

Tamil Arasu

APRIL 1978 50 Ps.



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

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

Mahathma Gandhi.



Tamil Arasu

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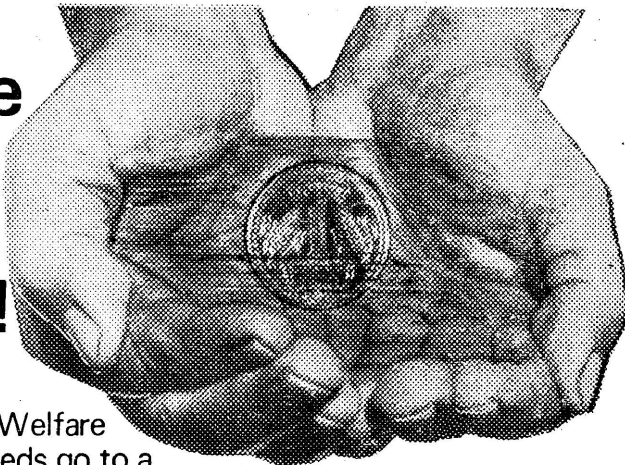


BHARATI DASAN
(1891—1964)

*"I have endeavoured to pull down the trammels
of caste, fought meanness in all its forms...
I have always done what I hold as good;
I have never been afraid of adversaries."*

—Bharati Dasan

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your rupee
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a long way...
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The Director of Tamil Nadu Raffle, Government Estate, Madras-600 002

C. M. SPEAKS

Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister welcomes the Rolling Plan Concept.

Speaking at the concluding session of the National Development Council at New Delhi Thiru Ramachandran, however, said that the emphasis should be on achieving objectives and not merely on its financial commitments.

While granting new instalments of dearness allowance the Centre should bear in mind the effect it would have on the State Governments whose employees demanded a corresponding rise which the Governments were not able to meet. He emphasised the need for the planners to take into account the incomes and consumption levels of the needy to generate employment opportunities for the educated.

The Chief Minister welcomed the indication given by the Prime Minister that the draft Five-Year Plan would be discussed in detail with the States before its finalisation. He also stressed the need for an early discussion on the Boothalingam group's expected report on the national policy to be evolved on ways, income and pricing. He opposed the proposed tax by Centre on electricity generation.

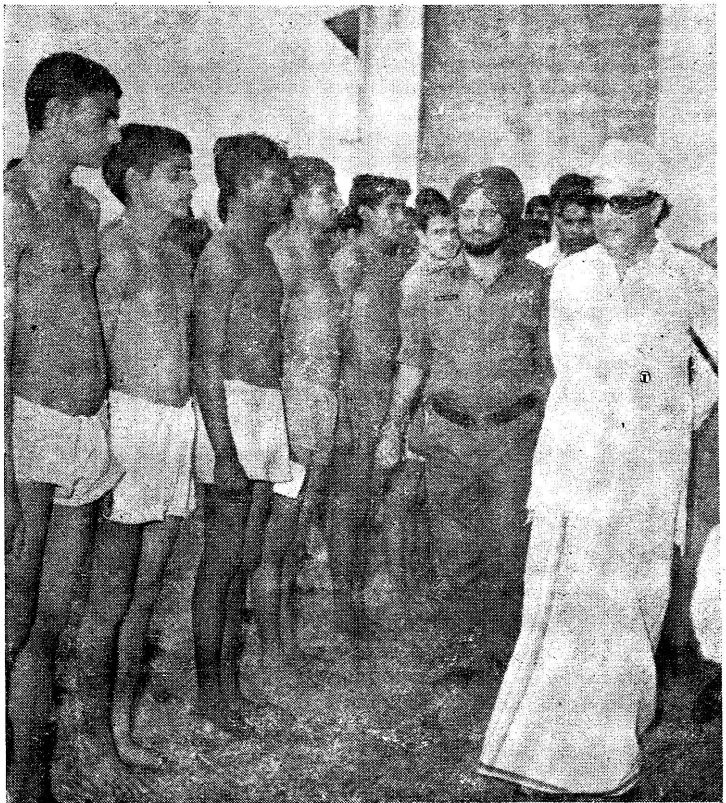
Referring to the need for a revision of the Gadgil formula, the Chief Minister sought enlargement of reservation to the handloom and enforcement of reservation orders. He pleaded for a policy of Government purchase support for local industries and cottage and village industries.

He urged the need to uplift the weaker sections and to ensure that the benefits of the Plan reached the people below the poverty line.

He offered full co-operation to the Centre and emphasised the need to maintain cordial relationship between the Centre and the States. He sought greater resources and a larger financial base for States to commensurate with their responsibilities. He pleaded for co-operation among the States themselves in various spheres of economic activities leading to the mutual benefit of the States concerned.

RECRUITMENT TO ARMY: CM's CALL TO YOUTH

The Chief Minister appealed to the youth of South India, particularly Tamil Nadu to take advantage of the recent relaxation in the rules for recruitment to the Army.



The Chief Minister while inaugurating the first All India Recruiting Rally, at Pallavaram called upon young men to join the Army in large numbers to serve the country.

South Indians had all along

been at a disadvantage in recruitment to the Army in view of their ethnic background. The Chief Minister recalled his discussion with Maj. Gen. S. P. Mahadevan, GOC., ATNK & K area. He wanted to know why only a few South Indians

joined the Army. The Chief Minister had prevailed upon General Mahadevan to help reduce the physical standards for entry, and enable more people from the South to join the Army.

The CM said South Indians had never lagged behind others in patriotic fervour and recalled the glorious traditions of the South Indian Kings. While death was inevitable, he pointed out, that the Army men met a glorious end in the service of the country.

Peace and tranquility were possible because of the noble and selfless sacrifices made by the Army-men; and during war, they upheld the dignity and sovereignty of the nation by vanquishing the enemy. He recalled the tenacity of the Indian Army during the liberation of Bangladesh and said they were second to none in the world.

TAMIL NADU FILM FINANCE CORPORATION

Tamil Nadu will have its own Film Finance Corporation. It will start functioning from September 15 this year coinciding with the birth anniversary of ANNA.



Film Producer Tmt. Thamizharasi, received the financial assistance for her film 'ANNAKKILI'.

The Chief Minister, announced this at a function got up in connection with award of financial assistance

to Tamil Films. The C.M. gave away Rs. 1 lakh each to three producers of Tamil films under the recently introduced scheme of financial subsidy to films of quality based on nationally desirable themes.



The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu hosted Lunch for H. E. Thiru Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister of Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 1-3-78. On the occasion the Chief Minister presented a memento to the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The C.M. said the ailing film industry would be invigorated and helped to regain its past glory and prestige. The Government was very keen to bring about a renaissance of the dramatic art to keep aloft the greatness of our ancient culture by providing necessary encouragement. Talented youngsters would be groomed.

He appealed to film producers to avoid extravaganza and go in for socially acceptable themes to win the acclaim of the people. Profit motive should not be at the cost of our national culture and moorings. His ambition was to build bridges of understanding and goodwill between the film world and the people so as to allay misconceptions.

The Government had decided to revive from this year the scheme of awarding prizes to best films, actors, actresses and technicians engaged in the films.

BHARATI DASAN

—The Bard of Revolt

DR. AVVAI NATARAJAN

DIRECTOR OF TRANSLATIONS

Bharati Dasan is the symbol of Revolt in modern Tamil poetry. As a poet of vigour and unbounded energy he stands unrivalled among his contemporaries for his soul stirring strains. His poetic genius that comprehended and reproduced the Tamil ethos of the past and present remains as an illustrious example of poetry that is ever living. Not only as a poet of vision but essentially as a poet of mission his impact is to be seen in his writings. His sweetest songs ring over the ear like the sweet south that breathes upon the bank of violets, stealing and giving odour to the teeming millions of Tamils. His contribution lay in his reverberating clarion call that he alone gave for the resurgence and uplift of the Tamils.

Poetry was to Bharatidasan not a pastime of coterie but a dynamic instrument that moved the masses and created indelible impressions on them by touching the deepest chords of their hearts. His poetry was an eye opener, an awakening of the men from an age long inertia and apathy. Bharati, his mentor, was a great poet of nationalism and freedom. The disciple Bharati Dasan was a poet par-excellence whose main concern

was human dignity and uplift of the down-trodden. "The mother-land and mother-tongue" declared Bharati "are our eyes." Bharati Dasan added a subtle change therein by bringing the language to the fore. He says "Tamil ! Thou art my ambrosia so sweet, Thou art the source and breath of my life to-date."

It has often been observed that a poet was fragile and of delicate sensibility like a damsel of tender features. But Bharati Dasan belied this by his astounding stature of broad face and wide fore-head, blazing eyes, awe inspiring moustache and the undaunted might of an elephant, the lithe of a deer and the majesty of a roaring lion. He had the most impressive personality which endeavoured to sweep away all unjust and reprehensible flaws in our society.

Bharati Dasan was not only a great poet ; he was an ideal hero for the politicians, academicians, artists and the common masses of Tamil Nadu who championed the cause of the downtrodden. He was the pace-setter for the younger generation of Tamils who prided themselves as the inheritors of



Bharatidasan's poetic legacy. He inspired them to think and speak and write in fluid and fiery Tamil and those who could recite his verses finally became matchless orators of Tamil Nadu.

Bharati Dasan's heart bled for the poor and toiling masses. This has been clearly brought out when he described the twinkling stars in an unusual manner. Through the-ages the heavenly stars, lustrous and twinkling, struck wonder and amazement in the minds of the poets. But for Bharatidasan, the bejewelled nightly sky of lustrous pearls caused dismay and mental anguish as he visualised them to be the reflections of the agonised vast expanse of the day.

Here are a few poems of Bharati dasan rendered into English. They are examples of the poet's humanism and universal outlook and show that the poet belongs not merely to the Tamils but to all humanity.

Come, let us destroy this warring world
Blowing it off like chaff before storm-
This world with all its castes and creeds

And blind superstitions.—
And create a world afresh
And call it the world of self-respect.
Fail not to see this, O society,
We have laid out the path for you.
What else is there for you to do
But march ahead, ahead, . . . ahead...!

Come, let us a new world create
Uprooting this wicked world ever
in a warring state.
And Socialism in all directions pro-
pagate

Holding it sacred to us, dear and great.

Let us soak our hearts in the stream
of love, not hate
And fight possessive thoughts which
life stagnate.

Let us all our energies recuperate
And laugh at private ownership as
out of date.

Hunger is only when nature fails to
operate.
Otherwise everyone must eat and
satiat !

BHARATI

DASAN

—The Beacon Light

Thiru S. RAMASUNDARAM

Exactly 87 years ago at a little past 10 on the night of 29th April, there was born a child on the golden sand-decked town— Pondicherry, who was to become the disciple and comrade-in-arm of Bharati born 9 years earlier. Just three years earlier to him another also was born, as Namakkal Ramalingam. Thus within a short span of 9 years from 1882-1891 the later part of the 19th Century saw the birth of the three great Poets, whose very life and songs were to mould the thoughts and deeds of their countrymen at a

grim hour in the life of this great Nation which was writhing in pain and groaning under the iron heel of an alien domination.

Critics rightly remark that after Kamban there was but a vast barren desert in the land of Tamil Literature. After the lapse of many a barren century, the Trio were born, but they were not born "to sing the manifestation — that beautiful life — diffused unseen throughout the eternal space" only. The sky was already thick with gathering storms, dark clouds, and the sea, raging and bellowing in wild waves. It was quite a challenge of time and a call of History and it has since passed into the golden pages of history how these three poets, by their soul-stirring songs, their supreme sacrifices, by acts of heroism in the cause of the freedom of this country, roused millions of their men to dauntless deeds and freedom was ultimately won from foreign yoke. It was indeed a poetic irony that Bharati who sang "Aduvome Palluppaduvome" died 25 years before the dawn of Freedom and it is still an unresolved poetic-riddle how poet Namakkal Ramalingam — the gold-hearted Tamil bard from tip to toe, had insisted of waging a relentless war for the emancipation of people suffering from the clutches of the hydra-headed monster of superstition and the grimhold of the Octopus-Casteism.

Even while waging the war on political plane, Bharati Dasan, decided that mere political freedom would hardly be a panacea for the many ills from

which the Society was suffering from for ages and that greater services were demanded for liberating the mass of men from the clutches of —old shackles. Then the atmosphere was such —

"When all around grew drear and dark

And reason half withheld her ray,
And hope but shed a dying spark"

'And, that internal strife of heart
When.. the weak despair, the cold depart

And hatred's shafts flew thick and fast"

In that deep—midnight of the mind — Poet Bharati Dasan was a solitary star. Clouds upon clouds come upon and strove to blacken over his ray ; but this solitary star then began to spread its purer gentle flame, and sought to dash the darkness all away.'

Bharati Dasan was pained to see that a people, who in their past did propagate noble things and occupied a great position have sunk deeper in senile superstition, surrendered their distinct fraternal qualities by becoming a prey to the pernicious effects of cruel callous creeds, caste-prejudices and chilling customs.

