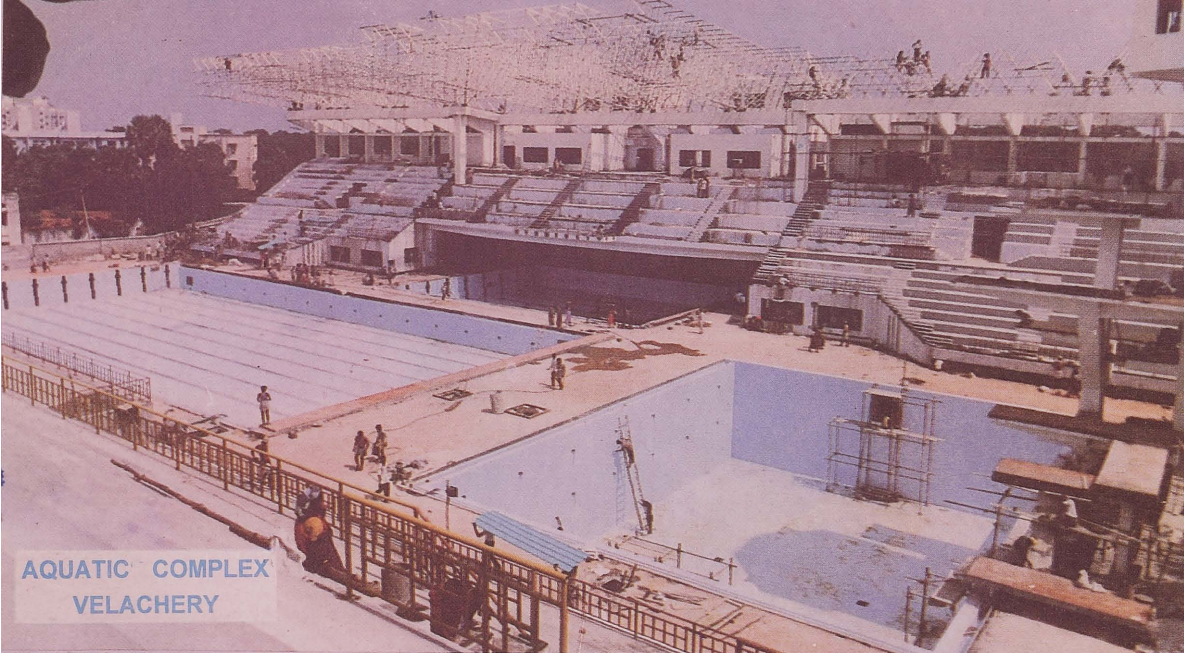


Tamil Arasu

OCTOBER 1995 Rs.3

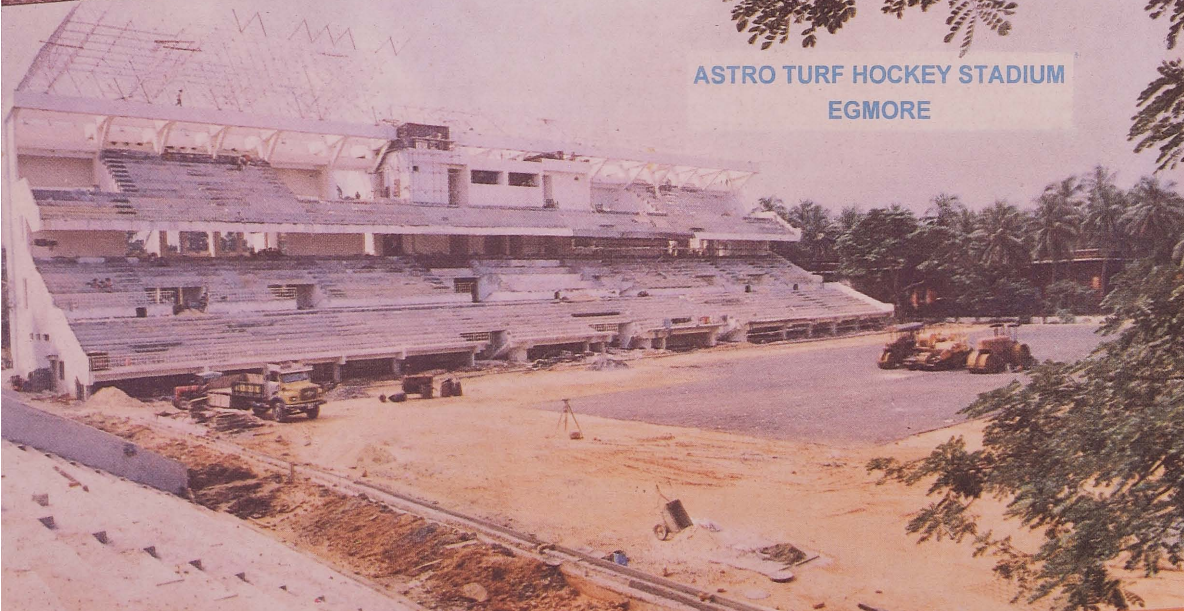




AQUATIC COMPLEX
VELACHERY



MODERN TENNIS STADIUM
NUNGAMBAKKAM



ASTRO TURF HOCKEY STADIUM
EGMORE



Tamil, Tamils and Tamil Nadu LOVE OF TAMIL

"I hope that the love of Tamil lovers will prove lasting and stand the severest strain. The superficial knowledge that I have of Tamil has enabled me to appreciate the beauty and the richness of the language. To neglect it would appear to me to be criminal."

