

Tamil Arasu

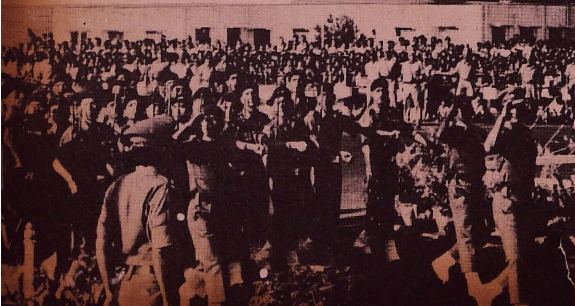
MARCH 1979 50 P.





REPUBLIC DAY PARADE IN MADRAS

26. 1. 79





EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL IN VILLAGES

GOVERNORS SPEECH

The Tamil Nadu Government has been taking up with the Central Government the question of fair procurement price for paddy and stressing the need for fixing the price based on the cost of production. The Chief Minister reiterated this request by writing to the Prime Minister and the Union Agriculture Minister. Thanks to these efforts, the Central Government has raised the basic price for coarse variety of paddy from Rs.78 to Rs.85 per quintal. This is not adequate to cover the expenditure incurred by the agriculturists for paddy production. The price of wheat is fixed by Government of India based on the cost of cultivation. It is unfortunate that the request of Tamil Nadu Government to fix the price of paddy on a similar basis has not been conceded. There will be no let up in the State Government's efforts in emphasising the need for a fair price. Tamil Nadu will also stress the need for Government of India to subsidise rice price to the extent of wheat subsidy in order to continue to make rice available to the consumers at reasonable prices, simultaneously ensuring fair price to the producer.

Under the scheme for establishment of a fair price shop in every village, about 13,400 villages have benefited upto 31st January 1979. The remaining villages also will be covered within one or two months. This scheme involving a net expenditure of about Rs.3 crores per year, confers great benefits on the villagers.

It is hoped that there will be no power cut during this year provided we have a normal South-west monsoon. Government has taken a policy decision that, in the event of any future power cut, small scale industries will be exempted from power cut as agriculture is exempted at present. I hope that the Honourable Members will welcome this decision to encourage the small scale industries which provide widespread employment opportunities.

The Government has evolved a massive new scheme to provide house-sites to all the landless poor in the rural areas. Benami lands and surplus lands will be taken over and utilised for the implementation of this scheme. Proper layouts with necessary facilities will be drawn up for development of these lands.

The Government has also started the implementation of a new scheme to construct one lakh houses in rural areas within a five year period. Under this scheme, loans for house construction will be given to the villagers through Co-operative House Building Societies, each covering a revenue division. A subsidy not exceeding Rs.600 will be given to the poor harijans whose annual income is not more than Rs.4,200. It is the policy of this Government to have habitations in which people of various castes will live together. In pursuance of this policy, subsidy will be given to poor persons of other castes also who opt to live in predominantly harijan habitations under this scheme, houses will be built utilising the locally available building materials, enabling construction with economy. The borrowers will be allowed to remit their share of 20 percent of the cost of the house, in cash or by way of labour.

To help lakhs of people, who suffer due to unemployment, this Government has decided to launch an Employment Guarantee Scheme in rural areas, from the coming year, with Panchayat Union as the unit. I am sure Members would be happy to welcome this scheme, which will activate the rural areas:

The Government has decided to set up a Directorate of Sericulture so as to concentrate on the development of silk industry which creates job opportunities in rural areas. During this year the new area brought under mulberry was 4,000 acres. Steps are being taken to raise mulberry in 8,000 acres more in the next year. Within six months of their inception, the 8 District Industries Centres have rendered assistance enabling more than 900 new small scale industries to go into actual production. About 11,000 persons have secured job opportunities in these units. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation has opened three new branches at Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore and Dharmapuri to facilitate extension of credit facilities to small borrowers. An independent rural industries wing is being organised under

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the Khadi and Village Industries Board in order to encourage setting up of rural industries and to pay special attention to the marketing of their products.

A project for setting up a modern salt factory covering an extent of 6,000 acres in Vedaranyam region has been recently approved by the Government. The Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited, set up recently, has started mining work in various places and is engaged in exporting black granite. In order to scientifically mine magnesite, a rare mineral in this country, Tamil Nadu Magnesite Limited, a new company in public sector has been set up. It has started its activities a few days ago. A joint sector project is also being established to utilise the mined material. The Government is also examining a proposal in consultation with Government of India for establishment of a dry dock which can undertake repairs for ocean going vessels both of Indian and foreign flags.

In a situation where the availability of jobs in the Government are few and persons seeking Government employment are many, the Government wants to give preference in giving jobs to the off-springs of poor and illiterate parents. Government will implement this policy without detriment to the existing special concessions for the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. With this emphasis, I hope that the new generation of youngsters whose forefathers had not enjoyed such job opportunities for years will start their careers with confidence and courage.

It is the policy of this Government to widely disperse the headquarters of various Directorates and the Government corporations, not allowing all of them to be quarters of various Directorates crowded in Madras City. Based on this policy, the Tamil Nadu Harijan Housing and Development Corporation had its head quarters shifted to Villupuram. The office of the Registrar of Co-operative societies (Housing) has been shifted to Tiruchira-

ppalli. The proposed Sericulture Directorate will function with Salem as its headquarters. Government will take further steps in this direction.

The Government announced its decision, during the Periyar Centenary Celebrations, on the bifurcation of Coimbatore district and creation of a new district with Erode as its headquarters. A Special Officer will be appointed soon to take necessary steps for the formation of the new district and the district will start functioning soon.

In the context of the growing economy, persons trained in management techniques are required by the Government and enterprises both under public and private sectors. Towards meeting this growing demand, Government has decided to set up a new institute to be called the Madras Institute of Management with the participation of the Government, Government institutions and the general public. I hope that the public and the Government of India will readily come forward to help in the establishment and development of this institute. As a first step this Institute will begin to function soon for training Government Officers and public sector employees.

A large number of persons from Tamil Nadu are doing excellent work in various foreign countries. During the recent visit of the Chief Minister abroad, he was immensely pleased to know how keen they are to render their services for the development of their motherland. I am happy to announce that the Government of Tamil Nadu is drawing up detailed schemes to utilise, during their visits to Tamil Nadu, the talents of these persons, who are in touch with latest scientific advancements.

This Government, with its strong faith in the policy of prohibition, has promulgated recently an Ordinance to intensify the implementation of this policy. This Ordinance stipulates that items like varnish must be manufactured only by public sector undertakings;

it also specifies life imprisonment for persons who are responsible for deaths due to consumption of illicit liquor. Minimum jail terms have been prescribed for various prohibition offences. Further, it provides for removal of persons who are habitually committing such serious offences, from specific areas. To a certain extent, the ordinance, had the desired effect.

I want to refer here to the steps being taken by the Government for preservation and development of Tamil language, art and culture. The Government has recently implemented the Tamil script reform advocated by Periyar E.V.R. and other Tamil scholars. The Government will try extend its adoption, taking into account the views of scholars. A Tamil Shorthand Dictionary will be published, for the first time, by the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society. The Government has sanctioned grants to the International Association of Dravidian Linguistics at Trivandrum for construction of buildings and for continuing its activities. Taking energetic preliminary steps for the forthcoming World Tamil Conference at Madurai, the Government has sanctioned a grant of Rs.50,000 as first instalment. I am sure everyone will acclaim the Government's recent action in honouring eight distinguished artists by grant of awards and monthly payments.

Time has come when leaders of all political parties in Tamil Nadu sit together, deliberate dispassionately and create situation where in the atmosphere of peace in the State does not get vitiated by political predilections or difference due to religion, caste or language. I earnestly request you, as representative of the people, to create the proper climate. I have no doubt in my mind that your efforts will make Tamil Nadu the true repository of democratic spirit and traditions; that your deliberations will have the aim of ensuring the well-being of the people and of enriching their lives, bringing happiness and prosperity to every family.



ren's Film Society was, therefore, established in May 1955 under the Society's Registration Act of 1860 to produce and distribute special films for children.

It was hoped that since the Society's films, which were meant for children, had no profit motive, cooperation from the public would be spontaneous and in time, the movement would catch up momentum and every one interested in the welfare of the children would contribute and do his best in the furtherance of the cause of the Children's Film Movement.

The State Governments were approached to become its members and a number of states and Unions Administrations joined the Society as its affiliate members.

A Film Enquiry Committee, set up by the Government of India, had recommended production of special films for the recreation and education of children. The Committee had also observed that production of special films for children may not be an economic proposition for private producers. The Child-

Efforts were made to create an atmosphere for proper appreciation of the films. Film Libraries, film clubs and audience research centres were set up and symposia/seminars were held. A number of special children's films were produced by private producers also and gradually the need of special films for children came to be accepted.

CHILDREN'S FILM - A FESTIVAL IN MADRAS

'Child is the father of man'. This is not an over statement. Human history and its progress have made a clean breast of the fact that child is seed for better social order and the foundation that the elders lay is necessary for the development of better citizens of the world. Character building takes place through various process of children's education. Film, as we know, is a powerful medium that informs, inspires, instruct, educates and enlightens man. It is more so in the case of children speaking of the vitality of cinema. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru whose love for children is known to all stated "The cinema, let us remember, is one of the biggest influences in modern world. Realising the constructive role that film medium plays in better citizens of India, the children's film society a special organisation designed in this direction has come

into the field for the benefit of the children in our country.

Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister inaugurating the children's Film Festival, as part of the celebration of the International Year of the child at Madras appealed, to Film makers to produce films with social purpose. He said they should not be carried away solely by profit motive. He also assured the producers that Government would certainly provide all incentives should their films projecting cultural tradition and interest of the people go aground. He gave details about the steps taken by the Government of TamilNadu to encourage producers and artists in the Cinema field.

Thiru R.M. Veerappan, Minister for Information and religious Endowments was specific in his



appeal to film producers to show their mettle in making better films with commendable themes. He also said that undesirable themes should be avoided particularly during the period of International Year of the child.

Thiru V. santharam, Chairman of Children's Film Society of India addressing a press conference played a glowing tribute to Tamil Nadu Government for the assistance that they have done in organising the Childrens Film Festival and providing incentives including financial assistance for the promotion of the




activities of the children's Film Society in the State. He has an ambitious programme for producing two films in each of the 14 major languages of the country and to dub them in other languages in such endeavour are found the talents and

technical crew from the local areas. He was empathic when he said "Villians are becoming heroes of children". I want to make films mixed with fun and frolics, love and affection, and education, wards and parents should enjoy such films. A proposal to


have mobile film unit in all the taluk headquarters to reach the unreached and untouched is afoot. Four cinema theatres and Kalaivanar Arangam of Information and Public Relations Department have been selected to screen children's films.

OUR REGIONAL FILMS




India is a nation of diversity. It has fourteen major languages besides hundreds of local dialects. Customs, dress and life styles differ from one state of the Union to another.

Yet, underneath such diversity, runs, surely and steadily, an undercurrent of commonness that blends the diverse people into a single identity—Indian.



The Children's Film Society, India faces a unique challenge to reach the hearts of children, to bring them joy and strive, through the medium of entertaining films, to build into them a robust attitude to life so that, in the years to come, they become worthy citizens of a great nation.



In this context, the medium of film assumes immediate importance. Few children know languages other than their own mother tongues. If our films are to have any impact on them, they must be produced in the language of the child. Hence our

new emphasis on production of films in regional languages. Additionally, if the scenes and situations are drawn from the region itself, the effect will be even better.

That is why in the Sixth Five Year Plan (1979-84) the Children's Film Society, India, will produce at least 2 films in each of the 12 regional languages. It will also dub in each regional languages a film produced in the other 11 languages.

Cinema is meaningful if it is understood in its entirety, i. e., both in its audio and visual aspects. Hence, the Society has now been attaching greater importance to dubbing of all its films in the regional languages. Thus, a film produced in one regional language will be dubbed in Hindi and the remaining regional languages. Selection of stories for films is no less important. This is being taken care of by drawing on published books in the language concerned, wherever possible. Competent local film directors are being requested to direct the films keeping all local factors in mind.





LANGUAGE FOR ADMINISTRATION OR LANGUAGE FOR RULING.

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran had contributed an article on the language issue to the "Kalki", which had brought out a special number in 1963.

From his writings one can see that he maintains the same stand on the official language issue, which he did when he was in the opposition and which he still maintains today with the same clarity, thoughtfulness and keenness after he has taken over the reins of the Government.

One can also see that the official language issue remains static even after fifteen years since this article had been written.

(1) Official language—this has become a curious term. Is it the language, for administration or is it the language that rules. If an answer could be found for this there could be clarity and the interests of the nation could also be saved.

(2) When those in power have been elected by the people and act as the representatives of the people, it is only natural that the mother-tongue which is the language of the nation should be the official language.

(3) However, in the Indian sub-continent where there are fourteen languages and fourteen different tongues there is the necessity for the people of the fourteen different tongues to unite. Their respective national language, culture, civilization should be treated equally and they should be given the guarantee that they would be given protection of their basic rights. When the necessity arises for the Government run by the representatives of the people, to choose the official language any fair minded person in such a situation is bound to ask

himself the question, "What should be done, what has been done in such a situation in other countries?". He is bound to come to the conclusion that the steps taken by the Central Government for the forcible implementation of the language policy should be condemned and wholly altered at any cost.

