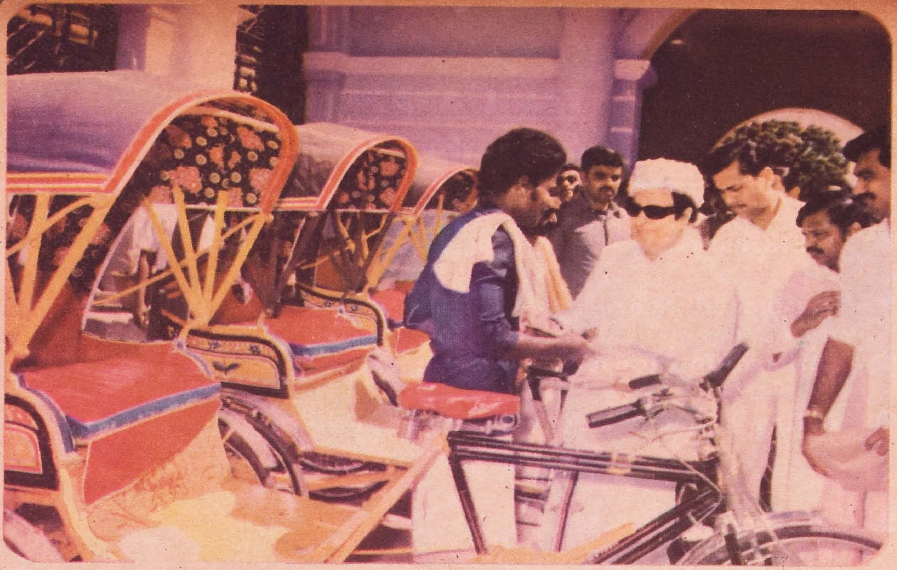




Tamil Arasu





Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. MGR distributed Motor driven cycle-rickshaws to Adi-Dravidars on 18.11.1987 at the Secretariat.

Hon'ble Finance Minister, Dr. Navalar V. R. Nedunchezian inaugurated the National Integration week at Kalaivanar Arangam, Madras on 19-11-87.



**TAMIL ARASU**  
*In Scope this Month..*

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- Children's Day Celebrations
- Jawaharlal Nehru -Indira Gandhi.
- National Integration Week Festival
- Indira Gandhi : Vibrantly alive in midst of Calm  
- Dr. Henry Austin
- Festival of U.S.S.R.
- Seasonal and crop conditions in Tamil Nadu  
- Thiru K. Rajaram
- Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant -Dayanand Pant.
- Women's Role in Economic Development
- Horticultural Development in the Nilgiris
- Siddha conquers Psoriasis

Thiruvalluvar year 2018.

November, 1-30, 1987.

Ayppasi - Karthigai



### Children's Day Celebrations in the City.

Children's Day Celebrations organised by the State Government was held at Kalaivanar Arangam on 14-11-87. Hon'ble Minister for Information and Tourism, Thiru V.V. Swaminathan presided over the function. Thiru R. Karpooarasundara Pandian, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations, welcomed the gathering. Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, Hon'ble Minister for Education, speaking at the function said the Government has bought 17 children's films from the USSR and had made arrangements to screen them in the theatres on the occasion of the Children's Day.

Thiru K. Gopalan, Director of School Education, proposed a vote of thanks.

A colourful children's rally in which pupils from nine schools took part, marked the celebration of Children's Day in Madras on 14th November, 1987.

Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, Hon'ble

Minister for Education, inaugurating the rally spoke about the vital role of children in shaping the country's future and welfare. Stressing the need for inculcating moral values in the pupils, he said the scientific spirit also must be cultivated. Children formed the nation's wealth, he added and conveyed the greetings of the Chief Minister to them. Thiru T.D. Sundar Raj, Education Secretary, presided.

Thiru M.S. Rangaswamy, Post Master General, presented a special stamp released on the occasion, to the Education Minister. Tmt. Andal Damodaran, Secretary, Indian Council for Children's welfare and Thiru R. Margabandhu, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, conveyed their best wishes to the children. Earlier, Thiru A. Erskine Devasirvatham, Chief Education Officer, Madras, welcomed the gathering at the indoor stadium of the Madras University in Spur Tank Road.





Thiru R. M. Veerappan, Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration after being sworn-in as Minister on 5-11-'87, presented 'Ponnadai' to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. and His Excellency, the Governor Thiru S. L. Khurana and received their blessings.





## Jawaharlal Nehru

(Indira Gandhi)

Jawaharlal Nehru is one of the key figures of the twentieth century. He symbolised some of the major forces which have transformed our age. When Jawaharlal Nehru was young, history was still the privilege of the West: the rest of the world lay in deliberate darkness. The impression

given was that the vast continents of Asia and Africa existed merely to sustain their masters in Europe and North America. Jawaharlal Nehru's own education in Britain could be interpreted, in a sense, as an attempt to secure for him a place within the pale. His letters of the time are evidence of his



sensitivity, his interest in science and international affairs as well as of his pride in India and Asia. But his personality was veiled by his shyness and a facade of nonchalance, and perhaps, outwardly there was not much to distinguish him from the ordinary run of men. Gradually there emerged the warm and universal being who became intensely involved with the problems of the poor and the oppressed in all lands. In doing so, Jawaharlal Nehru gave articulation and leadership to millions of people in his own country and in Asia and Africa.

That imperialism was a curse which should be lifted from the brows of men, that poverty was incompatible with civilisation, that nationalism should be poised on a sense of international community and that it was not sufficient to brood on these things when action was urgent and compelling - these were the principles which inspired and gave vitality to Jawaharlal Nehru's activities in the years of India's struggle for freedom and made him not only an intense nationalist but one of the leaders of humanism.

No particular ideological doctrine could claim Jawaharlal Nehru for its own. Long days in jail were spent in reading widely. He drew much from the thought of East and West and from the philosophies of the past and the present. Never religious in the formal sense, yet he had a deep love for the culture and tradition of his own land. Never a rigid Marxist, yet he was deeply influenced by that theory and was particularly impressed by what he saw in the Soviet Union on his first visit in 1927. However, he realised that the world was too complex, and man had too many facets, to be encompassed by any single or total explanation. He himself was a socialist with an abhorrence of regimentation and a democrat who was anxious to reconcile his faith in civil liberty with the necessity of mitigating

economic and social wretchedness. His struggles, both within himself and with the outside world, to adjust such seeming contradictions are what made his life and work significant and fascinating.

As a leader of free India, Jawaharlal Nehru recognised that his country could neither stay out of the world nor divest itself of its own interests in world affairs. But to the extent that it was possible, Jawaharlal Nehru sought to speak objectively and to be a voice of sanity in the shrill phases of the "Cold War". Whether his influence helped on certain occasions to maintain peace is for future historians to assess. What we do know is that for a long stretch of time he commanded an international audience reaching far beyond governments, that he spoke for ordinary, sensitive, thinking men and women around the globe and that his was a constituency which extended far beyond India.

So the story of Jawaharlal Nehru is that of a man who evolved, who grew in storm and stress till he became the representative of much that was noble in his time. It is the story of a generous and gracious human being who summed up in himself the resurgence of the "third world" as well as the humanism which transcends dogmas and is adapted to the contemporary context. His achievement, by its very nature and setting, was much greater than that of a Prime Minister.

Life means struggle and the higher you aim, the more you wish to achieve, the greater is the work and sacrifice demanded of you. Men of all religions have evoked the eternal truths. It is the great good fortune of India that she has given birth to great sons who have again and again revitalised her ancient thought to make it a part of the lives of the people. In our own lives, we were guided through perilous

times by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru who merged themselves in the general good. Each complemented the other. Each taught that every decision should be put to the acid test of its relevance to the welfare of the multitude. More than any "ism" this guiding principle will save us from error. As my father said:

....."the greatest prayer that we can offer is to take a pledge to dedicate ourselves to the truth, and to the cause for which this great countryman of ours lived and for which he has died."

**"The world is a fine place and worth Fighting For".**

-Ernest Hemingway.

## **TOWARDS A GREENER INDIA**

The central theme of this year's National Environmental Awareness Campaign (NEAC) is Floods and Drought--a topical choice in view of the current situation in the country. The devastation wrought by the floods in four states and the drought in 21 states has made it essential that we inform the younger generation about the necessity of protecting soil, conserving water and greening the earth.

The Centre for Environment Education (CEE) seeks to highlight these three points in its educational package this year. The package consists of an 11-panel exhibit, three sheets of colourful book labels for school children and an Activity Booklet.

The exhibits emphasize the urgency of our acting to stop the cycle of misery generated by either too little water or too much. It seeks to illustrate that floods

and drought are manifestations of the same phenomenon.

But, the fickleness of nature alone cannot be blamed for the tragedy that confronts us. Man's economic need and greed accentuate the severity of the problem. Using minimal text and arresting photographs, the exhibits point out the importance of saving water and soil--our most precious resources. Today we can utilize only a tenth of the rainfall we receive. With wiser usage--avoiding wastage, making small reservoirs and nurturing plants--annual rainfall can satisfy our freshwater requirements.