He ascended the steps, stood on the high-cliff of Reason and called upon his countrymen thus —

'Spirit, behold thy Glorious Destiny.' He felt that none was

Let us begin our worthy deeds
And blossom forth in righteousness.
Our fathers ruled the world in fame
And sheltered under the canopy of love

All mankind and all other living things
In land and sea and heaven.
Our poets created
The golden literature of the world.
Our heroic men,
Fighting ignorance with knowledge
Kept a constant vigil for peace
With eyes moving in all directions
And hands holding fast their swords.

Righteous action gave them joy.
Let us begin our worthy deeds
So that all the world
May await our love's command
And all the walls of barrier
Crumble down.

Let sweet words adorn our lips—
Words of our sweet Tamil tongue
And our actions spring forth
From the strength of our shoulders broad.

The world's countless religions
Are like fire-brands on a house of sulphur

We must also toll the death-kenll
To the out-moded castes.
Thus let us begin our work
So that our Tamil land
May come to lead the world,
Knowing at heart
That righteousness is joy.

May the joy of life attend on all mankind
May riches flow within the reach of all!
And the shackles on life be shattered!
Beat, beat, my drum!
All this is sure to come.

born to live in bondage, whether political or social. He was determined to wage a crusade against all forms of social evils. He emerged! It was an emergence out of darkness, growing steadily into a definite shape assuring the form and countenance of the great part glory. Many a brow was bent, and many a curse was muttered against him from the decaying citadels of a dying custom. The great revolution had come to pass and he was the early April Lark, to herald, the morn — the sweet bird announcing the arrival of a new morn !

The poet also determined that his songs should seek to turn sapless selve sinto sinewed soldiers.

He therefore decided to

‘Hoist sail on the first favourable wind to
Win by force what was denied
To his people as by right !’

He could not be cowed into silence by thunders from Muts or Monasteries, Monarchs or muses ! There was the Saint of the Silver beard — Periyar and silver tounged Anna and the war to enthrone reason was waged ! Then actions were epochs of events and seed-bed of immortal songs ! The ambition was too wide, too rainbow-large a shape to fret at myriads of earthly wrecks. He went on his mission, charging left and right, to fan and winnow, from the present and coming steps of time all the chaff of dead customs, to wipe away all slime left by mensling and human serpenty, while others of his kin were content to let occasion die and sleep in love’s elysium. Hence, this Poet alone

began ‘to tower in the van of the congregated world’ as Keats presaged !

Millions hung upon his lips, gazing their souls away in the sweet reason-stream of his poetry. A race fell with the dead-weight of superstition and blind habits, enervating customs, began to troop around him ; girded up their loins and took the gauntlet !

Ears tingled to his celestial voice. The rest was recent history.

His songs on social reforms were indeed songs of a revolutionary bird and the first rays of the Dawn !

As part of his great reformative mission, he exhorted the young to adopt a novel and simple system of marriage, shorn of rites and rituals, of priests and ceremonial smokes and it was eminently direct and economical. It has taken root since then and has been spreading fast and wide. As he has seen that the youth of the time, were in a listening mood, he began to carry them along farther on the road of greater social reforms. Tender and sensitive as a Poet, he could fathom and perceive the pangs of young widows, condemned to pineaway their precious life in perpetual agony in unending pensive mood. The pangs of premature-widowhood prevailed upon him to propagate with forceful sympathy the pristine cause of their re-marriage by perishing permanently all psychological barriers blocking the course to the pleasant life of the pathetic widows on this planet and redeem them from their pitiable plight.

He told the youth that all such man-made taboos were alien to the ancient Tamil concept-

The reasoning was convincing and complete and this land has since been witnessing solemn events of widow-remarriages under even august leaders of society. Millions of illuminated hearts of women, fold their hands in grateful reverence to this Bard of ‘Reason.’

Untouchability thrust on this society by the artful puranic authors became the target of his furious poetic attack. He was determined to blast its citadels. He twitted the puranic pundits with their own philosophical propositions with their concept of universal soul.

Then on, a movement for entrusting to ‘panchamars’ the poojas to deities became an article of faith and a prime demand with leaders of society. It could be ignored only at the peril of Hindu Society. Bards have been called as preservers of the Universal Soul i.e., that they espoused the cause of human beings in every clime and in every country. Witness as he was to the mighty emergence of proletarian reign in U.S.S.R. and the sufferings and sacrifices of France — the Land of Liberty — he sung with gusto their cause and greatness and greeted their victory. Lenin, De Gaulle, Jeeva were fondly paid homage in sublime songs.

▶ The Poet was a firm believer in a socialistic society. His service was thus one for the people of his country and for humanity in general. He was in every inch a people’s poet and a poet for enthroning reason to its right full place.

May the affliction of poverty come
to an end !
May all enjoy an education sound !
And all evils of life be gone !
Beat, beat, my drum !
All this is sure to come.

May Tamil, our three-fold language
prosper well !
It bore the torch of wisdom to the
world.
May life be a life of lasting fame !
Beat, beat, my drum !
All this is sure to come.

May mothers worthy children bear !
May we all work hard-our part we
play,
So that life becomes a wondrous bliss.
Beat, beat, my drum !
All this is sure to come.

Oh beautiful gardens, you bloom
so bright,
But how many of my worker friends
Have spilled their blood into your
roots
To make you so enchanting !
Oh fertile paddy fields, you yield
so much ;

But how many working men
Have toiled and sweated
For your constant care !

Oh lotus-ponds, you are wondrous
indeed ;
But how many of my slaving brethren
Must have lost their lives
When you were made !

Oh great high-ways, you criss-cross
the world.
But they never had pleasure,
They never tasted rest at night,
The men that made you.

Bharati Dasan

—A Brief Life Sketch

BHARATI DASAN (Kanaga. Subburathinam) (1891-1964), a great Tamil poet was born in Pondicherry when Pondicherry was under French rule.

As a young boy he learnt Tamil under the great scholar Thiru Pu. A. Periasamy. He had a fine keenness of perception and could compose poems at the age of 11. His early poem, 'Mother's Majesty' was greatly appreciated by poet Bharati. The poem appeared in original and in English translation in periodicals of that time.

At the age of 18, Subburathinam completed his teacher's training with distinction in Tamil and became a Tamil teacher. He evinced genuine interest in teaching and though later he became famous as a poet, remained a teacher till his retirement.

Under the alien French rule, literary and cultural activities in Tamil were not encouraged in schools. Subburathinam had to come into frequent clash with authorities for organizing such activities. Also he had to suffer a lot of persecution for his frequent flares-up with officials for the cause of truth and justice. But he always came out vindicated in his stand.

Having come in close contact with poet Bharati who was then in voluntary exile in Pondicherry. Subburathinam admired his poetry and developed a personal love for him. Soon he assumed the pen-name Bharatidasan (devotee of Bharati).

Contact with Bharati and other freedom fighters of the day threw Barathidasan into the Indian Nationalist Movement. For a time he was actively connected with the nationalist journals such as 'Thai Nadu,' 'Desopakari' and 'Desasevagan.'

Soon Barathidasan was drawn into the Self-Respect Movement of Periyar E. V. Ramasamy. It was a rationalistic movement that stood for socio-religious reformation. Barathidasan's poems gave wings to rationalistic ideas. With Periyar, he also told the down-trodden people to shake off the yoke of inferiority placed on them by the so-called highest caste and hold their heads high. His tirades against the evils of religion, particularly Hinduism, earned him many enemies who vented their anger against him by grossly misrepresenting him and under-rating his powers.

Bharatidasan wrote beautiful songs for children. He wrote plays, too. (They are delightful to read, but we must admit that the poet does not treat his plays seriously. However, it was one such play, 'Pisirandayar' that won him posthumously the Sahitya Academy award in 1969.

Bharatidasan was an effective platform speaker. He wrote dialogues for films. He was for a period elected member of the Pondicherry Legislative Assembly. He edited and published a number of journals. 'Karpagam', 'Puduvai Murasu' and 'Kuyil', his favourite poetic mouthpiece are some such. He has published more than 40 works, most of them poetry.

Bharatidasan enjoyed fame in his own lifetime. He was decorated with Brocaded Shawls thrice in his lifetime. The Tamil Writers' Conference presented him with a shield in 1962. His statue was unveiled in Madras during the 2nd World Conference on Tamil in 1968. The Women's College at Pondicherry is named after him. The house in which he lived was taken over by the Pondicherry Govt. and declared as property of national importance. The Government runs in it a Library cum Museum on the life and work of the poet.

Oh machines, you rumble and roar
But were I to trace your origin,
Would it not reveal the skillful hand
Of the working class ?

Oh world of wealth and pleasures.
If we were to look beneath,
Should we not at the foundation find
The sinews and bones of the labouring class ?

Elements of nature, answer me:
Who culled out from you
Materials sustaining life
But the strong -limbed labourers ?

Oh earth, are you not the standing
proof
Of the tireless toil of the working
class ?
How is it then the rich are callous
To the hunger of the labourers ?

Should the lions give all their share
To the little rats and pine ?
Should the tigers feed the foxes well
And in hunger go to sleep ?

No more fear. No more kneeling
down.

The workers will all arise
And will prove to the world
That their own strength will bring
them life.

Reproduced from the book entitled :
"BHARATI DASAN"

Published by :
Thiru MANNAR MANNAN

Translated by :
Thiru M. L. THANGAPPA

Education in Tamil Nadu

The outlay for Education in 1978-79 is Rs. 176 Crores, which represents 24 per cent of the total expenditure on Revenue Account, namely Rs. 727 crores. It constitutes the highest single component in the Budget. The expenditure on education has been steadily rising as may be seen from the figures of Rs. 123 crores spent in 1975-76, Rs. 143 crores in 1976-77 and Rs. 169 crores in 1977-78.

Elementary Education

Nearly 94 per cent of children of age group 6.11 and 56.8 per cent of children of age group 11.14 have already been enrolled in schools in Tamil Nadu. About 3.21 lakhs under these two age groups were enrolled additionally in 1977-78. The total number of pupils who studied in 1977-78 in the 33,104 elementary schools was 65.85 lakhs and the number of teachers 1,79,978; and the teacher pupil ratio worked out to 1:37.

The schemes of free Mid-day Meals, free supply of books, slates, etc. are aimed at preventing dropouts. In addition it is considered that dropouts will be reduced if, following the views of educational experts, pupils are not detained at the annual examinations in their first few years at school. Detentions have been abolished in the first few standards since a few years ago in states like Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. This Government also propose to abolish detentions in standards 1-3 with effect from 1977-78, i.e. for example all the pupils in standards 1, 2, 3 in 1977-78 will be promoted to standards 2, 3, 4, in 1978-79. Simultaneously, suitable steps will be taken to ensure that the quality of instruction and monitoring of the scholastic progress of pupils in the lower standards is retained at a high level.

Midday Meals Scheme

The provision of Midday Meals in all elementary schools has a major role in promoting and retaining en-

rolement 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 20.25 lakhs of poor pupils in standards 1 to 8 of Elementary and Higher elementary schools receive midday-meals, including the 1.65 lakhs fed in Harijan Welfare schools run by the Harijan Welfare Department. The provision for the Midday Meals Scheme in the budget for 1978-79 is about Rs. 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 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.

Under the Central Kitchen Programme, meals are cooked in modern ovens under hygienic conditions and transported to the surrounding schools in closed vans. 97 Central Kitchens are functioning now.

Free Supply of Books and Slates

Poor pupils receiving Midday Meals in standard 1 to 3 get text



Hon'ble Thiru S. ARANGA NAYAGAM
Minister for Education

books free and poor pupils in standard I get slates also free. More than 12 lakhs of pupils get this free supply every year.

Local Body Elementary Schools

Out of the 33,104 elementary schools in Tamil Nadu, about 29,000 are in Panchayat Union areas. Out of the 29,000 about 23,000 (about 19,900 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, 4/9ths 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.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Out of 23.80 lakhs of Children in the Age Group 14-17 in Tamil Nadu in 1976-77, 33.4 percent namely 7.93 lakhs has been enrolled. There were 73,000 teachers and 18.31 lakhs of pupils in the 3,058 High Schools in the State 1977-78. During 1977-78, 28 High Schools were newly opened (Government 21 and Aided 7).

Science Education

Under the revised syllabus science is studied under the three

separate disciplines, Physics, Chemistry and Biology right from Standard 6. Under the scheme for equipping high schools with Science laboratories a sum of Rs. 155,000 is spent on Science Laboratory for each Government High School selected under the scheme. The non-Government Schools each get a grant of Rs. 40,200.

With a view to toning up the quality of work in High School a scheme of Panel Inspection of High Schools by District Educational Officer's (Boys High Schools) and Inspectresses of Girls schools (Girls High Schools) has been approved in August 1977. Under this scheme the Inspecting Officer will take with him two local Headmaster/Headmistresses of neighbouring schools who have specialised in subjects other than that in which the Inspecting Officer has specialised. These Headmasters will assist in inspection and thus there will be scope for guiding the improvement of a wider spectrum of teaching activities in School.

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 of the 374 Panchayat Unions in the State. 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. 1,00 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. In consonance with their policy of rural development, the Government have directed that with effect from 1978-79 the number of fresh awards under these scholarships be doubled (i.e. increased from two to four in each Panchayat Union).

