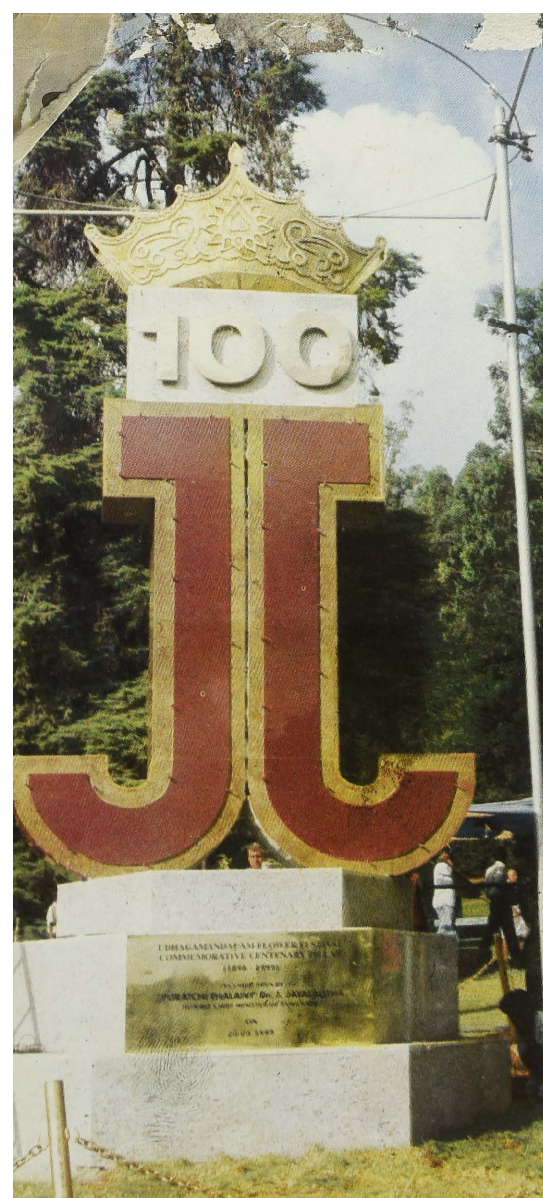


# Tamil Arasu

JUNE 1995 Rs.3







**"JAYALALITHA"**

A new rose evolved by  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
and released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister

**Dr. J. Jayalalitha**

on 20.5.95 at Udthagai.





# TAMIL ARASU

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## CHIEF MINISTER INAUGURATES 100 th FLOWER FESTIVAL AT UDHAGAI

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha inaugurated the 100th Annual Flower Festival at Udhagamandalam at a colourful function on 20th May, 1995. As the Chief Minister pressed the button, two tastefully decorated ornamental doors opened leading to a breathtaking display of a large variety of flowers.

### **Rose garden inaugurated**

Earlier, the Chief Minister went up to the flower

bedecked dais and unveiled the commemorative centenary flower carnival pillar, by pressing a button. She also unveiled a plaque to mark the inauguration of the commemorative rose garden at the Vijayanagaram horticultural farm.

### **Chief Minister releases Books**

The Chief Minister released an illustrated book on roses, the first copy of which was received by the Hon'ble

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah.

An informative book on the 125 year old Government Botanical Garden was also released by the Chief Minister. The first copy was received by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister, Thiru S.D. Somasundaram.

The Chief Minister also released the centenary flower festival souvenir. The first copy of the souvenir





was received by Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Thiru K.A. Sengottaiyan.

#### **New Variety of Strawberry released**

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released a new variety of strawberry christened "chandler" and handed over a small basket containing the fruits to Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Thiru S. Kannappan.

A new variety of rose developed by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University was also released by the Chief Minister. Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Thiru K.P. Krishnan received the new variety of rose from the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

After a quick look at some of the flowers displayed in the galleries, the Hon'ble Chief Minister drove

to the Vijayanagaram farm to see the rose garden.

#### **All roads lead to Botanical Garden**

With the major portion including the entrance richly illuminated and all the flowers in full bloom creating a spectacular scenery, all roads led to Botanical Gardens.

In the galleries, cut flowers such as anthuriums, orchids, carnations, chrysanthemums, geranium, asiatic lilies, etc attracted a large audience. The figure "100" to mark the 100th flower festival was shaped with marigolds. The flower trophies displayed on roads leading to the garden and inside the garden amplified the mood of the festival. In short, with the weather being ideal, the 100th flower festival got off to a perfect start.



About 20 Government and private stalls have been put up at this year's festival. The Bonsais', exquisite vegetable carvings, "Ikebana" flower arrangements, a medicinal plant exhibition formed part of the display at the centenary flower festival at Udhagamandalam.

#### **Chief Minister at Rose Garden**

At the Rose Garden in Vijayanagaram farm, the Chief Minister was explained of the salient features of the Garden by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Thiru K.P. Krishnan and Agriculture Secretary, Thiru R.C. Panda.

The Chief Minister directed that the unique rose garden with 1919 rose varieties be well maintained so that it becomes a star tourist attraction. She also gave instructions on maintaining the farm.





### **"JAYALALITHA"**

A new rose belonging to the Florifonda variety, was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Centenary Flower Festival at Udhaigai in 20.5.95. Later, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture planted a sapling of the "Jayalalitha" rose at Vijayanagaram rose garden now renamed as "Jayalalitha Rose Garden".

The "Jayalalitha" rose is of rich red colour. The petals are neat, well formed and thick.

Each rose is of 9 cm diameter. Every plant of "Jayalalitha" rose will yield 153 flowers every year. And left in the plant without being plucked, they would remain for 12 days without losing its beauty and richness.

This rose was evolved at the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University after a five year research. The scientists involved in the research were: Dr. K. Rajamani, Dr. P. Arangasamy, Thiru. K. Suriyanathasundaram, Dr. S. Thamburasu and Dr. S. Sambandamurthi.





## QUAID-E-MILLETH SAHEB - A GREAT NATIONALIST

**—Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J.Jayalalitha  
on 5.6.95 at the Birth Centenary Celebrations Of  
Quaid-e-Milleth Mohammed Ismail Saheb**

**H**on'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J.Jayalalitha inaugurated the Birth Centenary Celebrations of Quaid-e-Milleth Mohammed Ismail Saheb at a function held at Kalaivanar

Arangam, Madras on 5th June, 1995. The Chief Minister unveiled a portrait of Quaid-e-Milleth and declared open a photo exhibition on Quaid-e-Milleth to mark the occasion.

The Chief Minister in her address said that she had written a letter to the Prime Minister on 3.6.95 urging him to release a special postal stamp to commemorate the birth centenary of Quaid-e-Milleth.



She said the State Government have increased the Wakf Board maintenance allowance from just a few lakh rupees to Rupees one crore. She said only 1300 Ulemas were eligible for pension in the year 1991. In the past four years this has been increased by 400 to enable 1,700 Ulemas receive pension. The pension amount has also been raised from Rs.250 to Rs.400 with effect from 1.12.1994.

All deserving applicants who had applied till 5.6.1995 for Ulema pension would be given the pension within three months, the Chief Minister announced.

The Chief Minister also announced that a suitable piece of land on a prime location in the City would be allotted for the construction of a 'Manimandapam' in the name of Quaid-e-Milleth.