Soil erosion results in Rs.6000 crores of loss in food production annually. By halting man's unbalancing acts--deforestation, overgrazing and over-exploitation of ground reserves--the disaster initiated by the vagaries of nature can be stemmed.

**CEE-NFS.**





# NATIONAL INTEGRATION WEEK FESTIVAL

conduct competitions like the one conducted by AIR India is being worked out and that the winners will be taken on a tour of India.

Tmt. T.Yashodha, M.L.A., Thiru A.S.A. Arumugham, M.L.A., Thiru P. Uthrapathi, M.L.A., Thiru K. Muthuvel, M.L.A., and Thiru Tamil Arasan, M.L.A., addressed the gathering.

## Minorities Day

November 20th was celebrated as Minorities Welfare Day.

The Director of Backward classes, Thiru M.Balakrishnan, IAS., welcomed the gathering. The Director of Social Welfare, Thiru C.Thangaraj I.A.S., the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Thiru Ugamchand, the Chairman of Tamil Nadu Milk Producers Co-operative Federation, Thiru Chengam Jabbar, the General Manager of Tamil Nadu Milk Producers Cooperative Federation, Thiru M.H. Jalal, IAS., and the Former MLA., Thiru J.C.D. Prabhakaran addressed the gathering.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department, Thiru K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran said that all religions address human beings as children of God but when differences arise we talk of particular caste or religion. He stressed that this should change. The Public Works Minister said that the Hon'ble Chief Minister gives importance in providing facilities to the minorities and the arrangement for Haj Pilgrims at Madras is a simple instance of his care.

The World's largest democracy, India, celebrated its Unity in Diversity by a week long celebrations commencing on the birthday of late Prime Minister, Tmt. Indira Gandhi, i.e., the 19th of November.

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the inauguration of National Integration Week celebrations was held at Kalaivanar Arangam, Madras on November 19th.

The Director of Information and Public Relations, Thiru R.Karpoorasundarapandian, I.A.S., welcomed the gathering, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Dr.Navalar Nedunchezian read out the oath of National Unity and everyone pledged to preserve National Integration. Inaugurating the celebrations, the Finance Minister stressed on the need for National Unity and paid handsome compliments to Tmt. Indira Gandhi for her efforts to preserve national integration.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Prohibition and Electricity, Thiru V.V.Swaminathan said that we must enquire into the causes that attempt to divide India's unity and must take adequate steps to eliminate them. He added that a plan to

A cultural programme by school children was organised at the function.

### Linguistic Solidarity Day:

November 21st was celebrated as a day for Linguistic Solidarity.

The Collector of Madras, Thiru Bhujanga Rao, I.A.S., welcomed the gathering.

Presiding over the function the Hon'ble Minister for Education and Law Thiru C.Ponnaiyan said that every Indian citizen should put his heart and soul to preserve India's integration. India's unity is paramount and Tamil Nadu's contribution to it must be vital, he said.

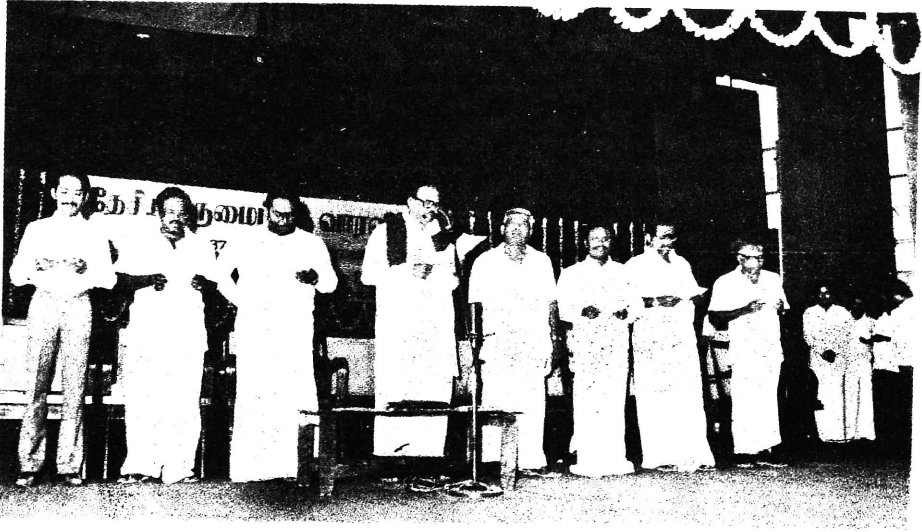
Social Welfare Department, Thiru C.Thangaraju, I.A.S., and Tmt. P. Valarmathi, MLA., spoke on the occasion.

The Hon'ble Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare, Thiru A.Arunachalam presiding over the function said that Tmt. Indira Gandhi was willing to sacrifice her last blood for India's unity. He added that the Government of Dr.MGR has allotted Rs.132 crores for the welfare of the downtrodden and the underprivileged.

The Hon'ble Minister distributed Savings Certificates worth Rs.4000 and Rs.300 in cash to each of 5 inter caste couples.

### CULTURAL SOLIDARITY DAY

November 23rd was celebrated



Thirukuralar Thiru V.Munusamy, Director of School Education, Thiru C.Gopalan and Prof.Paramasivanandam addressed the gathering.

### Weaker Sections Welfare Day:

November 22nd was celebrated as the day for the welfare of weaker sections.

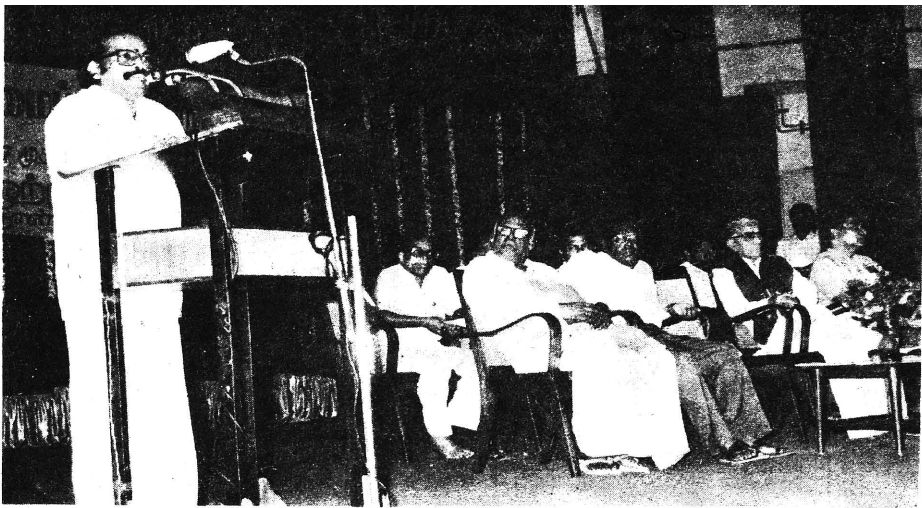
The Director of Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes, Thiru P. Bhaskara Das, I.A.S., welcomed the audience. The Secretary of

as the Day of cultural Solidarity.

The Assistant Director of Tamil Development Department Thiru Periyandavar welcomed the gathering. The Secretary of the Tamil Development Department Dr. Avvai Natarajan and Professor Gnana Sundaram addressed the meeting.

Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Thiru Muthusamy presiding over the function said that it hurts to think that we have to organise functions every year to realise





ourselves as Indians. The feeling of being an Indian must arise at birth, the Minister added.

### Women's Welfare Day

November 24th was celebrated as the day for women's welfare.

The Director of Social Welfare, Tmt. Sheela Rani Chungath, IAS, welcomed the gathering. Hon'ble Minister for Nutrition Meal, Thiru R. Soundararajan presiding over the function spoke on the various schemes of the Tamil Nadu Government for the welfare of women.

Prof. Tmt. Rajalakshmi Ramachandran, Tmt. Savitri Raghavendra, Prof. Jeya Muniyasamy, and Tmt. Punithavathi Illangovan addressed the audience.

### National Integration Day: Valedictory Function

November 25th was celebrated as National Integration week valedictory Day, the birth centenary of Govind Ballabh Pant and the day of Environment Protection.

The Director of Information and Public Relations, Thiru R. Karpooarasundarapandian, IAS., welcomed the gathering.

The Sheriff of Madras, Thiru M. Saravanan, Thiru C.R. Pattabhiraman, Dr. H.V. Hande, Thiru S. Duraisamy, MLA., Tmt. Sarojini Varadappan and Thiru V.O.C. Subramaniam addressed the gathering.

Presiding over the function and





as also after declaring open the photo exhibition on the life of Govind Ballabh Pant, the Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Thiru Thirunavukarasu said:

"Pant, though born in an affluent family tirelessly worked for the Adi Dravidar Community. He was as much as a revolutionary as Thanthai Periyar.



We must feel strongly that we are Indians. This feeling is the basis for National Integration".