(4) *What is just* :—It is accepted that it is a matter of honour for an independent self-preserving nation to have its own national language as its official language and it should be so safeguarded. Then is it not just that a country which has fourteen languages should have all the fourteen as official languages. How is it claimed as just to say that the adoption of 14 languages would lead to difficulties, is impossible, will multiply problems, and therefore only one language could be had as the official language? And that too it should be Hindi which is spoken only in Northern India and that too only a part of North India.

(5) Hindi is one of the fourteen national languages of India. If it is said that Hindi alone will be made the official language and the ruling language, thereby dominating the non-Hindi speaking people, and that is the only way to protect the nation's honour, should not the honour of the people speaking the other thirteen languages be protected.

Is it only the Hindi speaking people who have national self respect? Don't the others like Bengalis, Maharastrians, Punjabis, Tamils, Andhras, Malayalis, Kannadians and others have it?

That is why we say clearly that all the languages should be the official languages. When an action (that is, the adoption of the national official language) is to be taken to

promote the welfare of all, then, can persons serving a government afford to say that it is difficult or expensive? Such excuses can be given only by individuals. But can those who run a government afford to say so?

To-day, how much authority and expenditure is being used by the Central Government for the spread of Hindi?

(8) When efforts are being taken to safeguard the honour of the Hindispeaking people under the pretext of safeguarding the nation's honour, then, in order to bring about a state of equality guaranteed by the constitution is it not but correct and just that steps should be taken to safeguard the honour of the people speaking other languages? If it takes a long time to bring this situation about, then is it not just that the status quo should continue till then?

(9) All these years of the post independence era, when English was the official language, when, where and by whom has the national language, been sullied or taken away.

(10) If it is said that after 1965, we have enacted that Hindi should be the official language, cannot such Act be amended? Have not 14 amendments been made in a period of 13 years to reduce the fundamental rights? When the language problem is the national problem of crores of people, then how can these crores of affected people remain unsuspicious of the intents of the law-makers who refuse to bring about a suitable amendment?

(11) *Life problem* :—The language problem is not an ordinary problem. It is a life problem interwoven into—politics, economics,

society, education, honour and culture. It is not injurious to amend the act.

(12) What is the norm for an alien language? If it is defined as a language other than the mother-tongue, then how is it wrong for professors and learned men to argue that Hindi is an alien language for the non Hindi speaking people? Pointing to English as an alien language, instead of giving all 14 the status of official languages—without even giving such an assurance—if only Hindi is made the official language, then will not a situation arise when only the honour of the Hindi speaking people will be respected and such Hindi speaking people become first class citizens?

(13) What was the situation of the Britishers when English was the official language and the ruling language? To enslave the country the Britishers imposed English as the official language. Only if English was the official language, the Britishers could sit at the helm of affairs. Only if English was given a high status, the Britishers could also get a status, respect, honour etc, and therefore the Britisher imposed their mother-tongue on the people who spoke a number of tongues in this sub-continent.

In those days there arose a situation that one got status, power, and dominance only by learning English. The Englishman, why the person who knew English was regarded as a superior being. Can it be denied that a similar situation is being created for Hindi by the Hindi speaking people by making Hindi the official language.

DOES ONE BECOME A HINDHITE BY LEARNING HINDI

(14) It is said that if all the people learn Hindi, the difference will be removed. Is such a thing possible. How many know English despite, its imposition during the past 200 years. Moreover by learning English, were these people able to become Englishmen? They were only English knowing people and not Englishmen. Similarly those who learn Hindi will be known as Hindhi-knowing people and not Hindhites whose mother-tongue is Hindi.

(15) Under these circumstances, the Central Government assures us, that if Hindi is made

the official language, no harm will come to the non-Hindi speaking people and protection against such harm is promised.

(16) After enacting Hindi as the official language Hindi is used for administration. Then employment opportunities will be open only to Hindi knowing persons and it is assured that only Hindi can bring honour to the country. It is being repeatedly assured in public that protection will be given to non-Hindi speaking people and that they need not have any fears and that the welfare of the people of the sub-continent will be protected always. If the Hindi-speaking people expect the non-Hindi speaking people to believe these assurances either they must be very naive or they must be trying to cheat the non-Hindi speaking people.

(17) When properly enacted statutes according to legislation are becoming dead letters right before the very eyes of those who made them, even a fool will not believe that mere assurances and promises will protect the interests of society at large.

(18) In the circumstances the Hindi-speaking people will get all the facilities if they learn Hindi alone. Those speaking other languages, even if they learn both their mother tongue and English, would get all their rights under the law only by learning Hindi. In the circumstance, how can equal rights guaranteed by the constitution be achieved.

(19) If the Hindi-speaking people should feel that they should never learn English, it only shows how far they have succeeded in enforcing Hindi as the ruling language, how fanatic and in what hurry they are to achieve this purpose.

(20) A sub-continent where 14 national languages have been declared they insist that only one language will be the official language and that only one language will be made the official language. Because Parliament is in the hands of the Hindi-speaking majority they have passed a bill. No doubt the Central Government appeases the non-Hindi speaking people by pointing out that the new bill assures that English has also been made the official language. Those who raise their voice saying that nobody should learn English even before 1965, can now realize how they

will treat us when Hindi gets the full official status.

(21) On the one hand; those whose mother-tongue is Hindi behave fanatically, and on the other the Government at the centre is trying to impose Hindi in every sphere with great speed using its power. Such contradictory acts indulged in by a Government is to the detriment of the fundamental rights of its citizens.

Recently I had occasion to speak to a high ranking official from the South working in Delhi. He told me with great agony "that if Hindi became the official language all of us have to quit Delhi". If this should be the case of a high ranking official, I shudder to think of the plight of lakhs of non-Hindi speaking people working in the Central Government.

Then what is the situation. Could one rest content that the bill has been passed. Should we not find out ways and means to amend the bill. But will it produce sufficient results if debates are conducted in the forum of newspapers.

When we take into account the fact that the percentage of literates and those who can sign only their names and the semi literates is only about 25% what will be the percentage of people who can read newspapers (that is why campaigns in newspapers alone are—insufficient). Should not the other 75% be made to realize the true circumstance.

Unfortunately in our country those who are educated and who can discern the difference between the good and the bad and who have attained a good general knowledge are indifferent and do not have any self-confidence but feel that they cannot prevent whatever happens. There are lakhs of people like the official that I mentioned earlier, who have themselves experienced the evils of the imposition of Hindi but remain unprotesting.

These are the problems which do not end with this generation. Who will be responsible for the lives of the future generation? Will it not be the Hindi speaking people.

Should not those educated, those in employment think of their family interests and the future generation and take action in a democratic way to safeguard their constitutional rights?

TOMORROW BEGINS TODAY!

JIM BREETVELD,

Chief of Information Division, UNICEF, New Delhi

Man has walked on the moon and poked around for signs of life on Mars. He has harnessed enough nuclear energy to destroy the planet a dozen times. And he has built a jet that streaks across the Atlantic in three hours. But, despite the impressive scientific and technological progress made in the past few decades, he has been unable to rescue the vast majority (80 per cent) of the world's children, from the quagmire of poverty, hunger, disease ignorance and despair in which they have been trapped. Most of the inhabitants of the rural areas and slums of Asia, Africa and Latin America remain untouched by the marvels of our age, far beyond the reach of even the most minimal health, nutrition, education and social welfare services. Rampant population growth, usually the most rapid in countries that can afford it least, adds a tremendous strain on the limited services available.

One of UNICEF's major roles is to call attention to the urgent needs of children and to stir people to action on their behalf. "Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give" is from the preamble to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the child. This inspiring sentence sums up the philosophy of UNICEF, the sole U.N. agency devoted to the health and welfare of the world's children. (It is estimated that the total child population—aged 0-15-of the more than 100 developing countries in which UNICEF is active is about 900 million.) UNICEF's income for 1976 was less than £140 million—all voluntary contributions from governments, private organizations and individuals. That's not very much when it's spread around and it's a paltry sum when you remember that the world spends £350 Billion on armaments each year.

In the minds of many, UNICEF is still a milk-dispensing emergency organization, as it was when it was created in 1946 by the U.N. General Assembly. It was originally meant to be a temporary agency, designed to help the children in a Europe devastated by World War II. When it became apparent that children elsewhere had urgent needs, the U.N. decided to convert UNICEF into a permanent organization to assist children, through their governments, on a global scale. Today, UNICEF prefers to concentrate on long-range programmes geared to national development plans and to the promotion of permanent changes. But, because of its capacity and reputation for fund-raising, supply purchasing, storage and delivery, UNICEF is often called upon for aid whenever a country is struck by disaster—natural or manmade.

In India

UNICEF's target group in India—children six years of age and younger—totals up to 120 million. The common objectives of UNICEF and the Government of India are to lay the foundations for the proper psychological, physical and social development of these pre-school children in the most disadvantaged areas of the country—backward rural regions, tribal areas, hard-rock drought-prone zones, and city slums.

UNICEF's new strategy for "reaching the unreached"—in India and throughout the world—is to help governments establish or expand the basic services all children require if they are to grow up to lead decent, happy, healthy and productive lives. Nothing less than the performance of the men and women destined to carry out the tasks of economic and social development in India depends on the care they receive children today. Unfortunately, the majority of the builders of tomorrow are today being denied the opportunity to develop their full potential. Unless they receive the basic services they need, the country will suffer the consequences of a tragic wastage of human resources.

The basic services include :

- (a) health care (primary health care for mothers, infants and children, health education and disease control) ;
- (b) clean water supply (safe water for drinking, cooking, and bathing, to prevent the spread of diseases caused by lack of sanitation) ;
- (c) nutrition (meaning enough of the right kind of food to prevent malnutrition and to aid physical and mental growth) ;
- (d) education (elementary schooling and out-of-school learning to rescue children from illiteracy and ignorance) ;
- (e) training (to provide health workers, school teachers, social workers, nutritionists, and others needed for development tasks) ;
- (f) welfare services (day care centres, youth and women's groups, and self-help projects to improve family and community life.)

The basic services help to protect and prepare children for their future as agents of development. Tomorrow, indeed, begins today!

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CHAMPION OF DRAVIDIANS

"Down with God."
"Down with religion."
"Down with Brahmins"
"Down with Gandhi."
"Down with Congress."

These are no Naxalite slogans or Communist cries. They were called and raised by Thanthai Periyar E.V. Ramasami (1879-1973) and echoed all over the State during the century.

On September 17, 1978, the Central Government released at Erode a commemorative postal stamp to honour the Founder President of Dravida Kazhagam (Dravidian Federation), to mark his birth centenary.

Erode Venkata Naicker Ramasami, bald, bearded, and bespectacled in black *kameez* became famous as the champion of the Dravidians. He was born in a rich orthodox family. Seeds of animosity against caste distinction were sown in the tender mind of Ramasami right from his kinder garden days. Even a can of water was denied to the lowly born by the caste Hindus. He was severely rebuked at home when he preached the equality of human beings to his parents. His schooling ended at the elementary stage.

Incorrigible

The pandits, saints, super-seers, and astrologers whom the parents revered were ridiculed by the youngster. He questioned the logic and propriety of the fantasies and fables that filled the Hindu Scriptures to the chagrin of the visiting scholars. The 19th century intelligentsia could not swallow his blasphemy. He was put in chains by his God-fearing parents. But the boy was incorrigible.

To 'reform' him, his father entrusted him with the affairs of the temple of which the family were the trustees. That facilitated his in-depth study of the Brahmin influence and supremacy over the non-Brahmin populace. He was thus seized of the crux of the whole problem. It was the Brahmins who wrought havoc for the Dravidians. He began to hate the blue blood in any guise. He could not resist criticising and hurting not only the Brahmins but all those who held Brahmins in high esteem.

Simultaneously, he took keen interest in public affair. He became the Chairman of Erode Municipality in 1918. At that time, C. Rajagopalachari was his counterpart in Salem. Rajaji was Brahmin by caste. But this did not deter Ramasami from cultivating a firm friendship with him.

By 1920, EVR joined the National Congress. He resigned his Municipal chairmanship and also gave up as many as 29 honorary posts. In deference to Gandhiji's call for prohibition, he felled 500 coconut trees in his own plantation to check toddy tapping. He also picketed the liquor joints along with his family.

He held responsible posts in the State Congress Party. However, by 1925, he broke away as sequel to the refusal of permission to table a resolution demanding representation in direct proportion to the numerical strength of each community. His objective was to bring down the Brahmin monopoly and influence inside the Congress. "I shall not rest until I destroy Congress and the Brahmins," he declared.



Against Brahmin discrimination

There was yet another provocation that fanned bitter rancour against the Brahmins. In Seranmahadevi, there was a *gurukula*. EVR too was a donor. Its Brahmin inmates were fed inside the hall with special dishes, whereas the non-Brahmin pupils had to stay contented eating out, and their food was of a lower standard and his complaints to those responsible for this discrimination were ineffective. "Brahmins deserve that distinction", they insisted. EVR vociferously challenged it.