She hailed Quaid-e-Milleth as one who laid the rules for the conduct of people engaged in public life. Even though born in the southern most part of Tamil Nadu, the fact that he commanded the respect and love of the entire Muslim community in the country showed the great qualities he had adopted in life. She expressed happiness in announcing that she had arranged for the conduct of commemorative

functions in all the districts of the State.

The Chief Minister said Quaid-e-Milleth considered the development of both country and the minority community as equally important. He discontinued his college education to participate in the freedom movement, when Gandhiji started his Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920. He toiled for the unity of the people, she said.

By his deeds and thoughts he showed that the interests of the nation was superior to that of one's own community. The way he led the Indian Muslim League Party after Independence, safeguarding the integrity and sovereignty of the country deserved appreciation, she added.

Quaid-e-Milleth was attracted to the Dravidian parties as he followed the policies of equality, patriotism and love for mother tongue. He demanded in Parliament that Tamil language be recognised as a national language. He was elected to Parliament thrice from Kerala though he was born in Tamil Nadu. By this, one could gauge his nationalist sentiments and broadmindedness, the Chief Minister said.

She said Puratchi Thalavar MGR ordered that the birth day of Quaid-e-Milleth should be celebrated as Government function, in 1977. In 1983 by the orders of MGR, Quaid-e-Milleth's life history was included in the text books. Quaid-e-Milleth portrait was unveiled in the Legislative Assembly in





1980. During the past four years, she said, she had named a district in the name of Quaid-e-Milleth, to honour him. Acceding to the request of Thiru A.K.A. Abdus Samad, General Secretary of the IUML, she said arrangements would be made to take copies of the portrait of Quaid-e-Milleth, and distribute them to the Muslim Community.

She complimented the IUML president Thiru G.M. Banatwala and the IUML General Secretary Thiru Abdus Samad for treading the path of Quaid-e-Milleth. She assured them that her Government would devote itself to the welfare of the Country and the welfare of the minority.

Thiru Sedapatti R. Muthiah, Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly presided over the function. He hailed the Chief Minister as the saviour of minorities.

Thiru Mohammed Asif, Chairman of the Wakf Board said Tamil Nadu was being a model to other states and a haven of peace under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister. He asked his community members to take a pledge to strengthen the hands of the Chief Minister, the guardian of the minority. He said Quaid-e-Milleth was one of the true leaders

of India, who was cultured and full of humanism.

Thiru G.M. Banatwala, President IUML said the Chief Minister had won the hearts of the minority community by giving official capacity (status) to the centenary celebrations of Quaid-e-Milleth. Parallel development of all religions and all sections of community were the teachings of Quaid-e-Milleth. Amidst a jubilant crowd, he said that, he envied the Chief Minister for having received the love of all the people.

Thiru Abdus Samad, General Secretary of IUML assured the Chief Minister of the community's support to her as she had taken good care of the minority community well. He said, his community had founded many colleges on the advice of Quaid-e-Milleth except a Medical College. He sought the Chief Minister's help for establishing a Medical College.

Thiru Mohammed Abdul Ali, Prince of Arcot said the Chief Minister commanded respect not only in Tamil Nadu but also in other countries. He said her name continuously appeared in Arabian Papers. He said Quaid-e-Milleth Saheb was a sincere and pious gentle man

who was dedicated to the nation and its people. He was respected by all as a leader in the true sense of the word, he added. The Prince stressed the need for unity and cautioned against the forces of pseudo-nationalism which, he said were out to destroy communal harmony and national unity.

Thiru S. Nagoor Meeran, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Tmt. Jeenath Sherfudin, Tmt. Mariam Ul Azia, Members of the Legislative Assembly and Tmt. Badas Sayeed, Chairperson of the State Minorities Commission offered felicitations.

On behalf of the IUML, Thiru G.M. Banatwala and Thiru Abdus Samad presented a memento to the Chief Minister. The memento was the model of the recently built mosque at Kuala Lumpur.

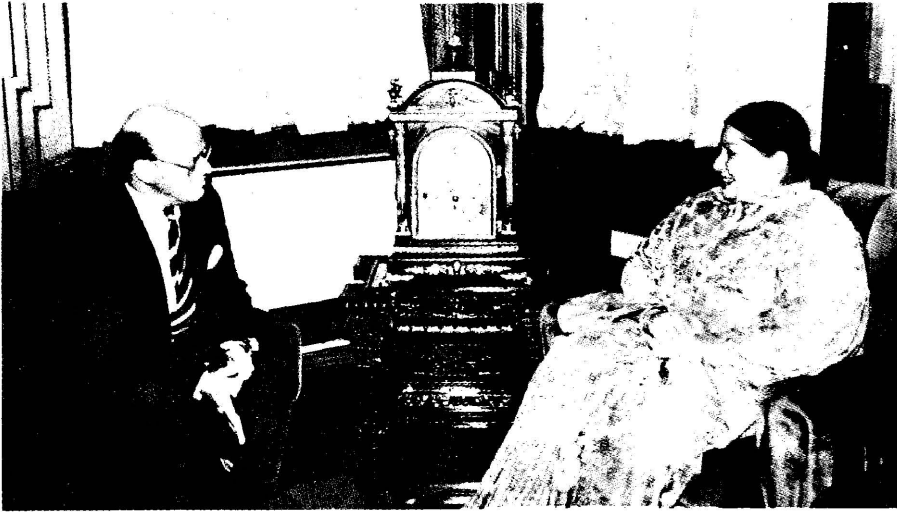
Thiru M. Thennavan, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity welcomed the gathering. Thiru T. Shanmuga Rajeswaran, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations later proposed a vote of thanks.

Kalaivanar Arangam, the venue of the function was packed to its capacity and close circuit Television sets were placed in various

places which enabled a large mass, seated outside the auditorium to watch the programme.

Earlier around 3.30 p.m., a symposium on Quaid-e-Mileth was organised in which Poets Thiru Pulamaipithan,

Thiru Ilandeven, Thiru Mu. Metha, Thiru K.M. Kader Moideen and Thiru Jaburullah took part.



**The USA Ambassador in India  
Mr. Frank G. Wisner called on the  
Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi  
Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the  
Secretariat on 21.6.95**

The people of Tamil Nadu had truly unique traditions with regard to learning and education. For them the values of education were intimately associated with the values of life. Education that did not make a man live properly, was not considered to be useful education.

**— Dr. J. Jayalalitha**



# CENTENARY FLOWER FESTIVAL 1995

*R.C. Panda, I.A.S.,  
Secretary,  
Agriculture Department*

**E**arly in 1847 at the instance of MARQUIS OF TWEEDALE, the then Governor of Madras, a Horticultural Society was started to develop a Botanical Garden

Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu was the patron in Chief of the Society. The Collector of Nilgiris was the ex-officio President of the Society, and the highest offi-

Botanical Gardens during the third week of May. The Flower Show 1995 marks the 100th Flower Show and elaborate arrangements are being made to celebrate it as



in Udhagamandalam. The garden layout was started in the year 1848 and completed in 1867. The first ever flower show in Udhagamandalam was organised in the year 1896 by the Nilgiri Agri and Horticulture Society under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.H. Tremenhare, the then Collector of Nilgiris. His

cial of the Horticulture Department of this district was the Vice-President of the Society, and the officer in-charge of Raj Bhavan gardens was Honorary Secretary of the Society.

Every year the famous Ooty Flower Show is conducted in the Government

Flower Festival in a fitting manner.