"No other Indians can equal the performance of the Tamils in this fight. It therefore occurred to me that I should read Tamil with close attention, if for no other reason than to tender sincere thanks to them at least mentally. Accordingly, the last one month was devoted mostly to the study of Tamil. The more I learn it, the better I appreciate the beauties of this language. It is a very fine and sweet language, and from its structure and from what I have read in it, I find that the Tamils have produced, and still produce, a large number of intelligent thoughtful and wise men. Moreover, since India is going to be one country, some Indians outside Madras should also learn Tamil".

Mahatma Gandhi



Tamil Arasu

(A monthly journal of Government of Tamil Nadu)

Thiruvalluvar Year 2026
Purattasi - Iyppasi

OCTOBER - 1995

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**Humane solutions to the problems
of the handicapped reiterated**

WE NEED TECHNOLOGY WITH A MORE HUMAN FACE

**—Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha
inaugurating the UN-ESCAP international technical workshop on in-
digenous production and distribution of assistive
devices to disabled persons at Madras on 5.9.95.**

It is not enough to help the handicapped to cope with the challenges of existence and daily routine but they must be assisted to use their talents in various creative forms of self-expression, reiterated the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J. Jayalalitha inaugurating the ten day international

technical workshop on indigenous production and distribution of assistive devices to disabled persons, organised by UN-ESCAP at Madras on 5.9.95.

Such creative self expression and communication are very useful to the handicapped persons in tackling

the challenge of their disability, the Chief Minister said. To emphasize that disability is unimportant, the Chief Minister said, Stephen Hawking despite a crippling disability rose to world fame as a mathematical physicist by his ability.

"It is not practically possible to provide advanced

gadgets to one and all. Our aim is to provide satisfactory aids to all the disabled and to bring out their latent abilities.

It is in the context of this policy that the State is going to have the benefit of this international workshop in which experts from all over the world will share their experience, and more effective and advanced solutions will emerge to meet the challenges the handicapped have to face.

In addition to merely being able to cope with the challenges of existence and daily routine, it is imperative that the handicapped are assisted to use their talent in various forms of self-expression. Such as Painting, Music or Handicrafts", said the Chief Minister.

"We must look for the most appropriate technologies, using locally available

materials, resources and manpower. We must strive to enhance the quality of life for the maximum number of people, for all the handicapped and not just for a select few", the Chief Minister declared.

"We need technology with a more human face. There is a growing feeling that, with the rapid advancement of technology men are looking more like machines and we must prove that the emerging man and machine synergy will lead us to humane solutions to the problems of the handicapped", added the Chief Minister.

Tamil Nadu is the first State in the Country to have launched a comprehensive programme for the handicapped, said the Chief Minister. Her Government never hesitated to allocate funds for programmes for the visually handicapped, the hearing impaired, the loco-

motor handicapped and the mentally retarded, she said.

Evolution in technology does not mean that the devices should become more complicated. It should mean evolution in simplicity- even if the scientific and technical features of the devices are more complex. Complexity does not mean more complication, we need more and more devices that are easier to handle and maintained by the users themselves. There should be greater accessibility, availability and affordability. In short, they should be like spectacles and dental fittings that we so commonly use as assistive devices, and like them, aesthetically and cosmetically pleasing too, the Chief Minister said.

The important point here is that each one of us has a unique role to play, and a mission to help our less fortunate fellowmen and we





must assist every handicapped person to discover and communicate his or her self identity and fulfil his or her unique mission. Here mass production and technology cannot be of use. Indeed, technology today, on the whole, is under attack for mass production of weaponry and pollution of the environment. It still has a chance of redeeming itself, by service to the cause of the handicapped, the Chief Minister remarked.

Let the genius of technology and science lead to a better quality of life for the handicapped. We may have advanced computers to solve mathematical or physical problems but there are things in the world that just don't add up mathematically, pointed out the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister expressed her desire that every person must come out of the prison of one's own limitations, nourish and nurture the creative potential and find adequate opportunities for self expression and com-

munication. Above all, everyone should have his or her unique sense of self-esteem, self-confidence and identity as well as purpose in life, she said.

Hon'ble Union Minister for Welfare, Thiru Sitaram Kesari presided over the inauguration. He said that Tamil Nadu is one of the few states that has developed a comprehensive rehabilitation policy for the disabled in the Country and the State is sincerely implementing the policy with peoples' participation. He thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for agreeing to give up land for the setting up of a national institute for persons with multiple disabilities at Madras.