Convinced that the non-Brahmins and the Sudras were trampled upon as substandard beings in every sphere, he declared war against the Brahmins, to salvage the self-respect of the Dravidians. In 1925, he hoisted the flag of the Self-Respect Movement (Suya Maryadai Iyakkam). Thus, freedom fighter E.V. Ramasami got metamorphosed into the saviour of the downtrodden Dravidians and enemy of the Brahmin class. Through his daily *Kudi Arasu*, he launched fiery attacks on God and Brahmins. He also announced that his Movement was wholly non-political. And, till his death in 1973, he kept up this word.

"Of the Madras University Graduates in 1918, 11,921 were Brahmins, and only 3,460 were non-Brahmins. In other words, Brahmins who added to 3 per cent of the State's population had 11,921 graduates, and the rest 97 per cent who were non-Brahmins had 3,460. Is this not murderous treachery perpetrated by Brahmins?" he asked.

He was critica of the Hindu law which had moorings in the *shastras* handed down by custom and convention. The specific basis of Hindu laws however, was traceable to the *Manusmrithi* than stipulated class-wise duties.

The Scriptures state that Brahma, the God of Creation, was the author of the code of conduct, *Manusmrithi*.

It was later dictated to sage Brihu who in turn circulated it among his colleagues like Mareechi. He pointed out some of those laws to expose the vileness of the originators' minds.

Here are these dicta: "Despite performance of Brahminical rites by a Sudra, he cannot elevate himself to the status of a Brahmin, because the Sudra has no such right. However, if a Brahmin does a Sudra's job, he (Brahmin) retains his identity."

"Any object will be deemed polluted if (a) a pig smells it, (b) a fowl fans it with the wings, (c) a dog stares at it, and (d) a Sudra touches it."

"If anyone feeds a Sudra with leftovers of food cooked to perform obsequies, the giver shall be hanged upside down in hell."

"Sudras fall in seven categories: (1) cowards who desert battlefields, (2) war prisoners, (3) loyal servants of Brahmins, (4) slaves, (5) sons of prostitutes, (6) megal servants lent by others, and (7) hereditary vassals.

"To live in this world or reach heaven, or for both, a Sudra must worship a Brahmin. Mentioning him next to a Brahmin itself is an honour."

"Because Kshtariyas failed to venerate Brahmins or wear cross thread, they, too came to be equated with Sudras."

"Cast-off food, rags, chaff etc should be given by Brahmins for Sudra's sustenance."

"The tongue of a Sudra who abuses a Brahmin should be chopped off."

"A ten-inch red hot iron rod should be thrust into a Sudra's mouth if he abuses a Brahmin mentioning name and caste."



"Boiling oil should be poured into a Sudra's mouth and ears if he gives orders to a Brahmin."

"A Sudra should be exiled, and his hip burnt if he shares a seat equal to a Brahmin."

"If a Sudra hurts a Brahmin, the hands and legs of the Sudra should be amputated."

"If a Sudra wears sacred thread like a Brahmin the king should maim the Sudra."

"If a Sudra steals a Brahmin's properties, the Sudra should be lynched."

"If a Sudra performs duties of a higher caste, his properties should be confiscated, and he should be deported."

"If a Brahmin woman is molested by a non-Brahmin the assailant be killed."

"If a Sudra rapes an unguarded Brahmin girl, his penis should be cut off. If offence is committed on a protected Brahmin girl, he should be sheared into pieces and his properties seized."

"A Sudra should not be taught economics."

"The king should daily receive scholarly Brahmins and rule the State confirming to their dictates."

"Any kingdom where the scholars of Scriptures starve, that kingdom shall perish."

"Even without any aid from the king, the Brahmin is privileged to punish a Sudra."

"Brahmins are claimants to one-half of every treasure that the king unearths."

"While a condemned Sudra should suffer capital punishment by death, a Brahmin so condemned

need only shave off his head which will be deemed as capital punishment."

"Even if a Brahmin commits a grave crime, he should not be killed, but only be deported with all his belongings."

"A wife should regard the husband as god, no matter he be a vicious debaucher."

"Freedom is forbidden to women. She should be ruled by father during childhood, husband after marriage, and son in old age."

"Killing a woman or a non-Brahmin is not a sin."

"The king should impose extra taxes to meet the needs of Brahmins, if his coffers are empty; failing which he will perish with his army and chariots."

"Be he saintly, materialistic or idiotic, a Brahmin is venerable as god."

"Just as the same fire that burns a corpse glows in the yagna pit, a Brahmin, too, despite his vices, deserves reverence and worship."

Considering the foregoing dicta, it is no wonder that he waged a war against them.

In 1929 and again in 1933, EVR went abroad. In Egypt, Greece, Turkey, Russia, Germany, England, Spain, France, Portugal, and Malaysia, he delivered anti-God and anti-Brahmin sermons. Whether or not his lectures swayed the foreigners, his charisma impressed the audience.

Tough Opposition

Frequent jail sentences failed to swerve the iron-hearted Ramasami from his stand. He carried on his struggle with renewed fury each time he

left the prison. His meetings were often disturbed. Live snakes, rotten eggs, chappals, nightsoil, brickbats etc were hurled at him. He was also branded a British agent and traitor. Yet, his movement forged ahead.

In February 1929, a conference of the movement was held in Chengleput. Some of the resolutions passed then were as follows:

"No man belongs to any religion or caste on his birth."

"Religion, Vedas, Shastras, Puranas etc that prescribe caste system should be boycotted."

"Class differences like Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, and Sudra should be de-recognised."

"Untouchability should be eschewed. Tanks, walls, schools, choultries, streets, temples etc should be open to all."

"Because some self-interested people stall implementation of this, stringent laws should be framed and enforced ensuring equal rights to all."

"Since caste differences disrupt national unity and retard progress, public should be appealed to abandon all caste marks and signs."

"Girls should not be married before 16 years. Divorce laws should be simplified. Widows should be permitted to remarry. Inter-caste marriages should be encouraged and recognised. Boys and girls should be free to choose spouses."

"Marriages should be frugal and brief."

"Money should not be lavished on gods, *pujas*, and festivals. There need not be a mediator or interpreter between God and man. No expenditure should be incurred to construct more temples. Large endowments that provide funds for temples, choultries. Vedic schools etc should be diverted to educational research schools to teach handicrafts etc."

"Superstitions should be removed. Books, discourses etc. spreading superstition should be banned."

"Women should also inherit ancestral wealth. They should be provided with employment. Teaching profession should exclusively be earmarked for women."

"Untouchables should be provided with food, clothes, books etc so that they could prosecute studies. Government land should be distributed to them free of cost."

Mother Tongue

"Government should subsidise study of mother tongue and State language up to elementary standard which should be made compulsory. Higher education should not be at State Expense."

"Hotels and restaurants should refrain from exploiting casteism."

Maybe, some of the foregoing resolutions may seem trivial now, but they were radical and revolutionary 50 years ago.

EVR disapproved of the presence of a Brahmin priest to conduct a non-Brahmin marriage. He began to advocate self-respect, inter-caste and widow marriage (companionate agreements) in the presence of any popular notable (himself in most of the cases). Those weddings were advised to be held during *rahukalam*, the 90-minute period each day reckoned astrologically inauspicious. Self-respect marriages did not enjoy legality. Children born of the wedlocks were declared bastards. However, those were validated by the C.N. Annadurai Ministry in 1967, with retrospective effect.

Though EVR agitated vigorously, he was a firm believer in non-violence. Some of his over-zealous followers attacked Brahmins, cutting their tufts, and cross-threads. EVR not only condemned





those actions publicly, but also ordered his volunteers to desist from such.

He was associated with many national leaders of the pre-independence era like Gandhiji, Jinnah Ambedkar, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, J.P. etc. Once he told Gandhiji while in Bangalore that the non-Brahmins should share at least 50 per cent of the employments. Gandhiji replied, "They should get 100 per cent. But tell me how?" EVR felt then that even Gandhiji was pro-Brahmin.

Unpleasant slogans

Most of the slogans coined by EVR were seemingly unpleasant. But he justified them thus, "Mine is a surgical cure, different from the physician's treatment of a chronic disease. A painful incision is imperative to remove a malign growth, to save the patient. Former ambassadors of righteousness, if there were any, were all physicians suggesting medicines that never worked. Had they ventured surgery like me, perhaps the world would have been a better place to live now."

He exhorted the Tamilians to denounce the derogatory title Sudra. His commandments were:

- Boycott temples.
- Don't wear caste marks.
- Ignore religion-oriented festivals.
- Don't address **Pappan** (nickname for Brahmin as Brahmin.)

In 1936, Ramasami raised his voice against Hindi propagation in the South. His contentions were, however, different from the present anti-Hindi agitations. He argued, "Much of the expenditure on Hindi propaganda come from the non-Brahmins. But, 97 per cent of those who learn Hindi are Brahmins. Though 97 per cent of Tamil Nadu's population happens to be non-Brahmins, the remaining 3 per cent Brahmins constitute 97 per cent of Hindi students! Brahmins then go to other States armed with Hindi and secure jobs as well as label us idiots and fools! Besides, 97 per cent of the Hindi teachers are also Brahmins! This Hindi is fast emerging as a formidable foe of Dravidians in the not too distant future."

In 1937, he held a mammoth meeting in Kancheepuram opposing Hindi, and picketed offices. He was imprisoned for two years.

On November 13, 1938, he was conferred the title of Periyar by a Women's Conference. He was elected President of the Justice Party, while in prison.

Rural debt relief laws are in force today. But EVR fought against imprisonment of the borrowing farmers as early as 1934.

Priesthood for Dravidians

Black shirts were prescribed for all the volunteers of the movement to denote the servitude they suffered. He demanded priesthood for the Dravidians. But it was later struck down by the Supreme Court. He alleged that even the courts were monopolised by the Brahmins.

Periyar charged that all the Prime Ministers except Lal Bahadur Shastri and most of the Central Ministers were Brahmins. Naturally, the Dravidians can never dream of justice at all.

It was on August 27, 1944, that EVR re-christened Justice Party as Dravida Kazhagam, a non-political organisation to work for the upliftment of the Dravidians and deflation of Brahminic power.

"Is there a single manual labourer who is a Brahmin? We have to toil in the field to feed the fat Brahmin," EVR thundered. He exhorted the Dravidians to burn Hindu epics and break the temple idols, with particular emphasis on the elephant headed Ganesh to spite the Brahmins.

After Independence, he protested against the appointment of the North Indians as the Governors to the State. He also burnt the Constitution of India.

EVR married Maniammai on July 9, 1949 at the ripe old age of 71. Enraged by this undesirable act, many of the stalwarts of Dravida Kazhagam like Annadurai, Karunanidhi, Mathialagan etc walked out and formed Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. The dissidents issued a statement justifying

EVR's HEART TO BE PRESERVED IN MEMORIAL

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran announced in the Assembly that the heart of Thanthai Periyar E.V. Ramasamy, which was removed on his death at the CMC Hospital to be set up at Erode.

He said the Government was anxious to preserve the heart, and thanked the Doctors instrumental in preserving Thanthai Periyar Ramasamy's heart for the last five years and two months.

Along with the heart would be displayed the minutes book and the notings of the surgeon who had performed the operation.

their desertion, titled 'Tear drops'. Ever after, EVR used to sarcastically refer to them as 'tear drops'. According to EVR, the reason for the mass walk-out was not his marriage, but their desire to enter politics which his institution was opposed to.

EVR believed that Buddhism, a religion founded 2,500 years ago, reflected his thoughts. He even organised a Buddhist conference at Erode in 1954. "The Buddhist symbol of Dharma Chakra

is our National Emblem. It means that India has accepted Buddha's teachings. Hinduism, supposed to carry God's own words, could not even lend a symbol."

The hotel signboards bearing the word 'Brahmin' in the names attracted his attention. He went round effacing the word with coal tar. One hotel in Madras resisted for nine months. Over 1,000 volunteers courted arrest. Finally, EVR won.

EVR : SOME THOUGHTS

Here are some of EVR's maxims which are inscribed on the marble tablets placed on the walls of his tomb:

"My mission is to transform the Dravidian society, salvage its self-respect and rationalise it".

"Whether or not I possess the requisite attributes, I have undertaken that service because none others had ventured".

"Since I have no obsession or inhibition or attachments, and since I have policies and programmes dictated by conscience on rationalistic background, I have the conviction that I am amply qualified to serve my society."

Fighting Superstitions:

"Superstition could be obliterated only through drastic and destructive exercises. Unremitting determination, unfailing conviction, and unrelenting grit to face death only can lead us to the goal".

"Only those who defy that imaginary God are fit to render true social services".

"Reformists, through thousands of years past, failed in their mission due to their tolerance, licence, and diplomacy".

"If you want to guard your prestige and stay energetic, compete with others in your efforts to serve the society".

"The rationalist's duty and responsibility is to think and labour for universal love beyond the barriers of nation, language, God, religion and cast.

"Man should believe only those aspects that appeal to any one of his five senses or three phases of consciousness".

"Did God manifest on its own? If so, why did it not appear before all? And, why did it appear variedly and controversially to the alleged few?"

"If one who evinces interest to serve people, but concurrently thinks of his personal prestige too, it betrays his scheme to boost his personal status through the service".

"Piety is a personal matter. Discipline is social norm. Nothing suffers if piety is absent. But everything crumples if discipline is wanting".

"The expression 'manlines' is an anachronism, degrading women. Unless she agitates to destroy the cult of 'manlines'-she can never liberate herself"

"Women who stay chaste for fear of sin and hell, or on threat from guardian, or on self-respect or to escape chastisement all belong to the same creed".