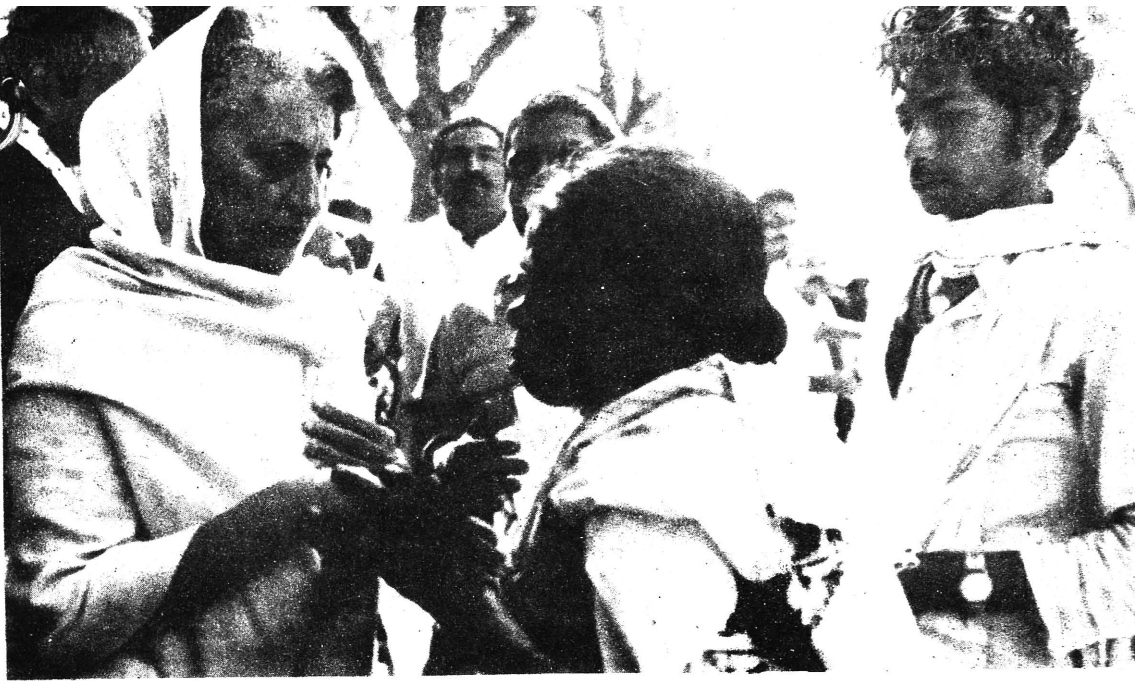
A booklet on the life of Govind Ballabh Pant prepared by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations was released by the Hon'ble Housing Minister and received by the Hon'ble Chairman of the High Level Committee on Tamil Development, Dr.M.P.Sivagnanam

Unveiling a portrait of Govind Ballabh Pant, the Hon'ble Chairman of the High Level Committee on Tamil Development, Dr.M.P.Sivagnanam said:

"We must realise that the benefit and facilities we enjoy in India are due to the freedom we won after a hard battle.

The Commissioner of Madras Corporation, Tmt. Shantha Sheela Nair; I.A.S., proposed a vote of thanks.

**M. SHRINAGESH.**



**Indira Gandhi:**

**VIBRANTLY ALIVE IN MIDST**  
**OF CALM**

(DR. HENRY AUSTIN)

"Probably no woman in history has assumed a heavier burden of responsibility and certainly no country of India's importance has before entrusted so much power to a woman under democratic conditions. She has a sharp mind, a strong will and a dedicated spirit".

The above mentioned words were written about Shrimati Indira Gandhi by John Grigg (the former Lord Altrincham) in "The Guardian" in January, 1966. The sentences quoted have a clear undercurrent of anxiety, notwithstanding the praise about her personal traits at the tail-end. Nobody could at that time presage whether Smt. Gandhi would be able to make a success as the administrative head of the biggest democracy in the world. The fear was not ill-founded because a towering international figure like Jawaharlal

Nehru, her own father, had earlier ruled the country since independence except for a brief interlude of Lal Bahadur Shastri's Prime Ministership. The doubting Thomases have since been silenced and the anxiety of well-wishers has been transformed into unstinted praise. Smt. Indira Gandhi has again and again proved her mettle during the days of war and peace.

**Secret of Success:**

The secret of her success, based on the affection of the masses of India, lies in her being the best representative of the land. Like her father she reflects the mood of the people in minutest details. This was evidenced on the first day she assumed the office as Prime Minister. Her forehead displayed the auspicious "bindi" conspicuously and the traditional necklace of black beads



adorned her neck. Looking at her at the time one could whisper "The traditional Indian style", but while taking the oath of office, Smt. Indira Gandhi did not utter the words "I swear by God". She rather preferred to pronounce, "I solemnly affirm". This is how tradition blended with modernity in her and that is exactly what India today is trying to achieve.

The most conspicuous characteristic of our culture has been tolerance of faiths, languages, customs and races. According to Smt. Indira Gandhi too "Indian tradition is tolerance and non-violence but also in the deepest sense a realistic approach to life. To see that, one must separate superstition from what is a real value in our thoughts". This is why her whole life has been a battle against superstition and a crusade against communalism.

#### Traditional and Modern:

An incident during the dark days of riots following partition well illustrates the mental make-up of the First Lady of India. Riots were in full swing and people were mad with rage. She was coming to Delhi from Mussoorie. Near Delhi at Shahdara she heard shouts and screams. She saw an Old Muslim of about 60 being hunted like a beast by a mob of 200 rowdies. She jumped out of the compartment and pushed the old man behind her. The crowd facing her screamed. "Who are you? What are you doing? "It doesn't matter what my name is, but I want to know what you are doing? I know what I am doing, I am saving this man. What are you doing?" shouted back Indiraji. "You can't save him. We are going to kill him and if you stand there we will kill you too", retorted the rowdies. Very coolly she stated, "Well, if you want to kill me, you may do so. But I don't think you have the courage-not one of you two hundred people has the courage to lift one hand here".

She is firmly convinced that the communalists in India are the biggest enemies of the land. Hers is not an intellectual watch-tower approach. She is an activist-a real fighter ready to face the storm in the thick. She knows that the vast multitudes of India do not support the narrow communal approach in life. It is only a small number who harbour such dark ideas.

Her political approach too is imbued with the ideal of service to the nation and the people. As expressed by her more than once her ideal, when she was a teenager was that of Joan of Arc. Krishna Huthesingh in her book "WE NEHRUS" relates the incident thus; I remember one evening, when she was eight or nine years old, I saw her standing on the railing of our house clutching a pillar with one hand, the other raised high. She seemed to be muttering something. So I went up to her and asked, "What in the world you are trying to do?" She looked at me solemnly with her round little face ringed by jet black hair and her dark eyes burning and said, "I'm practising Joan of Arc. I have just been reading about her and some day I am going to lead my people to freedom just as Joan of Arc did".

#### NOT A DAY-DREAMER:

This shows the enthusiasm of a small girl. But more than that, even at that tender age she did not confine to day-dreaming alone. When barely 12 she requested for being a member of the Congress but was refused on account of her age. She immediately thought out a way to work for the cause. She founded the "Vanar Sena" (Monkey Brigade) a children's corps to help the Congress. This organization boasted of a membership of 6,000 youngsters with branches as far away as in Calcutta and Bombay. This spirit to fight against injustice Indiraji has shown in abundance since then.

Whatever the work in hand, she tried her best to do justice without sparing herself at all.

Indiraji has never been a coward.

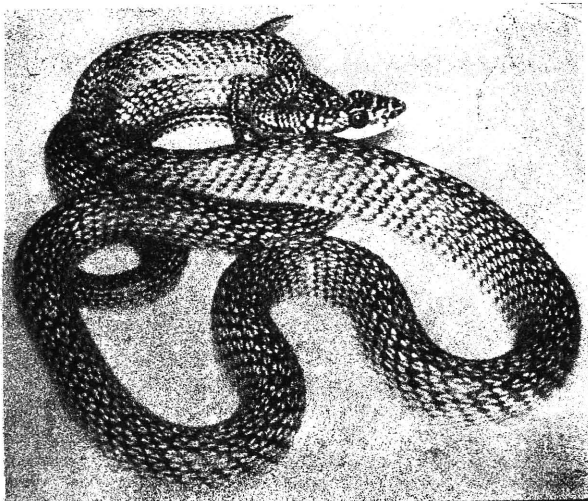
She braved the storm, faced the armed invasion and defeated the opponents. This is and has always been her style of life and her way of action.

Desirous of weeding out corruption from Public life and communalism from society, she has taken

so many steps. She has streamlined the official world, declared her 20-Point Economic Programme which has electrified the country. She has banned the communal organizations and imparted a new sense of dynamism in every sphere of life.

"The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world".

-William Ross Wallace.



It is a fact that no living reptile has developed the powers of flight of birds and bats. However, greatly exaggerated notions about their so called 'flying' powers persist because certain tree dwelling snakes are able to glide or parachute through air.