Until 1979, the Flower Show was conducted by the Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society. The Government has taken over the conduct of the Flower Show from 1980 onwards by forming a Committee called the Nilgiris

Flower and Fruit Show Committee. The Flower Show was improved year after year and in the year 1994 the Flower Show was conducted for seven days for the first time. Hitherto it was conducted only for two days.

As the response was overwhelming, the Centenary Flower Festival will be conducted for seven days.

In connection with the Centenary Flower Festival, a garden competition will be conducted by dividing the gardens under various categories like Estate Garden, Private Garden, Public Garden, Garden attached to Schools, New Gardens, Rose Garden and various other items like lawn, roof garden, bonsai collection etc. The entry forms are issued from first to 25th April and the Garden Inspection will be done by the competent judges during the second week of May when the Gardens are in full bloom. The gardens of the Udhagaman-dalam area and Coonoor Kotagiri areas are compared and outstanding gardens are selected for the award of Rolling Trophies during the Flower Festival days. A Rolling Trophy will be awarded for the Best Garden of the Year. Besides Rolling Trophies, first prize, second

prize and special prize cups are also awarded for the competitions.

Registration of the exhibits for the Flower Show Day competition will also be done from two days in advance. The first two days will be the major show days. During that time 15,000 potted plants raised specially for the Centenary Flower Festival will be arranged in a artistic manner by grouping contrast colours. More than 200 varieties of flowers such as roses, chrysanthemums, carnations, tuberous begonias, cycleman, delphinium, salvias, dahlias, gladioli, anthuriums, orchids, primulas pansys, antirrhinums etc., will be displayed. This display will be continued for all the seven days.

The competitors will participate in various sections like the pot plants, cut flowers, vegetables, fruits, floral arrangements, spices, condiments, cutflower stalls etc., during the first two days.

The judging of exhibits for the award of prizes will be conducted at 9.00 a.m. on the inauguration day. The prizes will be awarded either on the first or on the second day along with the garden competitions prizes in a function. Cash prizes for the

winners will also be awarded. At the end of the second day, the competitors in the CUT-FLOWER section, fruit and vegetable sections and cut-flower stalls will be allowed to remove their exhibits to make room for the next day's function.

The third day function is dominated by dahlias and is celebrated as Dahlia Day, where all the types of dahlias, such as decorative, caeti, pompon dwarf etc., will be displayed in almost all the colours. The prizes will be awarded on the same day.

The fourth day will be the Rose Day, where all types and varieties of roses will be displayed. The roses in pots, hybrid teas, floribundas, miniatures, climbers ramblers, banksian etc., will be on display. The cups will be awarded for the same.

The fifth day will in Bonsai Day. On that day all the types and varieties of plants in Bonsai' can be seen. The prizes will be awarded on the end of the show on the same day.

The sixth day will be an important day, on that day the Indian and Japanese Flower Arrangements and Vegetable Carving will be on display. This year experts



from Bangalore will arrange the shows and it will be a rare occasion for Udhagamandalam visitors.

The seventh and final day will be foliage plants, cacti and Succulents Day. The prizes will be awarded on the same day.

On all the days, the best flowers will be imported and will be displayed in an artistic manner as a special case for the Centenary Flower Festival.

Other horticulturally important states, private companies engaged in floriculture will be participating in the Flower Festival. All the latest flower varieties and high technology adopted in gardening will be on display during the seven days.

In connection with the Flower Show, many cultural programmes will be organised as a part of summer festival. The special decorations, illuminations wher-

ever possible will be arranged at Udhagamandalam.

The celebration will reach its peak with the inauguration of Vijayanagaram Rose Garden, release of Books on Rose Garden and Botanical Garden, and release of new rose variety evolved by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

In short, the Udhagamandalam Town will be lit-up and the whole of Nilgiris will be in Festive Mood.



**The 31st College Day Celebration of the Film and Television Institute of Tamil Nadu was held at J. Jayalalitha Film City Campus on 23.5.95. Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru. M. Thennavan was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He distributed prizes to meritorious students.**



Early in 1847, at the instance of Marquis of Tweeddale, the then Governor of Madras, the Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society was formed in order to establish a Botanic Garden and also appointed Mr. W.C.MC Iyer, who was trained at Kew Garden, London as Superintendent of Government Botanic Garden in 1848. Mr. MC Iyer completed the layout in 1867. He adopted Lindley's Natural System in laying out this Garden. Many improvements were carried out by successive Curators.

It covers an area of 22.0 ha. ascending the slopes on the hills at an elevation of 2400 - 2500 Metre M.S.L. The Garden enjoys a warm temperate climate. With an average rainfall of 140 cm and with temperature variation of 0 - 28C.

#### **The Present Position**

The lower Garden comprising, the entrance, lower

## **Government Botanic Garden Udhagamandalam**

### **History**

In 1845, European residents of the Nilgiris agreed to have co-operative arrangements to raise temper-

**K. Shanmugam**  
*Deputy Director (Horticulture)*  
**Udhagamandalam**

ate vegetables on the site of the present Garden.

lawns and the new Garden is the living area of the Gar-



den. The entrance Arch recently built gives an aesthetic look to the Garden. The recently developed Japanese Garden near the entrance with ponds, lanterns, Bow bridges lends charm to the lower garden. The round pond, the mango pond and the ponds at new Garden gives varieties to the landscape. The undulating lawn in the lower Garden with the largest open space is the attractive part of the Garden. Many varieties of trees, shrubs and flower beds present a glittering and gorgeous look. The Rose Garden in this part of the Garden attracts the eyes of the visitors. The Fernhouse and the newly constructed Glass House are a feast to the eyes of the visitors. The Band

stand, the heartline of the Garden, is a formal Garden laidout in an Italian Parterre, the crescent pond, with Aquatic plants and animals, the gorgeous, colourful presentation of flower beds spell-bound the visitors.

The conservatory was built in 1912 with an object of grouping various gorgeous coloured flowering plants round the year. The Bog Garden located towards the east of this conservatory is a good site for march loving plants. The rock and Alpine Garden is also an attractive spot housing more than 200 varieties of Cacti Succulents and other Alpine plants. The sunken Garden also lends beauty to this area.

Just above the conservatory lies the fountain terrace and picnic grounds. This terrace was once with a fountain bed now laidout with symmetrical flower beds designed in the shape of flower bouquet. The summer houses, the winding footpaths, the rich varieties of birds and a Toda Statue are the speciality of this area. This is the quiet place in the Garden and attracts the peace loving people and lovers.

The new bandstand and its surrounding are laidout with symmetrical flower beds edged with boxwood which serves as resting place for the visitors.

The nurseries with seven glass houses and a series of



Photo Courtesy: The Hindu

The hundred year old Fern House at the Botanic Gardens, Ooty - a hot house of exotic plants.

terraces is the production centre for the Garden. Many different species of plants are reared and multiplied here for Garden use and for sales.

### **Plants- Wealth of the Garden**

More than 2000 plant species representing 117 families are grown in this Garden. Nearly 150 different kinds of trees both exotic and indigenous are grown in this Garden. The Giant Eucalyptus, Cupressus and Araucarias are among the largest trees. The cedrus Deodara, Cupressus species, Eucalyptus sp, Michelia sp, Pinus sp, Rhododendran sp, Jacranda Mimosifolia, Prunus pudam, Quercus sp, Arbutus unedo, Quilaja saponaria are among the graceful exotic trees. The indigenous trees like Michelia Mialgirica, Glucheadeon Neilgherriensis, Fagaria obovata, Photinia lindleyana are worth mentioning. The tree ferns like Alsophila Australia, Cyathea sp are among the graceful trees. The palms and palm like plants Draecena, Cardyline, Raphalostilis, Chamaerops, Phoenix etc lends beauty to the landscape.