"If caste should vanish, its roots like God, religion, epics, Puranas, and the law should be axed first".

"Your very response to the title Sudra explains your despondancy. Be ashamed of that. Be a martyr of a war against this humanilityion thanlive as a Sudra".

"Human suffering stem from social inequalities. All disparities should be done away with, and an equitable social pattern should be moulded, based on humane code".

"All are endowed with commonsense. Yet some are forbidden from researching or independent thinking or debating on God, religion, epics, Purana dharma, saints, sages, or ancestors, but are compelled to believe what is handed down. Thus man had to grope in superstition for ever".

Workers, not slaves:

"Capitalist and labour demarcation should be dispensed with. Workers should be partners ; never wage-earning slaves".

"Instead of blindly believing a concept or theory or conventoin, you should apply commonsense and evaluate it".

"Man's great asset is his discerning commonsense. Anything that defies logic should be spurned

"God, religion, caste, duties are imposed on society by aliens. These are nither natural revelations nor sane possibilities".

Commonsense is an in-born commandment that requires man to enforce self-discipline, and extend possible help to fellow beings".

"A rationalist's standatrd of living should be at par with that of the common man".

An independent Dravidian State was his next demand. In order to focus attention on it, he burnt the map of India minus Tamil Nadu. In January 1971, he led a mammoth procession in Salem carrying cut-outs of Hindu gods in indecent, vulgar, and dishonourable poses, but strictly adhering to the episodes mentioned in the Scriptures. This was resented to by the devout Hindus. Petitions against him were filed. The journals all over India carried coloured pictures of the cut-outs. A resolution was also passed in the meeting that ensued.

In 1971, the DMK Ministry headed by Karunanidhi suspended prohibition in deference to his wishes. He himself had picketed toddy shops.

EVR addressed his last public meeting at Thiagaraja Nagar, Madras on December 19, 1973. Next day, he developed abdominal pain and was admitted to the CMC Hospital, Vellore. He died on December 24, 1973 morning. His mortal remains were interred at Periyar Thidal, Madras.

Marriage and chastity

The Periyar Self-Respect Propaganda Institute, of which the orator and advocate, K. Veeramani is the life secretary, manages the numerous organisations founded by EVR, most of them charitable. Among dozens of those, the unique one is Periyar Manammai Children Care Centre in Tiruchirappalli that shelters even orphaned new-born babies. The Institution has donated large sums to run college and hospitals.

The maximum number of statues erected in Tamil Nadu, perhaps second only to these for C.N. Annadurai, are for Periyar. The Tamil Nadu Government have named a transport corporation after him. He is fondly referred to as 'Thanthai' (father) and 'Ayyah'.

Though he condemned the journals, he himself ran many—**Kudi Arasu Puratchi**, **Pagutharivu**, **Viduthalai** and **Unmai** in Tamil, and **Revolt**, and **Justice** and **The Modern Rationalist**, in English.

On marriage and chastity, Periyar said, "Is chastity applied for both sexes as sexual purity? While females are regidly restrained, men are licentious! Polygamy is approved, but not polyandry. Our conception of marriage is irrational, outmoded, and anachronic. The **thali** or **mangalsutra** of a woman is nothing short of her passport to slavery. If you say it is to distinguish a married woman, why not clamp similar label on men, too?

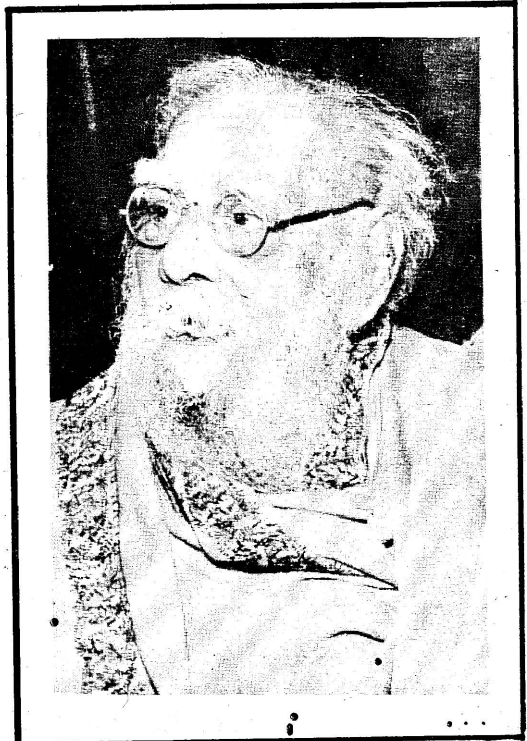
"Religions were invented by people who lived thousands of years ago to suit the situation that prevailed then. We are in a scientific era where superstitions have no place. In our supersonic century, anything that obstructs our progress should be considered obsolete, just as we consigned chariots to the museums in the wake of automobiles."

"It is a pity that Brahmins employ radio and television to spread superstition. Day in and day out, these gadgets sing of gods. They bring temples



to our drawing rooms! Brahmins thus ensure that Surdas remain eternally under their thumb."

"Banish cinemas to preserve morality and culture. Expel lawyers and guard truth and justice. Ban journals to weed out rogues and rowdies. **Mode of election should be revised to ensure honest and right rule.** Restrictions on licences and permit should go to curb black market and corruption. Labour unions should be dissolved, and workers should share profits, to restore harmony, hard work, and responsibility among them. If you aim at social justice, Brahmin judges should be barred in High Courts." So goes EVR's diagnosis and treatment for national ills.



The non-political Dravida Kazhagam is the parent of the political parties, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. All of them share most of his ideologies perhaps in varying degrees of intensity. All the three have almost identical flags, black and red combination in different designs and proportions, which also clinch their similarity in character.

Though EVR's every drop of blood craved for avenging the tyranny of the blue blood, he had a host of Brahmin friends.

Before marrying Maniammai, he consulted his arch enemy, Rajaji. When Rajaji died, tears rolled down Periyar's cheeks.

In private life, he was soft-spoken, witty, and most courteous. The lion in him roared only when his ideologies were criticised. He discouraged the habit of prostration before him by his followers. While Annadurai's tomb at Marina Beach draws camphorburning crowds daily, the DK followers refuse EVR to be canonised thus, in consonance with his teachings. He used to say that he was a normal mortal just like others, striving to educate

the masses who had been carrying the pillory of suffering through generations past.

In administration, EVR was authoritative, and never asked for or accepted suggestions. "Democracy is in politics. I want the Self-Respect Movement to progress as I dictate. Anyone who differs is personal non grata in my camp." He never yielded to pressure or compromised with his own policies. He was the founder President of Dravida Kazhagam. He was succeeded by his wife, Maniammai on her death on March 16, 1978, the office fell vacant, never to be filled up again.

EVR's efforts through five decades did create a deep dent in the social and communal bulwark of Tamil Nad . Though stamped 'crude', 'violent', 'hurtful', 'defaming', 'blasphemous' etc, many young rationalists even among the Brahmins approve of his actions. In the near future caste and class barriers are sure to get blasted. Undoubtedly, EVR's name will go down in the history of India, as a crusader who hammered home the truth that the Sudras and the downtrodden can no longer be denied their right to equality with other sections of our society.

Courtesy : CARAVAN

ISLAND NEAR RAMESWARAM TO BE TOURIST SPOT

Kurusadai, a small island near Rameswaram, is to be developed as a tourist spot by the State Government, the Chairman of the State Tourism Development Corporation, Thiru. S. R. Radha, said.

When Rameswaram was linked by road, tourists would no longer consider it a tourist attraction. That was why the Government wanted to develop Kurusadai and efforts were being made to provide cottages and other facilities, Thiru. Radha said, inaugurating a seminar on "Development of tourism in Tamil Nadu" organised by the Department of Adult and Continuing Education, Madras University.

AIR STATION AT MADURAI

The Centre has agreed to consider the Tamil Nadu Government's request to increase the power of the radio stations at Coimbatore and Tirunelveli. There is no proposal before Tamil Nadu Government to urge the Centre to instal an AIR transmitter in Madurai for Vividh Bharathi.

The State Government's request to set up an AIR station at Madurai during the Fifth Plan was turned down by the Centre which had, however, suggested that the request might be renewed for the Sixth Plan. The State Government had accordingly made representations to the Centre in December, and the Union Information Minister has also endorsed the suggestion at the last meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on Information and Broadcasting. The State Government would write to the Centre pressing for the inclusion of this proposal in the first year of the Sixth Plan.

Promotion of NATIONAL LANGUAGE in Education

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Promotion of a national language means first the choice of one local people's mother tongue as a symbol for an entire community living in a defined geographical area under one independent or soon to be independent government and the promise that it will be a viable instrument to reach desirable values such as respectable jobs, power, and prestige. Second, it means taking the necessary steps to insure that the language is known by all members of the nation and that its spoken and written forms can serve the technical, administrative and educational purposes for which it is designed.

Success therefore depends in large part on a constant interaction between the policy makers (or political leaders and the language planners (or the technicians) all of whom are committed to the forging of a new identity for the nation and the transformation of the society. Like a general development programme, a language plan is a co-ordinated system of such policy decisions as have emerged by a long sequence of discrete and preliminary political decisions' as Myrdal points out. Failure in this complicated development process would mean relegation of the chosen language to the status of a 'national' symbol appearing as the country's motto and wheeled out like an aged aunt for a few words on special occasions. Success would mean that the chosen language would serve all functions within the nation and be a truly national that is symbol of the community and functional official and state tongue.

The internal origin of the national language question is more important in the sense the choice of a language can shape a development of a country. It seems that most countries in the world are presently or at least potentially bilingual or multi-lingual. Thus the choice of which language is to replace the foreign tongue is ultimately more important than the replacement of the foreign tongue itself. In this process of choosing one ethnic group may wish to define the nation exclusively with its own language and its culture in order to exclude or to dominate other ethnic group which, for their part would be transformed thereby into 'minorities'.

Another alternative, chosen to avoid this conflict has been the choice of a neutral local language as national. It is neutral in the sense that it would not excite fears of domination or exclusion. Thus, Indonesia chose Malay, spoken by a modest minority rather than Javanese the language of the largest single group in the country; Italy accepted Tuscan, the language of the poets rather than Roman the language of power as its national standard. Israel revived Hebrew rather than attempt to use German or Yiddish of the dominant group of the Eastern European origin. One unfortunate problem in this connection, is that a neutral language may also have no prestige. One solution to all these ethnic and social class tensions is to opt for more than one national language. Such a choice involved a change in the perception of what a

nation is or what the process of nation building is. Acceptance of two or more national languages means that one is opting for political integration as Das Gupta describes it India is one of the countries which has endeavoured to presume bilingual and multilingual identities. The most important area in the use of national languages is without doubt the area of education. Haugen put it best when he said that the choice of mother tongue for national identity is only fully operative when it is successfully used in universal literacy Education, is indeed a special area because people around the world are now almost completely convinced that education is the gate-way to mobility. International organisations have played a key role in helping to develop and plan for national languages in education. Unesco conferences have provided a forum for discussion of problem; the Ford foundation has sponsored several mother tongue experiments and several scholarly societies have played a key role in encouraging the development of local languages.

Problem of Higher Education

Post Secondary school education poses, however, some very complex problems for decision makers and planners. On the one hand the human products of higher education or the scientific and technological innovators in these society. They must be able to communicate with the rest of the world without any difficulty. On the other hand, the University graduates should not be isolated from the

in extensive translation which rises questions regarding terminology, spelling and syntax (Rubin, 1972).

The Indian situation presents a peculiar linguistic problem which is follows : English is used in higher education. The evaluation shows that the standard of English is comparatively poor. (Report on the Education System and Reform in India 1965). It is found that at the under-graduate level students are able to comprehend and also present very well through the regional languages, so, whenever planning is done, it is always better to take into account the ability of the students in the languages used as media of instruction. In order to replace English the national regional languages have to be standardised and modernised in such a way that they should function efficiently in carrying out the needs of higher education.

Except for the standardised of technical and scientific terminology, decisions about curriculum and text books may call forth demands for standard materials to teach a standard spelling, standard gives no attempts has been made to introduce the medium of Instruction in the national/regional languages concerned. There are certain Governmental organizations like the Department of Technical Education, Directorate of Medical Science and so on which could take up the task of the preparation of text books, translation of standard works from English and other languages, and implement the programme in two or three stages. Certain academies like Tamil Nadu Science Academy, Indian National Science Academy that could co-operate in the language planning programme. :

Language planning in the Tamil situation:

Tamil, one of the four literacy south Dravidian languages is of diglossic nature. This is the official language of Tamil Nadu Government. Though English is continued to be used in some of the domains like Law, Finance, Education etc., Tamil and English are the two languages used as the media of Instruction in higher education of the state. English was the sole medium until 1960 in Colleges and Universities. The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced Tamil Medium at the under-graduate level during sixties. At the

beginning students showed less preference (20%) for Tamil Medium. This is purely from the point of view of social motivation and prestige. Even one can say that some of the socio. linguistic attitude of the people, especially illiterates and elites also partly responsible for the lesser amount of preference shown for Tamil Medium. The elites even now consider that getting education through English as socially prestigious. This is the same case with the so called illiterates also. Economically, one gets through English medium, he or she much more employment opportunities than the one who gets his/her education through Tamil Medium.