A small but pretty tree snake called Golden Tree Snake (*chrysopelea*) is by far the most spectacular of all the living reptiles because it is the only flying snake known to zoologists. This snake is jet black in colour with yellow, mauve or red-coloured spots on the back. It is found in the thick forests of north-east, south-west India and Andaman Islands. It attains a length of 2 metres and

### 'FLYING SNAKES' IN THE FORESTS OF TAMIL NADU

-T.S.N. MURTHY

is active during the day when it hunts for its food mostly consisting of lizards, frogs, small birds and mammals. In spite of all the stories, this snake cannot actually fly but is able to glide remarkably well. To achieve this feat, it jumps into space while spreading simultaneously its ribs, flattening the body and drawing its belly into a concave gliding surface. After landing on the branch of another tree it regains its form and repeats the whole process. All said and done, it is indeed a feast for the eyes to watch this snake leaping from branch to branch in between trees.

The Flying Snake can attack the running prey on a tree, kill it, and swallow it-the whole operation being accomplished in mid air while the snake remains suspended by its tail from a tree branch. It is a rear-fanged snake and the saliva secreted by it is toxic enough to immobilise its prey.

The 'Flying Snake' is one of the few snakes that retains its beauty whether alive or dead.



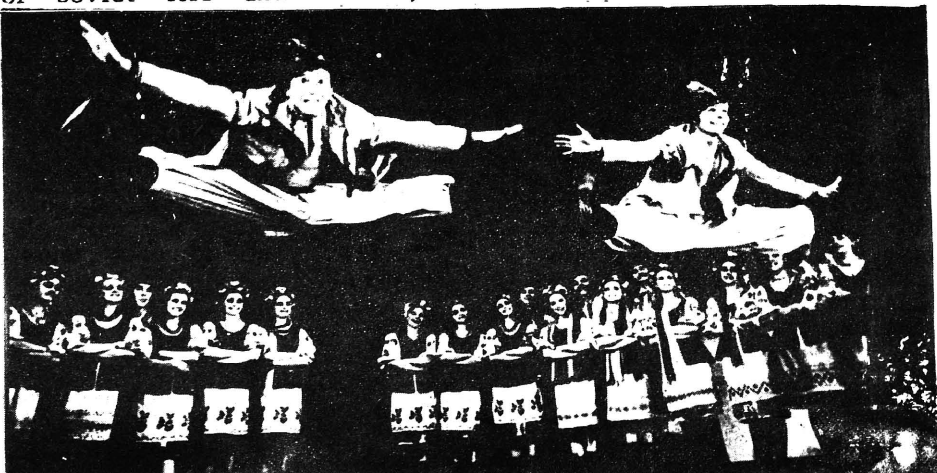
# FESTIVAL OF USSR

The Russians, in all their resplendent glory, presented a gala spectacle of their music, folk dances, ballet, acrobatics, circus and fireworks as the Festival of the USSR in India opened on 21st November, 1987 heralding a new era in Indo-Soviet friendship and co-operation.

The festival, a year-long panorama of Soviet life and culture,

was inaugurated with the unveiling of a bronze statue of V.I. Lenin. A symbolic welcome ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhawan characterised by stately dignity and solemnity followed by a dramatised cultural extravaganza at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium marked the prestigious event.

Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi and Soviet Premier Mr.





Nikolai Ryzhkov hailed the reciprocal festivals, commemorating India's 40th Independence anniversary and the 70th anniversary of the October revolution, "as the intermingling of the peoples of two large countries with large hearts sharing a rich and varied cultural heritage".

The welcome ceremony received a touch of tradition when 15 girls, representing the Soviet republics in colourful ethnic attire, offered "bread and salt" to Thiru Gandhi as a gesture of greeting an honoured friend.

The festival emblem based on the sculpture "worker and woman peasant", and flags of all the Soviet republics provided the backdrop to the specially constructed dais. Boys and girls dressed in Soviet costumes lined the stage, lending colour and grandeur to the inaugural function.

The exuberance and splendour of the Soviet performing arts soon filled the air with dance tunes rendered by the brass band orchestra and an episode from the "Swan Lake" staged by the soloists of the Bolshoi theatre.

The famed folk dance ensemble of Igor Moiseev presented "The Dance of Work" a choreographic

composition specially evolved for the occasion.

The two-and-a half hour spectacle for the privileged audience was truly a memorable glimpse into the varied Soviet art and culture. Soviet boys and girls enacted the "bread and salt" ritual and exchanged gifts. Waves of applause greeted the players as they made symmetrical formation to the soft strains of orchestra music.

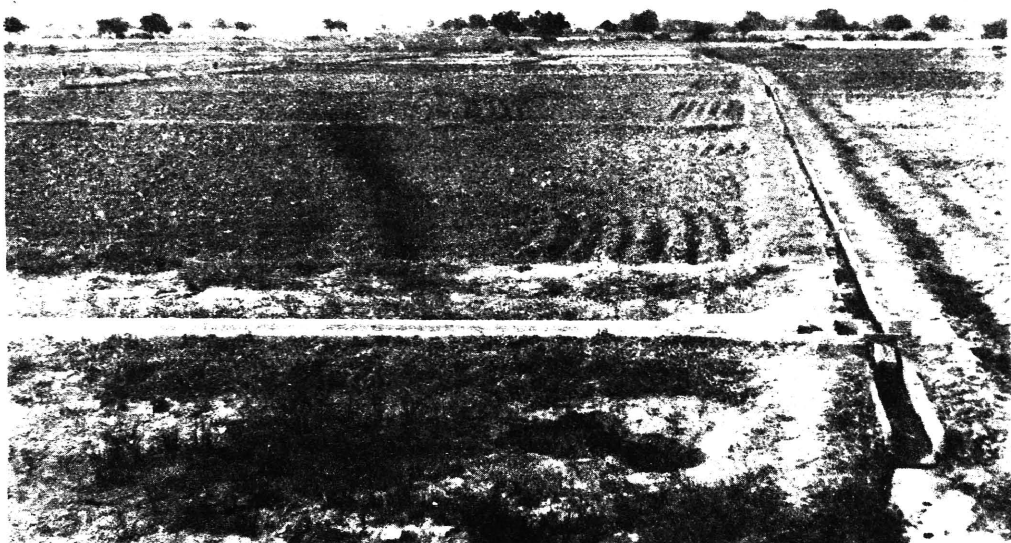
The highlight of the grand show at the Nehru stadium was the travel in a time machine as it were to the days of the October revolution of 1917.

The five-part presentation was in live flag pictures formed by 8,000 NCC cadets trained by Soviet experts in a short span.

A scenario of the Soviet Union's achievements in sports followed and gave way to Yuri Grigorovich of the Bolshoi ballet, who performed in an open air stadium for the first time.

The fabled Russian circus with its 150 clowns was a rare treat. A display of the contradictions of the 20th century, an "age of reason" and an 'age of madness', asking all countries to work together for a nuclear-free 21st century was a fitting finale.





# SEASONAL AND CROP CONDITIONS IN TAMIL NADU.

Thiru K. Rajaram,  
Hon'ble Minister for  
Industries and Agriculture.

## Seasonal Rainfall:

The rainfall in Tamilnadu was considerably less than the normal rainfall during the summer and the South-west monsoon seasons upto August and therefore the drought situation which prevailed during the previous years continued during the current year also. As against the normal rainfall of 942.8 mm received from January to December, the actual rainfall upto the end of November during the current year is only 764.3 mm. Because of poor rainfall in the Western Ghats the inflow into the various reservoirs was very low and water could not be released for irrigation from the different reservoirs on the specified dates.

## Paddy: KURUVAI SEASON:

Due to inadequate storage in the reservoirs, tanks and wells the kuruvai cultivation was very much affected. Against the normal area of 4.15 lakh hectares during the Kuruvai season only 0.85 lakh hectares could be brought under cultivation.

## SAMBA SEASON:

As water could not be released in the Cauvery delta as well as other ayacut areas the Department of Agriculture took up special efforts to compensate the loss of production in kuruvai season. The farmers were advised to pre-

pare the lands and take up direct sowing of paddy utilising the local rains. Besides they were also advised to go in for raising of nurseries with the rain water. Only short and medium duration varieties were recommended to the farmers during Samba season in the place of long duration varieties. As a result of the extension efforts taken by the Department of Agriculture 3.15 lakh hectares have been brought under direct sowing all over the State, which is a significant achievement. It is worth mentioning that the Thanjavur farmers who are normally accustomed to canal irrigation have raised paddy in an extent of 2.1 lakh hectares by direct sowing. As the rainfall position improved considerably during September and October in Thanjavur as well as in other districts the farmers have started transplanting paddy. Filter points and bore wells were also utilised for irrigation to hasten the transplanting of paddy.

#### Present position:

Due to substantial inflow, the various reservoirs like Mettur, Papanasam and Periyar have been thrown open for irrigation. As against the normal area of about 18 lakh hectares during Samba Thaladi seasons, 13.21 lakh hectares have been covered so far and the transplanting is still going on. It is expected that another 4 lakh hectares will be covered including the Navarai season. In total it is expected that a minimum of 18 lakh hectares will be brought under paddy during the current year as against the normal area of 24 lakh hectares.