CURRICULUM, SYLLABUS AND TEXT BOOKS.

Revision of School Syllabus

There were complaints from many quarters that the revised syllabi (introduced from 1972-73 onwards) was very burden some to pupils. A committee of the Government of India also stressed the need

to reduce the load of school syllabi. After consulting educational experts this Government have directed that the excess burden be reduced from 1978-79 in all subjects (especially Mathematics) in all standards.

Under the revised syllabus there was no room for Electives (taught formerly in Standards 10 and 11) and hence Electives were abolished in Standard 10] from 1976-77 and Standards 10 and 11 from 1977-78. The Government however ordered that none of the 3,200 or so posts of Elective Teachers should be retrenched, but should be continued by re-deployment to Standards 8-11 of the same schools or to other schools, within the approved teacher pupil ratio. Thus the Government ensured that there was no retrenchment merely because of the abolition of the Electives.

The Government 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.

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 involved the printing of about 2.5 crores of copies of school books of the face value of about Rs. 3.5 crores.

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.

During 1977-78 the Text Book Society distributed free of cost to students in the flood affected areas, text books and Exercise Note Books worth Rs. 3.60 lakhs.

There are at present 80 Teacher Training Institutes in this State with facilities for turning out Secondary Grade trained teachers (including 4 Nursery, 4 Pre-Primary and one Anglo-Indian Teachers Training Institutes and one Secondary Grade Training Section each in the Lady

Willingdon and St. Christopher Training Colleges). 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 alternative years and that too in reduced numbers. In 1977-78 about 2,600 candidates were admitted at the rate up to 35 in each institute. There will be no fresh admissions in 1978-79.

There are now nine English Language Teaching Centres. The three centres for High School Teachers (at Madras, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli) train 1,755 teachers every year (in 39 batches of three week courses). There six centres for Higher Elementary School teachers (at Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Salem, Tirunelveli, Vellore and Melur) train 2,700 teachers every year (in 60 batches of 4 week courses).

Long term courses of 3 to 5 months for Graduate Trained Teachers and short term courses of 2 to 4 weeks for Inspecting Officers and campaign staff 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.

Sports, Physical Education, etc.

Physical Education is compulsory in all Elementary and Secondary Schools. In Stds. 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 Stds. 6 to 9 is taken into account for purposes of formulating the principles of promotion to the next higher class.

Pension to Sportsmen

The Government have been considering steps to encourage, honour and assist sportsmen and Women as part of the Scheme to foster and develop sports activities in the State. It is proposed to institute in 1978-79 a scheme for grant of financial assistance to eminent sportsmen/Women in this State

who are aged and in indigent circumstances (with a monthly income of less than Rs. 150 per month) at the rate of Rs. 75 per month.

Scouts and Guides

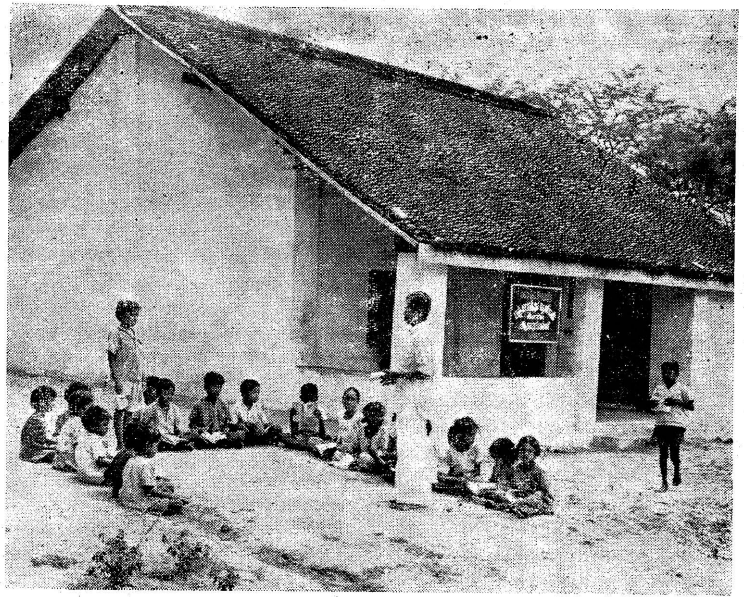
The Tamil Nadu Scout Association had a total strength of 1,25,125,000 boy scouts and girls guides in 1977-78. During 1978-79, 7,000 students will be additionally enrolled as scouts, at a cost of Rs. 60,000. The Tamil Nadu Scouts got the credit of sending the highest number of 650 scouts and guides receipt for of the Presidents' Award of Certificates and Badges in 1977.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have agreed to hold the Eighth National Jamboree of Bharat Scouts and Guides at Madras in January 1979. It is expected that about 20,000 Scouts and Guides from various parts of the country and from some neighbouring countries will participate in the Jamboree. This National event is being held in Tamil Nadu for the first time. A state level committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Education to look after the arrangements for the Jamboree.

Community Participation in School Department

There are at present 2.53 lakhs of teachers working in the schools in Tamil Nadu as detailed below :—

The Government bear the entire expenditure on the emoluments of the teachers in aided schools also. The expenditure on salaries of teachers in all the schools in the State has gone up from about Rs. 55 crores



There is hardly any Village in Tamil Nadu without an Elementary School

in 1970-71 to about Rs. 130 crores in 1978-79.

In order to increase the promotional opportunities for school teachers are meagre when compared to other Departments. Hence, Selection Grade posts are given to almost all Categories of teachers, on completion of 10 years of service, Service under all kinds of managements—Government, Local Body and Aided—is counted for reckoning the ten year period irrespective of breaks in service.

Retirement benefits to staff of Non-Government Schools

The Liberalised Pension Rules (applicable to State Government

servants) is applicable to teachers retiring from non-Government (Aided and Local Body) schools on or after the 1st June 1970 and to the non-teaching staff retiring from Aided Schools on or after the 1st April 1972. Those staff get Pension, Gratuity, etc., on a par with State Government Servants and are eligible to get provisional pension and gratuity also in case of delay in final sanction of pension.

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.

NO DETENTION UPTO THIRD STANDARD

The conference of State Education Ministers of August 10-11, 1977 had suggested that there be no detentions upto class VIII, as one of the methods to avoid stagnation and wastage in Elementary Schools and to promote Universal Elementary Education.

With regard to the above suggestion, the Govt. of Tamil Nadu have directed that there need be no detentions in Standards I to III

in all the schools from the end of school year 1977-78. It has been suggested to the schools that the progress after implementing this scheme should be watched by periodical tests or monthly tests in all primary schools, teachers should take suitable remedial action watching the performance of pupils and the inspecting officers should check the progress of pupils at the time of inspection to ensure proper attainment of standards.

The terms of Family Pension for non-Government teachers have been retrospectively liberalised on 5-1-1978 so, that the Families of many of such teachers who died during anytime on or after 1-4-1962, who could not be given Family Pension till now because the deceased teachers did not satisfy the minimum periods of qualifying service in force earlier will now become eligible from 5-1-1978 for Family pension on the basis of the lower periods of qualifying service now fixed.

The Government have also issued orders that (on the analogy of the position obtaining already for Tamil Nadu State Government Servants and Local Body Teachers) when any teacher of any Aided School dies in service an *ad hoc* "on account" cash payment of Rs. 1,000 shall be made immediately to the bereaved family, to be adjusted later against the amounts due to the teacher or his family on account of Pension, Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity, Family Pension or the Payment from Family Welfare Fund of Rs. 10,000.

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

The Government have sanctioned a scheme for giving scholarships to the sons and daughters of the teachers (in service, retired or deceased), for prosecuting studies in Professional courses, 80 fresh scholarships will be awarded every year—25 for Engineering; 25 for Medicine; 20 for Agricultural; and 10 for Veterinary. Each scholarship will be a lump sum of Rs. 500 per year. The total annual income of both the parents should not exceed Rs. 6,000—compensatory allowances like House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance etc., will not be taken into account.

Sanction has also been accorded to the construction of a Teachers' Home in Madras City at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs (to be borne from the collections under the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare).

ADULT EDUCATION AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION.

The literacy percentage in Tamil Nadu as per 1971 census was 39.39

per cent (Men 51.68 per cent ; Women 26.83 per cent) as against the All India figure of 29.34 per cent (Men 39.51 per cent ; Women—18.44 per cent). In other words out of a total population of 4.12 crores in Tamil Nadu as per 1971 census, 1.63 crores of persons were literate.

At the national level, the objective is to organise adult education programme (with literacy as an indispensable component) within the next five years or so, for approximately 100 million illiterate persons in the age group 15—35 with a view to providing to them skills for self-directed learning, leading to self-reliant and active role in their own development and in the development of their environment. The State Governments have been requested to frame State-level Plans to achieve the objective. In Tamil Nadu, about 65 lakhs of persons of the age group 15—35 will have to be made literate during the next 5 years if this objective is to be fulfilled. A State Board of Adult Education is being constituted in Tamil Nadu and detailed Plans are being worked out in this regard and it is hoped that adequate central assistance will be forthcoming for implementing this programme.

A total provision of Rs. 39 lakhs has been made in 1978-79 for Adult Education and Non-formal Education. The services of college students belonging to the National Service Scheme, Cadets of the National Cadet Corps and Nehru Youth Centres are also utilised spread literacy. With a view to making the adult literacy program a Universal movement a new scheme will be introduced to assist voluntary organisations engaged in this field. Literacy should become the lever for rural development. For this purpose, simple books will be prepared and distributed to new literates on agriculture, village and cottage industries, cooperative movement, health and sanitation, nutrition, family welfare, animal husbandry and similar subjects.

The State Government are also implementing at their own cost a scheme of non-formal education for school dropouts, as well as children who have never been to school, of the age groups 6—11 and 11—14. Under the scheme one centre was opened in 1976-77 in each of the 374

panchayat unions and a second centre in each panchayat union in 1977-78. The centres are located in panchayat union school buildings and the school teachers will conduct the non-formal education classes for 2 Hours in evening.

HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION

The general view of educationists has been that it will be sound to locate the 2 stage of the 10 + 2

3 pattern only in schools. This Government have also decided that the Higher Secondary Course to be started in Tamil Nadu from 1978-79 should be located only in High Schools. About 400 schools will be selected for locating the Higher Secondary Course, taking care to see that one such school is available as far as possible in each Panchayat Union area. The number of institutions in the first list is as follows :—

(i) High Schools—

Madras City	.. 18
Mofussil	.. 182

.. 200	
(ii) Anglo-Indian Schools	.. 14
(iii) Matriculation Schools)	.. 6
.. 220	

At the Higher Secondary Stage, every student shall study Tamil (or any of 12 other languages) under Part I and English under Part II. Under Part III—Optionals if he opts for the Academic stream he should study four subjects under Sciences and Humanitie ; and if he opts for the Vocational streams he should study one Vocational subject plus one subject under Sciences/Humanities, related to his vocational subject. The number of vocational subjects approved for introduction in the Higher Secondary Course in major occupational areas are follows :—

Agriculture	.. 15
Home Science	.. 9
Engineering and Technology	.. 8
Commerce and Business	.. 9
Health	.. 8
Miscellaneous	.. 3
.. 52	

Subject to availability of facilities and local demand each Higher Secondary School will offer at least

one vocational course in 1978-79. Detailed surveys are proposed to be conducted in all Districts, to settle the particular vocational courses to be started.

The Government have directed that Tamil shall be the medium of instruction in Higher Secondary Schools in both the 11th and 12th Standards. No tuition fees will be charged from those who study in Tamil Medium. Only the special fees prescribed will be charged. However those who want to study in English Medium in the Higher Secondary classes will be permitted to do so, on payment of tuition fees to be prescribed. They will not be entitled to free education in those classes. The Matriculation Schools and Anglo-Indian Schools (which already levy fees in Standards 1 to 11) upgraded as Higher Secondary Schools, will however be allowed to levy tuition fees in the Higher Secondary Course.



Quality of work in High Schools has been toned up through Panel Inspection Scheme

The Government have sanctioned the provision (at a total cost of Rs. 2 crores) of additional accommodation (1 class and 1 laboratory at an average cost of Rs. 1.5 lakhs in all) in 133 Government High Schools selected for location of the Higher Secondary Course from 1978-79. A provision of Rs. 3 crores has been made in 1978-79 for buildings for Government Higher Secondary Schools. Steps are also being taken to equip the Higher Secondary Schools with adequate Laboratory equipments.

COLLEGIATE EDUCATION.

There are 188 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 2.09 lakhs in 1976-77. The details of the strength of students and teaching staff in these colleges as well as the other institutions under the control of the Director of Collegiate Education, were as follows in 1977-78.

The Government will ensure that there is no retrenchment of College teachers consequent on the introduction of 10 2 3 system with effect from June 1978 and withdrawal of P.U.C. from Colleges with effect from June 1979. The work load in the Colleges will be rescheduled in consultation with the

Universities concerned as to enable this.