Some of the organisations set-up the Government were hampered by the Tamil puristic movement which dominated the socio-cultural domain of the Tamil society until the sixties. However, the influence of such organisations slowly declined and now some work has been done with reference to language planning, in Tamil especially the two major aspects namely standardization and modernisation. In the Tamil situation the aspects of standardization which might help the implementation of policies are as follows :

1. : Standardisation of scientific and technical terminologies.
2. : Standardisation of lexicon.
3. : Standardisation of script.
4. : Standardisation of Teaching materials.

As Rubin suggests in her paper on Language Standardisation, it would be better if one decides the type and level of language to be used in text book writing as well as in the preparation of other teaching materials. One can find certain works on some of the aspects of standardisation, simplification and modernisation. But however, these works have not been taken up by the Planning bodies or Organisations set up by the Govt. in a more systemic way.

Standardisation of script is process of systematisation of allographs by this process certain changes could be made in the existing norms to make the system simple and easy for adaptation in writing as well as in printing and typing. In order to have uniformity and simplicity we need to do standardisation of scripts. So far no attempt has

been made by the Planning Bodies tackle the problem though some of the private organisations and individuals are propagating certain process for the above said use. In order to make the media of instruction self sufficient and efficient standardisation of necessary scientific and technical terminologies has to be done as early as possible with its penetration into the academic domain it has become obligatory on the part of the academicians to make technical terminologies in Tamil. Though the Government has started a committee to go into these works, so far it has not fulfilled the needs of the higher education. Standardisation of lexical wages is also a necessity in order to narrow down some of existing variations in use. One may possibly expect that this kind of standardisation in a diglossic situations like the Tamil case make language case more efficient, more common and more easy to adopt in higher education, as explained by Roy.

Sciolinguistic surveys may help the process of standardisation in the following ways: to enrich the vocabulary of the language and to modernise the lexicon and grammar this implies co-operation among researchers, planners, policy makers and educationists. Hence in the field of higher education certain improvements, reinforcements and changes must be made from the point of view of modern language planning. Implementation must be based on those policies, sociolinguistic contexts, attitudes of the people in the choice of language or languages as media of Instruction. Many of the technical terminologies used in the modern Indian languages need further standardisation and modernisation because the existing one are found to be either inefficient or inadequate in use. Also, steps should be taken to publish as many text books, as many translations as possible in the national languages in such a way that they could easily replace English works, easily, efficiently and effectively.

So to carryout the above mentioned planning and implementation to make higher education through Indian languages a success there should be certain stable language policies, untiring effort in the process of implementation, and above all a concentrated determination on the part of all those who are concerned in the promotion of national languages from the point of view of national identity and unity.

population of their country, and to the status of higher education in a foreign tongue might encourage this tendency. In a practical sense too, if higher education is not eventually in the national language the development of this language in other remains will be impeded. There are people who advocate about the process of nationalisation of higher education. But how to go about this process is a great problem: Should texts be translated? Should specialists be sent abroad for training and then return to write the texts? How gradual should be process be humanities in the national language and only latter the sciences? What special training for current teachers who may be even illiterate in the national language and only latter the sciences? What special training for current teachers who may be even illiterate in the national language although highly skilled in the foreign tongue? and so forth. Further there should be close co-ordination among the primary, secondary and higher education. The implications for the use of local languages have to be made clear. Steps should be taken to introduce local languages as media of Instructions in specialised fields. When we go into the questions with reference

in India we find it difficult to answer to these questions. It becomes necessary for the educators, Government authorities and others to evolve certain policies which could be planned and implemented without any difficulty whatsoever in the multilingual situation.

It is proposed here the following two stages through which the national languages of India can be made successful media of Instruction in higher education, if proper planning and coordination is possible, as explained earlier. In stage 1, Planning is made with reference to the following:

1. Standardisation and modernisation of Hindi and other regional language
2. Graphisation (Script reform),
3. Preparation of the following with the help of experts from linguistics, literature, political science, planning lexicography, education, (a) Preparation of standard teaching material text books, (b) Preparation of modern lexicons, glossaries and (c) Translations. :

Stage-2:

Implementation of the materials prepared (a) in the under-graduate level, (b) in the post-graduate level (c) in higher learning-research.

2. Evaluation and correction (a) Evaluation by co-ordinated bodies (b) Necessary corrections to be made on the recommendations of the co-ordination committees.

It is worth mentioning here the type of standardisation process proposed by Joan Rubin because it could be followed in developing nations. She writes: In a developing nation, after agreement is reached as to what the national official languages will be, attention is often given to developing some aspect of that language, often in relation to practical problems which arise. In the educational realm, decisions about curriculum and text books may call for demands for standard materials to teach a standard spelling, standard grammar, standard terms. Text-book writers may take into consideration the level and type of language they should be using in order to sell their books or get them accepted by the Ministry of Education. Text books often result

PRESIDENT'S DIG AT HINDI FANATICS

President N. Sanjiva Reddy took a Delhi audience by surprise today when he spoke in Telugu - a language they did not understand. The President's speech was apparently prompted by the Hindi speeches made earlier.

At the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the Motilal Nehru College, after principal J.D. Khatri and Delhi's Chief executive Councillor K.N. Sahani spoke in chaste Hindi, the President promptly began his address in Telugu, his mother-tongue.

Thiru Reddy said that the started his speech in Telugu since it was his mother-tongue. "There is nothing wrong to love one's mother-tongue", he added.

After about five minutes, he said in English, "Now I will speak in a language that you and I understand".

Referring to his recent tour of North-Eastern States, Thiru

Reddy said it is very difficult for the people in Delhi to understand the problems of the people of those areas.

He did not feel bad when black flags were shown at him in Kizoram in protest against the Government's decision to make one regional language compulsory in Union Public Service Commission examinations.

The languages of these people are not included in the eighth schedule of the constitution and so they face difficulty in competing with candidates whose languages have been recognised as regional languages.

Thiru Reddy said he would discuss this issue with the Prime Minister and the Government.

The President said he was not one of those fanatics who are anti-this or anti-that. But he was certainly against narrow-mindedness in respect of languages. "What

is the use if I ignore the high-flown Hindi and go on speaking in Telugu", he said and pleaded for a tolerant attitude towards different languages.

Thiru Reddy repeatedly reminded they younger generations of the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru who, he said, had shown the greatness of India.

"I wish I could understand a few words of the speech by the principal so that I could give my compliments to you", he said in a voice choked with emotion.

Thiru Reddy said, "I am saying all this out of agony. I am afraid we are going step by step towards narrow-minded policies".

Then he said in Hindi: "If my country prospers only by Hindi, I will give up all languages and learn Hindi".

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DROUGHT PRONE AREA AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN DHARMAPURI DISTRICT

Dharmapuri is one among the two districts covered under Drought Prone Areas Programme in Tamil Nadu State. It covers the whole district consisting of sixteen Blocks. This special programme is in operation since 1970. It was also called Rural Works Programme during the Fourth Plan. An outlay of Rs.174.17 lakhs was spent on schemes like Road forming, Soil Conservation, Afforestation, etc., in this period.

For the Fifth Five year Plan, it was agreed to provide Rs. 600/- lakhs for various schemes. However, this target has been enhanced to Rs.715 lakhs, mostly due to inclusion of certain new components like Dairy Development and Schemes for the Weaker Section.

During the last four years of the Fifth Plan, a sum of Rs. 458.26 lakhs was spent on the various schemes as detailed:

Sector	74—75	75—76	76—77	77—78	78—79	
	(Rs. in lakhs)					Target.
1. Agriculture	.. 14.43	14.48	10.06	23.08	39.65	
2. Horticulure	.. ..	..	0.79	1.68	19.59	
3. Horticulture	.. ..	..	0.77	8.76	9.75	
4. Irrigation	.. 47.66	78.03	64.22	92.43	91.04	
5. Animal Husbandry	.. ..	9.95	..	11.38	14.18	
6. Dairy Development	.. ..	..	..	16.27	32.87	
7. Forestry	.. 3.18	5.83	11.03	30.73	32.51	
8. Credit Management and Uplifting Weaker Section	.. ..	..	5.00	12.84	9.70	
9. Others	.. 0.25	0.30	0.79	2.12	7.49	

For the current year 1978-79, the Government have given financial sanction for an outlay of Rs.256.78 lakhs (Rs.219.95 lakhs new allotment + Rs. 36.83 lakhs spill-over) Apart from this, a sum of Rs. 155 lakhs will be raised on institutional credit.

Agriculture

Under Agriculture, Soil Conservation and Dry Land Development Potato Development, Tapiaco Development and Supply of Agricultural Implements are the major activities. A Farmer's Training Centre has also been established to educate the farmers in the adoption of modern agricultural practices.

Sriculture

Sriculture development envisages cultivation of mulberry on a large scale, both under rainfed and irrigated conditions in the district. The rainfed programme however is confined to Hosur and Denkanikotta taluks as a pilot measure. The irrigated mulberry cultivation into being popularised throughout the district. The mulberry growers are provided help towards raising mulberry, construction of rearing shed, purchase of rearing appliances, etc. A central sector programme to raise the mulberry area in the district from 40000 acres to 120000 acres in the next five years is also under implementation. Both DPAP and the central sector schemes have been devotiled and are being implemented by the Industries Department. A scheme to train High School pupils in mulberry cultivation and in the art of silk worm rearing is also implemented in 16 selected High Schools in the district.

Horticulture

Horticulture programme contains development of grapevine, mango coconut, vegetables, etc. An extent of 67 hectares under grapevines, 156 hectares under mango, has been covered during the last two years. Vegetable cultivation was taken up in 330 acres while coconut seedling covered 638 Ha.

Irrigation

The physical target for the Fifth Plan is to complete 197 tank

works. In the 1st 4 years 185 works have been completed for a financial expenditure of Rs.282.94 lakhs. These 185 tanks will bring 1500 hectares under new irrigation. Another popular scheme implemented to help increase recharge of ground water in the district is construction of percolation ponds. During the last two years 101 percolation ponds have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 25.53 lakhs. A rig has also been purchased at a cost of Rs.13 lakhs to sink deep test bores for assessing ground water potential in the district. Subsidy to individual farmers was also given to 468 number of small and marginal farmers, either to put up new irrigation well or deepening of old wells for an outlay of Rs.5.63 lakhs. Another important aspect under the irrigation component digging of community wells. Each community well on an average costs about Rs.60,000 and helps 10 farmers to irrigate 10 to 15 acres. So far 11 such works have been completed and 20 more are in progress.

Medium Irrigation Farmer

Besides the various Minor Irrigation works a Medium irrigation project in Uthangarai taluk is also under construction for an outlay of Rs.248 lakhs which will help irrigate 4000 acres of lands. The project is expected to confer benefit from 1979. So far a sum of Rs.92.93 lakhs has been spent.

Animal Husbandry

In order to improve quality stock of the milch animals with the weaker section a scheme to rear cross breed calves, concentrated feed at 50% and 66 2/3 subsidy is provided to the small and marginal farmers respectively. So far 595 calves have been provided with such feed subsidy for an outlay of Rs.5.44 lakhs.

Most important part of the Animal Husbandry activity is sheep rearing. This sheep rearing programme is linked with the pasture development programme of the Forest Department. The Forest Department develop pasture areas where the Animal Husbandry Department organise sheep co-operatives with members belonging to the weaker sections. The Forest Department has so far developed 1,183 hectares of pasture for an outlay of Rs.13.42 lakhs. The number of sheep co-

operative Farmers formed is 4 and each society consist of 50 units (one unit: 20 ewes Rem) Apart from this 336 sheep units have also been supplied to farmers who have adequate grazing facilities. Dharmapuri district is considered to be ideal for sheep rearing.

Dairy Development

Dharmapuri District is considered to be a better district for dairy activity, because of its climatic and locational factor. However, this activity was not organised well until 1974. Since November, 1974, the Tamil Nadu Dairy Development Corporation developed this activity on a modest scale and were able to establish 78 Milk Producers Co-operative Society. During 1977-78 the DPAP stepped in and helped to add up 75 more societies. In order to accelerate this programme further, IRDP funds was also provided. As on date 195 societies supply 23,000 litres of milk per day. Two chilling plants with a capacity to handle 40,000 litres of milk each; one at Dharmapuri and other at Krishnagiri are being established, during 77-78 both under DPAP & IRDP the total amount of money invested in Dairy Development was Rs.65.19 lakhs. Proposals for establishment of a Powder plant for an outlay of Rs.1.75 crores have also been sent to Government of India for sanction. By end of 78-79 there will be 250 societies in this district which means that about 45,000 households will be getting regular milk money in the district.

Forest

The percentage of forests in this district is more (33%) compared to any other district in Tamilnadu. Considering there is vast potential to increase this percentage under DPAP, during the last 4 years an extent of 3,170 hectares for an outlay of Rs.38.02 lakhs have been afforested.

A special scheme for the economic upliftment of palmyrah tappers is also under implementation. During 77-78, 1500 tappers were provided with loan facilities with the usual subsidy component for payment towards tree rent and purchase of equipments. Five training - cum - production centres have also been organised to train the tappers in manufacturing palm fibre products.

