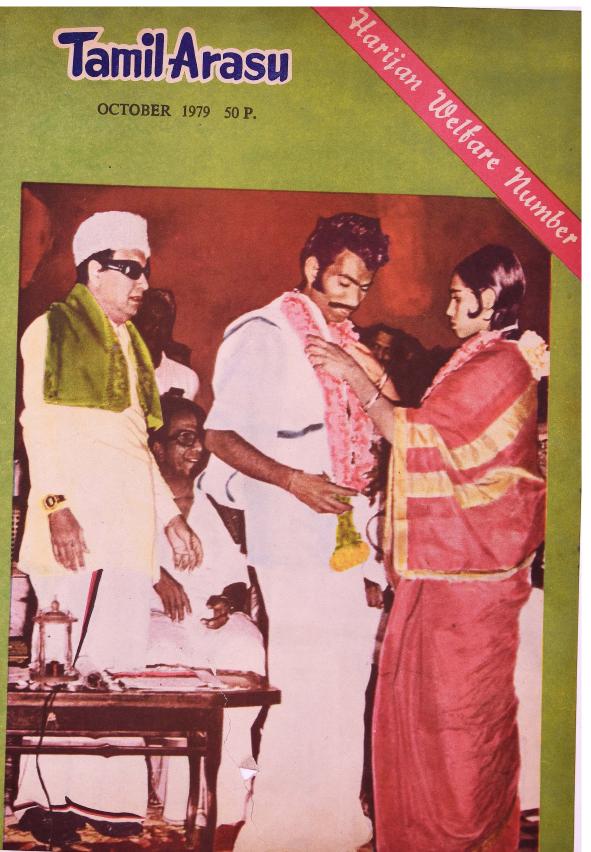
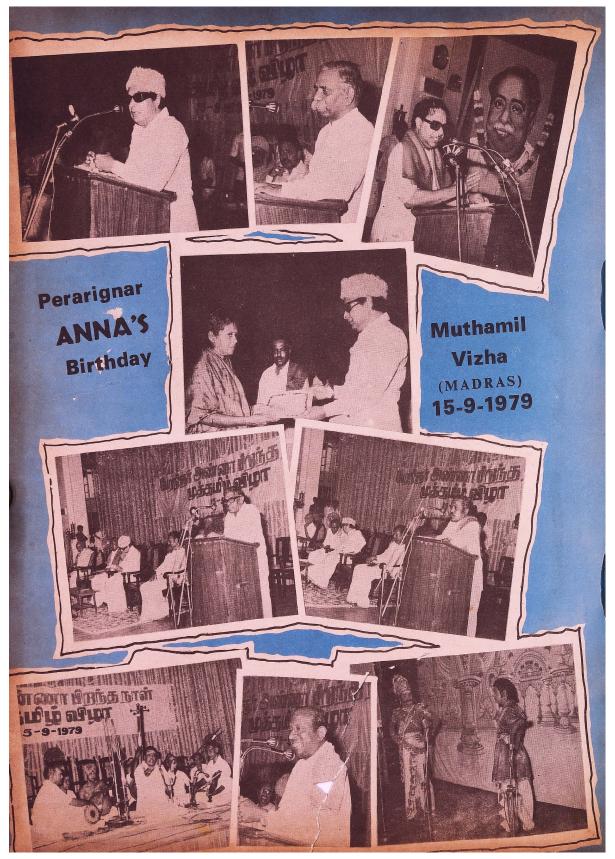
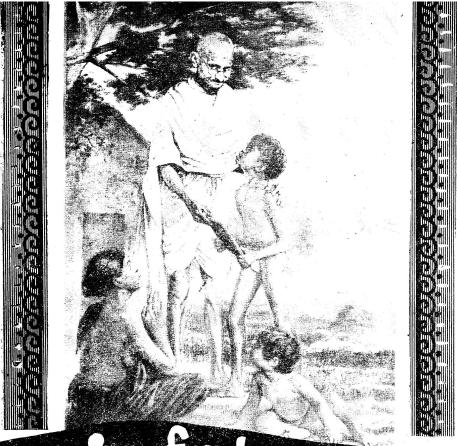
Tamil Arasu

OCTOBER 1979 50 P.







The sin of untouchabilty

I regard untouchability as the greatest blot on Hinduism. Untouchability is the sin of the Hindus. They must suffer for it, they must purify themselves, they must pay the debt they owe to their suppressed brothers and sisters.

Untouchability is not a sanction of religion, it is a device of Satan.

To remove untouchability is a penance that caste Hindus owe to Hinduism and to themselves. The purification required is not of "untouchables" but of the so called superior castes.

Untouchability in its extreme form has always casued me so much pain, because I consider myself to be a Hindu of Hindus saturated with a spirit of Hinduism. I have failed to find a single warrant for the existence of untouchability as

we believe and practice it today in all those books which we call as Hindu shastras. If I found that Hinduism really countenanced untouchability I should have no hesitation in renouncing Hinduism itself.

The ulcer of untouchability has gone so deep down that it seems to pervade our life. Hence the unreal differences. why should there be all this poison smelling of untouchability? Why should we not all be children of one Indian family and further, of one human family? Are we not like branches of the same tree?

When untouchability is rooted out, these distinctions will vanish and no one will consider himself superior to any other. Naturally, exploitation too will cease and cooperation will be the order of the day.



he population of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the States is about 76 lakhs which repre sent 18 percent of the total popula-tion of the state. About 83% of this population are residing in rural areas and the remaining 17 percent in urban areas. In the multi-faceted strategy for the uplift of Harijans adopted in this State, the Harijans receive benefits from the schemes implemented under various general sectors like Agriculture, Revenue, Co-operation etc., along with the general population also in addition to schemes implemented by the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department.

Special programme for welfare of tribals are being implemented under tribal sub-plan. These schemes are in addition to the normal departmental programmes under Education, Economic uplift and Health, Housing and other schemes. Apart from this there will be two new programmes for the development of Primitive tribes and dispersed tribes.

For the year 1979-80, a sum of Rs. 1,941.43 lakhs has been allocated .

Other schemes were started prior to 77-78 and continued thereafter.

HARIJAN WELFARE SCHOOLS:

There are 943 Harijan Welfare Schools in Tamil Nadu.

About 1.66 lakhs SCs/STs and others including male and female students are studying in these schools.

SUPPLY OF CLOTHING TO PUPILS:

All girl students who are either studying in Harijan and Tribal Welfare Schools are studying as boarders in Government hostels are supplied with two sets of dresses every year. Two sets of dresses are also supplied to all boy boarders studying in Standards IV to X and residing in Government Harijan Welfare Hostels. Two sets of dresses are also supplied to all the boys studying in Standards I to V in Harijan Welfare Schools every year.

For the current year (1979-80) a sum of Rs. 56.14 lakhs has been provided for this purpose.

ADHOC MERIT GRANT:

All male and female students of the SCs/STs and SC converts to christianity who have passed the SSLC examination with 60% or more marks are awarded a merit grant of Rs. 300/- each.

SUPPLY OF TEXT BOOKS, NOTE BOOKS, SLATES FREE OF COST:

All the students studying in Harijan and Tribal Welfare schools are supplied with Text books, note books, slates, etc. free of cost every year. All students studying in Standards I to X are supplied with text books, all students studying in Standards III to X are supplied with note books and all students studying in Standards I to V supplied with slates free of cost.

For the current year (1979-80) a sum of Rs. 25.82 lakhs has been provided for this purpose.

MIDDAY MEALS:

The supply of mid-day meals to the pupils in Harijan Welfare Schools is intended to encourage them to attend school regularly and to avoid the temptation of parents for taking off their children for doing odd jobs to add to their earning. The food is supplied by the Government and CARE.

For the current year, a sum of Rs. 42.60 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for 1979-80



towards the supply of midday meals to Harijan Welfare Schools.

The Government have increased the quantity of rice supplied to each student from 90 grams to 100 grams.

SUBSIDY FOR PRIVATE HOSTELS:

The rate of boarding grants to subsidised hostels in Madras city, district and taluk headquarters has been increased from Rs. 25/to Rs.35/- per mensem per boarder. In other places the rate has been Free education increased from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 30/- at all levels. p.m. per boarder.

For the current year (1979-80) the hostels i.e. those a sum of Rs. 5.69 lakhs has been provided for this purpose.

There are no new schemes in. connection with the Periyar Centenary Celebrations.

Till the year 1976-77 all the SC/ST students and SC converts to Christianity from Standards I to XI were awarded scholarships in the form of money towards the purchase of books and payment of special fees. The annual income of the parents/guardians of the students for availaing this scholarship was Rs. 3,000/-. From the year 1977-78 onwards text books are supplied free of cost by Government to all the SC/ST students and SC converts to Christianity without taking into account the income of the parents/guardians of the students.

The Education Department is supplying books and slates to the students from I to III Standard free of cost. The Special fee and the examination fee payable by the students to the respective institu-

so for.

Upto the year 1976-77, the fee concessions was extended to SC/ST students studying in Classes upto Matriculation only if the annual income of the parents was not more than Rs. 2,500/-From 1977-78 Free education is provided to them SC converts to Christianity.

of Rs. 60 per mensem is being level are also awarded Scholarship.

towards given to each student maintenance charges under the Government of India Scholarship from 1st January, 1978 onwards.

The particulars regarding the number of students benefitted by the Government of India Scholarship in classes upto Metriculation and the amount distributed for the purpose during the year 1978-79 are:-

LOAN SCHOLARSHIP

As the students belonging to SC, ST and converts to Christianity among harijans who are pursuing professional courses and staying in Hostels have actually to incur more expenditure than the scholarship amount such of those students tions are also paid by the Govern- who are in need of financial assistance are sanctioned loans. The number of beneficiaries for 1978-79 are 6,69,691 students have benefitted 4,061 and the total expenditure incurred Rs. 29.35 lakhs.