More than 200 kinds of shrubs both flowering and foliage are grown in this

Garden. Its presence in the mixed borders and also as solitary specimens gives variety and beauty to the Garden. The Dombeya, Camellea, Choisys, Abutilon, Tibonchina, Callisteman etc. are among the best shrubs.

Herebaceous parenniels and annuals are the common man's favourite and attracts large gathering during the prime flowering time. The Marigold, Pansy, Petunia, Ranunculus, Antirrhinum, Delphenium, Salvia, Daisy, Dahlia, Aster, etc, are among the attractive flowers.

The Glass house plants like Cineraria, Schizanthus, Impatiens, Primulas, Coleus, Begenia, Calceolaria etc. are among the best varieties for round the year display at the Glass houses.

The Bulbous plants like Clivia, Hemerocalis, Hippeastrum, Amaryllis, Crinum, Watsonia, Agapanthus, Narsissus etc, are also present in this Garden.

The 20 million year old fossil tree trunk installed on a Pedestal, the Indian Union Map, Tamilnadu Emblem and Government of India Emblem laidout with plants as carpet beds are among the attractive things in the garden. The Horticulture de-

velopment in the Nilgiris was started in this Garden. The potato, temperate vegetables, fruits, plantation crops like Cinchona, Eucalyptus, wattle etc. were introduced through this Garden and in short, it is the prime centre of Horticulture Development in the Nilgiris. There are two distinctive seasons to visit this hill station; the main season from April - June and Second season from August - October.

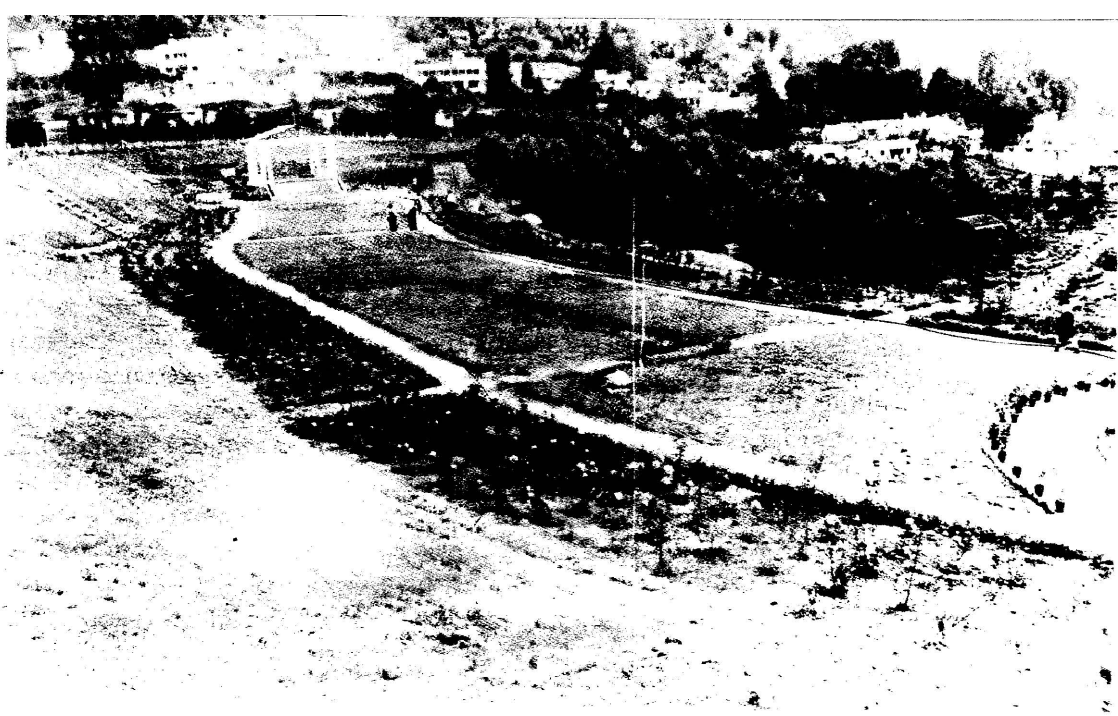
### **The Future Plans**

So far the ornamental Gardening was given importance in this Garden and in an effort to give special impetus to the Commercial floriculture, a Tissue culture lab will be established at this Garden and special training programmes will be organised for the farmers in this regard.

Special emphasis will be given for the introduction of new species suitable for this tract by exchanges with other Botanic Gardens worldwide.

The library will be equipped with latest books and a mini-auditorium will be constructed and installed with computers and slide projectors etc.

The Herbarium will be up-dated and the herbarium of entire Tamil Nadu will be collected and preserved.



## CENTENARY ROSE GARDEN

The establishment of Centenary Rose Garden at Vijayanagaram Farm, Udhagai owes its genesis to the Centenary Flower Festival. Annual flower show is the famous event in the Nilgiris, generally celebrated during the month of May at Government Botanic Gardens. The first Flower Show was organised during the year 1896 under the aegis of Nilgiris Agri-Horticulture Society. From 1980 onwards, Government of Tamil Nadu has been conducting the Flower Show. The Centenary of this great event was celebrated for a week as a Festival from May 20, 1995. To

commemorate the Centenary Flower Festival, the Rose Garden at State Horticulture Farm, Vijayanagaram in Udhagamandalam covering an area of 6 ha. is coming up in five terraces. Honourable Chief Minister, Government of Tamil Nadu accorded sanction for the establishment of this Rose Garden at a cost of Rs.30 lakh. The Rose Garden is situated in the lower slopes of the Elk Hill in Vijayanagaram Farm on the north-western side, facing the Udhagamandalam Town. It is about a kilometre from Udhagamandalam Railway Station and Bus stand and

has easy access with motorable roads from two sides.

The rose varieties planted in this garden were assembled from different sources based on the recommendations of the Committee headed by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Tamil Nadu. 17,526 rose plants from 1919 varieties have been planted at the initial stage. The collection includes Haribundas, Palyanthas, Miniatures, Hybrid Teas and Creepers. Gradually it is proposed to increase the number of varieties to 5000 by introducing new varieties from different centres in In-



dia and abroad. Presently, the garden is the largest exclusive Rose Garden in India. The garden include major attractions such as arches, bowers, tunnels, umbrellas, green houses, fountains and Nila Maadam.

The land levelling and landscaping of the Garden was started during the third week of August 1994 by dismantling 21 small bench terraces by utilising bulldozers of the Horticulture and Agricultural Engineering Departments. The entire Rose Garden is on a steep slope. The level difference between the lowest and the highest point is about 100 metres. Therefore, there is very little possibility to have the entire view of the garden from any one spot of the garden. However, best view can be had from the house terraces in the town opposite to the Rose Garden. The landscape has been developed in such a way that the entire rose garden will be visible when one stands in the four vantage points where structures like garden arch, rose houses, rose bowers and rose tunnels are situated. At present the garden consists of five broad terraces besides a service road.