Integrated Rural Development Programme:

The Government of India identified Dharmapuri as one among the 20 districts in the country for implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme from 1977-78. An allotment of Rs.69.665 lakhs was made for an action programme to be implemented in three months, that is by end of June '78. This target however has been extended upto 31.12.78. The entire fund was placed at the disposal of Dharmapuri District Development Corporation limited by the Central Government for distribution to the different implementing agencies. As on date, a sum of Rs.63.16 lakhs has been spent leaving a balance of only Rs.6.00 lakhs.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (NEW)

Due to change in Government policy, the original concept of Inte-

grated Rural Development Programme was changed. At present the Integrated Rural Development Programme would cover only 10 Blocks as against 16 Blocks envisaged under the IRDP. The other six blocks will also be included from the next year. Each Block will get an allotment of Rs.5.00 lakhs. This sum will be spent towards provision of subsidy. Loans to the tune of Rs. 150 lakhs will also be raised from the various lending institutions. The magnitude of Government outlay under Drought Prone Area Programme and Integrated Rural Development programme for the year 1978-79 would therefore be of the order of Rs. 302.49 lakhs and a loan component of Rs.305 lakhs. Thus, a total investment of Rs.607.49 lakhs will be made in this district during the current year.

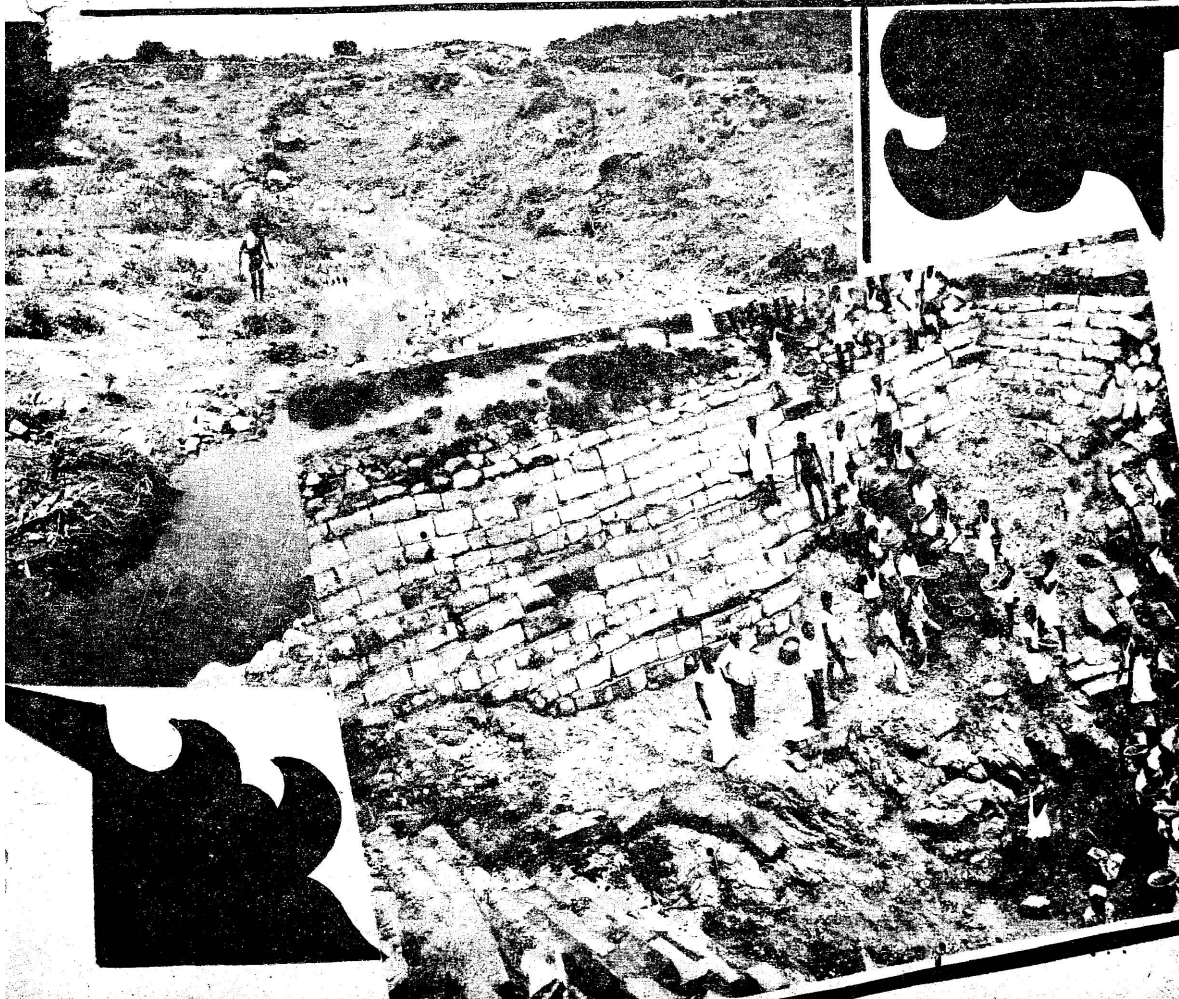
Strategy Adopted

The Drought Prone Areas Programme is mainly an area develop-

ment programme aiming at creation of infrastructural facilities so as to mitigate the sufferings of the people from the recurring droughts. The beneficiary orientation is only complementary aspect of the programme. The IRDP, however will concentrate on schemes benefiting individual beneficiaries.

Co-ordination

The Dharmapuri District Development Corporation Limited is the agency for implementation of DPAP AND IRDP. The corporation is provided with a nucleus staff of one Project Economist and a Credit Planning Officer to assist the Collector and Chairman-Managing Director the Corporation. The Corporation not only helps in the planning process but also sees that the schemes are implemented according to the norms prescribed.



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CO-OPERATIVES SERVE THE MASSES

Both at the national level and at the State level, it has been accepted that only the co-operative can play a major role in providing good quality essential commodities in efficient quantity at the very door step of the villagers. In Tamil Nadu, we have translated this objective into practice by opening one shop in each Revenue village. All villages having a population of 500 and above have been covered. This work has been entrusted to the co-operatives in nine districts while in five districts the Civil Supplies Department will open the shops. Thus, out of the 16,000 and odd Revenue villages in this State, nearly 11,000 villages will have shops run by the co-operatives.

Addressing the conference of the Tamil Co-operative Ministers, Thiru K. A. Krishnasami, said "I welcome this substantial thrust of the co-operative movement into the consumer field. I may also add that the co-operatives have risen upto the occasion and are willing to face the challenges of normal trade operations. I am convinced that the Governments both at the State and at the Central level should come forward and give substantial assistance to these consumer co-operative societies. One field in which I would recommend extending such a helping hand is in the field of tax liability. I would urge that Govt. of India would exempt all consumer co-operatives from the liability to pay Income-Tax. At present, consumer stores are entitled to exemption from the Income-Tax on their income upto a limit of Rs. 20,000/. This limit was fixed about 17 years ago and does not take into account the developments that have taken place in the field since then. Further, the explanation under Section 80(P) of the Income tax Act refers to a 'consumer store' as a society having municipal area as its area of operation and does not mention about the various tiers of organisational structure of consumer co-operatives like pri-

mary stores, wholesale stores, state federation, National federation etc. The pattern of business handled by each unit is different. If the higher tiers are exempted from the payment of Income tax, in return, they can be made to pass on the benefit by being asked to supply the commodities procured by them at cheaper rates to the Primary consumer outlets. That way the co-operatives will also be able to hold the price line. Under the present rates of Income tax, assuming that consumer co-operative stores has an income of rupees two lakhs by way of profit, incidence of the tax and surcharge will be around rupees seventyeight thousands. In Tamil Nadu, last year the Tamil Nadu Consumers' Co-operative Federation and 24 wholesale stores have paid a total sum of Rs. 10 lakhs as Income tax. May I also recall that in the Co-operative set up, the profit earned is not contributing to any concentration of wealth in the hands of a single individual as in the case of the private sector. Further, the distribution of the net profits in the co-operative sector is also prescribed in the Act and is mostly utilised for public purposes. Thus, the money saved through non-payment of Income tax can be channelled to useful public purposes."

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION GEARED UP

"A social order free from corruption, both in administration and public life, free from violence and free from drink evil which is the mother of all evils - this is the goal we have set before ourselves. To this end, all measures are being taken. You all are aware of the fact that I and the Chief Minister and the other Ministers often spell out this goal from many a public platform."

Inaugurating the conference of Collectors and Police Officers at Madras Secretariat the Governor, Thiru Prabhudas P. Patwari said that the people often made a complaint about the delay in disposal of files and

problems. He requested the Collectors and Police Officers to take personal interest in avoiding delay and meeting the requirements of the people. He said a new change has come throughout the country in respect of the attitude to the rural areas we have to strengthen the rural economy. The Governor pointed out that the efficiency of the District administration is the base on which the success of our nations policies depend.

He commended the effort in Family Welfare work in Tamil Nadu. He made a special appeal to the police officers in giving a better treatment to the public and disposing of their complaints.

Let us all together, make sincere and devoted efforts to have a very clean, speedy and honest administration. The State of Tamil Nadu has earned a good name for its administration in the country and we must try our best to rise to still greater heights.

The Collectors in discussed the subjects relating to family welfare review of surprise checks for clean administration absorption of retrenched personnel in district through collectors turning up administrative machinery at the districts implementation of civil rights act 1955 and effectively dealing with atrocities on harijans. They also discussed food for work programme, pension for physically handicapped, street light maintenance in panchayats and co-ordination efforts among forests, police and revenue departments for protection of forests and prevention of smuggling of forest wealth.

The Chief Secretary Thiru V. Karthikeyan briefly reviewing the problems the administration had to tackle said that Tamil Nadu had a good record in the maintenance of industrial peace and protection to weaker sections. The prohibition Ordinance promulgated recently had a solitary effect in containing the prohibition offences.

KANNAN SHOWS THE WAY— A NOVEL WAY IN PULSES PRODUCTION

K. M. RAMANUJAM,
*Deputy Director of Agriculture,
Vellore.*

The total production of pulses in Tamil Nadu is only one and half lakh tonnes whereas our requirement is six lakh tonnes. So it is necessary to increase the level of production to a greater extent. To increase the pulses production, several developmental schemes are being implemented in North Arcot District. There is lot of scope to increase the production by means of raising short duration, high yielding varieties and adopting the proper plant protection measures and application of fertilisers.

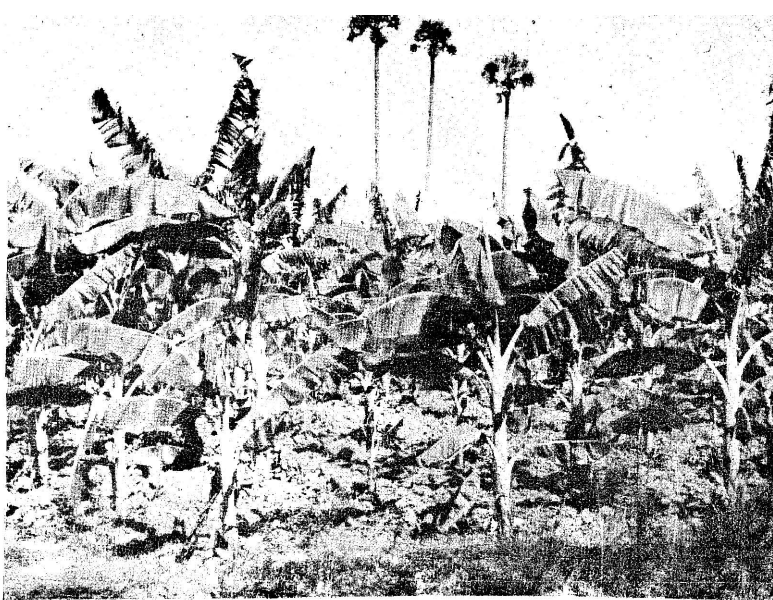
Among several technologies for increasing pulses production, intercropping is one. Usually pulses crops are being raised as pure and as intercrop with cholam and groundnut.

Farmers in Tamil Nadu happily accept innovations in farming. They quidance, a new way of approach and extension services. This year, Thiru Kannabiran, a progressive farmer of Madanoor Village in Madanoor block has successfully cultivated Blackgram as intercrop in Banana crop. His experience has shown that the 65 days crop of T 9 Blackgram raised in the inter spacing of Banana crop increases the soil fertility and also gives an additional income. The Department of Agriculture advocates to take up intercropping in Banana.

The farmer, Kannabiran's success story helps mass spread of this method. Thiru. Kannabiran himself wants to narrate his experience with you about this. Please hear him.

My Story

"I have benefited by cultivating Blackgram as intercrop in my Robusta Banana field. I am cultivating the banana for the past few years. I was benefited by cultivating only banana in my field. But I came to know through the Agricultural Department that we can grow the profitable pulses crops in the alleys of banana field and I have also practised.



I planted the Robusta banana on May 13th of 1978 in an area of 4.5 acres. Then, with the help of hand hoes the land was prepared and T9 Blackgram seeds at the rate of 4 Kgs. per acre was sown as intercrop on May 23rd 1978. The seed was sown only after treating with bacterial culture and dried under shadow for 1/2 an hour. I haven't applied the fertilisers separately for this. Weeds was removed on 15th day. Quinalphos was sprayed at the rate of 100 ml. per acre at the time of flowering. BHC 10% at the rate of 5 Kg. per acre has been dusted at the time of pod setting. Irrigation was not done separately for blackgram. Irrigation given for Banana was quite enough for Blackgram also. After the full maturity, the crop was harvested on July 30th and the seeds have separated. The yield obtained was 265 Kgs. per acre and the cost of cultivation was only Rs. 104."