In addition to the usual scholarship sanctioned, a best Harijan boy and a best harijan girl in PUC at district level are given the 'Gandhi' memorial Award of an amount of Rs. 1,500 for the first year and Rs. onwards irrespective of the income 1,000/- each for the next five years. of the parents the fee concession This scholarship is also given to is extended to all the SC/ST students. the students belonging to ST and

With a view to continue their In respect of the students in College studies without break, the pursuing SC/ST students and SC converts Medical, Engineering and other to Christianity who secured first Degree courses an additional amount and second rank in SSLC at District



Each of them is awarded Rs. 807per month. There is no income limit for the award of this scholarship. With effect from the year 1979-80, the Government have ordered the award of this scholarship to SC girl students, ST boys and girls students who secured first and second rank in SSLC examination at Discrict level. With a view to provide self employment opportunity the Government during the year 1979-80 have introduced for the first time a new Training Scheme in Radio, Television and Motor mechanism for 20 SC/ST women in Madras city.

The Government have since ordered that the Scholarship applicable to PUC students be extended to SC/ST students and SC converts to Christianity studying in Higher Secondary Schools.

The couples of inter-caste marriages are given Gold Medals (1½ Sovereign 14 Carat); Cash grant of Rs. 200/- Except Madras in all the other districts 3 cents of Government land is allotted to the couples as house sites. In Madras a subsidy of Rs. 1200/is granted to such couples for purchase of house sites under instalment basis in the housing scheme sponsored by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board/Slum Clearance Boatd.

140 Gold medals have been awarded in the past three years.

Orders have been issued to the effect that intercaste married widows/ widowers and in cases where the first re-marriage of persons (male/female) after their legal divorce is inter-caste marriage. Such persons are eligible to receive the benefits granted to the couples of intercaste marriages.

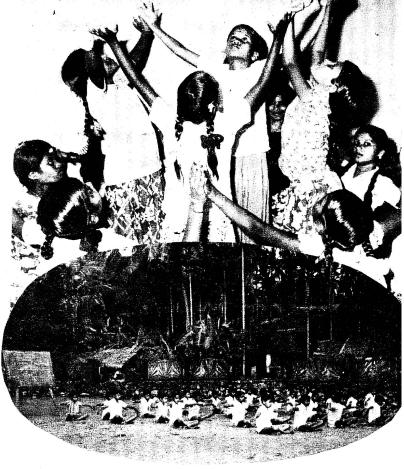
The number of hostels for SC. students in Tamil Nadu and the number of boys and girls staying in them are:

No. of hostels
No. of boys and girls
615
38,886

Hostel facilities continue to to be available for the students studying in schools, colleges and Industrial Training Institutes. The details are given below:

LOAN FOR SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

For the improvement of Harijans economically and for their Margin money was given to 37



employment a scheme for granting interest free loans for small scale industries was started in 1968-69. Though this scheme was implemented for the Hindu Harijans only in the beginning, this has been extended to converted Christians also in 1975-76. The amount of loan granted for starting small scale industries is from Rs. 125/to Rs. 15,000/- upto 1978-79, Rs. 94,62,460/- and Rs. 1,75,175/- were granted to 12439 Hindu Harijans and 278 converted Christians' respectively as loan under the above scheme.

Interest free loans are also granted for starting printing press, shoe making, motor mechanic, medical shop, and other trades from 1968-69. Every year provision is made for Rs. 10 lakhs for Harijans, Rs. 1.25 lakhs for converted Christians and Rs. 0.40 lakhs for Hill tribes.

Under the scheme for granting business loans for Harijans motorfitted cycle rickshaws and starting of petrol bunks have been included. Margin money was given to 37 persons at the rate of Rs. 270/- per person per cycle rickshaw. Five persons have been granted Rs.750/-each for motor -fitted cycle rickshaw. Margin money of Rs. 1300/- each was granted for purchase of autorickshaw. The balance amount was paid by the United Commercial Bank.

A sum of Rs. 12,000/- has been granted by this Government for petrol dealership business. Till now 13717 persons have been granted Rs. 96.38. Orders have been issued by the Government for starting a match-box industry in Sivakasi, Ramanathapuram district consisting of 98 members with a grant of Rs. 5000/- per head.

Harijans interested in agriculture are granted a subsidy for sinking irrigation wells and for purchase of plough bulls agriculture implements and seeds.



PROVISION OF HOUSES:

The Tamil Nadu Harijan Housing Development Corporation Limited (THHADCO LTD) was formed during 74-75 for construction of houses. The entire cost of the houses is treated as subsidy. These houses were constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.4,000/-each in plains and Rs.6,000/- in Hill areas. The estimated cost was increased to Rs. 6,000/- in plains and Rs. 9,000/- in hill areas so that houses could be constructed with more plinth area. The revised final estimate and type design is followed from 77-78 and the Government have issued orders to construct 5,000 houses. Construction of 3,909 houses have been completed upto 31.5.79 and the remaining 1,091 houses are under various stages of construction. A sum of Rs. 2.20 crores was given to THHA DCO during 77-78. The Governmert have issued orders to construct 1,600 houses and a sum of Rs.2.20 crores has been provided for construction of houses, acquisition of lands for use as 'House-sites'.

During the last two years, the scheme, acquisition of patta lands, for use as 'house-sites' for harijans is being implemented vigrously.

year 1977-78, 1,282.66 acres of and 31,304 house sites were distrilands were acquired at a cost of buted.



Rs. 63.17 lakhs and 20,798 house sites were distributed. Previously during each year only a sum less than Rs. 50 lakhs was spent for this purpose.

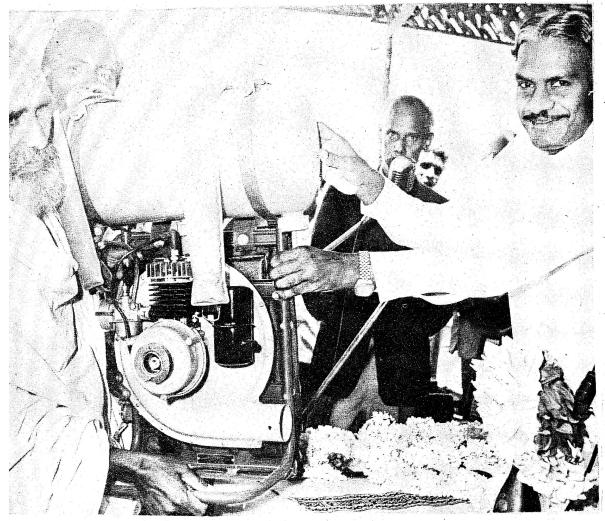
During the year 1978-79 - 1,842.36 acres of lands were ac-

A sum of Rs. 1.00 crore has been provided for this scheme for the year 1979-80.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR **FUNERAL SITES**

The Government have sanc-Under this scheme during the quired at a cost of Rs. 111.29 lakhs tioned the scheme for the grant of financial assistance to SC/STs and SC converts to Christianity to meet





the expenditure ber of a family at Rs. 50/- on each benefitted. death taking into account the poor economic condition of their families Plough bull subsidy: and the indigent circumstances under which the death in those families

During the year 1978-79, 5,308 harijan families received financial assistance under this scheme at a cost of Rs. 2,65,400/-.

For the current year (1979-80) a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been provided for this purpose.

Subsidy for irrigation wells:

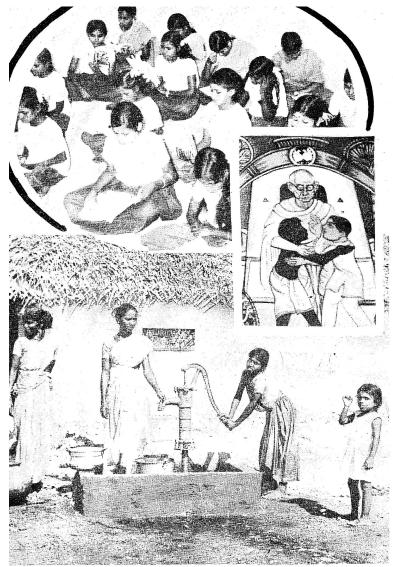
Rs.2,500/- is granted as subsidy for sinking irrigation wells. In 1977-78, 537 Harijans and 47 converted Christians have been benefitted under the above scheme.

In 1977-78, 150 Harijans and benefitted.

connected with Likewise in 1978-79 152 Harijans, 30 converted Christians have been ber of a family at Rs. 50/- on each benefitted. agricultural instruments free of cost. In 1978-79 104 Harijans and 16 have been converted Christians







Drinking water facilities:

The ceiling fixed for the sinking of drinking water wells in the Harijan colonies have been increased from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 6,000/- A sum of Rs. 29.18 lakhs have been set apart for 1979-80.

By taking into account abolition of untouchability and the recommendation of Thanthai Periyar Centenary Celebration Committee orders were issued by the Government in March 1979 for reservation of 10% for forward communities under the scheme of acquisition and free allotment of lands for houses for Harijans and free housing scheme on par with 10% reservation made for backward classes.

DISTRIBUTION OF WHEEL BARROWS AND LADDLES TO SANITARY WORKERS

In 1977-78 a sum of Rs. 131730/-has been granted by the Government for the purpose of distribution of wheel barrows and laddles to the Sanitary workers in Town Panchayats. To implement the above scheme in 1978-79 a sum of Rs. 9,66,400/- has been applied for. This is under consideration of the Government.

MOBILE POLICE SQUAD:

Mobile Police Squads have already been set up in Coimbatore, Madurai, South Arcot, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and Tirunelveli districts under Civil Rights Protection Act 1955 and are functioning for

the eradication of untouchability. Orders were issued for the setting up of Mobile Police Squad further in 7 more districts namely Chengalpattu, Ramanathapuram, Kanniyakumari, NorthArcot, the Nilgiris, Salem and Dharmapuri districts.