The first terrace is situated just below the approach

road from the Bombay Castle Gate. This terrace has a Miniature Rose Gallery. The second terrace is the main part of the Garden. This is the heartline of the garden. The main entrance leads to this terrace. This is the biggest terrace in the rose garden. The slopes on the upperside is beautifully landscaped with green kikiyu grass. This terrace accomodates large varieties of rose plants. The latest varieties were planted here by grouping those based on colour shades like Vermillion, White, Yellow, Blue, Red, Pink, Blend, Mixed, Bicolour, etc. Roses were planted on either side of the terrace leaving centre part for the lawn which is the living area of the garden. The lawns are laid out with Kikiyu and blue grass. The Nila Maadam is located in a spot from where viewers can see the entire rose garden, and Udhagamandalam town. Garden structures like arches, bowers, benches, summer houses, rose umbrellas, rose tunnel are placed in this terrace in vantage points in such a way that they blend well with the landscape. When the roses are in bloom, tourists can spend hours in this terrace admiring the diversity and beauty of rose cultivated in different colours, shapes and sizes. The

third terrace is a small and elegantly designed terrace. This looks like a bow and accommodates about 170 rose plants of floribunda varieties. This terrace is called the Rainbow. The visitors can enter this terrace through the service road at northern end and also from the second terrace. The fourth Terrace is a wide terrace almost rectangular in shape. This terrace is also planted with beautiful varieties of roses on either side leaving a footpath in the middle and on the northern end of the terrace a lawn has been laid out with Kikiyu grass. There is a fountain in this terrace. From the fourth terrace the visitors can enter the fifth terrace by connecting road and by foot steps. The slope between these two terraces is the largest, steepest and looks like a majestic green wall. The footpath on the slopes, structures, plants and sitouts give real thrill and adventure to the visitors. After visiting this terrace, one can have the satisfaction of having seen almost all the varieties of roses available in India in one place.

The Government Botanic Garden, Udhagamandalam is the centre of attraction in the whole of the Nilgiris almost throughout the year.



**The Centenary Rose Garden at Vijayanagaram in Udhagamandalam has now been renamed as "Jayalalitha Rose Garden" in honour of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.**



Often the tourists feel that the Botanic Garden is overcrowded with visitors and a comfortable walk through this garden to admire the plant wealth and enjoy the plants display in beds and in conservatory gets limited during the peak tourist seasons. An alternative attraction with more features to divert the ever increasing tourists to Udhagaman-

dalam has been keenly felt to reduce the pressure on Botanic Garden. This Centenary Rose Garden which has come up within the town on the slopes of the Elk Hills, just a Kilometre away from the Botanic Garden overlooking the northern side of the City, will definitely serve as another beautiful niche in Udhagamandalam from where the visiting public not

only can enjoy the surrounding rich collections and display of roses, but can recollect what Stein wrote in "Sacred Emily":

**"Rose is a rose, is a rose, is a rose".**

(Courtesy: Book on "Roses" Published by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Tamil Nadu.)

Today, fortunately, the trend is changing. There is now a greater recognition that science must be used to bring people together to solve common problems of mankind. Here, the richer and poorer nations have to combine. The richer nations have to show a spirit of give and take. The poorer nations must learn to develop their essential human resources through education, so that more people can develop the scientific sense, and use science to solve their own problems. If you look at science from this angle, you will see that it can play a great role in bringing people together.

~ **Dr. J. Jayalalitha**



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## **Rs. 625 crore Nylon Project near Madras**

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A Rs. 625 crore project for the manufacture of Nylon will come up at Gummidipoondi, the Industrial complex of SIPCOT.

A memorandum of understanding for the establishment of the factory was signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha, in the Secretariat on 8.6.95.

The project will be established by Thapar-Dupont Limited, a joint venture between the Thapar and Dupont groups.

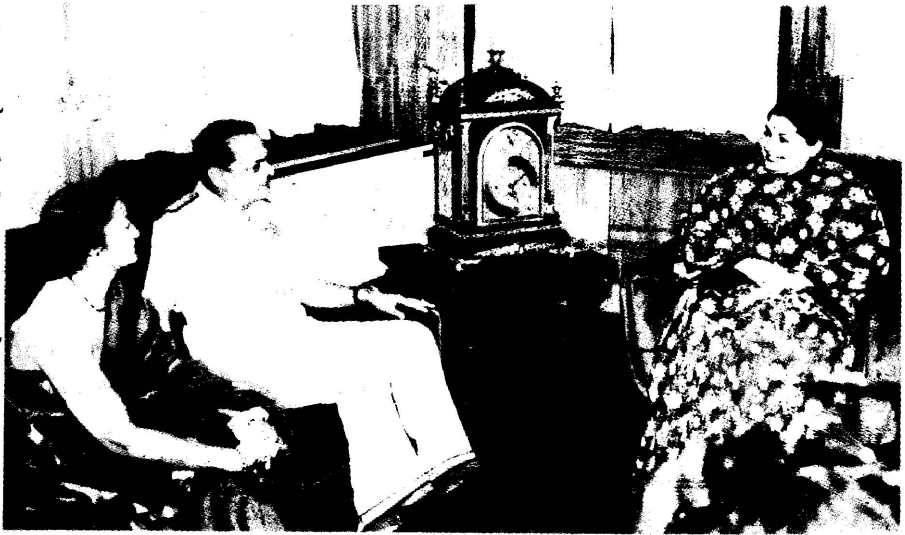
The Chief Minister stressed that the project should be clean and safe and should not pose any environmental problem to the State.

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While our performance on the industrial front has been impressive, we are keen to adopt all the necessary steps, not only to maintain our current position, but also to accelerate the pace of industrialisation, to make Tamil Nadu a premier industrial State in the Country. I do hope industrialists will reciprocate our efforts, with matching initiative and enthusiasm, as this is an endeavour in which all of us have our own designated roles to play. In the ultimate analysis, it is this synergy that will help us to scale new heights.

**— Dr. J. Jayalalitha**





## Chief Minister impresses need for constant vigil off Tamil Nadu Coast

**V**ice Admiral P.S. Das, Flag Officer, Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, Vishakapatnam called on Hon'ble Chief Minister at Secretariat on 5-6-1995. The Hon'ble Chief Minister impressed upon the visiting Vice Admiral the need for constant vigil on the Tamil Nadu coast and for the safeguarding of the fishermen who were being mercilessly attacked and fired upon by the Sri Lankan

Navy, LTTE. etc. The Vice Admiral assured her that the Navy will render all the necessary assistance and see that the fishermen are protected and that the coast line is guarded against not only terrorists but also against contraband activity.

He also assured her that he will give the full support of the Navy to prevent all illegal activities along the coast.

It is necessary for the Government of India to appreciate this situation, and provide financial assistance to needy State Governments with a view to modernising the police force, particularly in States which have very difficult problems to face due to the activities of militants and terrorists.

- Dr. J. Jayalalitha

# VISION 2000

## POLICY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN TAMIL NADU

### POLICY FRAME

- ☆ The women of Tamil Nadu have revealed their strength in the leadership of the State in the economic, political and social spheres.
- ☆ They have proved their capacity in the provision of basic needs such as food, its production and distribution and in the expression of organized strength through local women's organizations, as well as in responding to the demands of modern society in fields as varied as health and skill-formation.
- ☆ However, inspite of all these, not enough exists to provide them with an enabling environment to achieve their full potential in the building

up of the State and the Nation. Women, in most communities, are still looked upon as a liability from the cradle, to the grave. It is no wonder that the sex ratio which was 1044 in 1901 has come down steadily to 972 in 1991.