New Universities

Of the 188 Colleges of Arts and Sciences, 110 are affiliated to the Madras University, 77 to the Madurai University and one to the Annamalai University. The Gajend ragadkar Committee on Universities had recommended that an University should not have more than 30 or 40 Colleges affiliated to it. There is thus clear need for setting up two or more Universities in the State. The Government propose to pursue with the Government of India and the University Grants Commission vigorously the establishment of two new Universities of the affiliating type-one at Tiruchirappalli and the other at Coimbatore.

Autonomous Colleges

With a view to improve the standards of Education in Colleges, the University Grants Commission formulated a scheme of autonomous colleges whereby a few well maintained colleges in the area of each University can be selected and granted autonomy. The Madras and Madurai University Acts have been amended in December 1977 to enable the implementation of this useful Scheme. The Colleges granted autonomy can constitute their own Boards of Studies, Boards of Edu-

cation, etc. and strive for improving standards of education.

The needs of the State in the matter of Colleges of Arts and Science seem to have been almost met. While there is pressure for admission in a few selected Colleges in urban centres, there is surplus intake capacity in Colleges in rural areas.

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 four additional Degree courses in Science two additional Degree courses in Arts, one additional degree course in commerce; and one additional post-graduate course in Science. Provisions of Rs. 3 lakhs for opening new degree courses and 1 lakh for opening new post graduate courses have been made in 1978-79.

It is proposed to develop the Presidency College, Madras into an Institute of Post graduate studies and Research. Necessary action in this regard will be initiated in 1978-79

Laboratory facilities in Government Colleges will be improved in

order to promote Science education. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned for the purpose in 1977-78 and Rs. 6 lakhs have been provided in 1978-79.

An expenditure of Rs. 1 lakh is incurred every year on setting up text-book Libraries in Government Colleges for the use of students and in 1978-79 Rs. 1 lakh has been provided.

Sanction was accorded in 1977-78 for providing student amenities like tiffin sheds, canteens and cycle-sheds and for improvement of playgrounds, purchase of games articles in Government Colleges at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs and in Aided Colleges at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs. Rs. 5 lakhs have been provided in 1978-79 for providing these facilities in Government colleges.

There was serious damage to the buildings, installations and other properties of some aided colleges at Tiruchirappalli, etc. in the cyclone and floods of November 1977. A Commission appointed by the University of Madras to assess the damage gave a detailed report. Based on that report and the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor the Government have released a special grant of Rs. 51 lakhs to the colleges which have suffered damage.

In 1978-79 a provision of Rs. 32 lakhs has been made for buildings for Government Colleges and their hostels (Rs. 11 lakhs for new works and Rs. 21 lakhs for spill over expenditure on works sanctioned in earlier years). A sum of Rs. 7 lakhs has also been provided for giving building grants to Aided Colleges.

Schemes for improving the academic attainments of teachers of Government Colleges are also being implemented. Professors are being deputed for research in particular subjects leading them to the Ph. D. degree. Out of 19 Professors deputed for Ph. D. from 1973-74 onwards 7 have completed the course and have joined duty. In addition 6 more Professors will be freshly deputed for Ph. D. in 1978-79. 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.

In the field of continuing education, the Evening Colleges and

Correspondence Courses are playing an useful role. Evening courses were conducted in 45 colleges in 1977-78 and about 10,000 students were studying in them. The Madurai University has been running Correspondence Courses for P.U.C. B.A., B. Com., and M. A. They have proved very popular.

Scholarships and Stipends

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 given below:

From 1974-75 the expenditure on the National Scholarships to the children of School Teachers and National Scholarships 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/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes get scholarships from the funds administered by the Directors of Harijan Welfare and Backward Classes.

An adhoc merit grant of Rs. 300 is paid to all students belonging to the Scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students including converts to Christianity (irrespective of the income limit of the parents of the students) who (i) obtained 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. 8 lakhs per annum.

From 1977-78, full fee concession is given in Degree courses and above to all Scheduled Caste and Tribe students irrespective of the annual income of their parents. The income limit of Rs. 2,500 per annum has been removed.

Government have issued orders for the refund of tuition fees paid

by students when they leave the institution from the first Degree to join the Professional courses or for any other reason.

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.

The Government as well as the Universities are taking steps to propagate the Tamil medium more vigorously.

The Tamil Nadu Text Book Society has so far published about 800 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 of bring out more titles in 1978-79.

U. G. C. Scales

The Government of Tamil Nadu have in September 1977 issued orders extending to teaching staff of—

Government and Aided Colleges of Arts and Sciences ;

Law Colleges ;

Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics; and Madras, Madurai and Annamalai Universities the University Grants Commission scales of pay, effective from 1st April 1976, with monetary effect from 1st January 1977.

There were representations for making certain amendments to those orders. The Government have examined the requests sympathetically and announced certain liberalisations. Demonstrators and Tutors who have put in five or more years of service as on 1st December 1977 and also possess post-graduate qualification in their disciplines will be straightaway upgraded as Assistant Professors/Lecturers with effect from 1st December 1977 and allowed

to draw the University Grants Commission scales of pay applicable to this upgraded category. This concession would also apply to all Tutors and Demonstrators who possess-acquire Post-graduate qualifications and complete five years of service in their present post as and when they fulfil the five year term.

There have been requests for granting some more concessions. They are under examination.

Aided Colleges

With a view to ensure full and prompt payment of salaries to staff of Aided Colleges, the Govern-



The workload in Colleges will be rescheduled in consultation with Universities.

ment have introduced a revised pattern of grants from 1st July 1977 under which the entire net deficit in salary expenditure is met by the Government.

Teaching staff of Aided Colleges in Tamil Nadu have been eligible for retirement benefits (Pension, Family Pension, etc.) as early as from 1st April 1962. From 1st April 1976, these benefits have been extended to non-teaching staff also of those colleges. The leave benefits to Aided college teachers have also been liberalised and they have been made eligible for medical leave for 18 months (as against 12 months previously).

National Cadet Corps

The strength of the National Cadet Corps in Tamil Nadu is now 48 Senior Division Units with about 22,000 cadets and 675 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 Girl's Junior Division Troops with a strength of about 5,300 Junior Division Girls.

The Tamil Nadu Contingent of the National Cadet Corps won once again the coveted All India-Banner in the Republic Day Parade held at New Delhi in January 1978. Tamil Nadu has retained this banner ever

from 20,000 in 1976-77 to 40,000 in 1977-78. Half the strength of N.S.S. students in any year undertake special camps (of 10 days duration) during vacations, when they do rural development (including Adult Education) work in villages. A provision of Rs. 21 lakhs has been made for this scheme in the year 1978-79.

Legal Studies

The strength of the Madras Law College has increased from 1,045 in 1968-69 to about 2,495 (1695 in regular degree courses, 740 in evening degree courses and 60 in M.L. courses) in 1977-78. In 1978-79 an M.L. course will be started in Branch VII-Property. Instruction is provided in Tamil Medium in one section in each of the three years of the regular course at the Madras Law College.

A new college was opened at Madurai from 1974-75. The strength of that college in 1977-78 was 900 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. A provision of Rs. 12 lakhs has been made in 1978-79 for completing the construction of building and hostel for the Madurai Law College and for constructing first floor over the building of that College.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

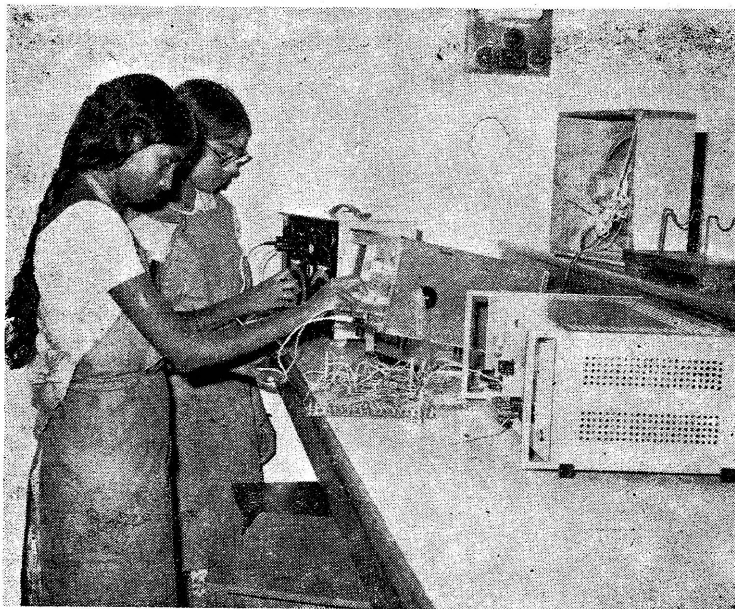
The provision for Technical Education in 1978-79 is Rs. 7 crores, inclusive of the provision for Technical Education buildings, etc. The Department has under its direct control seven Engineering Colleges, 39 Polytechnics (including 3 Women's Polytechnics and 6 Special Diploma Institutions and 3 Arts and Craft Institutions) and 14 Technical High Schools. The present level of annual intake is 1,422 students for degree courses in the Engineering Colleges, 5125 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, Chromepet; the Annamalai University's College of Engineering and Technology and the Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli.

since it was instituted 8 years ago, except during 1976.

National Service Scheme

The aim of the National Service Scheme is to enable College Students 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 calculation 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 has increased



Technological University

The draft bill for constituting the Technological University at Madras is awaiting the concurrence of the Government of India and it will be introduced in the Tamil Nadu Legislature soon.

Qualitative improvement

From the beginning of the Fourth Five-Year-Plan the main emphasis is on consolidating the facilities for Technical Education already created and improving standards. New job-oriented and diversified courses have been introduced in order to provide more employment opportunities to students and to supply industry with the required manpower in newly emerging areas and fields. There are now in Engineering Colleges, 15 Degree courses, 31 Post-Graduate Degree courses and 8 Post Graduate Diploma courses and in Polytechnic, 37 Diploma

courses, 18 Post Diploma courses and 17 Certificate Courses.

During 1978-79 there will be introduced a degree course in Production Engineering at the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore and a degree course in Electronics and Communication Engineering course in the Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai.

A Diploma Course in Polymer Technology at the Institute of Chemical Technology, Madras and diploma course in Electronics at the Central Polytechnic, Madras and the Government Polytechnic, Coimbatore, were opened in 1977-78. During 1978-79 a Post Diploma course in Quantity Surveying will be introduced in the Central Polytechnic, Madras and Part-time Diploma courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering will be started in the Government Polytechnic, Coimbatore.

It is proposed to start at the college of Arts and Crafts, Madras a degree course in Industrial design [in the areas (i) Textile Design and (ii) Publicity Design].

Certain well-developed Polytechnics are given autonomy to experiment with new educational programmes, viz., restructuring the courses, establishing co-operative relationship with industry, developing new curricula, evolving their own method of education and training etc. Till now autonomy has been given for all courses in the P.S.G. Polytechnic, Coimbatore, the Textile Technology Course in the Thyagarajar Polytechnic, Salem and the PAC Ramasamy Raja Polytechnic, Rajapalayam; Post Diploma course in Town and Country Planning in the Central Polytechnic, Madras; Post Diploma Course in Automobile Engineering in the Nachimuthu Polytechnic, Pollachi and Tamil Nadu Polytechnic, Madurai.

Faculty Development

The teaching staff of Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics are also eligible for the U.G.C. scales of pay.

Teachers of Engineering Colleges are deputed to Institutes like the Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalo to acquire Doctorate Degree.

Teachers in Polytechnics are deputed to the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Madras.

The need for the promotion of research, development and consultancy services is well recognised. The growth of this activity in academic institutions depends substantially on the volume of doctorate research carried out at the Engineering Colleges. The Government have agreed to bear the entire expenditure incurred by private institutions in promoting Doctoral research.

MADRAS 'VARSITY GRADUATES' BETTER SHOW

Madras University graduates are doing better than the all India Graduates' average in I.A.S. examination.