In his key note address, Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister said that technology was the only tool that can be applied in a very effective way to eradicate the problems of the disabled in the shortest period by using the already developed materials-computers and sensor

technologies-in a cost effective way. The magnitude of the task is so immense in the Asia Pacific region for helping the handicapped, it could be accomplished only by joint endeavours.

Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Tmt.R. Indirakumari said that Tamil Nadu would soon declare itself "Polio Free". The annual budget for the handicapped that was Rs.2 crores in 1991 has now gone up to Rs.4 crores. She said that Tamil Nadu has evolved two relief schemes for the cleft palate persons and spinal cord injured persons.

Thiru K.B. Saxena, Secretary, Union Ministry of Welfare read out a message from the Prime Minister of India.

Delegates from 19 Countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam are participating in the workshop. Delegates from International labour organisation, Economic Research Centre, Belgium, Handicap International of France and National Research and Development Centre in Finland are attending the workshop.

AN EXCLUSIVE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL FOR EMPLOYEES OF TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS

History of the College

The long standing desire of the Transport Corporation employees to have a

full fledged Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre.

Pending completion of the

academic year 1986-87 to 1991-92.

The construction of the new buildings for the Medical College and Hostels at

PERUNDURAI MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Medical College & Hospital to provide specialised Medical treatment to the people in the area and employees of State Transport Corporations and their families was fulfilled by the State Government in the year 1986. The Tamil Nadu Government permitted the Institute of Road Transport to start a Medical College at Perundurai, Periyar District with an annual intake of 60 students to the I year - M.B.B.S. Course.

The Tamil Nadu Government acquired the Ramalingam Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Perundurai and the surrounding land of 350 acres and transferred them to the Institute of Road Transport for developing a

buildings and required infrastructural facilities for the Medical College and Hospital at Perundurai, a batch of 60 students were admitted every year at the Kilpauk Medical College, Madras Medical College and Madurai Medical College (20 students in each) from the

Perundurai was started in the year 1990. They were completed and started functioning with all the required infrastructural facilities from August 1992. The Project cost is Rs.20 crores.

Besides the 360 bedded hospital at the Ramalingam

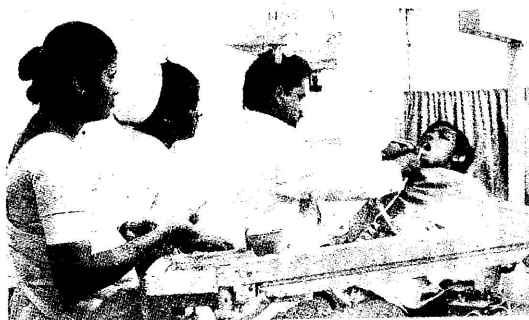


Tuberculosis Sanatorium, a new 300 bedded modern Hospital was constructed within the College campus. Now the bed strength of Ramalingam Tuberculosis Sanatorium is 214 and that of Perundurai Medical College Hospital is 500. The Tamil Nadu Government has permitted the students of the Perundurai Medical College to utilise the clinical facilities available at the Government Head Quarters Hospital, Erode also.

For the convenience of the students and staff a library is functioning with Audio and Video facilities.

A canteen and co-operative store facilities are available for the students and the staff.

Separate hostels are available for male and female students and for faculty members.



Facilities available in Perundurai Medical College and R.T. Sanatorium

General Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Orthopaedics, Paediatrics, Surgery, Ophthalmology, E.N.T., Dermatology, Psychiatry and Dentistry.

T.B. and Chest Diseases

Medical treatment is given to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Bone Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis in Children, Intestinal Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of Brain, Tuberculosis of Urinary tract and other Chest dis-

eases.

Availability of other facilities

I.C.U. and I.C.C.U., fully equipped Operation Theatres with modern facilities, modern laboratories, ECG, X-ray, Scan and Endoscopy, Blood bank, Government recognised family welfare department, M.M.R. Vehicle, Casualty, closed circuit T.V. for Operation Theatres, Treadmill, Operative Laproscope, Ventilators, Pulse Oxymetre, Mortuary with cold storage system, Ambulance Van and Mortuary Van.

On the Birthday of V.O. Chidambaram on 5.9.95, Hon'ble Ministers garlanded the statue of the great patriot located at Madras Harbour.





US MINISTER CONVEYS HIS APPRECIATION OF THE EFFORTS OF THE CHIEF MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS

The US Deputy Minister for Commerce Mr. Raymond Vickery called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha on 13.9.95 at the Secretariat. The Deputy Minister conveyed his appreciation of the comprehensive efforts taken by the Chief Minister to further industrial development in Tamil Nadu. The Deputy Minister also extended an invitation to the Chief Minister to visit USA.

The Deputy Minister conveyed his gratitude to the Chief Minister for the support extended by her to M/s. Dupont and M/s. Ford Motors of USA, to set up their plants in Tamil Nadu - The

Minister congratulated the Chief Minister for providing a conducive atmosphere as well as for building the essential infrastructure needed for the establishment of Technologically advanced Hi-tech industries in Tamil Nadu.