- ☆ As against the total population of nearly 55.63 million in Tamil Nadu, the number of women is 27.5 million, that is roughly half. It would be normal, then, to expect at least fifty percent of the benefits and opportunities to go to women. In reality, this has not happened. This trend of discrimination must be ar-

**The Tamil Nadu Government led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha completes four years of glorious rule on 24th June '95. In an effort to document the farsighted policies of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, we present some of the policy documents that have been hailed by national and international organisations. We believe that these policy documents will be use to administrators in other states and in other countries, and useful as well for posterity. We begin with VISION 2000, the policy document for women in Tamil Nadu.**



rested. Efforts of Government and non-Governmental agencies must be orchestrated to focus on the needs of women in order to facilitate their progress in Society.

☆ Although the Indian Constitution guarantees equality before the law regardless of sex and Article 15(3) allows for discrimination in favour of women, the de-facto position has been determined by society's expectation of the roles that men and women should play and the domains they must stay in. Centuries of stereotyping and conditioning have eroded the self-esteem of women. If some have escaped this destiny-despite being born female - it has been more by chance than by choice. The Government of Tamil Nadu, believes that this must be reversed, to make 'choice' and not 'chance', determine what a woman wishes to do with herself and her life.

☆ Several steps have been initiated by Tamil Nadu in the last decade for addressing the strategic concerns of women. These include assignment of surplus lands to woman only; amendment of the Hindu Succession Act (1956), in its application to the State of Tamil Nadu, to confer equal rights to daughter in Coparcenary Property and reservation in all services. Yet we have a long way to go in several areas.

☆ Our vision is a state and a world where women participate in and reap the benefits of self development, the development of family, community, state and the nation, in

a bigger way than every before; a world where they walk shoulder to shoulder with men, where they have equal access as men to all the opportunities for improving the quality of their lives as well as those around them and where people are governed by a Uniform Justice. Men and women must be equal partners both within and outside the home and in all they do. Their social and economic situation of dependence has to be transformed into one of equal partnership, interdependence and confidence. Decision making at all levels, that is within the family and in public life in different situations, must not be the prerogative of one sex only.

☆ Facilitating women to participate in shaping public policy will promote a more balanced approach in nation building, reflecting male and female view points. It would be a national waste not to harness every able-bodied and suitable adult in the nation's service, be it man or woman, when a million tasks need to be performed and this, in minimal time. We cannot afford to wait until the nation's poverty is totally eradicated, to converge our focus on the development needs of women, for the world's poorest person is the woman. From a political, social and economic point of view, she is the hardest hit in any crisis - war, communal trouble, poverty, inflation - or even during normal development such as industrialisation, structural reforms and technological progress. Indeed, she has very little place for any manoeuvre



and it is this sad state that we need to correct, in order that development is total and balanced.

- ★ The goal of the government is to strengthen the full and equal participation of women in the development of our society and State.
- ★ The progress of women is inextricably interwoven with that of children. This policy statement must therefore be considered a twin to the Dr. J. Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme - a policy frame for Child Welfare that the government of Tamil Nadu has enunciated recently.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR POLICY FRAME**

- ★ Gender issues are to be treated as issues of the society, to be tackled by both men and women as in the case of other societal issues.
- ★ All policies of the Government must reflect the full recognition of the

equal partnership of men and women and work for realising the goal of 50 percent of representation of women at all levels and in all spheres.

- ★ In policy planning, special consideration must be given to women's multiple responsibilities and also to compensate for historic and current disadvantages experienced by them. Such consideration is also to be given to women from amongst Adi Dravida and Scheduled Tribes as well as to women in extreme poverty, particularly in the rural areas.
- ★ Institutions fostering development, whether they be governmental or non-governmental, need to review their goals, structures and policies with a view to ensuring sustained improvement in the well being of women.

#### **Immediate Objectives**

Specifically, the objectives to be pursued for realisation before the turn of the



century are:

- ★ Supporting and expanding the role of women as decision makers in public and private domains, so that they are better able to control their lives.
- ★ Ensuring equitable participation of women in the sociopolitical and economic processes and structures.
- ★ Facilitating equitable participation of women in development planning, development processes and development programmes.
- ★ Identifying areas of exploitation, oppression and violence and framing suitable legislation along with evolving pragmatic solutions, involving voluntary effort wherever possible.
- ★ Promoting the elimination of discriminatory practices and barriers against women by undertaking programmes and campaigns which promote self awareness among women.
- ★ Improving access to literacy and educational opportunities and to work for compulsory primary education, ensuring atleast five years of schooling for every girl child.
- ★ Ensuring equality of access to resources such as land, capital, and institutional support for men and women.
- ★ Helping women to improve income levels through training and development and better employment opportunities and helping in the designing of labour saving devices that will reduce the drudgery of

daily chores of women.

- ★ Improving access to basic health and family welfare services.
- ★ Promoting MAHAM, the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, as part of the institutional framework to strengthen the existing machinery involved in the advancement of women, and to ensure convergence of services by suitably coordinating with programmes of all agencies.

### **Strategies for Implementation**

- ★ Every project to identify gender issues as an objective and provide for effective response. For this, necessary data must be disaggregated by gender. The monitoring and evaluation system must also measure the project's impact on women.
- ★ Review of all legislations & policies to be undertaken to identify gaps, and for the incorporation of progressive 'clauses' in them. In addition, voluntary organisations and professional bodies to be involved in social campaigns against violence towards women; to promote counselling and legal aid and encourage groups of trained personnel in these areas; to promote family courts at local levels.
- ★ New policies & legislations to be developed to implement the ten Immediate Objectives.
- ★ All new policies, to be guided by the principles expressed in the Guiding Principles and the Immediate Objectives.

- ☆ To maximize participation and benefits in the political and social processes; to utilize network and channels of information to publicize available opportunities; to incorporate training that will enable women to take effective part by having programmes for imparting skills, to improve leadership, self esteem, assertiveness and decision making.
- ☆ Affirmative action to be pursued for placement of women staff at all stages in the planning and development process and also including them as technical experts and advisors.
- ☆ All agencies to incorporate training that responds to women's needs and situations, for all categories of professionals (both men and women) and for this purpose, to prepare module and materials for use.
- ☆ Role expectations and intra-familial inequalities to be tackled with a sustained campaign to break sex stereotyping and prejudices that are deeply entrenched. To enable women to take on roles outside the home, to provide support services in the form of day-care centres for children; transport services for mobility and suitable technologies for reducing the burden of their chores. Private initiative to be encouraged.
- ☆ To provide compulsory schooling for atleast five years for every child so that in future the number of adults to be made literate decreases; to persuade schools to open day care facilities & creches so that girl-children (who, because of the responsibilities of looking after the siblings are not able to continue their schooling) can come to school. This will also provide vocational opportunities for boys and girls in the schools to be trained in looking



after children, to train both girls and boys in the techniques for construction of simple structures for toilets - a much needed requirement for females; to prepare distance training materials for those who do not have opportunities for formal education and tie up with institutions that provide distance education.