THE SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES AND THE CONCESSIONS GRANTED TO THEM:

SCHEDULED TRIBE STUDENTS HOSTELS:

For Scheduled Tribe students 19 hostels have been started and are running efficiently under the control of Harijan Welfare department. Out of this, 13 hostels are for boys and 6 hostels for girls. Some hostels are located in Govern ment buildings and some in rented buildings. The total number of students in the 19 hostels is 845. A sum of Rs. 45/- per mensem per student is spent for Midday meals and a sum of Rs. 10/- to Rs. 30/- is spent for them for sleeping facilities.

This year a sum of Rs. 3,33,600/-has been provided for S.T. students' hostels.

SCHEDULED TRIBE STUDENTS' SCHOOLS:

Tribal Residential Schools are functioning for S.T. students under the control of Harijan Welfare department,

	D	00
i.	Primary Schools	80
2.	Middle schools	1.1
3.	High Schools	- 2
4.	Higher Secondary	
	Schools	2
5.	Non-Residential	
	School	1
	Total	96

Number of students studying in these schools are 5,697.

During 1979-80, the Government have issued orders for opening a Government Tribal Residential School in Periapakkam village of Pachamalai Hills, Salem district. Government have also ordered the construction of Dormitory (Sleeping halls) for two Government Tribal Middle Schools in Nilgris district at a cost of Rs. 0.50 lakhs.

STATE AWARDS

FOR

TEACHERS

It gives me immense delight to actively associate myself with this very pleasant function of honouring representative teachers of our State. Though only some teachers are going to be the recipients of awards today, by implication this function is an affirmation of faith in the nobility of the teaching profession and a recognition of the nation-building work that teachers do all over. I have always highest regard and veneration for teachers. I always cherish the in spiring time I had in the school with my primary teachers.

In honouring teachers, we are only following a well-established tradition of our ancient land. The teacher here has always been placed on a pedestal. He has enjoyed the highest esteem and reverence as chosen channel of wisdom and a perennial fountain of inspiration. He moulds the minds and chisels the character of the young in an impressionable period, so that, when they grow up, they may discharge their duties in a worthy manner. Children are the greatest wealth of the land and on their proper training depends the future progress of the nation. Teachers, therefore, who undertake to teach the young and equip them for the duties and responsibilities of life and citizenship, render significant service. They need and deserve the co-operation and support of all the agencies interested in national progress. A teacher affects eternity. He can never tell where his influence stops.

The teacher's work has become difficult today owing to the emergence of agencies outside the school which threaten to corrupt the minds of the young. It is no doubt the primary duty of teachers to impart instruction in subjects effectively, so that the young imbibe purposeful knowledge. But that it is not the be-all and end-all of Education. Teachers have to inculcate in the young a sense of discipline which expresses itself in sober attitudes

decorous behaviour, respect for constituted authority, a spirit of helpfulness, a sense of chivalry and desire to grow in character. This aim can be fulfilled only by the personal example of teachers. In this respect, they can well be the counterparts of the ancient gurus.

Teachers have to bring to bear vigilant care on the discharge of their duties. They have to acquire a thorough mastery over their subjects, keeping themselves abreast of the latest trends in psychology and methodology. The young to day are very precocious and critical too. They get at a miscellany of facts through different sources. Hence, conventional instruction,

Thiru Prabudas B. Patwari,

GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU

which proceeds along with the beaten track of academic routine, falls flat on them. They want material that would quicken their interest, rouse their curiosity and lead to creative effort. Hence teachers have to diligently prepare their teaching material, concent rating on what is relevant and useful and present it in an attractive manner. That way they have to establish their intellectual leadership and win over the young by the helpfulness of their work.

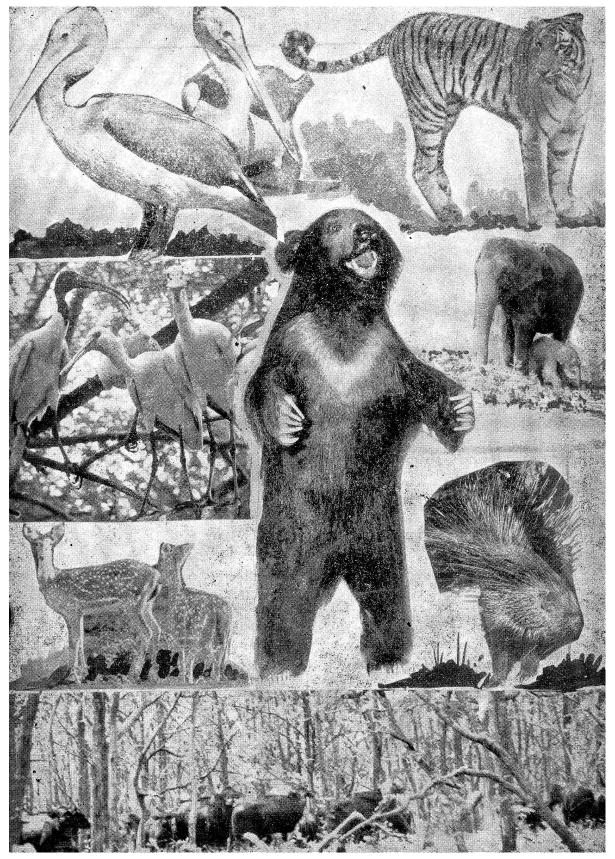
More than that, they have to present a worthy model to the pupils in every respect. Watching them being regular, punctual, syste matic, prompt in doing work and imbued with a sense of duty, the pupils will unconsciously imbibe their influence and grow in the image

of their mentors. When teachers inspire confidence in the young and make them feel that they have the highest interests of the young at heart, indiscipline will never rear its ugly head. The young will develop positive respect for the teachers and strive to make them happy by their work and conduct.

At present, the greatest menace to educational progress and growth of character is the environmental pollution of the mind. Cheap literature, unwholesome films and ugly posters which pander to lower tastes. provoke the young to unseemly conduct and unethical behaviour. They not only distract the mind but putrefy it. The inmisguided discreet activities of adults who harp upon their own rights of others, further benumb the moral sensitiveness of the young. Teachers have to toil heroically to put down such perni cious influence. That is their greatest duty.

In the first place, they have to be themselves free from all prejudices and form allegiance to disruptive ideologies. They should nourish in the young noble impulses which would spontaneously shun all that is wicked and evil. They should also promote in them a healthy patriotic outlook which transcends all narrowness and illumines the path of national unity and national solidarity. To achieve this, bands of teachers have to develop in their respective schools a corporate personality which represents and symbolises the summation and synthesis of their intellectual and moral resources. Sinking their petty differences, they must cultivate faith in the sublime ideals of their profession, develop loyalty to leadership, present a unified picture before the pupils and exert on them a total cumulative influence. Only that way can they guard the young against insidious influences.

> (Excerpts from Speech made on 16-9-79)



our natural Heritage

RM. Veerappan,

Hon'ble Minister for Information and Public Relations

UUR country is one of those few countries which is richly endowed with fauna and flora. To emphasize the importance of preserving our valuable natural heritage, the wild-life week is celebrated every year during the first week of October. As rapid progress was made in every sphere, with the increase of towns and modern facilities, forests were destroyed; trees were felled indiscriminately. The animals which were deprived of their natural habitat and shelter, started to roam and wander and finally perished. Shikar, which was considered a playful sport proved to be a massacre of wild animals.

Man cannot live in a world devoid of wild animals and forests. Having realized this a number of nations have enacted stringent laws for the protection of animals. International laws are in existence even for the protection of marine fauna.

The fauna survive according to the climatic conditions of a country. In the absence of congenial surroundings they perish. On account of this, certain species like the lion, tiger, elephant, bear and the peacock are not found in western countries. Only in certain countries they appear as rare species.

It is a misconception to think that animals will endanger mankind. They attack only in defense. Generally they do not harm human beings when they are not disturbed even in their naturals surroundings.

Just like mankind, animals have also struggled for their survival. Among the bear only a few species kill man. They always try to avoid human beings. In a zoo in Moscow, a white lamb stepped into the enclosure of the tigers. The tigers had never seen a lamb before. Seeing the lamb approaching them, they took fright, began to snarl and back against the wall, baring their fangs. Man does harm to animals on account of incorrect ideas regarding them.

The Cobra does not bite a man at first sight. Only when it gets scared, it bites fatally.

Elephants are tamed and trained to lift timber and other heavy objects in India. They can be well-trained.

Sancturies have been created for the wild animals to live in peace. There are two famous sanctuaries in South Africa. In our country, there are about 12 sanctuaries to give shelter to animals like the elephants, lions, cheetahs rhinorceros, peacocks, wild fowl etc. The Mudumalai wild life sanctuary has attracted the attention of naturalists all over the world.

On the West Coast of South America, near Chile and Peru, millions of marine fauna thrive. The excreta of the birds is a good fertilizer and fetches a good income. Therefore, a novel law is in force in these two states to give protection to these birds. According to that law, aeroplanes are probhibited to fly below a prescribed height. Ships should not blow their horns within the prohibited area. This is to prevent the birds from deserting the area due to the fright caused by the noise of the flying planes and horns of the ship.

We should realize that man cannot live without forests and wild life and that they also have a right to live.

In evolution, all living beings depend upon one another. Every living creature whether bird, insect or marine animal indirectly helps to maintain the balance in nature. For instance: the tiger and the cheetah, when deprived of their food by our killing the deer and the pig etc., seek and kill our cattle for their feed. Sometimes they even kill human beings.

If animals like the tiger and cheetah, are killed, the population of deer, pig and porcupine will increase and pose a threat to our crops.

Therefore, when one species is destroyed, the others increase and affect our economic development. Therefore, proper protection for animals becomes essential. The birds, small in stature and which feed on a few insects might on occassions attack hoardes of grasshoppers that are a menance to crops. The little birds help the farmer to protect crops in a big way.