During this meeting, another Deputy Minister of the US, Thiru. Whitener was present. Also present was the Commerce Officer in the US Embassy at New Delhi.

The Chief Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Government, Thiru N. Haribhaskar IAS was also present.

THE IDEAL SOCIETY OF GANDHI

—Perarignar Anna

Today is the birthday of Gandhi, the virtuous man of world renown. This day is celebrated all over the Country as a day of rejoicing. People pay their loving tributes to Gandhi according to heart's desire. They celebrate this day by garlanding his sacred portrait, singing songs in his praise, performing bhajan in his honour, spinning yarn and cleaning slums.

There are people who say that he is a man of pure heart and a saint who has come into this world to remove the blemish of our religion.

There are people who say that he is our freedom fighter and a dauntless hero who shattered our shackles.

There are people who say that he is a socialist and a champion of the poor who paved the way for the down-trodden to lead a new life.

There are people who say that he is the man who tried to establish Gramaraj.

Thus, there are different kinds of people who praise him with awe and wonder, each according to his own vision and insight. It is a question worthy of investigation for all time to find out in whose vision we find the totality of Gandhi's personality. The reason is that he should not be considered an individual man. He is a symbol of the times and uprising. He is an embodiment of the renaissance.

If we view him as a politician, we will be content to admire his 'Satyagraha' (war of righteousness) with wonder. He has won tremendous success not only in the political field but also in other fields. He has stamped his mark in all fields. His life and service are modelled in such a way that people in different fields vie with one another in claiming Gandhi as one of their own because he lived and served them. This is the reason why his birthday is celebrated by the people of different walks of life. He represents an era



in the history of our Country. He has given splendour and strength and brought about a turning point in all fields.

The progress of a Country depends on its progress in all fields and not in one particular field only. Only from totality of the progress made, can we judge a country's improvement. We cannot come across such a period of progress often in the history of a Country, not even once in a century. Therefore, this day is of special significance not only be-

cause it is the birthday of a great leader but also because it symbolises a golden period in the history of our Country.

The excellence and splendour of today's function should be reflected in our thought and deed for ever. Our celebrations should not end with merely singing eulogies. On the contrary, we should follow in his footsteps, strive for the ideals he cherished, to preserve and safeguard his heritage and to rekindle the inspirations he gave us.

The beauty of a garland lies in its fragrance. The utility of a lamp lies in its light. Likewise the value of celebrations lies in the excellence of our action.

Let us not be content with defying him as an AVATHAR worth of worship not with singing his fame and remarkable achievements. I would appeal to you to remember and strive for the society he dreamt of the ideals he propounded and the moral integrity he exemplified.

He did not perform any miracle. But he made heroes of cowards, inspired them to blow the trumpet of freedom and instilled fearlessness in them even in the face of over-whelming obstacles and difficulties.

The poet Bharathi sang in a tone of melancholy thus. "People die of incessant fear and cowardice. There is nothing that they are not afraid of in the world". Gandhi wiped off that fear from our hearts. He raised an army of unarmed men who dared to defy death, facing even the challenge of a fully equipped army. He inspired the little sparrows with the courage to oppose even the mighty vultures. He drove away diffidence from our hearts. He gave us the patriotic feeling that our country inalienably belongs to us.

He achieved all these not by war but by non-violence, not by killing our enemies but by following the path of virtue, not by preaching hatred but by showing love.

The exponents of KATHAKALASHEBAM have not seen by themselves the miracles said to have been performed by the great saints of the past. But we have the good fortune to see with our eyes the MIRACLES wrought by Gandhi. This SEMI NAKED MAN gave a life of glory and honour to millions of our country men. What can be a greater miracle than this!

Even those who mocked at his leadership in the beginning accepted and admired him as the undisputed leader

of India after he had performed this miracle. Today critics say that the path of virtue he showed will apply not only to India but also to all Countries in the world which are trying to liberate themselves from the clutches of slavery.

In the 16th century the outside world knew of India only as a Country that abounded in cloves and spices, gold and gems and as a Country full of simpletons, who knew not how to utilize them.

Although freedom-fight was begun like the morning star in the days of Tilak, it was only after Gandhi entered the Congress that the world realised that the whole of India was throbbing with a spirit of awakening and alertness. The World used to view India only through the bright rays of Gandhi's fame.

It was Gandhi who created an agitational attitude which was selfless and did not care for results. Prior to that, the Country was dominated by learned people who begged for freedom by humble petitions.

His appearance, physique, talk, habits and manners were not such as to induce war mentality. But he was able to generate in

the minds of millions of our countrymen the spirit of heroism which enabled them to defy even the mighty armies.