#### Efforts to increase the production:

The general condition of the standing paddy crop is good all over the State. The farmers have also taken up application of fertilisers in a massive way to off-set the loss of production in Kuruvai. It is a redeeming feature to note that the consumption of fertilisers during October-November has considerably increased. The extension machinery of the Agriculture Department has been geared up to monitor the incidence of pests and diseases and to take up control measures then and there. All efforts are being taken to achieve the normal production level of 54 lakh tonnes of rice. In any case the rice production during the current year will not be less than 45 lakh tonnes.

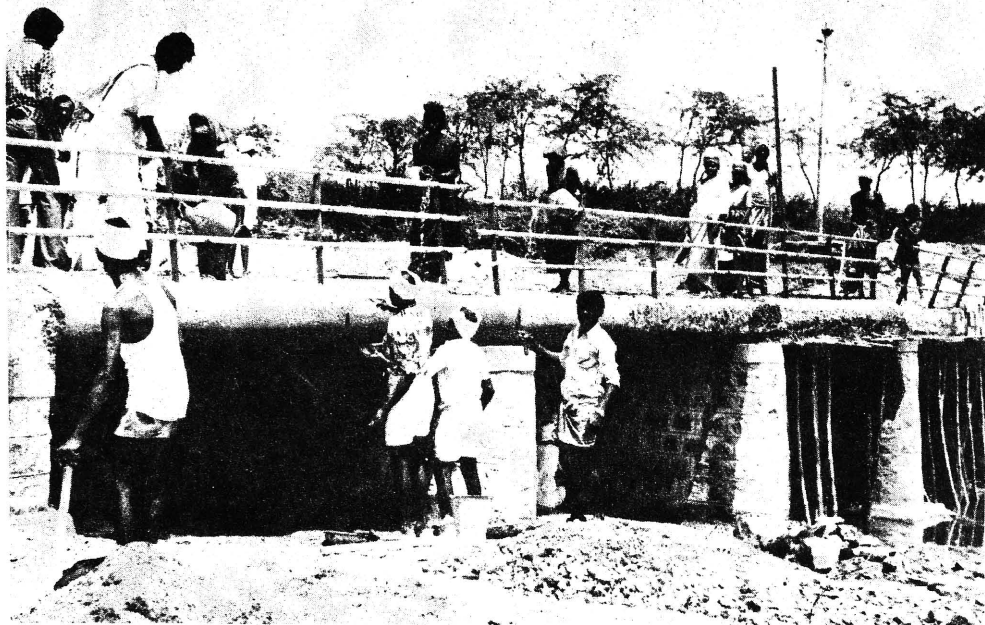
#### Other Crops:

Since the rainfall was scanty during the months of June, July and August, the rainfed crops like Millets and Pulses could not be covered fully. Thanks to the good showers received during September and October, the coverage under rainfed crops has been more than the normal area as shown below:

( In Lakh Hectares )

Crop	Normal area upto 30-11-'87	Area covered
Paddy	21.80	14.06
Millets	12.91	14.66
Pulses	4.87	6.28
Cotton	1.55	1.85
Sugarcane	1.18	1.30





### Inputs:

The availability of the various agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are being closely monitored and adequate quantity of these inputs are made available to the farming community through the agricultural depots and the cooperatives. The crop loans are also being sanctioned by the various financing institutions to the extent required without any delay. Adequate stocks of the various agricultural inputs are available in the agricultural depots, the Cooperatives and the private Institutions.

The recent rains will be very helpful to the standing crops in Thanjavur district and the inundation of about 10,000 acres is not in anyway going to affect the crops. There have been welcome rainfalls in most of the paddy cultivating coastal districts of Tamil Nadu. Particularly, this has enabled us to postpone the release of water from Mettur by a few more days, which will ultimately enable us to release water for irrigation towards the end of the cropping season.





**Bharat Ratna**

**PANDIT GOVIND BALLABH PANT**

**(1887-1961)**

**A Great Son of India**

**By--Dayanand Pant**

"More than as a parliamentarian, more than as a statesman, more than as a councillor and more than as a minister, he shone as a man", thus speaks Dr. Ishwari Prasad of Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant. Known for his patriotism, administrative skill and his affectionate heart for the down-trodden, his name will shine for ever in the galaxy of the builders of Modern India.

Pt Govind Ballabh Pant was born on Anant Chaturdashi day, 16 Bhadrapada, Vikram Samvat 1944 (Saka 1809, 1887 A.D.). As the Anant Chaturdashi fell on 10 September in the year 1946 when his birthday was first officially celebrated in Lucknow, this date has since been recognised as the date of his birth. His father Pt Manorath Pant was serving in the Revenue Department in Garhwal. His Mother Smt Govindi was the daughter of Rai Bahadur Pt Badri Dat Joshi of Dania.

#### **Early Life:**

Govind was born in the village Khoont, situated on the foothill

of Syahidevi mountain in the vicinity of Almora. When four, his maternal grand father took him to Almora. Govind was brought up under his loving care and educated first privately and later at the Ramsay Intermediate College wherefrom he passed the Intermediate Examination with merit. This got him a monthly scholarship of Rs.20/-which was enough in those days to partially support his higher studies at Allahabad.

During his adolescent years at Almora he was fond of horse riding and musing among the forests. Almora being a place to which nature has bestowed all her charms with snow-clad peaks in the north radiating joy and happiness, and the setting-sun imparting rainbow hues to the evening sky, sowed in Govind the seeds of patriotism, humanism and religious sentiments which, in due course, began to germinate with full vigour. At home, he was inspired by the actions of his grand father who was an administrator, a philanthropist and a patron of arts. However, his baptism into politics was his entry into a secret club at Dubkia, Almora, called the 'Hope Club'.

#### **Academic Career:**

He joined the Allahabad University in 1905 and passed the Ll.B.

examination in 1909 standing first, for which he was awarded a gold medal. While he was at Allahabad, India was passing through a period of awakening. Pant attended the Benaras session of the Congress in 1905 and it was here that he had the first 'darshan' of his political guru Gokhale. The logic of Gokhale and the temperament of Malaviya impressed him most. He also became an ardent admirer of Bankim got actively involved in political activity for which he was debarred from appearing for the B.A. examination. His Mathematics teacher Prof. Cox, however, had to intervene to secure for him the permission to appear for this examination.

At Allahabad, he spent some time learning classical Hindustani music, but could not make much headway except developing a good ear for music. He was extremely fond of the **Kumaoni** style of Holi singing and musical sittings were organised at his residence both in Lucknow and New Delhi.

Soon after passing the Ll. B. examination, Pant started legal practice at Almora. He soon migrated to Ranikhet, Kashipur and ultimately settled in Nainital. He was the most sought-after lawyer of Kumaon and he earned name, fame, and wealth. As a lawyer he was at his zenith in the famous Kakori case.

His wife Smt Kaladevi bore him three children-two daughters Laxmi and Pushpa and one son Krishna Chandra, who is now a Minister in the Central Cabinet.

### **Social Reformer:**

Besides his activities as a lawyer his main activity was the organisation of **Kumaon Parishad** which he founded in 1916. The Parishad was devoted to the uplift of the hill folks. It was under the auspices of the Parishad that Pant wrote his first monograph entitled, 'Forest Problem of Kumaon',

which was published in 1921. He wrote:

"Then on the plea of preventing the reckless denudation of the wooded area, the Government declared all the unmeasured lands and even waters as protected forests....all this for the benefit of the people of Kumaon....Restore our forests to us and kindly teach us to revert to our primitive way".

This was written decades before the present awakening regarding the preservation of ecosystems had dawned.

The main achievement of the **Parishad**, however, was the abolition of "Kulibegar" a practice of forcing villagers to work for government officials without any payment.

As a social reformist, Pant not only tried to eradicate untouchability but also encouraged the Brahmins to plough the fields. Later, he became the champion of eradication of a kind of devadasi system that was then prevalent in Kumaon.

### **Plunge into Politics:**

Pt Pant's patriotic fervour and restless spirit could not rest content within the confines of the bar and the call of Mahatma Gandhi soon found him in the forefront of the struggle for India's freedom. He plunged into politics wholeheartedly.

He was elected to the U.P. Legislative Council in 1923 and soon became the leader of the **Swaraj** party. His speeches in the Council were demonstrative of the fact that he was an extraordinary debator. He was elected President of the UPCC in 1927 and at its session at Aligarh, he highlighted the communal problem, gnawing at the entrails of the Indian society. In 1928, along with Nehru, he led a demonstration against Simon Commission and received severe lathi blows



which rendered him partially invalid throughout the rest of his life. This was followed by his arrest in 1930 for six months in connection with the Salt Satyagraha. In 1932, he again landed in Bareilly and Dehradun Jails. Jawaharlal Nehru was with him in the prison and Pt Pant used to read through the manuscript of the Autobiography which Nehru was then busy writing.