Profit of Rs. 700

In 68 days he got a gross income of Rs. 795 per acre and after the deduction of cost of cultivation the net income is Rs. 691 per acre. He feels that he could not expect that he could get this amount of profit with less expenditure and within a shorter duration.

With a smile on his face, he adds "now I have determined to grow T 9 Blackgram as intercrop in banana field in future."

This type of cultivation increases the soil fertility. It has gained very good popularity among farmers because of simplicity of this method and cheap cost.

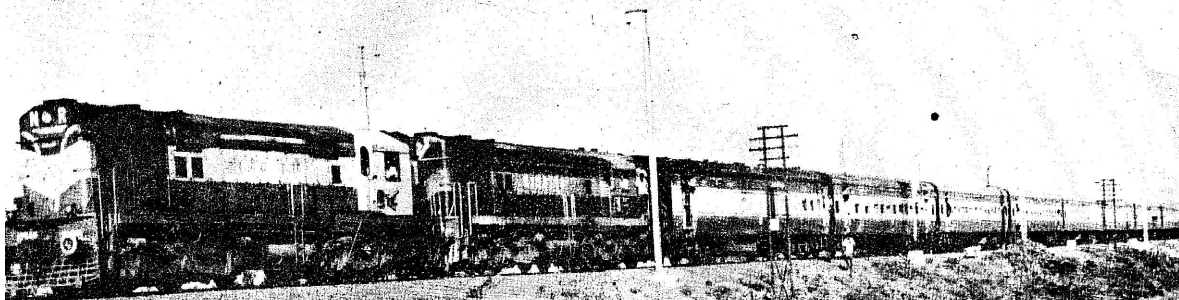
The economics of cultivation per acre are given hereunder.

	Rs.
1. Seeds—4kgs— ..	12 00
2. Sowing (2 women) ..	5 00
3. Bacterial culture 1 Pocket ..	1 50
4. Quinalphos 100 ml acre including spraying charge ..	16 00
5. B.H.C. 10% Dusting	7 00
6. Weeding (10 women)	25 00
7. Ist picking (10 women)	25 00
8. Harvest, separation of seeds (5 women) ..	12 50

Total	Rs.	104 00
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Yes. In the battle of Mahabharatha Kannan had preached Getha to Arjuna

Today, this Madanur Kannabiran shows a way to increase the production of pulses in the field. It is expected that more farmers will come forward to emulate this progressive farmer.



21 BOGIE

TAMILNADU EXPRESS



P. V. VAITHESWARAN,
Chief Public Relations Officer,
Southern Railway

January 29, 1979 was made memorable for the Indian Railways with the running of the Tamil Nadu Express with 21 Coaches and hauled by two diesel engines.

When, on August 7, 1976, the Tamil Nadu Express was introduced between Madras and New Delhi, slashing the travel time to less than thirty hours, the occasion was hailed as an epoch making event in that it set the pace to Railways' efforts to serve the common man. Ever since the introduction of this train it has won the patronage of the travelling public and the train has been growing in popularity every day.

The unsatisfied demand for accommodation in this train has been raising to massive proportions compelling the Railways either to run another train with like features by this route or to strengthen this train itself. The Railways have chosen the latter course due to operational constraints. The entire route is so fully saturated that running of an additional train is not possible. Even as it is, the only path available is shared by three trains to the capital of the country viz: the Tamil Nadu Express (three days), the Karnataka-Kerala Express (two days) and the Andhra Pradesh Express (two days). The Railways have therefore decided to attach 8 more bogies to the Tamil Nadu Express providing an additional diesel engine to haul this long train. The strengthening of the train, increasing the accommodation for the passengers from nearly 560 to 1100, of which the principal beneficiary will be the second class passengers underscores the continuing efforts of the Indian Railways to serve the common man. The 3-tier sleeper berth accommodation on the train

will increase by 150% i.e., from 300 to 750 berths. In keeping with the recent concept of providing cushioned berths in second class as provided in classless trains such as the Vaigai and the Navajivan Express, this train will also have cushioned sleeper berths for all passengers in second class at no extra cost.

Details for five classes of accommodation :

Class	PRESENT	FROM
	No. of berths.	29-1-79 No. of berths.
AC Class	18	18
AC Two-tier sleeper	48	96
AC Chair car(seats)	146	140
First class	46	68
II Class 3-tier sleeper	300	750

Half-A-K.M. Long Train

The train is also unique in that it is the first-ever long distance super fast express, having a length of about 1/2 KM and carrying nearly 1100 passengers.

The Railways have taken a number of steps for introducing this train designed for mass movement of passengers. Platforms had to be lengthened at terminals and certain other junctions. New coaches were manufactured by the I.C.F. with cushioned second class berths. Self generating coaches had to



be provided to supply power for lights, fans etc. without drop in voltag. Additional and Compartments had to be arranged to provide for the same standard of catering and other services and to maintain the cleanliness of the coaches.

A Mobile Mini Power House

The Tamil Nadu Express is also a mobile mini-power house since it is provided with two generator cars to supply electricity to the AC coaches, kitchen car, other coaches for lights, fans and other amenities.

A Five Star Hotel On Wheels

The catering arrangements on the train will be on a massive scale for about 1100 passengers on the moving train. A select band of catering staff will look after the requirements of the passengers during their travel period of nearly 30 hours. The 21-bogie Tamil Nadu Express is virtually 'A Five Star Hotel' on wheels with all amenities-Air-Conditioned accommodation, Closed Circuit TV, music, Library, Radio news, food served at the seat of the passengers etc.

In order to accommodate this unusual length of the train, lengths of platforms have been increased at stations where this train is scheduled to halt. With a view to affording convenience to passengers entering and detraining at intermediate stations, such passengers are accommodated in the middle of the formation.

Wireless Communication For Train Crew

The length of the train also presents difficulty for the Guard and Driver to exchange signals. Wireless communication facility has been provided for the Guard and Driver for contacting each other.

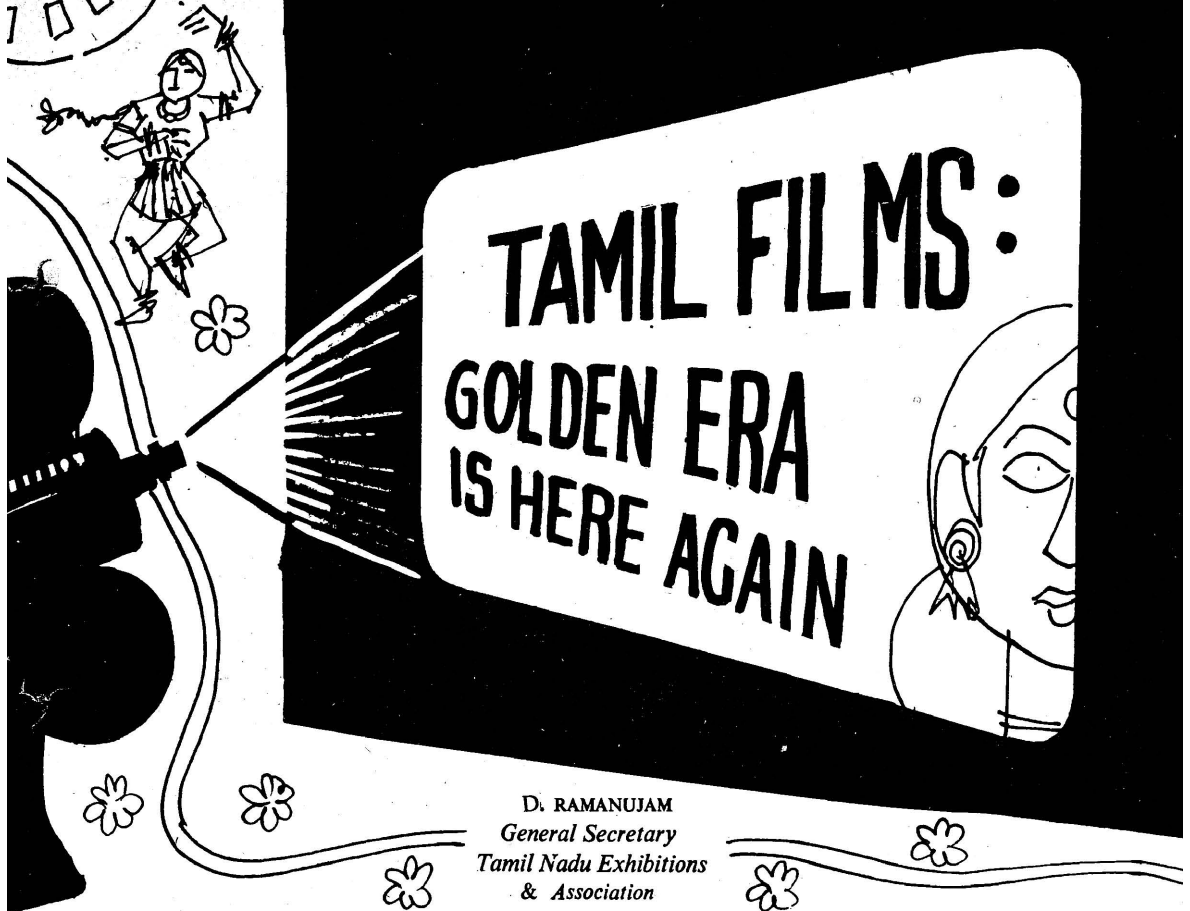
Reservation Arrangements

This is a fully reserved train and all seats and berths are available for reservation in advance. Reservation can be made for this train six months in advance as in the case of other Mail and Express

trains. Arrangements have so been made for the display of reservation charts at more number of points on the platform. Two booths have been provided on the platform at Madras Central at each end of the platform to help wait-listed passengers and others seeking last minute reservations or other assistance.

Salient Features

- * Drinking water in stainless steel receptacles in all the coaches.
- * Meals in stainless steel thalis from base kitchens neatly set in hygienic conditions.
- * Mini cup-boards in coaches for stocking biscuits, cigarettes etc. to reduce service time.
- * Train Superintendent exclusively at the of the passengers to look after their needs and comforts.
- * Coach Attendants in Upper Class coaches and Conductors in II Class Coaches to regulate entry and occupation and look after their special needs.
- * Safaiwallas and amenity fitters to attend to cleanliness and maintenance on the run.
- * Library-cum-Book Stall for selling books and periodicals and lending books on payment of nominal charges.
- * Closed Circuit TV in AC Chair car coaches screening documentary and feature films.
- * Indication of berth and coach numbers on the reverse of the tickets at the time of booking.
- * A full coach of 75 Second Class Sleeper berths for Vijayawada and beyond.
- * Also self-generating coaches to avoid drop in voltage.



TAMIL FILMS: GOLDEN ERA IS HERE AGAIN

D. RAMANUJAM
General Secretary
Tamil Nadu Exhibitions
& Association

The Tamil film industry is today enjoying the fruits of a "revolt" that was almost thrust on it in 1974 by the then State Government (It has become prosperous once again and its future is bound to be brighter).

In 1974, the then D. M. K. Government hiked the show tax in Tamil Nadu beyond all proportions, from Rs. 19 to Rs. 150. In the rural areas of the State, too, the show tax was correspondingly increased. Consequently, the rates of admission went up considerably. This hike in prices had an adverse effect and the number of patrons at cinemas started dwindling. And, before long, the trade started becoming "sick" and new pictures started failing at the box-office. As a result, the entire industry was choked.

The industry's reaction was sharp and swift. Everybody connected with it - studio-owners,

producers, distributors and exhibitors - got together and downed their shutters for a short period to protest against the tax hike.

At this stage, the Government sat down with the industry and a compromise was hammered out. As a result, the show tax was considerably reduced but an additional surcharge on entertainment tax was imposed at the same time on each ticket. But this caused little improvement in the health of the ailing industry.

COMMITTEE FORMED

For, while the Government's revenue from entertainment tax was going up by Rs. 2. crores, the industry's share was diminishing by the same amount every year. Thus the Government's revenue rose from Rs. 13 crores in 1973-1974 to Rs. 21 crores in 1977-78.

There was an uproar in the State Assembly and all the parties, led by the A.I.A.D.M.K. protested against the new impost. The Government had to come out with the proposal that a high level committee would be constituted with leading personalities like Thiru B. Nagi Reddi and Thiru A. V. Meiyappan on it and including prominent distributors and exhibitors. One of the tasks before this committee was to suggest ways and means of rationalising the tax structure.

In its report, this committee, among other things, suggested that the Government introduce a fixed show tax for all cinemas up to the Panchayat level. This was aimed at the elimination of tax evasion - so that the Government would get its full share of the revenue - and, at the same time, allowing a certain freedom to the exhibitors in running their shows.

IN RIGHT EARNEST

The recommendations of the committee, however, would not be implemented by the then D.M.K. Government, nor by its successor, the "Sukhadia Government" (Thiru M. L. Sukhadia, as the Governor, administered the State when it was under President's rule).

It may not be out of place here to mention that, even when he was not the Chief Minister, the personal influence of Thiru M. G. Ramachandran with Thiru Sukhadia enabled him to press for the introduction of the compounding system. But, somehow, the measure could not come through and the recommendations of the committee were shelved.