In all his public services we cannot come across a strong invective or an unjust act of any self-seeking plan. The influence of his selfless services brought name and fame not only to India but also to the whole of Asia and it spread in such a way as to instil terror even in the minds of the European imperialists who were highly proud and arrogant of colour bar. Heads of foreign Governments flocked to him to listen to his words with rapt attention. Even kings considered it an honour to stay in his humble cottage.

He never felt or said that 'Swaraj' was the end of our struggle. Nor did he fail to tell us how the Country and the people should attain a healthy status.

He firmly believed that Swaraj was only a means to an ideal. He stressed that in the history of a Country, Swaraj is, no doubt, a golden leaf but not the final one. He preached that slavery should be abolished at all costs because it is an impediment to the progress of the Country.

The chains of slavery

have been shattered. But let us ask ourselves whether we have succeeded in creating the India of his dreams. Let us have the moral courage to give a negative answer. Let this day instil in our minds the firm determination to create the India that he dreamt of.

He drove away from our minds the fear of the British Government. But have we become fearless in other fields? Certainly not. So long as society consist of the privileged and the underprivileged, the haves and the have nots, the mighty and the weak, how can fear be cast away?

Fear threatens us. Scarcity menaces us. Hatred drives us. Fear should be cast away and virtue should blossom. When we are celebrating the birthday of this great sage, let us dedicate ourselves to this ideal.

We see abundant wealth and abject poverty, magnificent cities and poverty stricken slums, big factories and bands of unemployed men, religious institutions and profiteers, swindlers, hoarders and black-market-eers side by side. He toiled throughout life not to see such a pathetic sight but to create a clean and ideal Country free from these evils.

It is not a Country where we see murder and theft, gambling and drinking. It is worse than a forest which is even free from these evils.

Gandhi desired to establish a glorious and unblemished Country free from gambling, exploitation and class hatred. But what is it that we see in India, when we are celebrating his birthday? Communal clashes, the cruelty of untouchability, the exploitation of the weak by the mighty, rebellion-torn cities, woe-stricken villages, political chicanery and social conspiracies all these are rampant with none to curb them. The quarrel of linguistic imperialism has not come to an end where democracy is practised.

We are celebrating Gandhi's birthday when we are not in a position to enforce prohibition successfully. Such a deplorable state will not change so long as we revere Gandhi as a saint and miracle - monger.

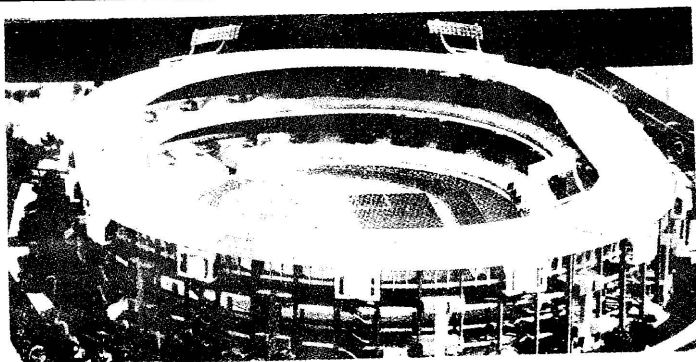
We should realise that Gandhi is not dead but he has become one with us. His thoughts and ideals have not perished. We should have the strong determination to accept them as our ideals. This should be the underlying significance of celebrating the birthday of Gandhi

who is no more with us. This is not only a day for proclaiming his immortal fame but also a day for us to resolve to put into practice his excellent ideals since we have accepted them in toto.

In his days the alien Government was frightened to hear his voice of protest and quit India. But many things, such as falsehood, unscrupulousness, illiteracy, inadequacy, casteism and class hatred that should be driven out, are still there. Purity, truthfulness, fearlessness and spirit of service are necessary to drive them away. We are celebrating the birthday of Gandhi only in order to possess these qualities. I should like to remind you of what Jawaharlal Nehru said about the ideal India of

Gandhi: "Even the poorest should consider this land as a land of theirs. They should realise that they have power and importance in its set-up. There should not be caste superiority among people. All communities should live in amity and peace. I shall strive to usher in an India of that type".

—Radio talk by Anna on
2nd October, 1967.



SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PAR EXCELLENCE

Tamil Nadu, under the dynamic leadership of Puraichy Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha is witnessing a silent, but marvellous revolution. Dry tracts of land are giving way to classic sports arenas of every different kind. And each of these is a masterpiece built to international standards. And being built to remain a master-

piece, even in the twenty-first century.

Madras, already has the famed Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. The Aquatic Complex at Velachery, the most modern tennis stadium at Nungambakkam and the astro-turfed hockey stadium are three more feathers in the cap of the Tamil Nadu Government headed by the

visionary Chief Minister Puraichy Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha.

When completed, Madras is certain to become India's "Sports City".



ROAD IMPROVEMENT AT ACCIDENT PRONE SPOTS

The Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned Rs.11 crores for taking up improvement works at those spots where there were frequent road accidents, the Hon'ble Transport Minister, Thiru K.A. Sengottaiyan said on 5.9.95 at Madras.