The tiny insects living off grass help in pollination of pulses, mustard

etc, When their habitat, namely the grassy area is destroyed, their population dwindles thereby causing shortage of crops.

The use of pesticide not only kills harmful pests but also those agents which are beneficial to mankind. Bearing this in mind our scientists are carrying out research to find out ways to protect crops to control the pests avoiding the use of dangerous pesticides and at the same time using harmless insects to control the harmful pests.

A few years ago, the 'Uliyaplis' a dreadful pest was threatening to destroy the entire world-famous apple orchards of Kashmir. The use of pesticides could not control the pest. Finally, a variety of beetle had to be imported from England and introduced in the valley. The 15 beetles that were introduced destroyed the pest completely in a very short period. One cannot but wonder at this natural phenomen. This only proves that natural remedies are the best and most economical.

Man has to depend on the forests and wildlife for his survival. If the fauna and flora are extingushed it is certain that the human race will also be wiped away from this earth.

Man derives a number of benefits from animals. He depends upon the animals for his food and clothing. Meat, milk and eggs are the food products. He gets his clothes and footwear also from them. The wool, silk, fine hair and hides are the other products. Horses, oxen, mules, buffaloes are used in transportation as well as in the fields. We should realize that the elephant's tusk, the snakeskin, and poison earn us a good deal of foreign exchange. If we protect these animals our country will definitely prosper.

It is but imperative that the forests in which animals live are not destroyed, since the fauna and flora are inter-dependable. Nehru once remarked, "life would become meaningless without the majestic animals and warbling birds". Yes these lovable animals and, birds add colour to our life.

The fauna and flora have inspired our artists which could be seen in our sculptural wealth and tradition. I consider it my duty that each one of us should take up the work of protecting the natural wealth with a sense of dedication.

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Memorial for Periyar

A Rs. 94 lakks building to commemorate the centenary of the Dravida Kazhagam leader Thiru E. V. Ramasami, is to be constructed in Madras and the Poonamallee High Road will be renamed after him said, the Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran while unveiling a model of the proposed centenary memorial and the sign board E.V.R. Salai, to mark the conclusion of the E.V.R. Centenary celebration.

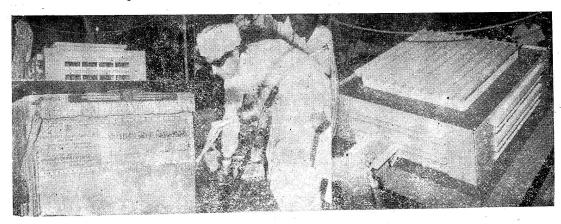
THANTHAI PERIYAR'S SERVICE TO DOWNTRODDEN LAUDED

If the poor people in the south have shed their inferiority complex and are more alive to their rights and politically more alert than their counterparts in the north, it was due to the movement of the late E.V. Ramaswami conducted for the uplift of the deppressed classes, said Thiru Devaraj Urs, the Karnataka Chief Minister, while participating in the valedictory function of the Periyar centenary celebrations.

Of late, people in the north were showing greater interest in knowing about E.V.R. and his

teachings because that region needed the kind of "revolution", launched by him in Tamil Nadu.

Thiru Prabhudas Patwari, Governor of Tamil Nadu who inaugurated the two-day function said that the most fitting tribute to Periyar was to practice tolerance, to eschew violence in word and deed, adopt persuasion in preference to compulsion in social reforms, do good to all and be just. His fight for the removal of untouchability and against the drink evil is noteworthy.



TRIBUTE TO PERIYAR

"I would like to take this opportunity, to pay homage to the memory of Periyar Ramaswamy Naciker, a great freedom fighter and enlightened patriot. He led the struggle against the British Rulers in the early decades of this century. Though he suffered great hardships in the battle for Indian freedom, he never wavered in his dedication to the mother-land. But Thiru Naicker was more than a freedom fighter. While he fought the British on the one hand, he fought the caste system and the ills of our society, with equal determination on the other. Thiru Naicker was clear in his mind, that if India was to be truly free, both in mind and soul, then we must work towards the establishment of a casteless society of free and equal men. All through his life, he struggled to achieve these ideals. In the Punjab, brought up as we are, on the teachings of the Sikh Gurus, who preached a casteless society, free of the evil of untouchability, we have watched with admiration the self-less and noble struggle of Periyar Ramaswamy Naicker, for similar ideals and objectives. On the occasion of his birth centenary, therefore, on behalf of all Punjabis, I wish to express our admiration of the noble work of this great patriot, freedom fighter and social reformer."

PARKASH SINGH BADAL. Chief Minister of Punjab.

THE Indian Institute of Public Administration can do work in various ways. One may be learnt by study of the publications, which will be very good for students of administration and for professors of administration. There are other areas where the institute can concentrate and be of immediate practical views to the administration as well as to the general public and that is by high-lighting and identifying in a very pragmatic way, taking the citizen's point of view, the problem areas in administration or the weaknesses, slips, failures, rigidity and various other kinds of deficiencies which may be noticed. If identifying properly and presented to the authorities, who are in charge of those departments or fields of activity, they could take steps to rectify and to remove them and create greater satisfaction to the ordinary citizen. It is in this later part of the kind of work, that institutes of our type can indulge in. With this background, we have organised this seminar. These three areas, namely Civil Supplies Administration, the Power Board the Hospital Administration having been choosen for this seminar.

Because they were touching the ordinary man and the citizen particularly, frequently and regularly at a number of points. Therefore we thought that we start with these areas.

Our intention entirely is to high -light from the common man's point of view. Some of the diffculties rigidities, problems, we have to face in dealing with these organisations in drawing such official services, the benefits from them and to the extent they are removed by changes in procedures by more sympathetic understanding, handling the client of the citizen. Let us suggest in what way these improvements could be effected, these deficiencies could be removed. In the afternoon session we spell out in very clear terms that these are the recommendations that could be done in order to see that each one of this organisation chosen for study can effectivtively improve by their own authority or with the approval of the Government and that they would move much closer to the heart of the people. It is entirely a positive approach, a constructive approach, not an approach of superior criticism or something with which we want to attack. It is absolutely

Administration PROCEEDINGS

V. KARTHIKEYAN, Chief Secretary.

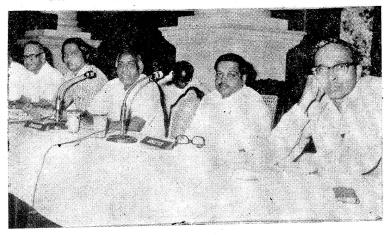
wrong. This institution is not only comprised of administrators but also members of public or citizens, retired gentlemen and technocrats. And it is not the privilege of anyone, merely to crticise, for the sake of anyone. It is to be understood in that spirit that the institution that we want to contribute to the betterment of the quality of administration.

So do not propose to indulge in lot of theorisation, a lot scientific study, but we intend to study about the areas on weakness, failures rigidity in administration, which certainly can be and should be in my opinion rectified by responsible people who are incharge of the administration. We only act as an agent of two, to the person in authority to see the problem from the angle of citizen. And once we see, that I am sure, as responsible officers they should appreciate and they would certainly comple to take steps to rectify what problems you wanted identify. So while making suggestion we should make such suggestions such improvements, reforms, as are capable of being put through. As many of you know, Government being a huge organisation has restraint by several limitations, legal, financial, administrative, personal and political. Now all these act as constraints from government and and governmental body, in doing these very best always. Therefore we have to take note of these problems also and prescribe the remedy which are capable of being accepted and implemented. Supposing we suggest very expensive form or procedures or remedies. May be that it will not be palpable or to be accepted then and there. Or we prescribe proceedures or remedies which require a very large number of highly qualified expert people. That, again, we may not be able to get all together within a short time. So the limitations, are personnel, limitation of funds, limitation of what you may call public expectability are all to be taken.

But without doing that there are still enormous areas where the administration can be toned up and should be toned up. Now a climate in which the administrator, the citizen, the employee, are all included to accept, that things are not as good as they should be or can be. There is room for improvement and that the areas of improvement are high lighted and brought to our notice and that a positive, receptive attitude, willingness to change, willingness to improve if that attitude can be brought about. I am sure our suggestions will be well accepted. Now we can only try to motivate the people. We can only try to appeal to their goodsense the sense of discipline, the sense of loyalty, sense of responsibility to the welfare of the people from whom starts all administration which is government financed. Now this kind of reform of attitude as you know is the most difficult thing. We can reform so many things. But reform of the attitude and approach is really the most difficult and is the most important. Without that, no kind of reform is going to be achieved, we see the difference between the State undertaking and a private undertaking, the difference between a Government run shop and a commercially run shop, the difference between a Government office and a private office. How the citizen is received, citizen is dealt with, how the citizen is shown the courtesy, how he is respected and made to come again with the sense of happiness and the absence of which in other places. Now this is really again raising the question of attitude.

No Government has laid down any where that you would behave rudely or irresponsibly. But people do that. Why? The ideas of sense of security the procedural awfulness, the rigidities of instructions, the lack of flexibility on the part of the people below are there. Quoting the rules for anything and everything when it suits and ignoring the rules when they do not suit. These are happening and when they happen very often they are not taken to the top officers to the extent they are to. So these are several axes of the complex problems and a body like this where several interests are brought together, is an appropriate body to high-light and suggest in what way things could be done better, the irritation being caused to the commmon man, needless irritation. If you go to an office you have to pay a tax. There are hundreds of people queing up. There is one counter and in this one counter if hundred people normally wait, it may take 5 hours or 6 hours to finish that iob. Each head of the office would have some common sense to open two or three more counters for that day by diverting two to three other clerks from other work, and ask them to collect the cheque for the money and finish the job not in 5 hours but in half an hour or one hour. That could be a great good thing done by the citizen and for the citizen. The man is there to pay the government tax but he should not be made to wait in the queue for one day. What prevents the head of the office to be little more sensible, to be little more practical and diverting two to three clerks for 4 hours or two hours, or 3 hours, that day when be finds a huge crowd there just to open a few more counters? You collect the tax and dispense with people No G.O. is as early as possible, required ,no ministers orders are required on this. Any number of instances we can go on quoting where the officers unfortunately take a high and mighty attitude.