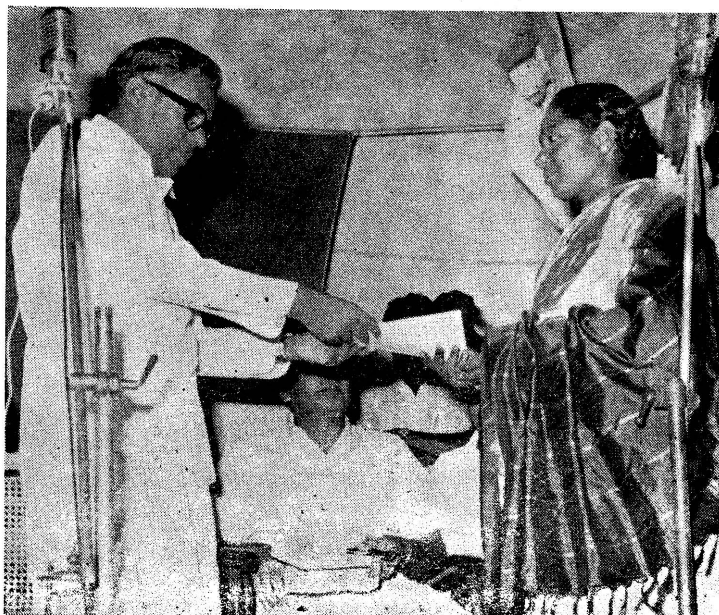
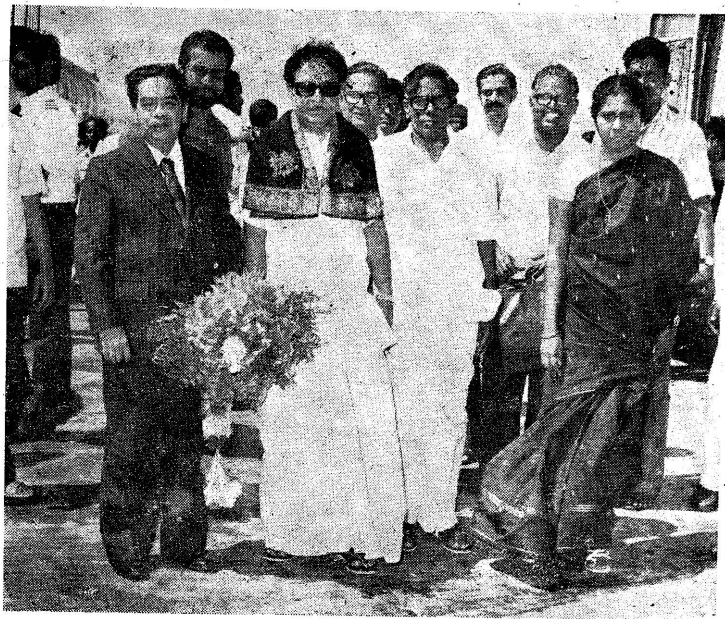
An analysis of the performance of graduates in the I.A.S. and engineering services examination for 1975 and 1976, made by the Union Public Service Commission, revealed this.

For every 56 graduates who appeared for the examination, one was selected. For every 26 graduates who appeared for the examination from Madras University, one was selected.

There has been a marginal improvement in the performance of Madras University graduates 1974 and 1975, from 3.6 per cent success in 1974 to 4.1 per cent in 1975

Madras University has proposed to obtain a certain number of travel grants annually to enable its graduates to be coached by the tutorial institutions in New Delhi.

Sir Veerásamy Ringadoo, Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius was received by Hon'ble Thiru K. Manoharan, Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information & Tourism and Hon'ble Selvi P. T. Saraswathy, Minister for Social Welfare at Meenambakkam Airport on 25-2-'78.



Hon'ble Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Minister for Information & Tourism, gave away a cash prize of Rs. 1000/- to Tmt. Ponnammal, one of the five Award winning Authors for writing plays on Prohibition and Evils of untouchability. The competition was conducted by State Information Dept.

Self Employment Loan Assistance To The Disabled Persons

The World Disabled Day was celebrated on 28th March 1978.

An important highlight of the celebrations of the World Disabled Day this year is the grant of self employment loans to a large number of the disabled persons, interested in making a career for themselves on self employment lines. These loans are sanctioned by the State Bank of India and various nationalised banks, such as Canara Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of Maharashtra, Indian Bank and Union Bank of India. The loans are repayable in easy monthly instalments and carry

concessional interest rates. Almost all the loans are covered under the Differential Interest Rates Scheme as applicable to the disabled persons.

This year, in all 60 disabled persons are being sanctioned loan through the various banks on the Disabled Day.

Particularly noteworthy in this context is the scheme of starting pettyshops through bunk stalls at various strategic points of commercial interest in Madras city. Both the Corporation of Madras and the Highway Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu have come forward to allot sites at important centres in Madras city permitting the disabled to set up bunk stalls, to start pettyshops. The Special Employment Office for the Physically Handicapped, Madras has arranged for loan assistance to about 20 Physically handicapped persons under this Bank stall Scheme (12 cases to be financed by the State Bank of India and 8 to be financed by the Canara Bank). The bunks of standard size with racks are being manufactured through the Modern Training Cum Production Centre, at Muthukadu (Disabled Persons Workshop) about 20 miles from Madras City on the way to Mahabalipuram, at a cost of Rs. 2,200 a piece. The total loan amount payable under the bunk stall scheme to each handicapped beneficiary is Rs. 3,000. Rs. 2,200 payable for the cost of the bunk and the rest Rs. 800 payable to the individual towards working capital. The entire loan of Rs. 3,000 is repayable in 60 monthly instalments, at 4% interest rate.

Besides this... more handicapped are being granted loans for various other trading purposes, on the occasion of the WORLD DISABLED DAY this year.

In all 129 physically handicapped persons have been sanctioned loans to start and run various types of commercial enterprises, such as pettyshops, salt business, wetgrinding units, cycle repair units

firewood depots, lending libraries, waste paper units, groundnut business, provision stores, kerosene business, laundry, running tuition classes, painting units, vegetable shops, flower selling unit, tailoring unit, handloom weaving, fruit shops, chappal manufacturing and repairing trade, barbershop, cutpiece trade etc. The experience, about repayment of loan instalments by the disabled has been on the whole very encouraging and many of the handicapped are found to be making a satisfactory living by running these ventures. This scheme of rehabilitation of the disabled on self employment lines is gaining greater momentum, among the disabled, in view of the shrinkage of and acute position in the labour market scrambling for jobs and keen competition from the able bodied counter-parts.

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HELPING THE HANDICAPPED

In order to help the handicapped, the Govt. of Tamil Nadu have taken up the following measures.

A modern Training-cum-Production Workshop has been set up at Muttu Kadu near Madras to train physically handicapped persons in various trades. Besides, production in light engineering structural work, machining of Components etc., have been done by this workshop.

Training is imparted to physically handicapped women. Deaf and dumb and Blind Girls are trained in Doll Making, Embroidery, Dress making and Mat and handloom weaving and orthopaedically handicapped Girls in stenography.

A sheltered Workshop for 40 blind woman is opened in Madras City.

**

CO OPTEX AT A GLANCE

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society was established in 1935 with the object of organising and promoting the Handloom Industry in Tamil Nadu on a commercial basis. For this purpose, the Handloom Cloth and yarn must be procured, marketed and services rendered to others. Thus, the basic functions of this organisation are procurement, marketing and finance. Following are some salient points relating to the Co-optex.

Share Holders

The liability of the share holders of the State Society is limited to the extent of Share Capital subscribed by them. The position of share capital as on 31-12-1977 is as follows:

	Rupees
(a) Primary Weavers' Cooperative Societies	45,59,900
(b) Individuals	11,400
(c) Other Cooperative Institutions	1,850
(d) Mills and Firms	2,74,650
(e) Government of Tamil Nadu	2,14,50,000
Total	2,62,97,800

Area of Marketing

The area of marketing of Coop-tex Cloth as on 31-12-1977 is as follows :—

(a) Selling Units in Tamil Nadu	228
(b) Selling Units in other states	124
(c) Agencies	177
(d) Godowns	21
Total	550

The procurement of handloom cloth has increased sixfold from Rs. 349 lakhs in 1967-68 to Rs. 1926 lakhs in 1976-77. Similarly sales of handloom cloth also marked a sharp rise from Rs. 421 lakhs in 1967-68 to Rs. 1924 lakhs in 1976-77.

Polyester Shirting Fabrics

For the first time in the Country, an attempt was made by Coop-tex of Tamil Nadu to produce Handloom-

The Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran had inaugurated the 24th Handloom Week Exhibition in Madras.



Polyester Fabrics with the technical assistance from the largest cooperative—Petrofils Cooperative Ltd., Baroda—producing Polyester Filament yarn.

Demonstrations have been conducted in various handloom weavers cooperatives in Tamil Nadu to educate the handloom weavers on the use of sophisticated polyester filament yarn. Having satisfied with the ability of handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu to handle this yarn, 2,000 metres of handloom polyester fabrics were produced in Pitlooms at Sriyilliputhur. The fabrics were test marketed at Madras in one of the Cooptex show rooms. The reception from the public has been exceedingly encouraging. These fabrics were tested at Sasmira, (Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association), Bombay. The results of the tests were very good.

Taking into consideration the economic viability and technical suitability, a commercial venture of producing one lakh metres was launched.

The selling price fixed for these fabrics is comparatively less than similar fabrics made elsewhere..

Cooptex will also be distributing this yarn in Tamil Nadu to meet the requirement of weavers in the cooperative sector.

It is hoped that with the introduction of these handloom-polyester fabrics, apart from producing quality fabrics, we will be able to keep the handloom weavers engaged round the year.

The ultimate aim of both these cooperatives—Cooptex and Petrofils—partners in this venture—is to provide better economic well being to the under privileged section of the society—the handloom weavers.

Handloom Design / Service Centre

With a view to implement the various handloom development schemes, to increase the cooperative coverage of handloom weavers, modernisation of handlooms to the extent possible, to give necessary technical support, training to the weavers in the use of modern appliances and guide them in the matter of introduction of new designs, changing production patterns, a Handloom Design and Service Centre at Madurai is functioning from February '78.

Cooptex International

A separate export wing named COOPTEX INTERNATIONAL was formed from July 75 to attend exclusively export business. Enquiries are also being received from foreign countries. Cooptex has ob-

tained orders from exporters and executed supply as noted below :—

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1975—76	48
1976—77	92

Janata Dhoties and Sarees on Handlooms

As dhoties and sarees are common varieties traditionally woven on handlooms and conforming to the taste of the poorer sections of the population, the production of these two varieties 26 s x 26 s dhoties and 40s x 40 s sarees are taken up by Handloom Industry. A scheme for production of Janata varieties is implemented by Cooptex, supplying cheap cloth of standard quality to the poorer sections.

New Product Development

So far production arrangements in new designs have been made in sport shirting, seer sucker shirting, Denim Coating, Casement Fabrics, Shawl, Furnishing, Jacquard Furnishing, Sarees, Printed varieties etc.

Further, Cooptex has arranged for production of Polyester shirtings as a new venture and also developed Polyester Suits on Handlooms.

MORE FOREIGN EXCHANGE THROUGH MADRAS HANDKERCHIEF

Handloom goods export is reported to have slumped from Rs. 200 crores.

The fall is attributed to "restrictions and restraints" imposed by EEC countries, and "the change of fashions in U.S.A." Exports of handloom readymade garments which fetched Rs. 170 crores in 1976-77 slumped to Rs. 80 crores in 1977-78 with reduced imports by EEC and USA.

However the 1978-79 target of Rs. 274 crores fixed by HEPC would be attained as chances of the EEC and US garment markets reviving were "very good". A target of Rs. 150 crores worth readymade handloom garments had been fixed for 1978-79.

Silk exports are steadily going up. They touched Rs.30 crores in 1977-78.

Another item that did well was Real Madras Handkerchief. It fetched Rs. 40 crores, registering a 100 per cent increase on the exports in the previous year of Rs. 20 crores.

Better Living Condition For Fishermen

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation is functioning with the objectives of improving the Socio-economic conditions of the fishermen who are directly engaged in fishing; of increasing the production of protein rich fish and thereby making it available to the consuming public at a reasonable price; stepping up of income in the fishing industry and developing the fishing industry to generate more employment opportunities.

Tamil Nadu is not only blessed with vast resources of seas but also with innumerable inland water-spreads. Besides utilising the marine fishery resources, the development of inland fishery will also increase the fish production—manifold. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation is rendering service by stepping up of fish production and by supplying nutritious fish to a larger section of the people.

The marine fishery resources of Tamil Nadu are being exploited by about 1,20,000 active fishermen. About 30,000 catamarans, 8,000 canoes and more than 2,000 small boats are engaged in fishing. Besides these more than about 2,000 mechanised fishing boats are in operation. By this effort, a quantity of about

2.50 lakh tonnes of fish is landed annually from the sea. Most of the prawns landed are being exported to foreign countries and the remainder disposed off in the internal markets. In addition to these, various schemes are being implemented by the Government to better the living conditions of fishermen.

Mechanisation of 40,000 country crafts in stages by providing outboard motors will not only step up fish production but also increase the income of fishermen. The Corporation has already formulated a scheme according to which it will be a sole-selling agency for supply of Yamaha Outboard Motors imported from Japan. The Government have planned to give subsidy to fishermen who are going to acquire these outboard motors to engage them in fishing—directly.

The people at present are unable to get fish at reasonable price though fish is landed throughout our lengthy coast line. The reason for this is the intrusion of middlemen between the actual fishermen and the consuming public. With a view to eliminate middlemen and to hold the price line, the Corporation has proposed to establish 750 retail fish stalls in the State during 1978-79.

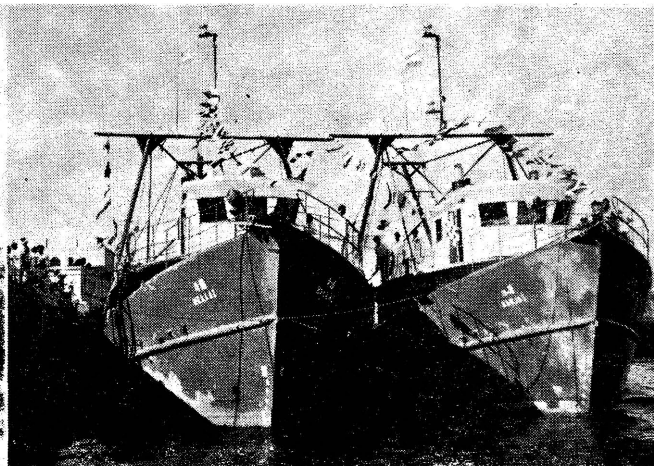
The establishment of these stalls will enable the fish consuming public to get fish at reasonable prices besides promoting employment opportunities for about 1,000 persons.