Speaking to newsmen, the Minister said a study had revealed that there were 472 spots in the State which witnessed frequent road accidents. With a view to reducing accidents at these locations, the Government had allocated Rs.11 crores this year for carrying out improvements and in the first phase Rs.3 crores had been released. Committees consisting of the respective Collectors, Superintendents of Police, Divisional Engineer, Highways and the Managing Directors of State Transport Corporations had been set up to identify places where accidents occurred frequently and to effect necessary improvements to

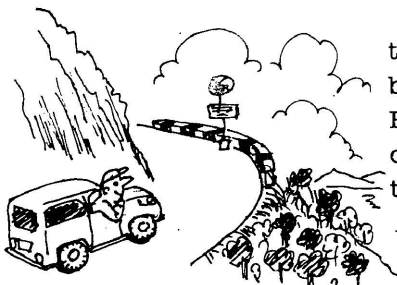
bring down the number of the neighbouring States. If only the fares were the same as in other States, the transport corporation would have earned enormous profits. But the Minister made it clear that there would be no fare revision for the time being. The Chief Minister's wish was that the fares in the State should be the lowest for the benefit of those living below the poverty line.

The measure was part of the steps taken by the State Government to reduce road accidents and another proposal engaging the Government's attention was to conduct training programmes in district headquarters for drivers of all vehicles including private ones for a couple of days to improve their driving skills and on road safety. Already RTOs had been instructed to be strict in issuing licences. Emphasis was also being laid on prevention of accidents by State Transport Corporation buses.

The Minister said the bus fares in Tamil Nadu were the lowest compared to those in

More attention was also now being given to maintenance of State Transport Corporation buses through effective supervision. A policy decision had already been taken to replace town buses which were six years old and long-distance vehicles which had run seven lakh kilometres. The break-down rate of these buses had come down after 1990.

The Minister explained that a total of 550 new buses, purchased with World Bank aid, would replace the old ones of PTC and DATC by this year end.





TOURISM PROMOTION IN TAMIL NADU BY TTDC



The glory of Tamil Nadu is at its peak and tourism had benefited with a major development under the parental care of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and these developments in infrastructure and facilities have become a boon to the tourism industry and T.T.D.C.

The activities of TTDC comprises of operating hotels, providing transport facilities and recreation facilities through Trade Fairs, Boat Houses, Amusement Parks, Swimming Pools, Indoor games etc.

The Chain of Tamil Nadu Hotels of TTDC is functioning with 25 Hotels and 8 Youth Hostels with a total bed strength of -2381. Even though TTDC has equipped all the Hotels with high standard and more facilities with quality of services to the standard of Star Hotels, TTDC is proud to state that during the span of last 4 years the upgradation of hotels have been looked into on a priority basis and as on date the selected Hotels in

major tourist centres have been provided with comfortable accomodation with interior decorated rooms, facilities such as Airconditioners, Telephones, TVs and service through qualified staff at Reception, Restaurants and in Bars.

TTDC is also proud to say that, it had an occasion to serve on the Hon'ble Chief Ministers direction with the following assignment of duties for conducting VIII World Tamil Conference held in Thanjavur during January 1995.

1. Equipping of 867 Housing Board flats in Thanjavur to accomodate the foreign delegates attended the

Conference.

2. Organising of Post Conference Special Tours to the foreign delegates participated in the Conference.

3. Organising of Tourism pavilion on Exhibition organised by Government at Thanjavur at the eve of VIII World Tamil Conference.

The celebration of VIII World Tamil Conference had also paved way for TTDC to upgrade the Hotel Tamil Nadu, Thanjavur equal to the 5 star Hotel standard where all the State Ministers were accomodated as well as catering facilities during the VIII World Tamil Conference celebrations at Thanjavur.





The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1.00 crore for the year 1995-96 to upgrade the major hotels in important tourist centres equal to that of Hotel Tamil Nadu, Thanjavur and all preliminary arrangements have been taken to upgrade and modernise the Hotels.

On the Transport Sector, the fleet strength of TTDC, has been maintained with 25 Luxury coaches all these years. However, it is to be pointed out that the fleet has been made modern with more facilities and with introduction of new luxury coaches during the past 4 years. TTDC has introduced 5 new luxury coaches to the fleet. With the introduction of these new coaches, the fleet will certainly be newly modern one, to cater to the needs of foreign and domestic tourists.

TTDC's ever popular 14 types of tours have become

more access at international market as TTDC has made tie up arrangements in India as well as in foreign countries by appointing selling agents.