"I am here not to serve you, you have come here to take some thing from me and therefore take it in my own form. I am not concerned



Thiru S. Ramachandran, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity addressed the I.I.P.A. Thiru V. Karthikeyan, Chief Secretary delivered the key note address.

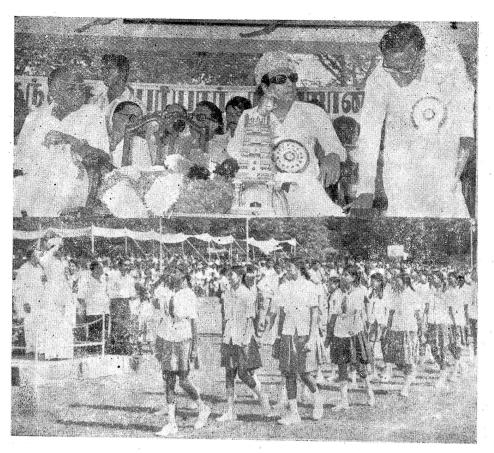
about your time cr. your inconvenience and that I will do it at my own pace now. That is where the citizen is really at the receiving end. Very small areas that where reform is not expensive, is not impossible. All that is required is a little imaginative. sensible purposeful direction of the head of the office, head of organisation in handing a given situation with imagination and the sense of responsibility.

But quoting rules and quoting orders and procedures do not really carry the day in favour of the citizens. The rules as you know are always made to cover the worst these and that cases. Because rules were not there, we have to go to the court. we have the authority and because a particular thing is not specipically covered in a particular rule or law, the man, the worst offender gets away in a loop hole. Therefore the rules are always made constantly, being entitled and made to cover the worst cases. In bonafide and genuine cases where the officer could take a more practical, systematic, genuine helpful attitude, the rules should not come in the way, and will not come in the way. If acted bonafide, he could always defend his action, I am sure even the senior officer or superior officer have their own sense of responsibility, appreciation of circumstances, may not take him to task. But if the rule is abused to favour somebody, or to disfavour somebody, then naturally any one has to come down heavily on the man who has misused the

position and of the opportunity. Therefore we are attempting in this seminar to take these three areas. Or more areas have to be taken in considered in due course and greater detail and depth in smaller groups, specific problems met by the citizens and in what way it could be rectified and improved. I only appeal to all of my collegues in government and Governmental body, please take a most helpful positive attitude towards the seminar and its recommendations and try to do your best to see the points of mine embodied in the recommendations. May be all the recommendations are not as perfect as it could be or balanced but some of the non official member or outsider may not know all angles of the problem and therefore it might be sometimes very strongly or vehi-mently stated. But we before getting offended about it, look at the root of the problem and see what could be done in order to tone down the difficulty if you cannot altogether remove it. But let us adopt a helpful positive approach to the seminar and its recommendations.

—(Excepts of speech of the C.S. made at I,I,P,A)



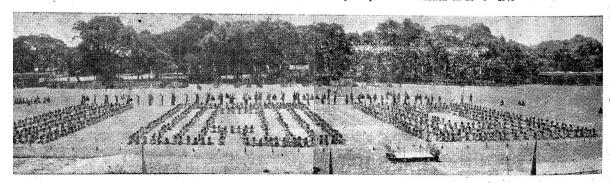


I V C T U R E

A Directorate for sports was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, on 20th September '79
in connection with the Periyar Centenary Celebrations.

The Chief Minister Thiru M. G. Ramachandran is taking the salute.

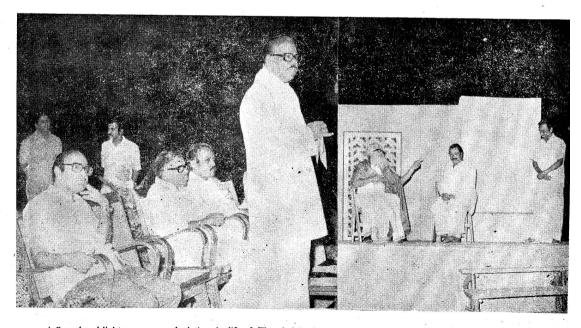
In connection with the Periyar Centenary celebrations, school children participated in a function on 20-9-1979





The Periyar district was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, on 24th September, 1979.

Thiru S. D. Somasundaram, Minister for Revenue, Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, Minister for Transport, Thiru K. Manoharan Minister for Finance and Thiru V. R. Neduncheziyan, Chairman, Periyar Centenary Celebration Committee also participated in the function.



A Sound and light programme depicting the life of Thanthai Periyar was inaugurated by Thiru V. R. Neduncheziyan, Chairman, Periyar Centenary Celebration Committee on 22nd September '79. Thiru RM. Veerappan, Minister for Information and Religious Endowments and Thiru C. Aranganayagam Minister for education also participated.



Today, paper, the most vital tool of communication, has become scarce; has become very expensive. We must conserve paper so that future generations are not denied access to dissemination of knowledge. Now is the time for you to become paperconscious. Here is a list of do's and don'ts.

Plan your communication well. Let it be brief and to the point. Advise your secretaries and typists not to waste paper.

Preserve any paper that is used only on one side—greeting cards, calendars, etc...Use them for rough planning Reuse the envelopes.

3. Students are one of the main users of paper. Advise them to utilise the unused pages of old notebooks for rough work.

Movies, cultural activities, public meetings all need to be announced. Posters put up for this purpose should be made smaller, all of uniform size A good deal of paper can be conserved this way.

These are not exhaustive suggestions but only illustrative. They hold good for all users of paper, whoever they are and whatever they do.

SAVE PAPER NOW! SAVE FUTURE GENERATIONS!

Issued by Director of Information and Public Relations Government of Tamil Nadu.

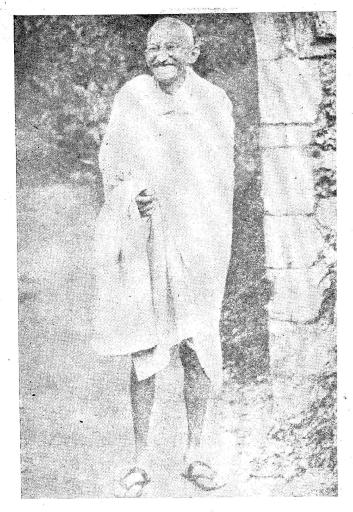
Mahatma Gandhi on Harijans

Untouchability was a recurrent theme in his speeches during his cross-country tours of the later twenties. How strongly he felt on this subject was revealed in his speech at the meeting of the minorities committee on November 13, 1931. "I claim myself in my own person to represent the vast mass of the untouchables. Here I speak not merely on behalf of the congress but I speak on my own behalf, and I claim that I would get, if there was a referendum of the untouchables, their vote that I would top the poll. We do not want on our register and on our census, untouchables classified as a separate class. Sikhs may remain as such in perpetuity, so may Muslims, so may Europeans. Would untouchables remain untouchables in perpetuity?

Harijan means 'Children of God' it was Gandhiji's name for untouchables. 'All the religions of the world describe God preeminently the friend of the friendless and helper of the helpless and the protector of the weak. Who can be more friendless or helpless or weaker than the forty million or more Hindus of India, classified as untouchables?

Dr. Ambedkar viewed untouchability as political and not as a social problem; he even argued against political freedom; which, he feared was likely to make caste Hindus more powerful and untouchables weaker. Ambedkar held out threats that Harijans would abandon Hinduism. "Religion, retorted Gandhi, was not a matter of barter; it would be odd if the souls of fifty million people were set up for auction."

-B.R. NANDA



PROFILES OF GANDHI

"I have met Lenin, Churchill, Franklin D.Roosevelt, Wilkie, Stalin, Litinov, Attlee, Einstein, Lloyd George, Eleanor Roosevelt and many other famous people. I have never met a more remarkable person than Gandhi.

-LOUIS FISCHER

"In Gandhi's teachings and writings I think you will find no lies, no meanness, no slander, no dogmatism, no hypocrisy ,no fear, no arrogance, no false pride, no hatred, no claims of infallibility. His inner voice and for him God was simply "an undefinable, mysterious power that pervades everything'. He Spoke gently always and humbly and it was the mirror in him

which made bright the truth in other men and reflected and magnified it into a great light. He followed Buddha in employing the actions and arguments of love for dynamic ends.

-EDGAR P. SNOW

"Gandhi was only one. His voice was single, always gentle, always reasoning. It was the voice of conscience in our turbulent life. At all costs, Gandhi said-we must refuse to use violence. Resist to the very end, he said, but without violence".

-PEARL S. BUCK

Generations to come, it may be, will scarcely believe that such a one as this ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth.

-ALBERT EINSTEIN



AN INTERPRETATION

"In the person of Mahatma Gandhi East and West met; and through his methods and spirit they were in large measure reconciled. Nobody else in History was acclaimed by such multitudes of humanity who everywhere thronged to get a sight of the Mahathma. They saw in him their bestselves and their own possibilities. He was the voice of the dumb millions. The Mahatma was not merely a person; he was the meeting place of 2 streams, the old and the new. The combination of Saint and politician was the expression of his simplicity and shrewdness. He was a most amazing blend of the simplicity and candid and the courteous. He was serious and he was playful. He was a combination of stubborness and yieldingness. He was a man underneath whose gentle ways was an iron will. He was a combination of poise and power. There was another pair of opposites meeting in the Mahatma-humality and self assertiveness. His humility was born of a sense of consciousness of greatness of mission.