- ☆ To promote self help initiatives for savings and credit; financial institutions to review their structures to increase representation of women in their policy making bodies.
- ☆ To activate labour inspectorates and voluntary organisations to monitor "Equal Remuneration for Equal Work" provisions; to devise special training programmes for women at different skill levels and experience, to prepare them to eventually enter into general programmes open to both men and women.
- ☆ MAHAM to be the nodal point for bringing women into the mainstream in all programmes and project; to ensure that existing projects and programmes that have relevance to the advancement of women are also made use of, so as to reap the maximum benefits from a variety of sources.
- ☆ To organise a state level conference on women every year with a specific theme and to develop a framework for action arising therefrom.
- ☆ To commission a report on the status of women in Tamil Nadu, to facilitate designing of projects by taking into account the disparities

between women and men, as well as women and women in different communities and in different parts of the state.

- ☆ To disseminate through all avenues this policy, to all organisations, governmental and non-governmental, which work for the cause of women.

### **Example of Plan of Action**

#### **To counter violence against women**

- ☆ Recognizing that evidence of physical and sexual abuse within families and society is increasing, the Government of Tamil Nadu will pursue all means of providing adequate protection to women and children who are victims of family violence, incest, rape and sexual harassment.

#### Suggested Measures

##### Education Department

- ☆ To develop materials for use in schools and centres of advanced learning to change attitudes relating to violence against women in the family.
- ☆ To design and implement programmes such as starting creches in schools to enable girl children to attend schools. This would also provide vocational training for both boys and girls to take care of children, and so would develop in children, equality in thought.

##### Law Department

- ☆ To review existing provisions relating to Family Courts with a view to seeing whether they are adequate for fulfilling the objective.

### Labour Department

- ☆ To develop legislation on sexual harassment in the workplace.
- ☆ Non-governmental organisations to create awareness about these issues and seek justice wherever needed.

### **Social Welfare Department**

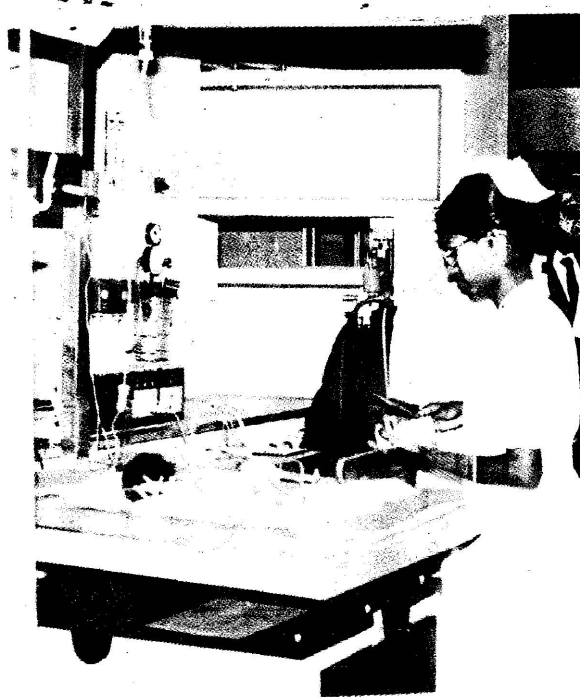
- ☆ To expand boarding facilities for working women.
- ☆ To raise awareness of how to counteract physical and sexual abuse within the family by directing an information and education campaign of men and women in the community.
- ☆ To expand facilities for child care in work place.

### Home Department

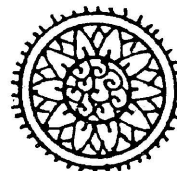
- ☆ To establish and train a special squad in the police force to deal with family matters, as well as enhance the role of the Police in helping the community.

### **Steps**

- ☆ Departments, agencies and other with related responsibilities will assess proposed measures and develop action plans, for these or alternate measures, to implement goals relating to family violence, particularly, addressed to the problems identified such as:
  - ☆ Sexual abuse of children, especially girls;
  - ☆ sexually transmitted diseases among younger children;



- ☆ social attitudes condoning violence against women in the family;.
- ☆ economic dependence of women on men as a barrier to reporting violence;
- ☆ the relationship between economic difficulties and increased domestic violence and
- ☆ sexual harassment in the work-place.
- ☆ An update will be prepared by all departments within a year on the current status of legislative protection of women and children.





## Dr. J. Jayalalitha 15 Point Programme for Child Welfare



1. Increase average birth weight of children to 3 kg.
2. Elimination of vaccine preventable diseases:
  - ★ Polio, Measles and Neo-Natal Tetanus.
3. Reduction of infant mortality to less than 30 per 1000 live births and Pre-natal mortality by 50 percent.
  - ★ Elimination of diarrhoea and ARI deaths.
4. Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among children.
5. Elimination of micronutrient deficiencies.
  - ★ Vitamin A and iodine deficiencies
  - ★ Reduction of Anaemia.
6. Make all hospitals and maternity centres "Baby-Friendly"
7. To liberate women from the shackles of early and frequent child bearing by raising age of marriage to 21 and spacing birth intervals to 3 years.
8. Universalisation of primary education ensuring 5 years of primary education for every child by legislation and campaign.
9. Raising women's literacy and status.
10. Safe drinking water supply and better access to sanitary facilities at all children's centres and habitations.
11. Elimination of child labour in a phased manner.
12. Popularising of girl child protection scheme and improve the status of the girl child.
13. Eradication of the social evil of female infanticide.
14. Prevention of childhood disability and early detection for rehabilitation.
15. Early identification of congenital heart disease and free open heart surgeries for children.

# QUAID-E-MILLETH

## MOHAMMED ISMAIL SAHEB - A PASSIONATE BUILDER OF FREE INDIA

**M. Mohammed Ismail Saheb**, popularly known as **Quaid-e-Milleth**, was a most respected citizen of free India. The services rendered by him in general to his motherland and in particular to his community and to his mother tongue, Tamil are memorable. He was born in a family of eminent businessmen on 5.6.1896 at Pettai in Tirunelveli District, situated in the southern part of Tamil Nadu. After completing his school education in the missionary school at Tirunelveli, he joined the Madras Christian College.

### RESPONDS TO GANDHIJI'S CALL

When he was studying for his B.A. Degree, a call came from Gandhiji that college students should quit their colleges and jump into the freedom struggle. Ismail Saheb spontaneously responded to the Gandhiji's call and left the college, though only a few months had been left for the B.A. Degree examinations. Such was his thirst for freedom.

He participated in the Black flag agitation conducted at China Bazar in Madras against the Simon Commission.

### SUPPORTS - SWARAJYA RESOLUTION

Those were the days when Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar,



Mr. Krishnamoorthy and Shriman Rajagopalachari dominated the scene of political activities. The Resolution of Shriman Rajagopalachari demanding Swarajya for India was moved at Tirunelveli Town in the Congress Political Conference in 1920. Ismail Saheb was instrumental in getting it passed.

### LEADS KHILAFATH MOVEMENT

Ismail Saheb took a leading part in the Khilafath Movement in Tamil Nadu and he had close contact with the top leaders of the Movement at the national level, including the famous Ali Brothers and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchelieu.

### BUSINESS MAN CUM PHILANTHROPIST

He joined the business concern of Jamal Mohammed Saheb who was one of the important Congress leaders in those days. Within a few years, he rose to be the Manager of this concern engaged in leather tanning and

export business. He gave generous financial support to political sufferers, servants of religion and social institutions.