The statistics of the tourist arrival both foreign and domestic in Tamil Nadu for the past 3 years proved the Tourism growth in Tamil Nadu and the details are furnished below

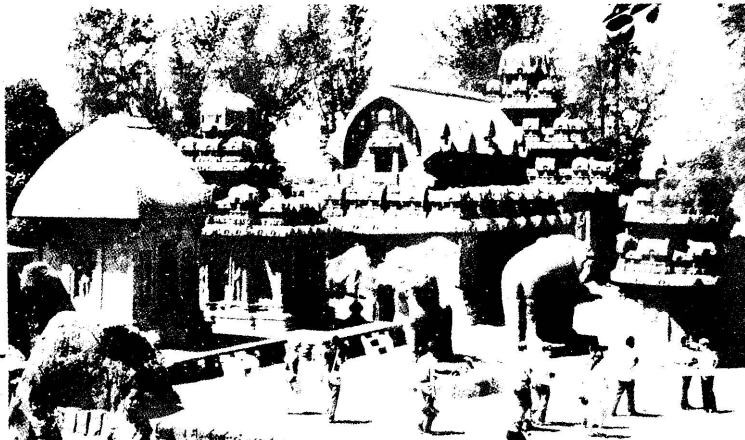
Year	Arrival of Foreign Tourists	Arrival of domestic Tourists
	Lakhs	Lakhs
1991-92	3.30	127

1992-93	4.03	131
1993-94	4.41	138
1994-95	4.83	185

In order to facilitate the public sectors and the private enterprises, the TTDC had introduced the Deposit accommodation scheme, a novel scheme for assured rent free accommodation in cities and towns across Tamil Nadu. Ideal for companies in all sectors to give their staff a place for stay either on duty or holiday, another scheme of TTDC is Time Share Scheme comes with uncomparable advantage, economic tariff, wide range on location, exchange facilities, instalment payment plan etc. Both the schemes are received by a few of the Public undertakings and private enterprises and lot of responses are flowing in to avail these schemes.

Tamil Nadu Temple Tour Train

One of the major schemes currently with TTDC is oper-



ating Tamil Nadu Temple Tour Train covering important pilgrim centres in Tamil Nadu.

Trade Fairs

The TTDC's recreation stated with the introduction of Annual Tourist Fair, a seasonal attraction to the city population and to the visiting tourists of Madras, organised since the year 1974 during the Pongal Festival, the peak season in Tamil Nadu. In order to highlight Tourism growth blended with industrial progress in Tamil Nadu. The tourist fair is organised every year under the banner of All India Tourist and Industrial Fair and the TTDC has successfully completed its 21st Fair celebrated for 100 days which has attracted 30 lakhs of city public to the fair during 1995.

In addition to accommodation, transport and Fair TTDC's other recreational activities comprise of Boat House at 9 Tourist important centres in Tamil Nadu, Telescope Houses at 4 places, mobile canteen facilities in Madras etc. The TTDC Boat Houses especially in Hill Stations at Udhagai, Kodaikanal, Yercaud service to the tourists of domestic and international by operating pleasure Boats, providing catering services, video

games, lawn services, mini train services etc. Considering ever increasing response from the Tourists, the TTDC has taken measures to add more number of boats to the boat Houses in Udhagai, Yercaud, Kodaikanal and also to improve the other facilities in restaurants video games and mini train service. A new Boat House has been commissioned at Pykara at Udhagai to manage the summer traffic.

Computerised Reservation Facilities to Tourists

TTDC has provided computerised reservation facilities for the reservation of coach tours and also accommodation in TTDC Group of Hotels in the state. This facilitates the tourists from inland and foreign countries to plan their tours well in advance and to avail the facilities offered by TTDC. The TTDC's sales office at Anna Salai, which is in the heart of the city, is functioning round the clock throughout the year.

The improvement of TTDC assets all these years are based on the funds allotted by Government of Tamil Nadu as well as Government of India every year by which the TTDC was able to expand its accommodation facilities, transport and other recreational activities. To under-

take the Tourism Promotion Schemes, Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned a sum of Rs.179.68 lakhs during 1993-94, Rs.197.48 lakhs for the year 1994-95 and for the year 1995-96 an additional amount for Part-II scheme for Rs.117.50 lakhs. The State Government has also sent proposals to the tune of Rs.729 lakhs under the Tourism Promotional Scheme to the Government of India for financial assistance for the current year.

Recently the TTDC has taken over the following hotels:

Wayside facilities - at Sathur, Kodai Road and Palani

Tourist Reception Centre - Rameswaram

Accommodation as well as catering facilities are offered to the tourists.

The other hotel projects which are coming up fastly are at Kumbakonam, Uthirakosamangai and Salem nearing completion and will be put into operation shortly.

Financial Results of TTDC

The turnover of TTDC during the year 1992-93 was Rs.1328.44 lakhs, in 1993-94 was Rs.1513.18 lakhs, in 1994-95 was Rs.1621.39 lakhs which is 7% in excess to the year 1993-94. The year 1995-96 will definitely be a brighter year for TTDC.



gressed and regressed over a region that included Ariyalur, Kallakudi, Dalmiapuram, Karai, Anaipadi and Garudamangalam. When the sea, suddenly regressed, it

left behind millions of its animals and plants, which lived during those period. Then the whole area became a mass graveyard of sea organisms. The enormous quantities of the shelled sea creatures namely the corals, the gastropods, and the brachiopods were hardened and over the passage of millions of years it is formed huge bands of sedimentary rocks, mostly limestones.