He was a meeting place of a person and a cause. When he spoke, the cause of India's freedom spoke. In Gandhi the word of freedom became flesh. When he spoke freedom spoke. Gandhi is India. He combined the Hindu and Christian in himself.

The Preponderacting impression he leaves is not sweetness but strength.

E.STANLEY JONES

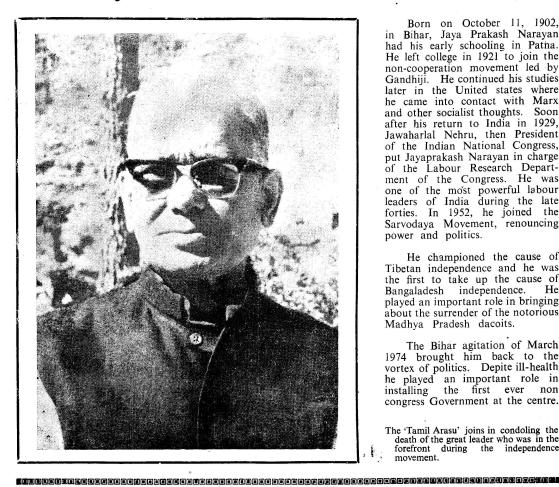
DISABLED BUT NOT DISHEARTENED

K. VEERAN is a youth of 22 years of age. He had an attack of polio when he was four and therefore physically disabled. He lost his father quite early in life. His widowed mother is over 50 and she has three daughters, all older to Veeran. Veeran realised the importance of education and he read upto VIII Standard at the Government High School, Kannankurichy, As a boy belonging to the scheduled caste he was eligible for scholarship and free hostel accommodation.

Even as a youngster he was aware of his handicap and therefore made up his mind to learn tailoring. He joined a tailoring shop and worked as an apprentice for a few years. The elders in the village told him to seek assistance from the Government to set up a shop of his own. Veeran acted accordingly. He duly sent his application addressed to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Of course there was no immediate response. After a few months be received a communication to approach the State Bank of India, Salem.

Veeran was provided with a loan of Rs. 500/with which he bought a sweing machine and set up a shop in his native village, Palampatti Mannarpalayam in Ayothiapatanam Panchayat Union. He is grateful to the Chief Minister and the administration who rendered help to an ordinary youth in a remote village. He has paid back the loan in easy instalments. Now he will seek a further loan to improve his standard of living.

JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN



Born on October 11, 1902, in Bihar, Jaya Prakash Narayan had his early schooling in Patna. He left college in 1921 to join the non-cooperation movement led by Gandhiji. He continued his studies later in the United states where he came into contact with Marx and other socialist thoughts. Soon after his return to India in 1929, Jawaharlal Nehru, then President of the Indian National Congress, put Jayaprakash Narayan in charge of the Labour Research Depart-ment of the Congress. He was one of the most powerful labour leaders of India during the late forties. In 1952, he joined the Sarvodaya Movement, renouncing power and politics.

He championed the cause of Tibetan independence and he was the first to take up the cause of Bangaladesh independence. played an important role in bringing about the surrender of the notorious Madhya Pradesh dacoits.

The Bihar agitation of March 1974 brought him back to the vortex of politics. Depite ill-health he played an important role in installing the first ever noncongress Government at the centre.

The 'Tamil Arasu' joins in condoling the death of the great leader who was in the the independence forefront during movement.



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New Parliamentary Secretary sworn in

Thiru S. M. Durairaj, M.L.A., was sworn in on 13.10.79 as Parliamentary Secretary to the Chief Minister. The Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R., administered the oath of office.

ACCOUNT SLIPS FOR SUBSCRIBERS TO GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND

Accountant General-I, Tamil Nadu has issued the Account slips for 1978-79 for all the subscribers with the following suffixes after their G.P.F. Account Numbers:—G.A., G.A.P; Pol., Judl., G.T., Regn., Misc., S & P., A.I.S., G.P.F.(M)., P.S.P.F.TSPF., LR. Jails. The slips have been sent to the Heads of Offices.

A statement showing the missing credits for the entire span of service of subscribers with suffix CT., PUD., Jails., S & P., Judl., and G.A., has also been sent to Heads of Offices.

If your account number bears one of the suffixes mentioned above, you are requested to contact the head of the office in which you were working in March 1979. In case you have any complaint regarding your account slip, please write to us on the following address.

"Shri N.Y. Pampapatheeswaran,
Accounts Officer (FM)
Office of the Accountant General-I, Tamil Nadu
No. 261, Anna Salai,
Madras-600 018.

OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL TAMILNADU

ISSUE OF GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS FOR 1978-79.

Account Statements for 1978-79 in respect of all General Provident Fund Account Numbers with the following suffixes along with a Brochure "Help us to help you", have been sent to the Heads of Offices. A statement containing missing credits for for the entire span of service has also been enclosed in respect of all accounts except accounts with Medl. P.W. & CPF (WC) suffixes.

EDN, MEDL, P.H., AGRI, VETY, CVD, CO-OP, IND, PW, FPR, EL, SCI, PORT & CPF (WC)

Subscribers are requested to take delivery of their Account Statements from the offices where they were working during March 1979.

Semman Harijan Colony

by A. RANGANATHAN

IT was Mahatma Gandhi, the architect of Indian freedom who gave to the world the nomenclature of Harijan (Hari-jan) to those oppressed and depressed classes, who were called Adi Dravidans in South India. "The Adi Dravidans were denied entry into the temples worshipped by the so-called higher caste Hindus. In the Brahmin colony called Agraharam, the pariahs could not go, and even in other streets occuped by the caste-Hindus, the Adi Dravidans could not walk with chappals on

Admission in educational institutions was denied to Harijan boys and girls. Even when admitted in schools the Harijan boys were accommodated in a separate block as they were considered as "untouchables." No-where in the world a certain class of people in whom runs the same kind of blood as in others is such a callous atrocity as 'untouchable' is being perpetrated as in India. To crown all these meaningless and horrible indignities, there was such a thing as 'unseables' The Harijans (people loved by Hari, which is another name for Lord Vishnu) are not fit enough to be seen by the Caste-Hindus and particularly Brahmins. This disgraceful cult of unseability died down slowly. But the curse of untouchability persisted. *

The British Government which was acclaimed as one in which the sun never sets, did not care to bridge the widening gulf between the caste-Hindus and Harijans. Theirs is a policy of divide and rule and it very well suited their policy of extending their undisputed sway in India to ignore the differences between caste-Hindus and Harijans.

It was only after the advent of Gandhiji into the confused Indian political scene that the depressed and oppressed class of people began to realise that in body politic of India, the so-called depressed class known by different names of Adi-Dravidan, had a part to play. These depressed and most backward class of Indians, though seething with the

discontent with the ignoble place assigned to them by caste-Hindus lacked unity and cohesion among themselves and pulled in different directions, more often than not in opposing camps. These people were clubbed together by the Indian National Congress led by Mahatma Gandhi as Harijans (people loved by Hari) and made to realise their selfrespect among other Castes. And once the banner of protest was raised, the Harijan lost no time and energy to voice their grievances openly. Slowly, the British Government realised that the bogey of protecting the rights of minority communities like Harijans, could no longer be raised, to the detriment of one another and to the perpetuation of the foreign rule. A certain percentage of seats was reserved for the Harijans who are collectively called Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes both in Government service and legislatures of the country.

With the grant of Minto-Morely reforms by which more Indians were sought to be associated with the Governance of the country, Harijans were appointed in Key Administrative posts including those of Ministers. The concession was extended further during the implementation of Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. under which the system of Government known as Ducarchy was introduced in the various states of the country. Some of the oppressed Harijans found in Rao Bahadur Mc Raja and Srinivasa Pillai in Tamilnadu and Dr. Amhedkar in North India become redoubtable champions of the Harijans with inalienable rights. The Indian National Congress in North India and the Justice Party, which was a ruling party in the South then exposed the absurdity of "untouchability and unseability, and propogated that given equal opportunities, the Harijans would rise to the occasion in the matter of education and public service. Noteworthy concessions in educational institutions and Government service were shown to the Harijans by the grant of scholarships and preferences in qualifications.

The Government ordered the throwing open of all streets and public wells to all classes of people including Harijan. In the course of time, enactments were made throwng open the Hindu temples to Harijans, who could go as freely as Hindus into any Hindu temples and worship the God on equality with the Hindus. In hotels run by Hindus, Harijans were ordered to be admitted on an equal footing with other caste Hindus and were not segregated in separate blocks as before. Even calling the Harijans as Pariahs is now forbidden by Law which if known will entail punishment with fine and imprisonment. Harijan hostel son concessional board ing and lodging charges, free education, provision of text books, notebooks and pencils has been ordered by the Government. Tennements on lower rents have been specially provided to Harijans in the place of

The fore-going account is only a summary of a few special opportunities and concessions for the Harijans ordered by the State Government.

With a view to assessing the reaction of the Harijans to the concessions by the State Government granted from time to time, I took a random sampling in an Harijan colony at Pallavaram an outskirt of the City, situated in picturesque sorroundings about 15 miles from the Madras City. This Harijan colony was once called SEMMAN CHERI. The Harijans seem to have resented the word CHERI, which they thought had an undignified connotation in the past. As a result, Semman Cheri changed to SEMMAN NAGAR. When I paid an unscheduled visit to the Semman Nagar a week ago, it was slightly drizzling, but the inmates were attending to their work without minding the drizzling, which perhaps came as a welcome change from the previous fortnight's sweltering heat. The first question I asked one of the aged Harijan, named Pavadai was "Why the colony acquired the name of Semman?" The old nona geranian strained his listless eyes and said "Once upon a time, the ground in this area was strewn with reddish mud."

When I asked him his age, he rubbed his sunken eyes and thought a while

"I must be about 95 years, Sir"
I: How do you know this? Do
you keep an Horoscope?"