In 1934, Pt Pant was elected a member of the Central Legislative Assembly where he crossed swords with official members and came to be known as a great parliamentarian and financial expert.

But he did not remain there long. In 1937, he had to resign to seek election to the UP Assembly. He won the election and was elected leader of the Congress Party. He became the Premier of UP and continued till 1939, when war broke out and Congress decided to give up office as a protest against the decision of the British Government to involve India in the war without the consent of the Indian People.

He was imprisoned for individual satyagraha in 1940 and also in 1942 during the 'Quit India' Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi. He was lodged in Ahmadnagar prison along with Nehru, Patel and other leaders. He was released in 1945 to be elected again to the UP Assembly in 1946 and was the Chief Minister for eight years.

### **The Dream Comes True:**

During this period, his dream of Independence was realised. While unfurling the National flag in Lucknow on 15 August, 1947, he was filled with emotion and he declared that as his dream had been fulfilled he would not mind if he was snatched away from the world that very day. Following the partition of the country in 1947, the country was plagued by communal riots and it was Pantji's firm and determined

action that prevented much harm in UP.

He joined the Central Cabinet in December 1954 and became Home Minister in February, 1955. His Home Ministership was conspicuous for various achievements including the task of redrawing the map of India in the light of the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission. Every notable event that shaped the destiny of India between 1955 and 1960 bears an imprint of Pantji's personality. He was the only person who was consulted by Nehru whenever he had a problem and it was he alone who could temper Nehru's idealism with his realism.

For his outstanding services to the Nation he was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1957.

On the fateful day of 20 February, 1961, Pt Pant was busy working on official files when he abruptly sent for Shri Asoke Sen, the Law Minister and asked him to reply to a debate in the Rajya Sabha next day. As he was explaining some points to Shri Sen, he suffered a stroke and lost consciousness never to regain it. He passed away on 7th of March, 1961.

His passion was to see his motherland free, for which he was ready to sacrifice his all. As he said in the Central Legislative Assembly (4.2.35): "The right of self rule is to be asserted, achieved and accomplished, it cannot be the gift of one country to another". Once this goal (freedom) was achieved he devoted wholeheartedly to other reforms, the most significant being the agrarian reforms.

### **Agrarian Reforms:**

He had, all through, been a staunch supporter of the Kisans. His role in the passage of Agra Tenancy Act of 1926 was noteworthy. He thus roared in the UP Legis-

lature Council (8.7.1926): "There are millions and millions of our countrymen who get only one meal a day. Can it be said that it is equitable or human that they must be squeezed further". The years following independence were mostly occupied by tasks pertaining to abolition of **Zamindari**. He successfully piloted the Bill in the Assembly and saw to its effective implementation, concerned as he was over the exploitation of peasants.


### **Communal Harmony:**

Next to agrarian reforms, his main concern was communal harmony in the state. He was of the firm conviction that communal tension was the creation of foreign rule. This he asserted in the Central Legislative Assembly (4.2.1935): "We have been reminded of our communal differences. This bogey is placed before us in order to confound us. Is it not historical truth again that in every country such differences are an inseparable attribute of foreign rule? On the eve of the conferment of self-rule in Canada, the French and the British could not play a football match for the fear that it might

lead to murders and other outrages". In a public speech at Patna (19.10.1937), commenting on the irresponsible remarks of Mr Fazlul Huq, the Chief Minister of Bengal, Pt Pant retorted: "Even if atrocities on Hindus are committed by Muslims in other provinces, in my province I will act as a protector of Muslims' rights".

Much is known about Pt Pant's abilities as an administrator, debator and freedom fighter. If one surveys his earlier speeches when he sat in the opposition benches and had enough time to give more thought to the subject, it becomes manifest that he was a great thinker.

In fine, Pt Pant was imbued with the loftiest ideals of patriotism and sought the greatest reward in the self-less service to his fellow men. His massive frame was matched by a massive intelligence, his imperturbability by persuasiveness, his computer-like memory by a logical acumen, and all these were amalgamated with a positive purposefulness. His determination, dedication, devotion and diligence only added lustre to his greatness. He was born great.



"No man has a right to  
Fix the boundary of the march

Of a nation; no man has a  
right to Say to his country

-thus far Shalt thou go and  
no further".

-Charles Stewart Parnell.



# WOMEN'S ROLE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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It is vitally important that development planners who are concerned about Third World Women should seek to eliminate discrimination against them in all development planning.

In the U.S.S.R. it is reported that Women get a better deal and equal opportunities and are also guaranteed in many areas ranging from education (Half of the University Students are Women) and Vocational training to employment, pay and promotion.

It was an important part of the reasoning behind the refusal by the Secretariat of International Women's year and the ensuing decade to intervene in any internal discrimination cases. One of the most noticeable effects of 1975's International Women's year was a backlash among men in the U.N. and its agencies who expressed themselves bored and alienated at the mere mention of the world 'Women'. This was applied equally to Third World Women and female planners. Since no significant advances were made in that year in terms of Women's participation in the planning agencies, the hostility of the male planners has remained a significant barrier to the involvement of Third World Women in development.

Women working as professionals in planning Organisations regardless of their degree of identification with the Women's movement, can be observed to be disinclined to describe the world in terms of 'men' as a synonym for people.

They are also less likely, although it does sometimes happen, to express boredom and hostility with the question of Women in development. The problem of a few relatively senior Women who have adapted to a male system and ideology by rejecting any identification with Women as a group has been and to some extent remains a problem. However a number of these senior Women have been observed to modify their position quite substantially, as a result of the publicity and action over discrimination in the agencies against Women.

Since the beginning of planned development in India, the importance of creation of job opportunities in adequate measure was recognised. The Sixth and Seventh Plans emphasised that the provision of work opportunities should be available to all and raising productive employment should be the back bone of the strategy for planned development.

The principal resources of the Country are its human endowments, intelligence, skill, competence and integrity. All developing nations strive to tap all the available brain power. The latent professional and technical abilities of Women need to be made visible. The two aspects of this issue are:

- 1) The opportunities by way of education that Women have in training their mental capabilities.

- 2) The extent of use of the available educated and trained

Women power in India's economic development or the participation rates of Women in general and educated Women in particular in economic activities.

In the Public Section, the number of Women employees in the categories of professional, technical and related workers and primary and middle school teachers has shown an increase since 1964.

A marked development of the Gandhian era was the formation of various Women's Organisations, at both local and National levels. The associations such as the Arya Mahile Samaj, Seva Sadan and Widow Homes which had dedicated services of Women to their credit, came into existence for dealing with Social disabilities and for the rehabilitation of under-privileged people. To-day hundreds of them exist and many of them have developed multipurpose programmes dealing with Social, educational, cultural, economic and political matters.

When economists and policy makers assert the importance of education for a growth or development programme, they may in fact have certain kinds of education, notably higher level Science and Technology, Technical Training, Agricultural education and perhaps Medicine in mind. These cover only a fraction of educational activity and to say that they are a condition of economic growth is quite different from saying that education as a whole is an

investment which is necessary for growth.

Phenomenal results have been seen in Women's participation in the economic growth of the Country. In order to produce food, persons will have to toil in the fields threshing, winnowing, drying, boiling (especially for rice paddy). The post harvest, needs attention for storage of food grains. Correct storage is essential since post harvest lossess of food can make all the difference between survival and destitution. Fetching water for drinking purposes, fuel obtained in the form of fine wood, dried animal dung etc., various relishes, preparation of food for home consumption and many more essential activities are performed by Women in larger percentage.

Apart from the primary needs of a person, women's participation in the commercial, educational, economical, scientific, research, Social, Political and many more fields have been considered essential for the growth of the economy of the Country.

The Women participation in the economic development of the Country should be accepted in whole, as we have seen, we are seeing and we will be seeing spectacular results beyond anybody's imagination.

M.G. PRAMEELA, M.A., M.Ph.L.  
Professor of Economics.

Smt.  
Dev-Kunvar Nanalal,  
Bhatt Vaishnav College for Women,  
Chromepet, Madras-600 044.

Skill comes so slow and life  
So fast doth Fly  
We learn so little and forget somuch.

-Sir John Davies.



## HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN

### THE NILGIRIS

The vigorous implementation of the Nilgiris Horticultural Development Programme, Hill Area Development Programme, and Training and visit programme laid necessary foundation for the horticultural development in the Nilgiris. The Nilgiris Horticultural Development Project is the extend programme of the Indo-German Nilgiris Development Project implemented during 1967 to 1977. Its main aim is to consolidate the progress achieved by the Indo-German Nilgiris Development Project.

The Hill Area Development Programme, a centrally sponsored programme is being implemented in this district from 1975-76 onwards. Under this programme many beneficial schemes such as the Mandarin Orange Development scheme in Kukal Valley, Toda Development scheme to improve economic condition of Toda Tribal farmers, Technical guidance to small tea gardens to increase the productivity by undertaking soil conservation measures such as contour trenches, stone walling, plant protection measures against pest and disease at subsidised cost were implemented. Other schemes implemented under the programme are spices development scheme, paddy, tapioca and ginger development schemes mainly in Gudalur Taluk of Nilgiris District where these crops are predominantly cultivated. Under these programmes high yielding quality materials of spices plants, disease free seed materials of ginger and high yielding paddy variety like I.R. 20 were distributed to the farmers of Gudalur Taluk.