The Corporation has envisaged a scheme to utilise the brackish water resources for culturing fish and thereby increase the income of fishermen besides getting substantial foreign exchange.

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation is the first of its kind in India in taking up reservoir fishery development. The Corporation has taken up the five reservoirs viz. Sathanur, Aliyar, Amaravathi, Thirumoorthy and Bhavanisagar.

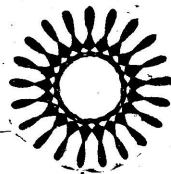
With a view to step up production through Deep Sea fishing, the Corporation has acquired two deep sea trawlers from Mexico for exploiting the resources in deeper waters. In addition to these trawlers, the Corporation has to acquire more such vessels for increasing fish production with the main objective to get more foreign exchange besides meeting the demands of the local public. The Corporation has plans to process and export fish which will increase the income of fishermen and increase employment opportunities.

The Chief Minister had launched the Mexican Trawlers for exploring the resources in deeper waters.

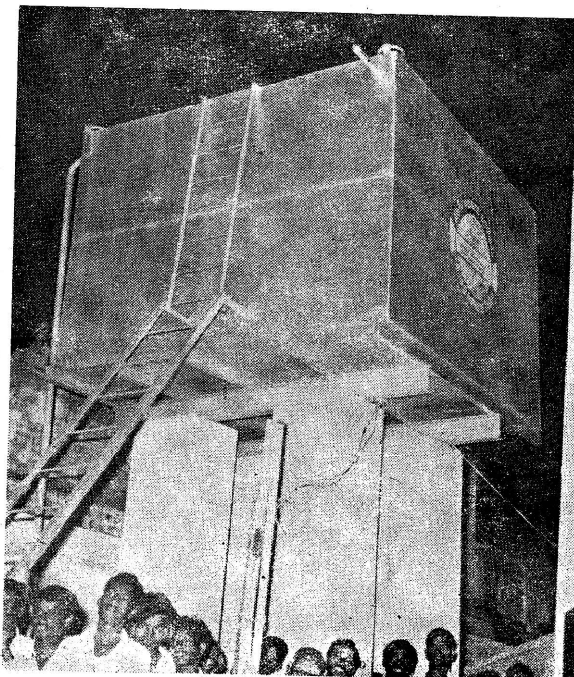


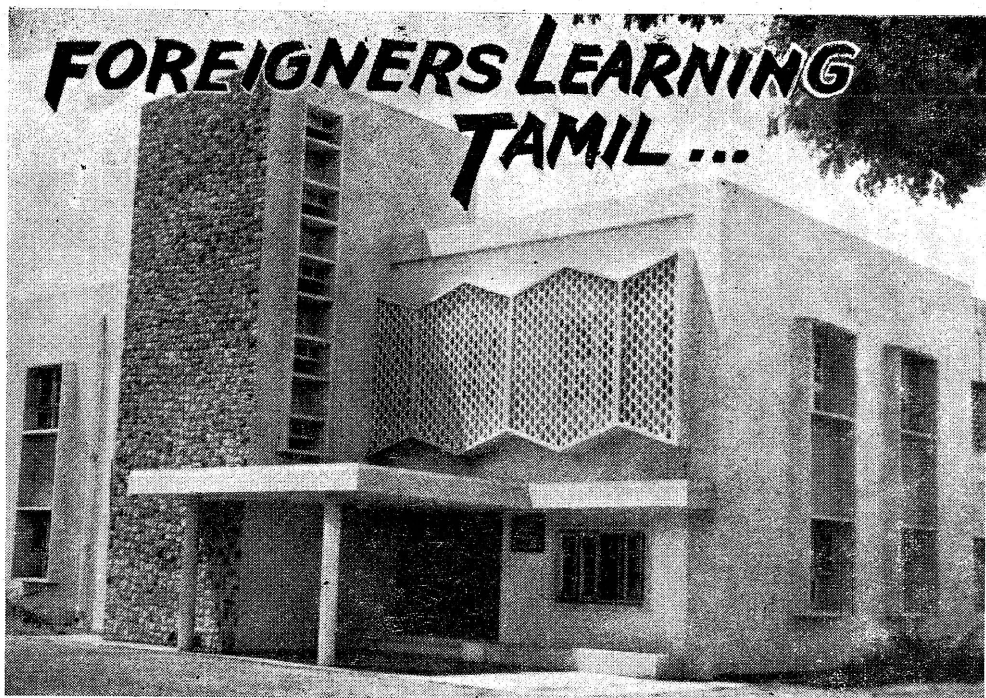


Hon'ble Thiru S. Raghavanandam, Minister for Labour inaugurated the 'Workers ward' at T. B. Sanatorium, Tambaram on 5—3—78 under the presidentship of Thiru Munu Adhi, Speaker, Tamil Nadu Assembly.



Hon'ble Thiru P. Kolandaivelu, Minister for Agriculture, declared open the protected Water supply scheme at Kavoor Village, Chingleput District.





**"Every country is my country:
Every man is my Kinsman".**

This is a sincere expression that has emerged some two thousand years ago from the mind of a Tamil poet. He has based his ethic of universal brotherhood on a direct relationship between man and man overlooking the differences of race or colour. Such an universal outlook and mentality are highly required today even in the fields of research inquiries which are expected to be highly objective in nature and scholarly in character. The International Institute of Tamil Studies bears the above motivity of promoting objective research in all aspects of Tamil Studies and also in interdisciplinary fields with the active collaboration of International Scholars who evince great interest in the field of Tamilology.

The International Institute of Tamil Studies is seriously engaged in unfolding before the eyes of the world, the cultural heritage, artistic excellence, Scholarship and the genius of the Tamils by undertaking research projects and publishing the results in Tamil and English.

The paucity of books pertaining to Tamil Studies in English and

other foreign languages has checked the current of Tamil Studies which were undertaken in different parts of the world. In order to overcome these serious handicaps, the Institute has actively involved in various projects to make aware of the scholars, the real nature of the Tamil culture in all its aspects by providing Annotated bibliographies and reference materials.

With a clear fore-sight and vision about the activities to be undertaken in connection with research in the International level, a blue-print in regard to the establishment of the Institute with a view to carrying out co-ordinated and comprehensive research in all aspects of Tamil Studies and allied fields was presented by Dr. S.M. Katre, the then Director of Deccan College, Post Graduate Research Institute, Poona during the second International Conference—Seminar of Tamil Studies held at Madras in January, 1968. Noting its importance and the clear view about the useful future plans which are em

bedded in it, Dr. C. N. Annadurai, the then Chief Minister of Tamil nadu, whole heartedly supported the proposal and in his own eloquent manner made a plea to the Tamil Scholars saying ".....you base it on the lines of the French Academythen you would be setting a very fertile body which will grow into the Indian Academy or Tamil Academy based on lines identical or similar to the French Academy." He has also given assurance that the State Government is always prepared to render the required help for the promotion of research activities to be undertaken by the Institute. His words of enthusiasm and assurances have contributed much to the stability and development of this Institute at multifarious levels.

This Institute was established in 1970 and from its very inception, it has properly utilized the valuable guidelines and directing standards beset upon it by the renowned scholars of the world. The Institute is providing academic environment suitable for research and ensuring intimate contact with specialists in the fields in which it is interested. The policy of the Institute regarding intensive and extensive research has received immense tributes from

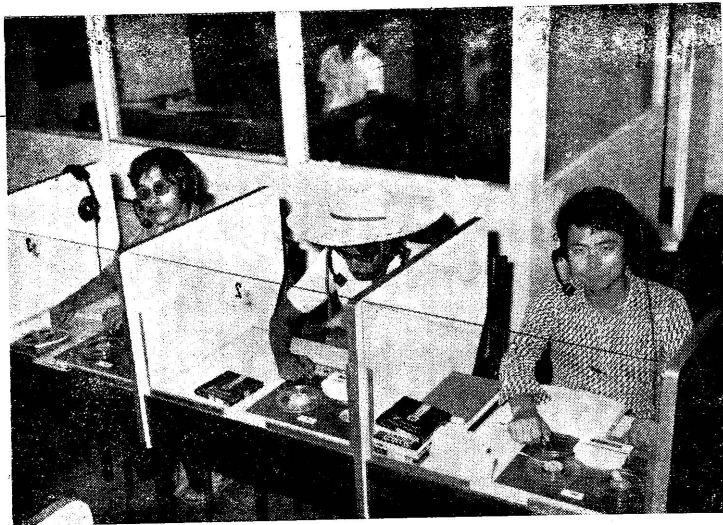
DR. S. V. SUBRAMANIAN
Director
International Institute of Tamil Studies.

various scholars of the world who have shown keen interest in collaborating with its research activities.

Edwin, Professor of Sanskrit, Washington University has promised to popularize the study of Tamil Culture, a field hitherto neglected by most of the Western Sociologists. Owen, the Director of the Central Research Institute of Asiatic Studies, University of Australia has consented to co-operate with the Institute in its research activities. Prof. Kamil Zvelebil came forward to have discourse with the Institute regarding research methodologies, Projects, the patterns of educational systems and for the exchange programmes of scholars for the betterment and promotion of research activities.

Fellowships were awarded to some scholars of this Institute who were deputed to study the 'Methods of Language Teaching' and to undergo training in the field of literary criticism in the important universities of the U.S.A. The Institute has made best use of the fruitful results of such participation programmes.

The Library is functional in character and is catering to the needs of the scholars by purchasing the important and new books of various languages. As a result, it has with its credit more than 10,000 volumes apart from numerous journals and dissertations within a short span of time. Original texts and research



Foreigners hearing the Tamil Literature Records

of high standard to this Institute. It has also donated an Electrostatic Copier Equipment with accessories under the Participation Programme and this equipment is very useful to scholars for copying rare documents and those which are available only in manuscript forms.

The Language Laboratory which has been presented by UNESCO to this Institute as an aid to teach Tamil to foreigners is a very significant part of the Institute. This

Advanced courses among which 44 were foreigners.

The University of Madras has recognised the Institute for conducting research leading to the degrees of M. Litt and Ph. d. in Tamil as a result of which 30 students are undertaking research works in various interdisciplinary fields such as Grammar, Literature, Linguistics, Folklore and comparative Literature. Every month, the research scholars get together in the Institute, present research papers correlated with

Publications of the Institute



works on Tamil Literature, Indian and European Literature, Linguistics, Literary Criticism, Indology, Anthropology and Folklore are added to this library every now and then. A number of scholars, native and foreign are utilizing the library every day.

Apart from these, UNESCO has presented numerous useful books

laboratory has indeed minimised the various complexities and difficulties that a foreigner come across while learning an alien language and made the learning process very precise, clear and intensive both in the introductory and advanced levels. Hitherto more than one hundred students have undergone training in the Introductory and

their chosen areas of research and get themselves engaged in useful discussions.

Now the Institute has engaged in a laudable project in collaboration with the Gzech Scholar Dr. Jaroslav Vacek aiming to introduce Classical Tamil literatures to the non-Tamils in a comprehensive and systematic manner.

Tamil As Official Language

During the nineteenth century, Indians under foreign yoke forgot their languages and heritage. But the division of Bengal in 1905 on communal basis by Lord Curson ravaged the sentiments of the people. It resulted in unprecedented upsurge among the masses and the nation determined to end the alien rule. There emerged Swadeshi movement with all vigour. Through out India, people wrote, sung, and spoke in their regional languages and this spirit united the people against common enemy. During the freedom struggle, it was realised that the suppression of the Indian Languages by foreign rulers was purposeful and aimed at the domination of English. They woke up and determined that at the advent of freedom, the country should be divided linguistically for administrative and all other purposes to achieve coherence and unity in the National life. Thus the aspiration of our people has been enshrined in our constitution.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the constitution of India, the state of Tamil Nadu enacted the Madras Official Language Act in the year 1956 (Madras ACT XXXIX of 1956).

A committee known as the Official Language Act Implementation Committee was constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu so as to advise them on the steps to be taken to implement the Act.

Introduction of Official Language in Government Offices

Under Section 4 of the above said Act, the State Government may, by notification issued from time to time direct that Tamil shall be used in respect of such Official purposes as may be specified in the Notification. English had been used hitherto, in most of the items such as correspondence and maintenance of registers. As the change over from English to Tamil

in Official use could not be effected all on a sudden, it was decided to bring about the change by stages.

In the first instance, the Scheme was introduced in Government Offices in Tamil Nadu without typewriters. During 1961-63 the scheme was extended to all Government Offices upto the district level. As regards the offices of the Heads of Departments four stage Programme was chalked out as follows :—

First Stage :—Tamil shall be used in respect of all communications sent to the general public.

Second Stage :—Tamil shall be introduced in all correspondence with the subordinate and District Offices.

Third Stage :—Correspondence with other Departments shall be in Tamil.

Fourth Stage :—Correspondence with the Departments of the Secretariat shall be made in Tamil.