Pavadai: Who has heard of Horoscope? I was 15 years old when Queen Victoria was ruling and her photo was imprinted on one rupee silver coins.

I: "What is the profession of the Harijans in this Colony?"

Pavadai: Most of the Harijans are tillers of the soil. Some are hewers of wood, some others are casual labourers like Sithal; some others are engaged in Beedi Factories, rolling beedies.

I: Are you satisfied with the various ameliorative measures like free education, free medical facilities, drinking water supply, maternity benefits, etc. provided by the Govern ment.

At this stage, a middle-aged woman named Dhanammal intervened and said:

"After M. G. R. became the Chief Minister, a lot of good things have been done to Harijans. Drinking water of good quality is being brought from wells at Chitlapakkam about 4 miles from our colony and distributed to the inmates of our huts every alternative day. To avoid discrimination and allegation of favouritism the token system is observed. Thus there is no quarrel among the residents regarding the supply of drinking water. We are grateful to the present Government for the benefits conferred on Harijans. But we want basic needs like good maintenance of roads. We are particularly thankful to the M.G.R administration for the enforcement of Prohibition of liquor. We would like to stress in this connection the need for more vigilence and altertness on the part of the Police Personnel to check illicit distillation of liquor."

The old nonogerarian Pavadai intervened and said "Enforcement of Probition is a very ticklish problem for any Government to tackle. It is a fight against age long habits and customs. Complete success can be achieved only slowly, through the enforcement of prohibition in its strict and stringent Laws have prevented many addicts from openly going to the licensed taverns and wasting their hard-earned money and neglecting their duties and obli-

gations to their families. After the advent of prohibition, our ladies are able to live a better living, buy sarees and clothes for children and enjoy such amenities like radios.

This woman conceded that the State Government is doing their best to amelieorate the living conditions of Harijans by means of giving free pattahs, and money grants for the rebuilding of huts and provision of middaymeals to school going children but she complained that authorities entrusted with the implementation of these beneficial measures are not as alert as they should be and inordinate delay and some times inaction are hampering the good intentions of the Government. Government officials entrusted with the task of fulfilling the intentions and measures of the Government, should be more responsive to the public needs."

With this unsolicited and frank tribute to the Government measures for the amelioration of the Harijans in Semman Nagar in Pallavaram, inhabited by about 2,000 people in about 200 huts and some requests for more beneficial measures, from the Government. I left the place to join the hundreds of people in the Bazaar Road in Contonement Pallavaram with the feeling that here was a colony of Harijans who unhesitatingly acknowledged the benefits conferred by the state government for their good.

SURVEY ON TRADE HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

The Department of Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu in collaboration with the National Sample Survey Organisation, Government of India, has launched a sample survey on trade, transport, hotels, restaurants, storage and services sectors during the year 1979-80.

The Statistical staff of Department of Statistics who have been specially trained in collection of statistics on these aspects will be shortly visiting villages and urban areas to contact individuals engaged in these professions to collect details for filling up schedules specially designed for this purpore. The information to be collected are vital from the National Planning point of view, which in turn help not only administrators in preparing plans but also the community at large. Therefore, accuracy and timeliness in the collection of data can hardly be over emphasised.

The data collected will be kept strictly confidential and they would be utilised only for statistical and planning purposes. Identity of the individuals who furnished the information will not be disclosed on any account.

The Commissioner of Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu appeals to all those who are engaged in these sectors to kindly furnish reliable data in time to the staff of his department. Public co-operation is solicited to make this survey a complete success.

Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary



SANCTUARY

The forest is a peculiar organism of unlinmited kindness and benevolence that makes no demands for its sustenance and extends generously the products of its life activity; it affords protection to all beings, offering shade even to the axeman who destroys it.

-GAUTAMA BUDDHA

Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the important sanctuaries in India. It is a major tourist attraction in the Nilgiris. Numerous tourists from all over the world visit this sanctuary every year. It lies in the Nilgiris district of Tamilnadu State abutting Kerala and Mysore States. It is situated at an elevation of 1000 metres and extends over an area of 324 sq. k.m. Nature has been lavish in providing this sanctuary with thickly wooded hills, plateaus, deep valleys, waterfalls, rivers, streams, marshes and saltlicks.

FAUNA AND FLORA IN THE SANCTUARY

The sanctuary is rich in animal life. Herds of elephants are very commonly seen in bamboo forests along the water courses. Chital population is high that no one canmiss them especially in the Masina gudi area. Sambar, though not plentiful, are available in sufficient numbers. One can also see gaur (Indian bison), wild boar, barking deer, mouse deer, Indian porcupine etc., in the sanctuary. Packs of wild dogs can be seen chasing the chital. Other animals commonly seen are malabar squirrel, flying squirrel, common languar, bonnet monkey, blacknaped hare etc. A panther and occasionally a tiger may also be seen if one has real good luck. Bears may be seen mostly in the early hours of the morning and late in the evening.

Pythons are among the advertised reptilian attraction of the sanctuary, but there are a number of snakes more commonly seen, including cobras, rat snakes and the saw scaled viper. Monitor lizards are a special feature of the Masinagudi scrub where they attain a large size.

For bird watchers, the sanctuary is a paradise. Their chorus at dawn is a delight to the visitor. One can see a variety of birds such as grey jungle fowl, peafowl, spur fowl, grey partridge and quail cros-

ing the forest roads. Shama, common iora, golden oriole and scarlet minivet entertain the visitors with their sweet melodies. Racket tailed drongo, malabar grey hornbill, malabar trogon, paradise fly catcher nightjar, hill mynah, wood peckers, pigeons etc. are also seen.

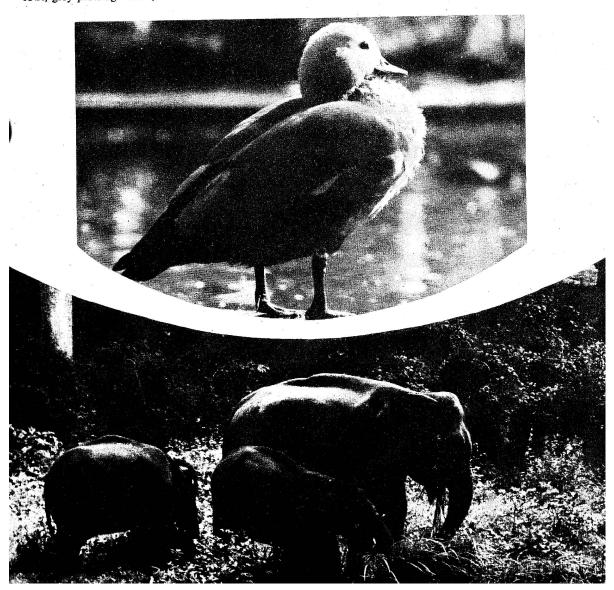
The sanctuary will appeal as much to people interested in the flora as to those who care for wild animals. The vegetation within the sanctuary varies from decidous to evergreen type. In the drier localities of the sanctuary species of Acacia and Albizzia, with a low undergrowth of lantana and other thorny bushes and short grasses are seen with a sprinkling of sandal-

wood. In the other areas of Mudumalai, one comes across valuable timber species such as rosewood, teak, venteak, vengai etc. Screwpine can be found along the streams and streamlets. Bamboo brakes are a special feature of the sanctuary and they are found in the moist regions.

PLACES TO SEE AND ENJOY:

Elephant camp:

Elephant camp where tamed elephants are kept is situated in the heart of the sanctuary at Theppakkadu. A visit to the elephant camp during the feeding time in the morning or evening is a 'must'.



You can also see and enjoy the baby elephants performing tricks. Elephants are available for ride through the sanctuary. Four adults can ride on one elephant for Rs. 10/- which is exclusive of visiting charges. The rides are available at 6.00 A.M., 8.00 A.M. and 4.30 P.M. Advance booking is required for elephant ride.

Moyar water falls:

The Moyar is the main river of the sanctuary and provides perennial water, satisfying the needs of all animals, big and small for drinking, wallowing and bathing. In places it is a deep fast flowing river with an impressive series of cascades at the waterfall in Theppakkadu which no one should miss.

Kargudi View point:

This view point is near Kargudi rest house. From here one gets a panoramic view of the country around.

How to reach THE SANCTUARY:

From the Coimbatore airport Mudumalai is accessible by good road, the distance being 160 km. The nearest railheads are Ootacamund and Mysore. Visitors can

reach Kargudi by bus from Ootacamund and also from Mysore. It is 64 km. from Ootacamund and 95 km. from Mysore. Ootacamund Mysore main road runs through the sanctuary. There are bus stops at Abhayaranyam rest house and at the Office of the Wildlife Range Officer, Karkudi. Tourist buses are available during the season at Ootacamund in the months of April and May for visiting the sanctuary. Regular buses also ply from Ootacamund to Mysore, to Moyar, to Gundalpet etc. via this sanctuary.

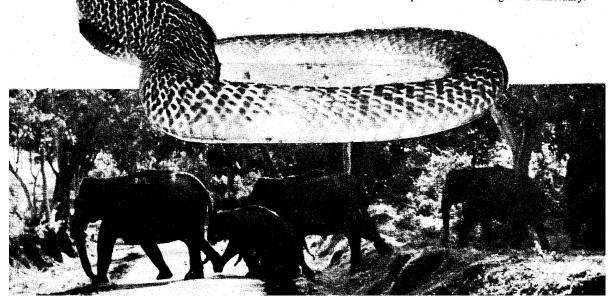
BEST TIME TO VISIT:

It is ideal to visit the sanctuary between February and June when the tall elephant grass dries up, increasing visibility considerably. The most suitable time to go round the sanctuary is between 6 and 9 in the morning and between 4 and 6 in the evening.