### **FUNDS FOR JAMIA MILLIA**

Dr. Zakir Hussain once arrived at Madras to raise funds for the Jamia Millia. It happened to be a dull season for the leather trade. So when Dr. Zakir Hussain approached the leather trade of Jamal Mohammed Saheb for assistance to Jamia Millia, the financial position of his business during the year did not permit him to offer any donation. However, Ismail Saheb, as its Manager, came out with the strange suggestion that the donation may be immediately given and that the sum may be debited to the profit which the concern was expected to make subsequent in the year. Though the suggestion seems to be strange, it brings out the great philanthropist in him. The result was, without approaching others with begging bowl, a Cheque for a handsome amount was issued as contribution for the Jamia Millia. Dr. Zakir Hussain gratefully recalled this incident during the World Tamil Conference held in 1968.

### **PRESIDENT OF MUSLIM LEAGUE**

He was elected as the President of the Madras State Muslim League in 1945. After India gained independence, he became the President of the Indian Union Muslim League in 1948 and continued in the post till his demise.

Through his yeoman services and incomparable sacrifices, he secured for the Indian Muslims their place of dignity and honour in the national pedestal. He was successful in his own life time in getting the Indian Union Muslim League, over which he presided, recognized as the secular movement which strengthened the democratic, secular and natural forces of free India.

One of the noble qualities of Ismail Saheb was that, while firmly sticking on to the views on various political issues which he held to be correct, he never wounded, either by words or deeds, the feelings of other political leaders who did not agree with him. It is because of this that he endeared himself to all, even though they did not always support his views. These leaders included Rajaji, Kamaraj, Periyar, Anna, Rama moorthy (of the CPM) and Kalyanasundram (of the CPI).

### **CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY**

He moved several amendments to the draft Constitution placed before the Constituent Assembly by the great Constitutional expert, Dr. Ambedkar. Thus he played a prominent role in the shaping of the Indian Constitution.

### **CHAMPION OF TAMIL LANGUAGE**

When the question arose in the Constituent Assembly regarding the necessity for adopting a common language for the whole of India, he enthusiastically asserted as follows: "If we are to discard English on the ground that it is a foreign language and want to choose, in its place, an Indian language as its common language and if we desire that the language to be so chosen should be an ancient language, that it should have been already used as an official language and that it should also have a rich cultural history, then the only Indian Language which satisfies all these requirements is Tamil - and it is my mother tongue".

### **BRILLIANT LEGISLATOR**

Having been elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly, he was the Leader

of Opposition from 1946 to 1952. Referring to the days when Ismail Saheb was the Leader of the Opposition in the Madras Legislative Assembly. Mr. Bakthavatchalam, who was then a Minister and later become the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, had praised Ismail Saheb as a model for all Leaders of Opposition.

### **MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

When the Rajya Sabha was first constituted in 1952, he was elected as its Member, having polled the largest number of votes, and he continued to be a Member of the Rajya Saba till 1958.

Thereafter, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Manjeri Constituency in Kerala in 1962. Again re-elected in 1967 and in 1971 from the same constituency. The significant feature of his elections was that he never visited the constituency even once to solicit votes. He is the only leader in our Country who was thus elected not once but thrice from the very same constituency without visiting the constituency even once for canvassing during election.

The speeches made by him both in the Rajya Sabha and in the Lok Sabha in Delhi reveal his patriotic passion,

his immense faith in national unity, his deep concern to safeguard the dignity of the nation and his unflinching loyalty to the cause of communal harmony.

Further, he was the first Member of Paliament to request that a part of his emoluments as a Member of Parliament may be retained for the National Defence Fund.

His very presence in the Parliament as a Senior Member added to its lusture and dignity.

### **STAUNCH NATIONALIST**

Whenever Pakistan invaded India, he echoed the patriotic feelings of the Indian Muslim citizens by his categorical declarations made against Pakistan.

When China invaded India, he declared that though he may not be qualified due to his advanced age to enlist himself in the army to defend the motherland, he is prepared to send to the battlefield his only son for the defence of the motherland.

### **TORCH BEARER OF COMMUNAL HARMONY**

When the various parts of the country were afflicted with communal clashes, communal harmony was prevailing in an admirable

manner in the whole of Madras Presidency. "Ismail Saheb was of immense help in maintaining the Peace," declared Sir Archibald Nye, the then Governor of Madras. In the same way, Dr. Prakasam, who was then the Premier of the Madras Presidency also praised him.

### **TRIBUTES**

When he passed away on the 5th April 1972, touching references were made to his lovable personality and untiring activities for the various causes of the Nation. The President, Thiru V.V. Giri, declared that the Country had lost a real patriot. The Legislative bodies in Tamil Nadu and Kerala honoured him by adjourning their activities.

Ismail Saheb was not only the leader of the Indian Muslims but also the recipient of love and affection from all, without any distinction of caste and creed. Further, he commanded the spontaneous respect of the Muslim World due to his very high standard of morality and ethics which he meticulously maintained.

The unveiling of his portrait in the Madras Legislative Assembly during the period when M.G.R. was the Chief Minister was a recognition of the laudable serv-



ices rendered by Ismail Saheb as an MLA.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha, the present Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, has honoured him by naming the East Thanjavur District as Quaid-e-Milleth District.

### QUAID-E-MILLETH

It is due to such enviable qualities of leadership, sin-

cerity of purpose and lofty ideals that the Muslim Community calls him the QUAID-E-MILLETH (meaning, the Guide of the Muslim Community).

### ENTENARY

Intensely devoted to his mother tongue, deeply attached to his community, passionately patriotic and,

above all, dominated by a humane attitude towards all, Quaid-e-Milleth Moham-mad Ismail Sahib has left behind him a noble heritage. The birth centenary of this national stalwart falls on 5.6.1995.

### Courtesy:

**A brochure published by TN State Muslim League, Madras-6.**

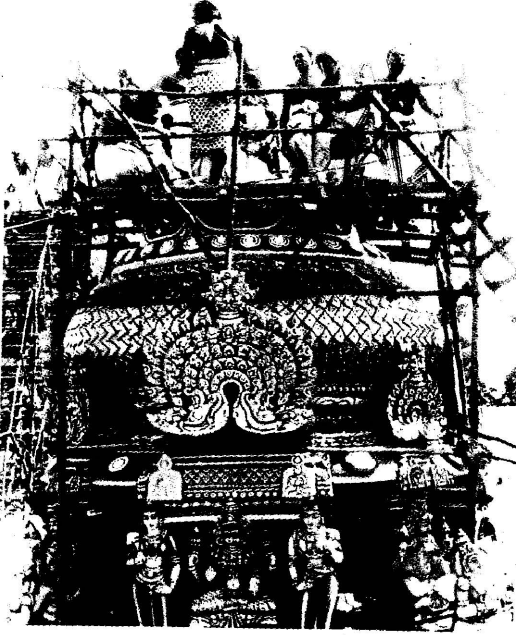


Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru. V.R. Nedunchezian administered a pledge to fight terrorism and anti-national forces to the officers and employees of the Secretariat on 19.5.95. The ceremony was held as a mark of respect to late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi whose death anniversary falls on 20.5.95.

# **Mahasamprokshanam**

**at**

## **Mannargudi**



The Mahasamprokshanam of Arulmigu Rajagopalaswamy temple at Mannargudi in Nagapattinam Quaid-e-Milleth

District was performed on 8.6.95. The Mahasamprokshanam was performed in the presence of the Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal.

Consecration of the Vimanas including the Thayar and Perumal Sannadhis was held in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha. She witnessed the pouring of the holy water on the gold plated kalasams of Thayar and Perumal Sannadhis.








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