The first stage was implemented in 1963. The second and third stages were introduced in 1965 and 1969 respectively. The fourth stage was reached in 1971 and exemptions from the operation of the Scheme granted to certain offices till then were also withdrawn by Government paving way for the full implementation of the scheme at all levels in all Government Offices.

Categories exempted from the Act

In order to avoid any administrative difficulties and inconvenience,

Thiru K. S. MAHADEVAN,

DIRECTOR OF TAMIL DEVELOPMENT

English has been permitted to be used in respect of

(i) in the preparation of pay bills, contingent bills, travelling allowance bills and stipend bills sent to the Treasuries in the Districts and the Pay and Accounts Office, Madras.

(ii) in all correspondence addressed to Courts other than the village courts, other State Governments and Central Government Offices.

(iii) in all statutory orders which are subject to appeal or revisions.

(iv) in communications to Foreign Embassies, Consulates and persons belonging to foreign diplomatic services and other foreigners.

Now with the aforesaid exemptions, the scheme has been implemented in full at all levels in all Government Offices in Tamil Nadu.

Glossary of Administrative Terms

The General Glossary of Administrative terms have been printed and supplied to all Government Offices in Tamil Nadu.

Supplementary Glossaries

Supplementary Glossaries of Special and Technical terms pertaining to the respective Departments have also been brought out so as to enable the personnel belonging to a particular Department to get at apt Tamil words.

Apart from the general glossaries, various manuals, Rules and Codes required for the day to day use in several Departments were also translated in Tamil.

Forms, Proformas, questionnaires and registers required for various heads of departments are translated in Tamil.

Shorthand Manual in Official Language

A Tamil Shorthand Manual was printed and released for sale.

Incentive Schemes

With a view to encourage extensive use of Tamil in Official correspondence, Government servants who write best drafts and notes in Tamil are being awarded incentive cash prizes every year for each District, first prize being Rs. 500/-, second prize Rs. 300/- and third prize Rs. 200/-.

Government typists and Stenotypists were granted concession to appear for the lower and Higher Grade Examinations in Tamil typewriting as well as Tamil Shorthand thrice without payment of the examination fees.

A Central Typewriting Institute was run by Government to train Government Typists and Stenotypists in Tamil typewriting. As many as 1,000 typists stenotypists were trained in this Institute. After the closure of this institute a scheme was drawn up and implemented wherein Government typists and Steno-typists were given training in Tamil typewriting in private typewriting institutes at Government cost. As a result sufficient number of typists qualified in Tamil type writing are available now in all Government offices.

A Special Pay of Rs. 25/- is also given to Government typists who have qualified in Tamil typewriting if they are actually supplied with a Tamil typewriter and engaged in Tamil typing work. A special pay of Rs. 75/- is given to each of the Steno-typists who have passed Higher Grade Examinations in Tamil shorthand, irrespective of whether they attend to Tamil shorthand work or not.

A lumpsum payment of Rs. 50/- is paid to Government typists and Steno-typists who pass the Higher Grade Examination in Tamil shorthand, with a view to encourage the learning of Tamil shorthand by the Government typists and stenotypists.

Instructions were given to all Heads of Departments and Collectors of Districts to withdraw the

English typewriters from offices where Tamil typewriters have been supplied. In offices where there is only one English typewriter, it was allowed to be retained. In bigger offices, a general working formula of surrendering one English typewriter for every two Tamil typewriters supplied, was adopted.

Progress and Review

The Special Officers attached to this Directorate and posted in the Districts periodically inspect all the Government offices in the District to review the work done in those offices and help to solve the problems facing the day to day routine. The Special Officers for Translation attached to the Directorate are attending to the work in connection with the translation.

The Offices which are found slack and lagging behind in the implementation of the Act are reported to the next higher controlling authorities of the respective Departments for pursuing the follow up action and rectification of the defects pointed out.

Development of Tamil Language and Literature

Tamil Development Directorate has taken various other measures to help and accelerate and improve the standard of Tamil language in general. There is a Bibliography Section which prepares descriptive Bibliography of Tamil Books published from 1857 upto date.

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to keep you abreast
of all the
authentic and authoritative
facts
about Tamil Nadu

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In order to encourage the authors to bring out rare manuscripts the Government of Tamil Nadu have formulated a scheme of financial assistance. Financial assistance are being rendered for the printing and publication of deserving Tamil manuscripts. The quantum of such financial assistances will be 50% of the total cost of publication or maximum of Rs. 500/- whichever is less.

To encourage the Tamil writers in bringing out standard books in Tamil in various subjects the Government of Tamil Nadu is awarding prizes in cash to the authors and certificates to the publishers.

Facilities to Non-Tamils

With a view to cater to the Educational needs of the Tamil speaking people settled down in other States and to provide an opportunity to the people of other States to study Tamil language, the Government of Tamil Nadu are implementing a scheme of financial assistance for the Development of Tamil studies in the Universities of other States.

The name of the Universities which are getting financial assistance are given below :

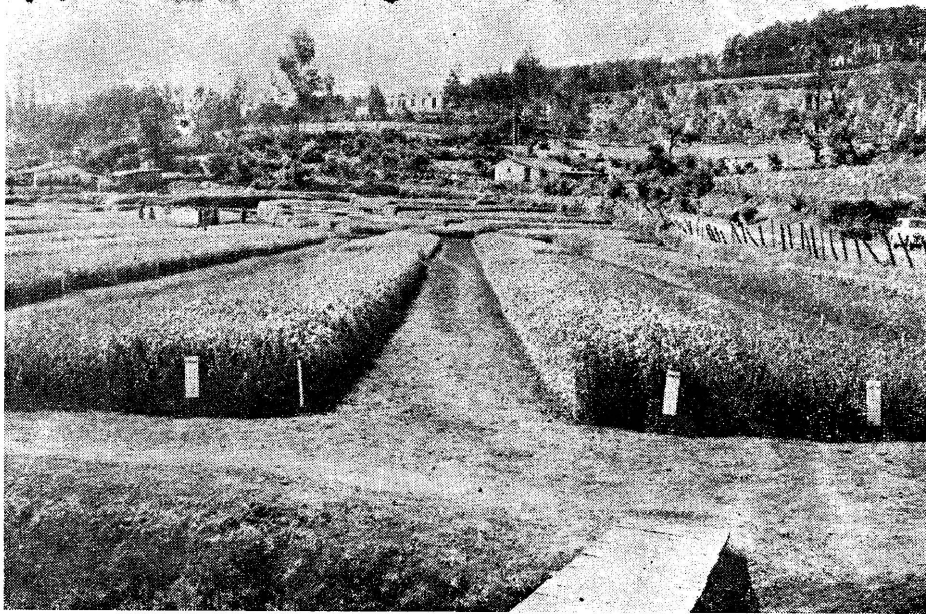
1. Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
2. University of Kerala, Trivandrum.
3. Dravidian Linguistic Association, Trivandrum.
4. Osmania University, Andhra Pradesh.
5. Punjab University, Chandigarh.
6. Karnataka University, Dharwar.

Financial assistance to Indigent Tamil Scholars

A scheme has been sanctioned for granting of Rs. 100/- per month as financial assistance to 50 indigent Tamil Scholars every year as a token of appreciation and aid in recognition of their past services rendered towards the development of Tamil Language and Literature.

* * *

A DECADE OF PROGRESS



On 18th March 1978, the Indo-German Nilgiris Development Project had celebrated 10 years of successful implementation of Indo-German co-operation. On this occasion, the project was formally transferred completely to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Nilgiris District consists of four development blocks Ootacamund, Coonoor, Kotagiri and Gudalur. The first three blocks are at an altitude of 1,500 to 2,000 metres with soil and climatic conditions highly suitable for potato-cultivation. Gudalur is situated at a lower altitude and farmers grow mainly paddy with ginger as a subsidiary crop.

Potato is the mainstay of the farmers in the high-level areas and is grown in the largest area of the district; it ranks third among the crops grown in the district, that is, after tea and coffee. The farmers of the Nilgiris have preferred this crop as it gave them very good return in the favourable years and there was no equally remunerative alternative crop with an established market.

Mono-cropping of potatoes, however, faced two-problems; pests/

disease and the vagaries of the monsoon. The Indo-German Nilgiris Development Project aimed at eliminating these problems. The pernicious pest "Golden Nematode" in particular called for drastic and immediate control. By applying the chemical "DASANTII" donated by the German partner—the Project was able to considerably reduce the pest population and also to increase the yield.

Further, it was seen that "crop rotation" was an effective way of controlling nematodes, rotation crops cultivated being fodder crops like oats and barley. The farmers were also introduced to high-yielding vegetable-varieties like "September" cabbage and "Zino" carrot. The average yield of "September" cabbage in 1977 was 24 metric tonnes per acre, an increase of 70—over locally available varieties. The compactness of the produce (heads) enables non-refrigerated transport upto a distance of 2,500 km. Other important features of the project were the introduction of high-yielding varieties of potatoes, vegetables, cereals and fodder, improved packaging of products, adoption of suitable rotation to diversify the cropping

pattern, timely supply of agricultural aids and crops to the farmers and strengthening and supporting the marketing facilities for agricultural-products.

German agricultural experts worked hand in hand with their Indian counterparts to enable a smooth process of change from mono-cropping to multi-cropping and to help in the implementation of the objectives of the Project.

The Federal Republic of Germany has given a free gift fund of Rs. 11 lakhs for creating a Project "Small Farmers" Loan Scheme" extending credit facilities to cultivators who are otherwise ineligible for a loan either from the Government or from Co-operative Agencies. The loan is interest-free and is in the shape of seed material, fertilizers and plant protection, chemicals.

The implements and Machinery Branch was started in January 1968 to introduce modern and sophisticated equipment, sprayers and other agricultural machineries to the farmers, who can hire them. This machinery is maintained and repaired in the workshop attached.



Modern agricultural machines are given on hire

In order to ensure a better price to the farmer a Vegetable Marketing Scheme was started on 1st June 1975. For this purpose the Nilgiris Vegetable Growers' Association (NVGA) was formed. The main objectives of the Association are :

- to arrange for marketing of the vegetables of the growers to their best advantage.

- to arrange for distribution of quality vegetable seeds to the members,

- to supply vegetables to the consuming centres regularly, and
- to educate the farmers on scientific methods of cultivation.

In 1975, a total of 2,270 metric tonnes of vegetables, valued at

Rs. 9.96 lakhs, was marketed in the big consumer centres of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, as well as in Calcutta and New Delhi. In 1977, the figures rose to 9,800 metric tonnes of vegetables, valued at Rs. 45 lakhs. The Association has thus made much headway in marketing and the growers have started pouring in to get their produce marketed through the Association. Its membership has increased from 495 in the first year to 1,873 as on 28-2-1978

The total German contribution to the Nilgiris Development Project exceeds Rs. 7 crores. This includes a highly sophisticated up-to-date research station set up at Ootacamund with equipment and instruments from the Federal Republic of

Germany. The facilities of such a laboratory are rarely to be found elsewhere in Asia. The soil testing equipment has attracted enquiries from other farm research stations and also from the Agricultural University in Tamil Nadu.

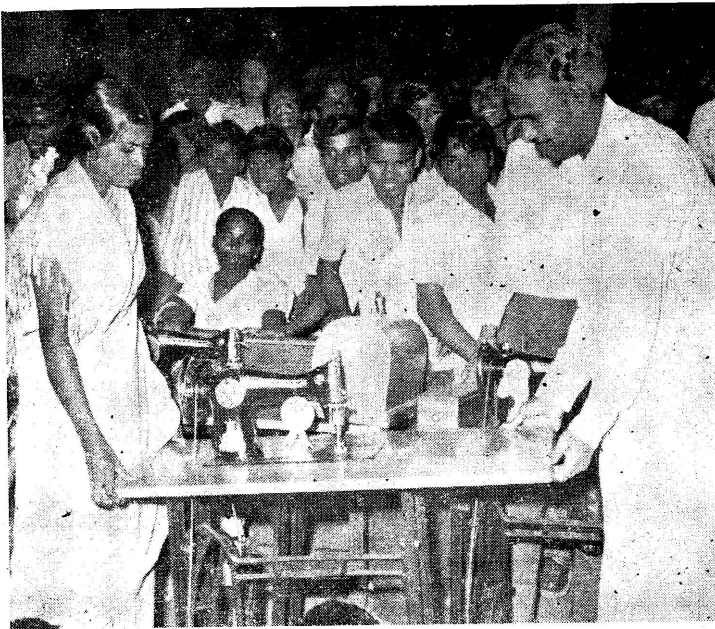
Thus, in the ten years of successful implementation of Indo-German Co-operation, the Indo-German Nilgiris Development Project has fulfilled its aim of achieving a rapid rise in the level of agricultural production in the Nilgiris and improving the economic conditions of the farmers by—providing necessary inputs and technical know-how followed by effective extension programmes integrating the supply of inputs, credit and marketing.

CO-OP CREDIT TO SURPLUS LAND ALLOTEES

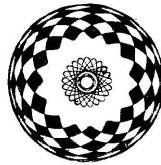
Small farmers, owning lands without right to mortgage them, will henceforth be eligible to get co-operative credit and Government would provide the necessary guarantee. Land development banks had already been advised to sanction long-term loans to these farmers.