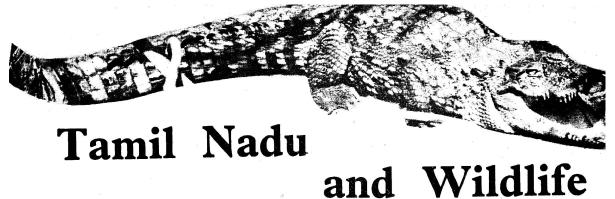
ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER FACILITIES:

There are four well equipped rest houses in the sanctuary viz. Abhayaranyam, Kargudi, Sylvan Lodge and Masinagudi rest houre., Besides, there are three dormitories two at Theppakkadu and one at Kargudi.

Log Houses have been built at Aba yaranyam, Theppakkadu and Masinagudi. The reservation for accommodation in all these is done by the wildlife Warden. There is a Reception Office in Uthagamandalam, which attends to the reservation of rest houses as well elephant rides through the sanctuary.





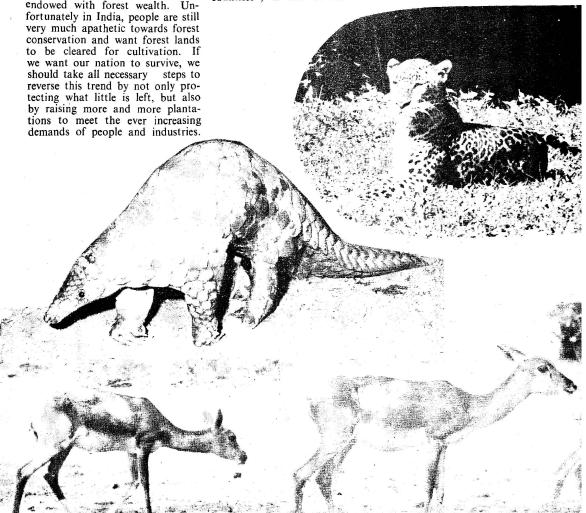


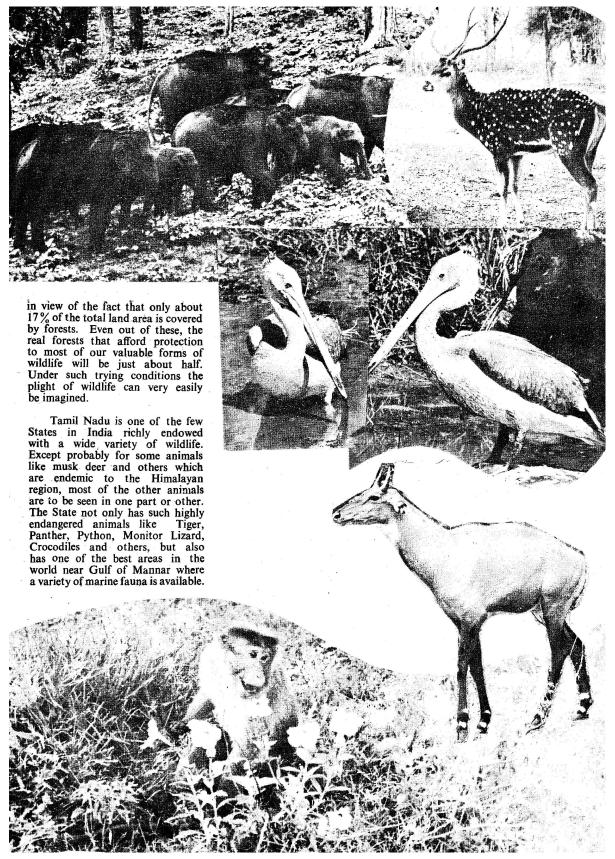
t is a sad irony that Forestry in general and wildlife in particular receive very low priority in India and Tamil Nadu is no exception to this general trend in the country. The well being of a nation has to be gauged by the forest wealth it contains and most of the advanced countries of the world are richly endowed with forest wealth. Unfortunately in India, people are still very much apathetic towards forest conservation and want forest lands to be cleared for cultivation. If we want our nation to survive, we should take all necessary steps to reverse this trend by not only protecting what little is left, but also by raising more and more plantations to meet the ever increasing demands of people and industries.

India forests and wildlife are inalien- thereby the entire environment. able. Sir Harry Champion, the doyen of Indian Forestry has said Wildlife in Tamil Nadu: "your wildlife is more concentrated in forests than in most other countries", in one of this letters Nadu cannot be said to be bright

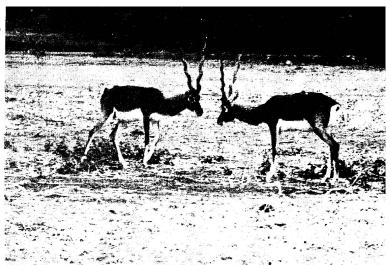
That a forceful plea is being to the Indian Forester. Thus the made for preventing forest clearance first step of preserving wildlife is is mainly due to the fact that in preservation of its habitat and

The forest wealth of Tamil





During the last three decades' after independence, if anything has suffered most, it can safely be said to be the country's wildlife. Every kind of animal, bird or fish has dwindled down so much in their numbers, that it was thought that unless stronger measures are taken * now, the chances of saving our valuable natural heritage will be redemption. And thus came into existence, one of the most comprehensive Acts in the cause of the dumb denizens of the forest in the form of The Wildlife & (Protection) Act, 1972. For once in the history of wildlife management, a mandatory imprisonment of a specified period was imposed for offences concerning certain endangered animals. It also gave sweeping power to State Governments to declare any area as a National Park or as a Sanctuary or even as a mere game reserve. The area so declared need not necessarily. be forests. By the simple reason of its ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological or zoological



association or importance, any area can be declared as a National Park by the concerned State Governments.

powers Tamil Nadu Government

has created the Kalakad Wildlife Sanctuary in 1976 and the Guindy National Park in 1978. For these acts, all naturalists and wildlife lovers all over the world will be Taking advantage of these grateful to the Government of Tamil Nadu in view of the fact that the



two areas contain some of the most endangered species in the world. For instance Guindy National Park has in it the Black Buck or the Indian antelope which is quite a rare animal to be seen in the wild. It is also the only forested area within metropolitan limits in the whole of Asia for which Tamil Nadu can be justifiably proud. Similarly Kalakad Sanctuary is the only sanctuary in the world created solely for protecing the magnificent liontailed macaque.

Central Sector Schemes:

One of the main reasons why State Governments do not give adequate importance to wildlife is finance. Realising this major constraint, Government of India have come forward with liberal financial assistance to various State Governments for development and conservation of suitable National Park such and Sanctuaries. To get Central aid some perquisites have to be fulfilled by indenting Governments like preparation of special management plans, appointment of competent and dedicated staff for implementing the schemes etc. And Tamil Nadu Government have ully utilised this gesture of Government of India and got some money for improvement of the Mudumalai Sanctuary, the Kalakad Sanctuary and the Point Calimere Sanctuary.

Another aspect where Government of India is really deeply perturbed is in protecting the endangered species that have been included in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. For all measures taken by State Governments for captive breeding of such species as well as protection given in sanctuaries, Central Government gives financial assistance to State. Utilising this offer, Tamil Nadu has done wonderfully well in captive breeding of crocodiles-mainly the Marsh Crocodile-for which Tamil Nadu is even today considered to be a repository. Thus Tamil Nadu today has over 1000 marsh crocodiles, all bred in captivity, some of which have already been released in the wilds.

Thought for the future:

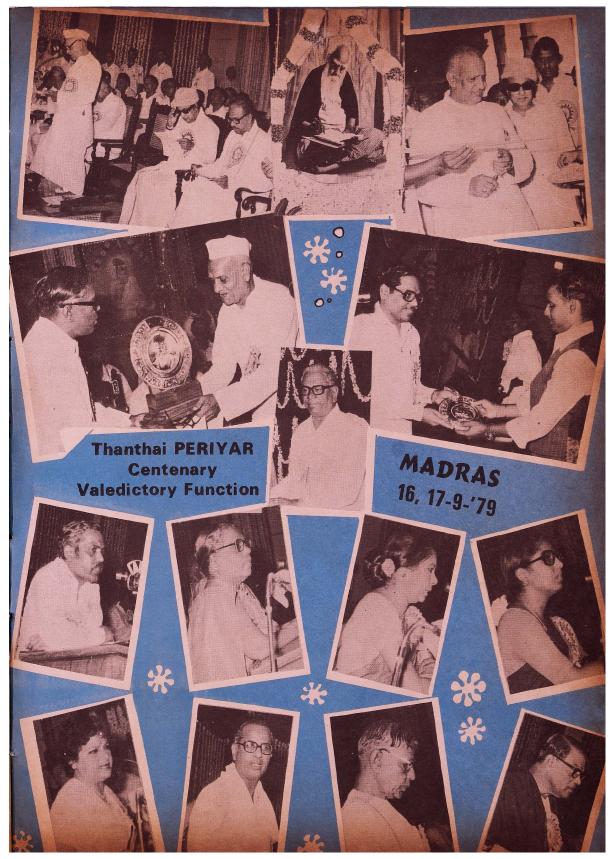
Tamil Nadu is fortunate in having a plethora of very interesting marine fauna off the Gulf of Mannar. The coral formations available there are the best to be seen anywhere near the mainland. Similar formations are said to occur only Eagle, Crab Plover, Sanderling etc., there.



in Andamans and helping in preventing sea erosion. country, if so declared. The corals are now being extracted indiscriminately by certain indus-Another very interesting

breaking the force of waves thus Park, which will be the first in the

Similarly the Pitchavaram tries. This should be put an end to. forests in South Arcot district need fauna to be preserved for its unique manavailable here is the Balanoglossus, groove forests and typical fauna. a hemichordate, said to be the conThe entire area can be preserved necting link between Veriebrates as a 'Nature Reserve' and the Salt and Invertebrates. There are also water crocodile another highly ensome birds like white-bellied Sea dangered reptile can be introduced



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