The industry, however, continued pursuing the matter with full vigour. And, when Thiru Ramachandran, the matinee idol of the South, became the Chief Minister after his party, the A.I.A. D.M.K., came to power he took up the matter in right earnest as he was more than conscious of the ills that had befallen the film industry in Tamil Nadu.

At a meeting held on October 1, 1977 at the Kalaiyavar Aranganam in Madras, Thiru Ramachandran announced that he would introduce the compounding system of entertainment tax. "Where-by neither the Government will lose its share of the revenue, nor the industry remain overburdened hereafter."

DONE SELECTIVELY

He emphasised that the Tamil Nadu film industry would be better placed thenceforth and that he would do his best to retrieve the lost glory of the Tamil film. And he implemented his promise shortly when, on December 26, 1977, he introduced the compounding system of entertainment tax. It was to cover all cinemas in all situations up to grade II Municipal towns, numbering about 1,200 even though the committee's recommendation was that it be introduced up to

the Panchayat level. This left only a balance of about 300 theatres in the grade I and the bigger Municipal towns and cities, where it was decided to introduce the system after assessing the impact of the first phase of the scheme.

The introduction of the scheme fed to a sea-change in the condition of the film industry in the State and it started flourishing almost immediately.

There were fewer than 50 Tamil pictures on the sets in Madras studios prior to January 1, 1978; during the course of the year, the figure rose to 150; as against 700 touring cinemas in Tamil Nadu before January 1, 1978, there are over 1,000 such cinemas today; the money thus generated is being ploughed back into the industry. As against the distributors purchasing only the territorial rights of pictures for a limited amount, they are now able to pay even twice the former price and as against the producers getting "free" call-sheets from artistes till January 1, 1978, the artistes now cannot spare even a few hours without a call-sheet. There are no lock-outs and no strikes and everyone in the industry is busy round the clock.

BETTER SHARE

Besides the tremendous amount of enthusiasm that it has created, the compounding system has brought other benefits too. The amount of tax evasion and the money spent by the Government on curbing such evasion have both been completely eliminated and Government's share of the revenue is not affected in any way. The exhibitors are allowed to run even 28 shows against the stipulated 21 shows, per week. They do not have to fear the commercial tax officials because the amount of tax to be paid is calculated on the basis of the gross collection capacity of the theatre and they pay the tax for only 21 shows. The profits from the remaining shows are distributed between themselves and the distributors and, consequently,

between the producers and the studio-owners, too.

It is quite logical that, when a distributor gets a better share from the box-office receipts, he is prepared to pay a better price to the producer who, in turn, is able to pay more to the studios and also to the artistes.

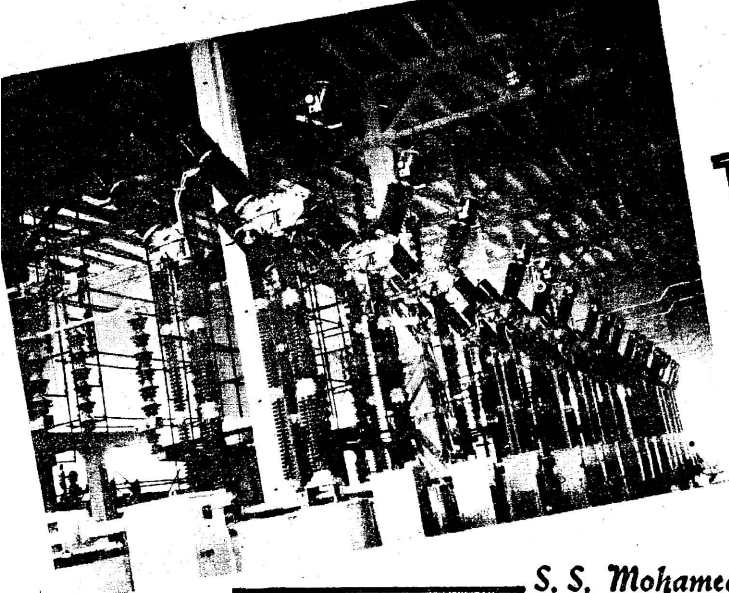
The compounding system of tax was arrived at after a thorough examination of the pros and cons of the tax structure by the committee members. The percentage of tax to be levied was calculated with the following "formula" in view:

MORE TO BE DONE

The total number of cinemas in a locality in the specific classification was taken and their gross collection capacity was worked out. This was divided by the actual entertainment tax collected during the year. For example, if in a particular area the gross collection capacity of the cinemas came to Rs. 10,000 and if the entertainment tax collection for one year was about Rs. 1,000, it was worked out as ten per cent entertainment tax of the gross collection capacity.

The industry is now flourishing well under the able guidance of the Chief Minister, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, and his able lieutenant, Thiru R. M. Veerappan, the State's Minister for information. The latter knows the field thoroughly and is a hard-working man. He has thus been able to relax the rules for the construction of theatres. Many theatres are coming up now and several others are being planned. About 300 to 400 touring cinemas have sprung up within the last ten months.

A lot has been done for the film industry but still more remains to be done by the present A.I.A. D. M. K. Government. The industry rightly looks to it for progressive measures and, on its part, extends its hand of co-operation in whatever the Government would take.



Tuticorin Thermal Power Project

S. S. Mohamed Ismail Chief Engineer-T.T.P.P.

A 630 MW Thermal station is coming up fast at Tuticorin in the southern end of Tamil Nadu and the first 210 MW machine will go into commercial operation shortly.

The location of a Thermal Plant at Tuticorin has certain advantages. Here the cost of foundations is less as rocks are met with between 6 and 7 metres below ground level. It will be the load centre for the growing industrial complex at Tuticorin. Since Tuticorin bay is calm and free from cyclonic influences this will facilitate transport of coal all through the year and drawal of cooling water without any problem. With local generation, the voltage fluctuations at this part of the state, during the non-irrigation season, as well as the line losses could be minimised.

Fuel:- Coal of high calorific value, mined in Raniganj Coal fields of Bengal-Bihar collieries will be transported by rail to HALDIA Port where it will be loaded on to ships and carried to Tuticorin by sea. The coal will be unloaded at the Port auto conveyors which will carry the coal to the Crusher house. The crushed coal will be taken to the power station or stacked in the yard depending upon the requirement.

A coal unloading system at Tuticorin Harbour has been designed suitable for 35,000 DWT geared ships with multi discharge arrangement with grab bucket of 15 t capacity and total discharge rate of

2000 t/hr. It was decided to have the Jetty designed to berth ships on both sides and to receive only 35,000 DWT geared ships.

The total requirement of coal for the power station and other small consumers like the railways, India cements, etc. is 1.8 million tonnes per annum in the first and 2.45 million tonnes in the second and ultimate stage.

The boilers are specially designed for full output either with coal firing or with oil firing in case the system of coal transport by rail or sea or conveyor system breaks down due to unexpected causes. Arrangements are made to get the required oil (51.2 tonnes/hr/boiler) from I.O.C tank from Tuticorin Harbour for the power station.

The steam boilers producing 700 tonnes of steam per hour at 540°C and 139 Kg/cm² pressure have been made in the BHEL boiler plant at Trichy. About 9400 tonnes of structural members boiler drum and electro static precipitators are involved in a boiler erection. About 20 thousand joints have to be specially welded.

The erection of the boiler, a network of hundreds of kilometres of pipes is a complex process requiring knowledge of developments in Engineering and technology in depth on the part of the supervisory personnel and superior technical skills and manual dexterity on the part of the artisans. About 9200 t.

of materials go to make up a boiler and about 15700 joints are to be welded. These are special welds. The root run is by TIG welding and the other runs by ordinary welding with special electrodes. The material has to be preheated before welding and stress relieved thereafter. The joints are tested by radiography.

Turbines

The turbine is the condensing type, tandem compound, three cylinder, horizontal, disc. and diaphragm type with nozzle governing and regenerative system of feed water heating.

The turbine is equipped with a hydraulic system of automatic governing with reliable protection devices which ensure the stoppage of turbine under emergent conditions. The turboset is supplied by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Haridwar.

Electrical Plant

The voltage of generation is 15.75 KV. It is stepped upto 240 KV by a bank of 3 single phase transformers of 84 MVA capacity. The supply at 6.6 KV required for the H.T. motors of the unit and station auxiliaries is obtained by stepping down from 15.75 KV through 2 Nos. 15 MVA transformers for each unit. There are 2 Nos. station transformers 25 MVA 230 KV/7 KV for start up of the station and to feed common auxiliaries.

Four 230 KV feeders have been proposed to evacuate the power from the station. Two of them link the station with the auto s.s. at Tuticorin. Of the remaining 2 feeders one will connect Madurai auto S.S. and the other Neyveli through Karaikudi and Tiruvarur.

M/s. Instrumentation Ltd., Kota are supplying the equipments for measurement and control. Most of the equipments they supplied for our Ennore Plant were made in collaboration with the U.S.S.R. For Tuticorin they are going to supply some of the instruments from M/s. Cops of U.K.

We are arranging to install a Data Acquisition system for this Plant. M/s. Electronic Coporation of India, M/s. ILK, M/s. B.H.E.L. and our consultants M/s. Tata Consulting Engineers are actively considering the steps to be taken to implement the scheme as required by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. It will be the first time that we are going to have a computer in a thermal power station in this part of our country.

Selection of foundation for the machines and structure

In view of the high watertable at TTPP and severe sulphate content in soil, use of well point dewatering and low C3A cement respectively was resorted for all the works below G.L. in this project. As the strength of soil was poor to support the foundations of the heavy structures and rock was available at about 6 m. depth, pile foundations of bored type precast in most of the cases was adopted.

About 8000 tonnes of steel has been used in the construction of the power station building and storage tanks for storing light and heavy fuel oils. A pair of crane girders has also been provided for movement of Electrically operated travelling cranes. To enable erection and to carryout operation and maintenance of turbine generator accessories and 2 Nos. EOT cranes, each of capacity 125 tonnes for the main hook and 25 tonnes for the auxiliary hook have been provided. The special feature is that these two cranes could be coupled together and operated in tandem for lifting the heavy load of stator weighing about 170 t. A special lifting beam of 25 tonnes weight capable of taking the load from both the cranes

viz. 250 tonnes has also been provided with the cranes.

Indoor Switchyard:

As the entire project area is exposed to saline atmosphere and in order to minimise the maintenance cost it was decided to house all the switchyard structures indoor in a building of size 136 m X 66 m. and height 16.2 m. contemplating use of mostly precast post tensioned members in the construction. The only other place where an indoor switchyard has been provided is Kalpakkam.

Raw water supply:

The water system of the power station consists of two grades. One is the soft water required for the turbine, oil coolers, coolers for the feed pumps, cooling of the pump bearings, mill bearings and gland for the cooling water and other pumps, cooling of hydrogen etc. The other is demineralised water required for the make up boilers. The total quantum for all the three units of 210 MW each is 2.53 MGD (million gallons per day). The water received will be stored in ground level tanks and over head tanks.

The clarified water is drawn through the over flow chamber located at the top of the clarifier into the filter beds for the removal of suspended impurities and non coagulated particles of the precipitators of calcium carbonate and Magnesium hydroxide that escape from the clarifier. A portion of clear water is pumped for use by the boiler auxiliaries and the rest is taken for further treatment in (i) cation exchanger, (ii) degassers (iii) Anion exchanger (iv) mixed bed exchanger etc. The water received after chemical treatment is used as boiler feed water.

The entire raw water required is drawn from the 20 MGD water main laid by the TWAD Board from Thambaraparan river to the Tuticorin Industrial complex.

Cooling Water System

The requirement of coolant water for condenser cooling is of the order

64,500 m³/hr. in the first stage and 100,000 m³/hr. ultimately. Various alternatives were considered and finally drawal of water from the Tuticorin harbour basin was found to be the ideal choice on technoeconomic consideration. The water from the harbour basin is drawn through an approach channel of 1800 m. length. The water from the pump house is pumped through concrete tunnels of 2.3 m. dia. and after passing through the condensers, the water is again let into the discharge tunnels for disposal into the sea.

Ash Disposal

Each boiler is provided with mechanical and Electrostatic precipitators for collection of the fly ash from the flue gases to minimise the dust nuisance from chimney effluents and to reduce the wear in the induced draft fans. The flue gases will be let into the chimney.

The maximum quantity of ash from each 210 MW unit is expected to be about 60 tonnes per hour. For each unit 700 m³ (700,000 litres) of wash water will be required per hour. Wash water drawn from sea cooling water system will be utilised to flush the ash into the ash-dykes being formed.

Tutithermal Nagar

The strength of the operational staff will be 2000 in Tuticorin Thermal Power Station. To accommodate the above staff, convenient, permanent quarters are constructed in Tutithermal Nagar. Common facilities such as shopping centre, community hall, permanent school, dispensary etc. are available in this Nagar. The sewage treatment plant which is the first kind in Board is being constructed in this colony. This colony is located very near to the station site. Care has also been taken in eliminating pollution hazards.

Cement and Steel requirement for I and II stage works:

The second unit of 210 MW is also programmed to be commissioned during 1979 and the third 210 MW unit is expected to go into operation by December 1980. The entire project is estimated to cost Rs.211 crores.



CENTENARY
CELEBRATIONS
OF THANTHAI
PERIYAR
PAGEANTRY IN
TIRUNELVELI
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