About 50,000 farmers, owning about one lakh acres, would be benefitted—immediately.

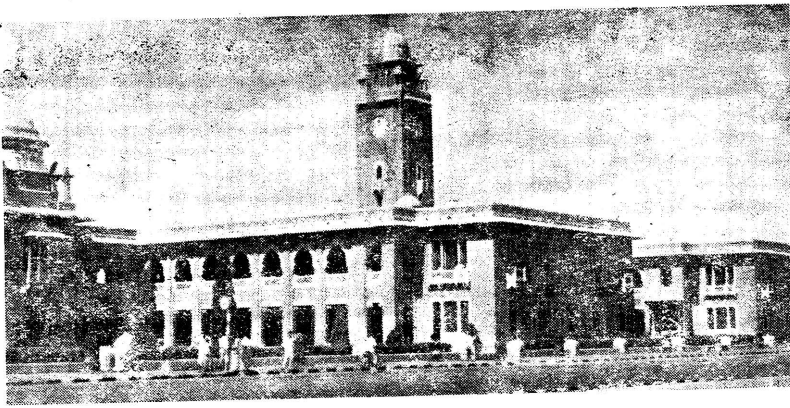
The problem of these farmers had been that though they had been given lands from the surplus through enforcement of the land ceiling, ownership right (and with it to the mortgage) could not be vested in them as they had to pay in full the price.



*Hon'ble Thiru P. Soundra-
Pandian, Minister for Harijan
Welfare, gave away sewing
machines and other industrial
equipments free of cost to
scheduled caste and Back-
ward Class people at Madras
on 28—2—78.*



*The Vietnamese cultural
Troupe presented a colourful
cultural show at Madras
during first week of March.*



JOURNALISTS ARE MADE HERE

Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States of America, was the first person who openly acknowledged the importance of newspapers to protect the value of democracy. Even after being severely criticised by the Press, during his two terms as President, he was still able to say, "where the Press is free and everyman able to read all is safe." The credit of penning a classic definition of the journalists' role in democracy also goes to him. He said "the basis of our Government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that opinion right ; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a Government without newspapers or newspapers without a Government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers, and be capable of reading them."

World Renowned Journalists

World renowned satesmen and politicians were great journalists. Journalism had been one of the coveted professions of all times. Among the forefronters in the struggle for freedom in India, many were journalists of outstanding calibre. To mention a few, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru were great journalists of our times. Gandhiji edited '**Harijan**', and Nehru — **National Herald**. Winston Churchill started his career as War Correspondent. Their writings reveal their talents as prolific writers. Anna, the architect of a new era in Tamil Nadu was himself a journalist of inimitable talent. "I am a Journalist, will be the answer to any one, who asks my profession",

was the proud proclamation of our late lamented leader. Can there be any more saying than this of the meritability of this profession ? Today newspapermen are in the forefront in the participation of every function, be of political or social. If in any function the glamour goes with the reporter, than the organisers or the participants, it is due to the importance attached to the profession of journalism. Because of the importance of journalism in its manifold aspects, the youths of today, have been acquiring great zeal and enthusiasm to enter this field. Until recently, journalism was not an academic discipline, but one that was developed on the job with all its naucuses. A formal course in journalistic framing was not the pre-requisite requirement of a journalist in the past. Since journalism is fast developing as a specialised scientific subject, and with the growth of various allied subjects being studied under its banner, more so with the advent of investigating journalism which requires multi-dimensional experts like a lawyer, sociologist, investigator to handle the courses — all these go to show that journalism is a well developed academic discipline and a profession that can be pursued only through a formal course of study.

To meet this need, Madras University has pioneered a course of study in journalism by establishing a full-fledged Department of Journalism.

Genesis of the Department

The genesis of the Department may be traced back to 1947 when the University of Madras started for the first time a Post Graduate Diploma course in Journalism. This had been a full time course extending for a full academic year. The responsibility of running the course was entrusted to the Head of the Department of Economics. The lectures for the course were delivered by part time experts drawn from various fields of specialisation.

In addition to full time faculty members, there is also a provision for part-time lecturers and instructors on fixed emoluments. As the Department is located at the heart of Madras City, it is able to get its part-time lecturers from leading English and Tamil dailies as well as TV and All India Radio personnel. The academic year commences in July and end by April. Applications for admission are invited along with other courses of studies and they are to be submitted to the Registrar, University of Madras. Annual Fee is Rs. 300/- plus Rs. 20/- as special fee. Like other faculty students, students of Journalism are eligible for Government scholarships. Besides there are two merit scholarships donated by a private trust. Since this academic year semester system has been adopted. There are two semesters for each academic year. At the end of each semester, there is the University Examination.

Daily from 10-30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. theory classes are held for students. In the afternoons from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. students are invariably visit mass medica centres,

DR. D. SADASIVAM,

Head of the Dept. of Journalism,
Madras University.

such as Newspaper offices, All India Radio and Television or arrange special lectures in the department or visit the campus to gather news. Sometimes they are taken on field visits of news importance or to noteworthy persons to cultivate in them the technique of interviewing.

Stenography

The medium of instruction is English and hence it becomes feasible for students from other States to undergo the course at Madras. Any graduate recognised by the Madras University is eligible to join the course. Shorthand and typewriting form part of the curriculum and are taught in the department by a part-time instructor. Those who are already qualified are exempted from undergoing the course here. Though no other University in India has these two subjects

posts in different paper offices. One person got employed in Private Advertising concern. Two joined in All India Radio as part-time employees.

Internship

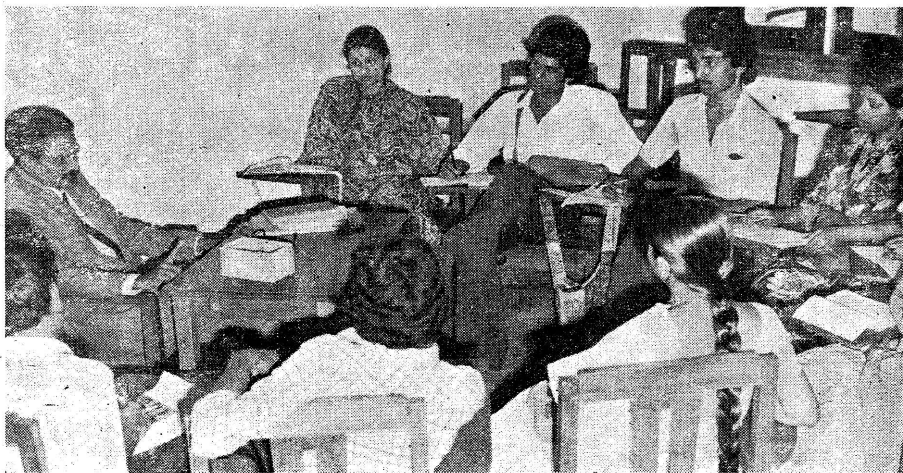
About 20 to 25 students alone are admitted every year as this helps concentration of intensive practical training both in the classrooms and at the Mass-Media centres. Internship forms an essential aspect of the curriculum.

Students are made to study many of the editorials of important journals and allowed to discuss on them with their lecturers. They are also given training in writing editorials on different problems and such writings being properly assessed. This gives a good opportunity to students to express themselves clearly as editors.

out a cyclostyled bi-lingual fortnightly called **Madras Universitas** with the motto, "Pen is mightier than Sword." The entire process of cyclostyling including stenciling is being done by the students themselves. There is a strong desire to see this in print in the near future. Besides campus news, features and articles, both in Tamil and English, are included in this fortnightly. The training is such that the students are also capable of running a regular newspaper if opportunities are given. This has been amply demonstrated when a Tamil local paper needed their help. Besides the fortnightly, there is also an annual number bearing the same title.

Photography, an important adjunct of Journalism, is not being neglected and students are trained

Group Discussion



attached to journalism, they are attached to the courses here due to their importance in practical life. But though a blessing in the long run, this has proved an obstacle for the time being as many candidates fail in the examinations for want of marks in these subjects while being good in other. Hence presently the rules have been modified to the extent of getting a certificate from the head of the Department of having obtained the requisite minimum knowledge without any formal University examination in shorthand and typewriting.

It is to be noted that of the candidates who passed out last year, all were successful in getting employments. Eight of them got

This course is not instituted at all the Universities in India but found only, besides, Madras, in Calicut, Trivandrum, Berhampur, Bangalore, Mysore, Banares, Gauhati, Rajasthan, Punjab, Hariyana, Poona, Jubbulpore and Calcutta. In addition, it is taught at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, an autonomous body aided by the Central Government and recognised by the UNESCO, where one year Post-Graduate Diploma in Journalism and Communication is awarded.

Lab. Journal

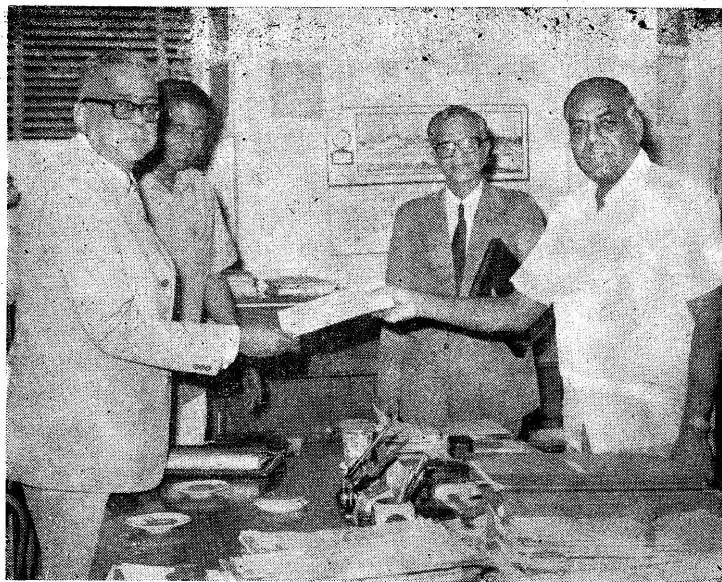
With the Head of Department as the Editor, the students bring

in all aspects of photographic techniques with the help of the Photographic unit of the University.

The department has a library of its own containing books on Journalism and allied subjects. It is interesting to note that Mahatma Gandhi's **Harijan** reprinted recently by an American Publishing Company running into 19 volumes and the whole set of encyclopaedia numbering 30 volumes are available here for students.

The Department is contemplating to have part-time evening classes to enable working journalists and others to qualify themselves in Journalism subject to the university regulations.

The Govt. of Karnataka represented by their Executive Vice-Chairman of Cyclone & Relief Fund, Karnataka, Thiru Lakshman Rao, I.A.S., handed over a cheque for Rs. 15 lakhs to Thiru V. Karthikeyan, I.A.S., Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu towards Chief Minister Public Relief Fund.



MORE BENEFITS UNDER ESIC

The Employees State Insurance Corporation has approved the extension of medical facilities to families of insured persons staying at stations away from the insured persons. But it will be necessary that the place where the family resides is an "implemented" centre and located in the same State as that of the insured person.

The medical facilities will also cover cases where family members move along with the insured person to the place of duty either on leave

or any temporary transfer to any station. But this station must also be an "implemented" centre.

Labour Welfare Scheme :

The Tamilnadu Labour Welfare Board has decided to start Book Banks for children of the workers who go to colleges in major cities like Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli.

It was also proposed to set up Mahalir Manram for the benefit

and welfare of wives of workers in about 10 places to train women in household arts like cooking, sewing, family hygiene etc.

The Board also decided to encourage talents in sports among the sons and daughters of workers and resolved to work out a detailed scheme.

It was also proposed to sanction 1,000 scholarships for the children of workers to enable them to learn Typewriting and Shorthand in a year.

ODD JOBS FOR UNEMPLOYED GRADUATES

The unemployed Graduates of Madras City have decided to take up an odd self employment, it is learnt.

A janitor or caretaker service for City residents will come into being if an experiment to be launched soon in Anna Nagar by the National Association for Self-employed Youth succeeds.

The project, to provide employment to unemployed graduates, will help a graduate earn Rs. 300 a month.

Under the pilot project, 1,000 houses in Anna Nagar will be select-

ed for round-the-clock protection. Five unemployed graduates will be picked up and each will be provided with a team of not more than five, mostly either ex-servicemen or retired police personnel. Each team will be allotted 200 houses to protect against burglars and other anti-social elements. The project is supposed to be implemented with the help and guidance of the police department.

Each of the house owner opting for the janitor service will be re-

quired to pay Rs. 3 a month. Of the Rs. 600 so collected from the 200 houses, the graduate would be paid Rs. 300 and the balance will be divided among the members of the team.

If the scheme succeeds, it will be extended to other areas in the City.

The association has already begun unemployed—graduates to run cafeteria in different parts of the City.



Prevent

Fire Accidents

Do not allow children near fire

Avoid smoking in bed

Use lamps with chimneys

Put out burning cigarette butts

Extinguish fire after cooking

Indifference
is the cause for
fire accidents



**PREVENTION OF FIRE ACCIDENTS
IS THE DUTY OF ALL**



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