Till 83-84, the Hill Area Development Programme was implemented on crop oriented basis and from 84-85 onwards, the programme is being implemented on Integrated Watershed Development basis in selected water shed areas in this district.

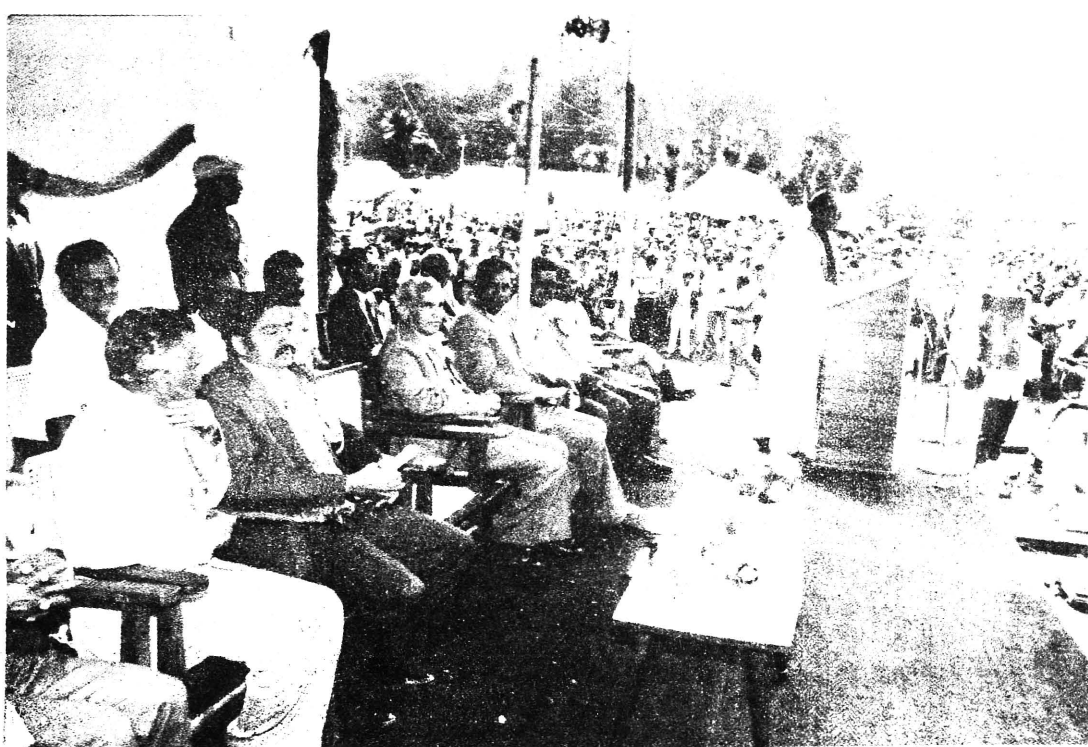
The main thrust in this integrated watershed development programme is to diversify the cropping system from annual crop to perennial crops like tea, coffee and fruits which will give the farmers a steady and regular income unlike annual crop like potato which mainly depends upon vagaries of monsoon.

The Training and Visit Programme popularly known as T&V Programme is being implemented in this district, from September, 1981. The main object of this programme is to increase the yield of various priority crops and thereby increase the income of the farmers.

Due to implementations of this new Agricultural Extension programme in the district, considerable progress has been made in increasing the yield of various priority crops in this district.

There are twelve Horticultural Farms in this District which are mainly engaged in production of inputs like plants and seeds for distribution to farmers of this district under various development schemes

During the current year under Hill Area Development Programme, tea planting was undertaken in



The Valedictory Function of the Flower Show was held at Uthagamandalam in May, 1987. Dr. V. R. Nedunchezian, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, addressed the gathering.

watershed areas and an area of 216,350 Hectares was covered for which 26.603 lakhs of tea VP clones were distributed to the farmers. Planting of fruit plants, spices plants and shade like silver oak was also undertaken for which 80,000 fruit plants, 14,000 spice plants and 1,10,645 silver oak plants were also distributed to the farmers. Under production programme 15.634 lakhs of tea VP Clones were produced in the Department Farms. Under production and distribution of quality potato seeds programme, 206 MT of potato seeds have been distributed to farmers. Under Nilgiris Horticultural Development Programme, farm machineries like tractors and bulldozers were hired out to

farmers for 2095 hours upto July and a total return of 3.274 lakhs was realised so far. In soil testing laboratory 5720 soil samples were collected and analysed for NPK content. In Mobile Soil Testing Laboratory 1020 Soil samples were collected and analysed. Under potato Golden Nematode scheme survey was undertaken in 634 hectares upto July, 1987. Under Training and Visit system fortnightly trainings and reviews were undertaken as planned earlier, and adequate technical advices were given to the farmer at apt period in all sub-divisions.

**-A. CHANDRASEKARAN,**  
Asst. Public Relations Officer,  
Udhagamandalam.

# SIDDHA CONQUERS PSORIASIS

The Central Research Institute for Siddha, Madras is one among the 98 units functioning under Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi. This Council is concentrating on multifaceted research on problems of national priority in particular and also certain chronic problems like arthritis, various skin disorders, jaundice etc. for which no definite cure is reported till date. Active collaboration with leading scientific institutions are taken to analyse the indigenous drugs of Siddha and Ayurveda to get effective and cheaper remedies of herbal and mineral origin.

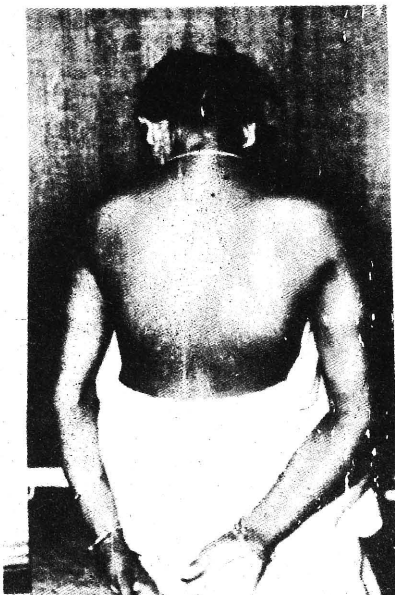
The Central Research Institute for Siddha has taken up problems like Arthritis, Cancer, Peptic Ulcer, Diabetes Mellitus and skin problems like psoriasis and leucoderma for Multi-Disciplinary Research. Over 11 years of continuous research, effective mineral

preparations for Peptic Ulcer, Arthritis and Leucoderma and many herbal preparations for jaundice and skin diseases are introduced after thorough clinical trial and confirmation.

## WHAT IS PSORIASIS?

Skin diseases in general besides agonising the patient mentally and physically, make others also feel ill at ease. So also is psoriasis, a skin condition benign by nature. The actual cause of this disease is unknown even though the heterogeneity is undoubtful.

Psoriasis is an autosomal dermatoses which is non-infectious, non-contagious, non-fatal but terribly disfiguring and repulsive. The clinical manifestations of this disease vary from a few scaly, silvery micaceous patches over the knees and elbows to a socially crippling eruption affecting the



entire skin surface including nails and scalp. Though benign, this condition is notorious for its chronicity and recurrence without any specific reason or season.

## RESEARCH ON PSORIASIS

Psoriasis affects two per cent of the entire world population. It affects both sexes irrespective of the socio-economic status. Even in an advanced country like United States of America, millions of cases are reported every year. The various systems of medicine existing now offer numerous drugs to combat this condition, but their side effects are worse than the disease itself. The growing awareness about the toxicity of these drugs used in psoriasis and their limitation in many areas of therapy all these confirm the basic need for a safe, less toxic-nontoxic and cheaper drug.

### NEW HERBAL DRUG FOR PSORIASIS. -"777 OIL"

For the first time, a simple Siddha herbal preparation coded as 777 oil was introduced at Central Research Institute (Siddha), Madras for trial in Psoriasis in 1981. The various aspects of the drug have been experimented to confirm its efficacy on more than 300 cases of confirmed psoriasis. The results are not only gratifying and encouraging but quite consistent too.

The basic herb used in the preparation viz. 'Vetpalai' is a folklore claim for many skin disorders other than psoriasis. The various stages of execution of the clinical trial include the botanical, chemical, pharmacological, toxicological, histo pathological and clinical aspects. The clinical method includes both Siddha and allopathic methodology. It is worth mentioning here that the drug 777 oil - has helped not only in postponing the recurrence which is the perennial problem in this disease but also prevents complications. The complicated forms have also shown appreciable



response to this herbal preparation.

