recent years increased the number of such courses

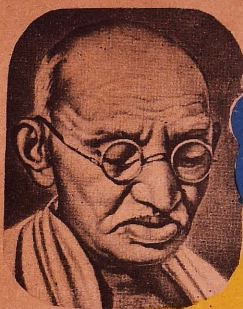
and the finance is provided for these courses by the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union of its Education Fund.

#### Other Activities :

In collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union the College also conducted some seminars. In January, 1976 Southern Regional Seminar on Co-operative Audit was conducted at Madras. The College conducted a Seminar at State level on the role of co-operatives in the implementation of the 20 Point Economic Programme in January 1977. With the financial support from the institutions such as the State Co-operative Land Development Bank, the College is conducting research studies on matters relating to credit, consumers etc. Recently the College has also drawn up a scheme of adoption of consumer co-operatives by the 5 Colleges in Madras through which the College students would be involved and associated with the co-operative activities and programmes. The College also plays advisory and consultancy role on training matters in the State, particularly relating to the training programmes of the Junior Level Co-operative Training Centres in Tamil Nadu.

In designing and functioning the various courses guidance is taken from the Academic Council which consists of the Chief Executives of the Apex Co-operative Institutions and representatives from different Government departments. The College has got a consumers store catering to the requirements of the staff and trainees. The stores is managed by the trainees themselves and as such serves as the training ground for them. An annual souvenir is also published by the stores. **Thus the College is considered to be an intellectual nerve centre of the Co-operative Movement of Tamil Nadu.** It has four hostels located in different places in the city. Establishment of training complex consisting of the College, hostels and staff quarters in the same place has been a long felt need. It is expected that with financial assistance of 10 lakhs from the Government of India and an equal sum from the Government of Tamil Nadu and similar contribution from Co-operatives in Tamil Nadu, the College may be able to have its new building with increased facilities in the near future.





# LET US ABOLISH ALCOHOLIC DRINKS TO USHER IN HAPPINESS



It appears that there can be no greater evil in the world, than the segregation of Harijans in India.

We will be paying our debt of gratitude to Mahatma Gandhi by eradicating this evil.



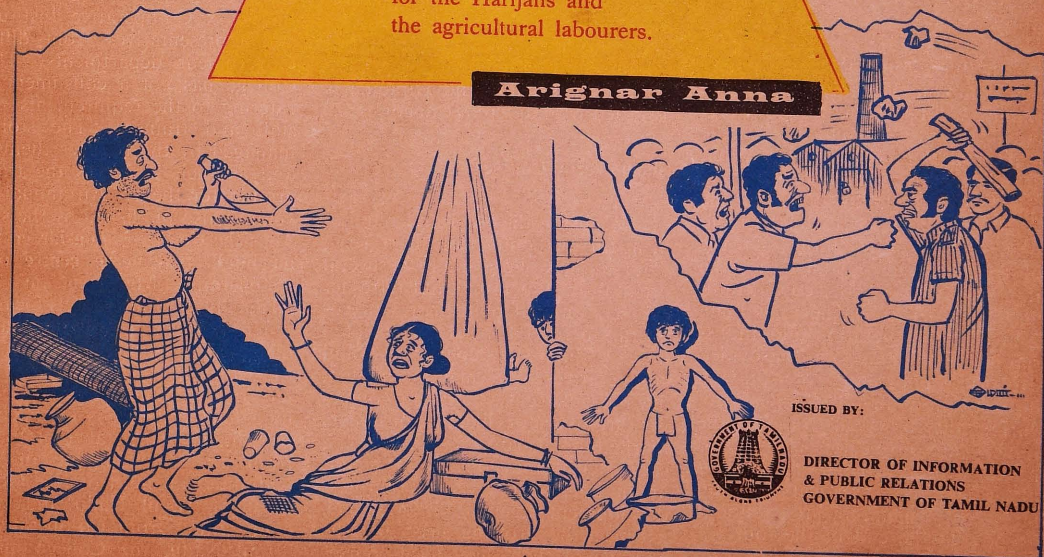
Alcohol destroys our body, our character and our wisdom.

Diseases like malaria affect only the body. Alcohol and drugs destroy the soul as well as the body.

**Mahatma Gandhi**

If there is no prohibition there is no salvation for the Harijans and the agricultural labourers.

**Arignar Anna**



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