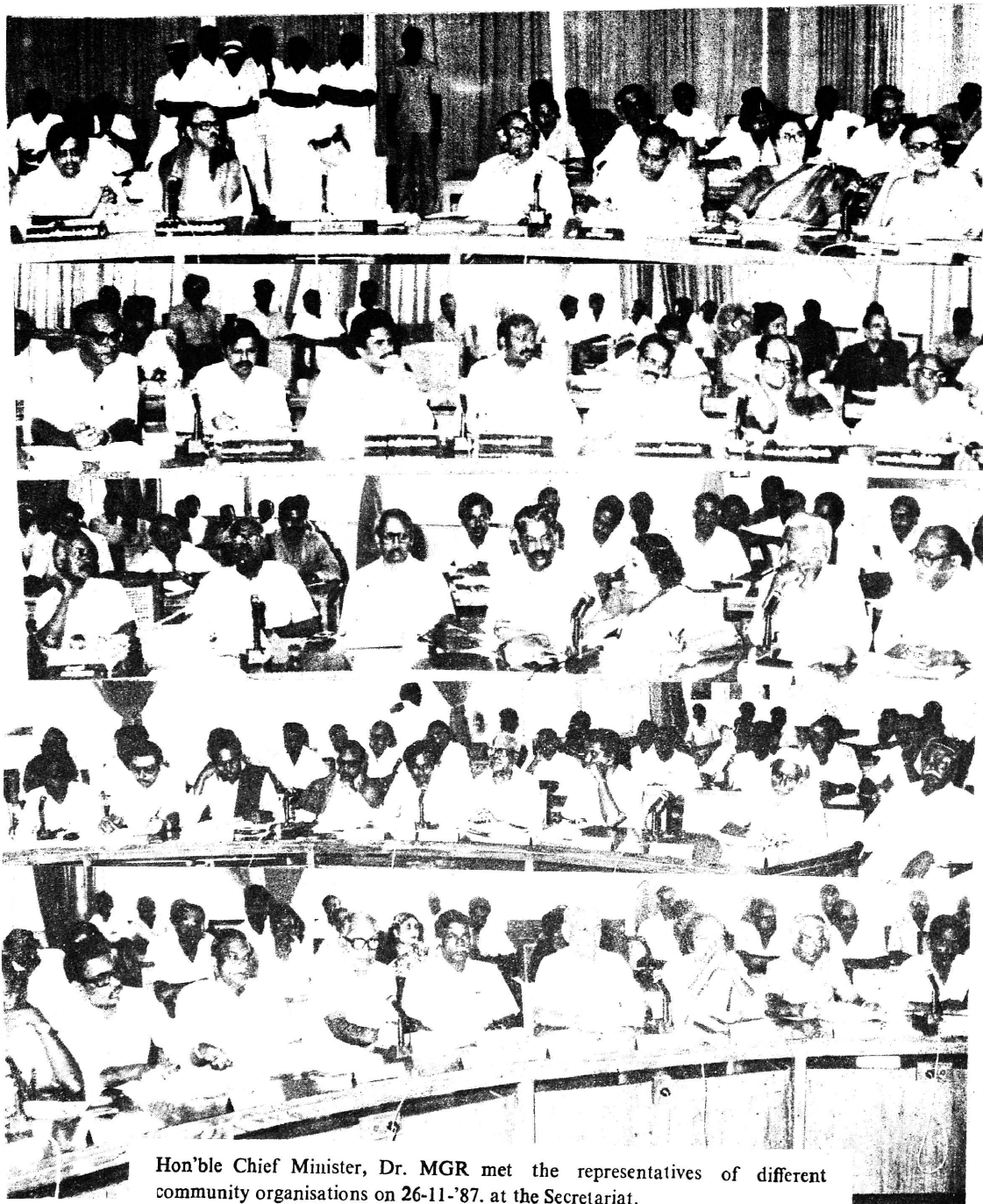
## SIDDHA SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

Siddha medical science is one of the eldest systems practised mostly in Southern part of the country. The origin of the system dates back to prehistoric era and could survive through ages because of its effective recipes and unique fundamental principles upon which it is operating on scientific lines. The role of Siddha is second to none in combating chronic problems like arthritis, jaundice, peptic ulcer and skin diseases in particular. This system is not merely a compendium of therapeutics based on herbs, minerals and animal products but a living science, which has contributed much to various branches of medicine, for example Balavagadam (Paediatrics), Kaya Kalpam (Rejuvenation), Aruvai maruthuvam (Surgery), Kannoigal (ophthalmology), Kirigai (Psychiatry) and Varmam. Easily available, effective and excellent herbs are mentioned in Siddha literature for many skin ailments and lots more are there for further research and evaluation for achievement of positive health.

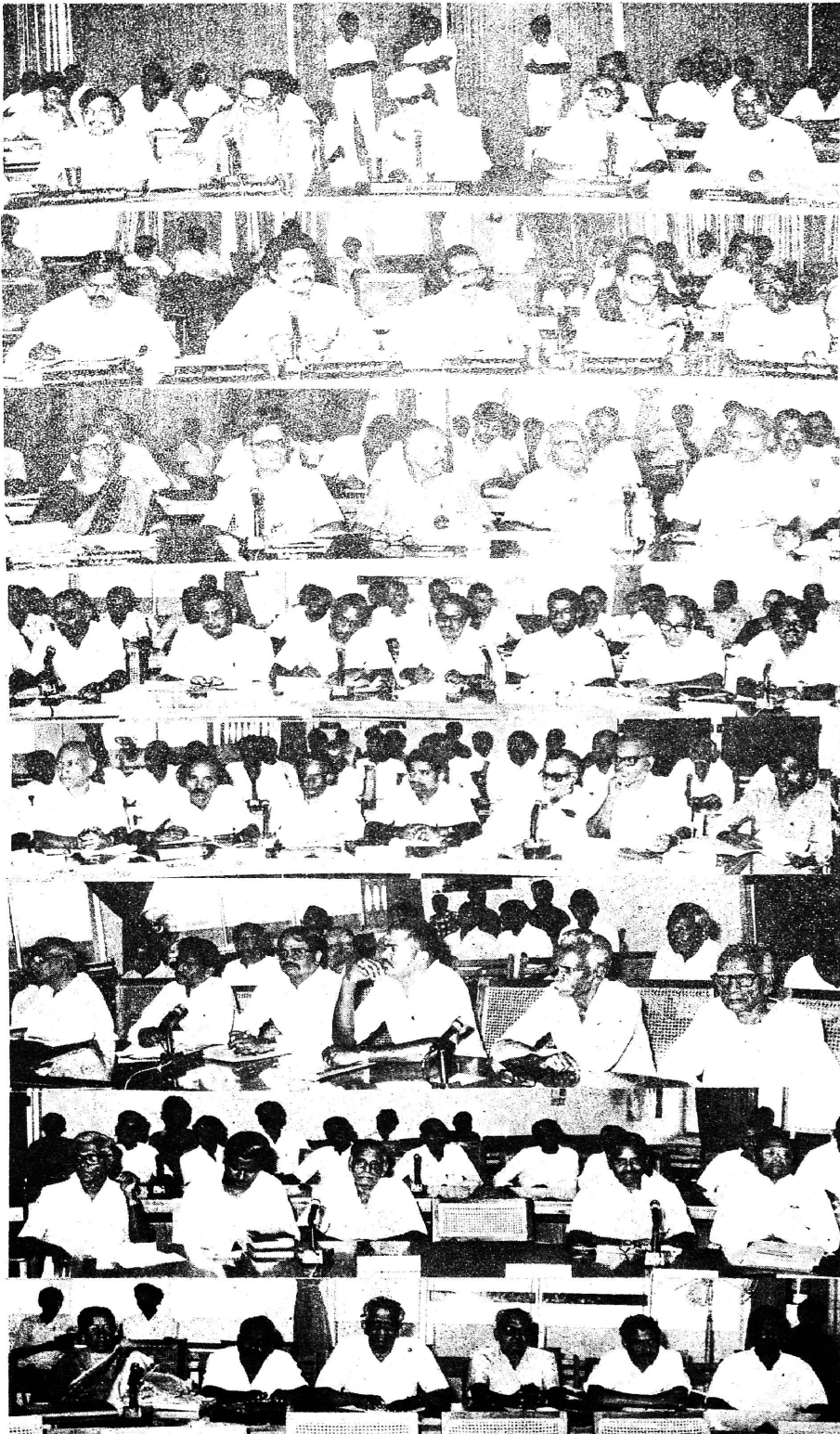




Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. MGR met the representatives of various Vanniar Community organisations at the Secretariat on 25-11-'87.



Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. MGR met the representatives of different community organisations on 26-11-'87. at the Secretariat.



On 27-11-'87, Hon'able Chief Minister, Dr. MGR met the representatives of various communities at the Secretariat.

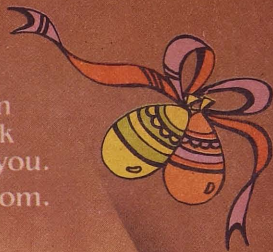


On 30-11-'87, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. MGR met the representatives of Community organisations at the Secretariat.



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