Generally, the fleshy parts of the buried marine animals rotted away quickly, the hard parts such as skeletons, bones and shells remained in tact for a very long time. The pores and open spaces were partially or fully impregnated with mineral deposits from the seeping water, and in the course of thousands of years these structures turned into a stone like objects called fossils. Thus, the fossils are the recognisable remains of animals and plants which lived in the past ages and preserved in the rocks of the earth crust by natural processes.

TAMILARASU . 16

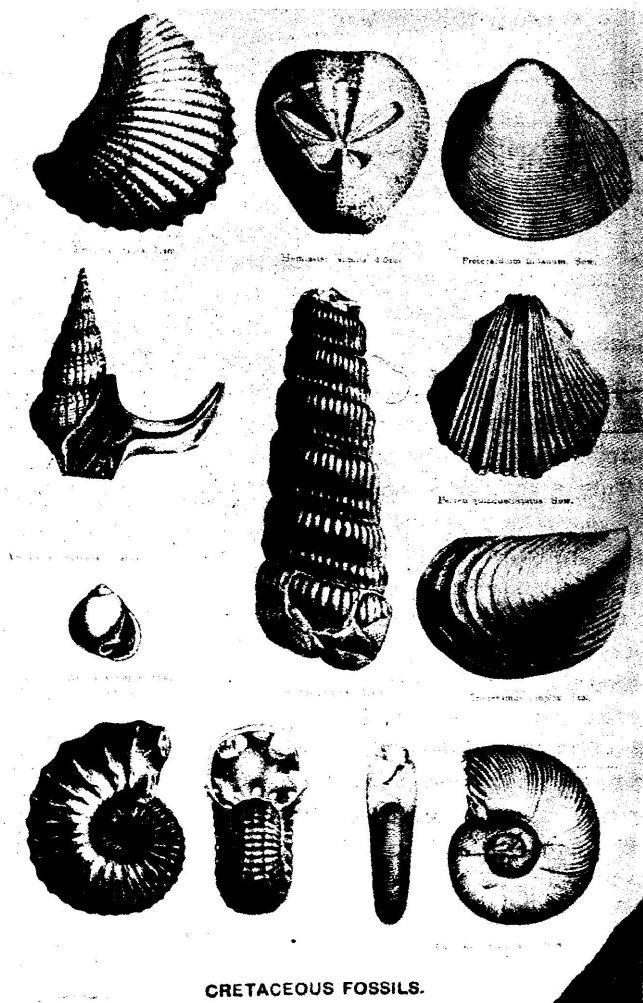
to have been deposited as a result of the Universal Marine Transgression which occurred during the middle cretaceous period. The rock structure of the whole marine transgression area is divided into four distinct zones from the west to the east, namely Uttathur stage, Tiruchinopoly stage, Ariyalur stage and the Ninniyur stage.

The Uttathur formations are mainly composed of limestones, clays and arenaceous rocks. The Schloenbachia, Turritites, Uncoiled ammonites are the characteristic fossils of this formation. It also consists of sandstones, calcareous grits and lime stones. The Trichinopoly formation is distinguished from the underlying Uttathur formation by the presence of a large number of granite pebbles in the gravels, and conglomerates. The Ariyalur stage consists of mostly argillaceous sandstone and white sandstone. The fossil assemblages of this formations, are cerithium, cidaris and gryphaea. The Ninniyur formation lies over the Ariyalur stage, and the ammonites have been found to disappear in this stage. It contains fossils such as Nautilus Turritella.

One can just pick up fossil specimens from the soil es-

pecially after the monsoon (that is from December to March) since during this period the top soil is washed away and exposing the fossils. During my recent tour to Ariyalur for collecting the fossils I found that the ammonites, belemnites, sandstone are found in plenty in Uttathur, Karai, Dalmiapuram and in Kallakudi. The limestones found in Pullambadi, Kunnam and Anaipadi are beautiful and ornamen-

tal with white molluscan shells embedded in a fine grey matrix. These polished stones are called Trichy marbles and used for flooring. Koothur village is known as the land of cart wheel ammonites. Large number of ammonites are being picked by the researchers, scholars and Geology students during their study tour and in fact the little children of the local schools have a big collections



CRETACEOUS FOSSILS.

of the same which they may even sell. In Sathanur, a village about 25 kms from Ariyalur, we can see the finest specimen of fossil wood. The entire area surrounding the fossilised tree has been declared a protected geological monument and is fenced by Geological Survey of India. Thousands of students, research scholars and geologists from all over the country and abroad visit the protected monument every year. Moreover, for a student of Geology their education will not complete without the knowledge of Ariyalur treasures. Since, this area contains remains of a thousand extinct sea animals and plants, the famous British Zoologist Sir T.Holland calls this series of beds as a little Museum of Palaeozoology.

It is imperative to preserve a portion of the area in tact so that the budding and future geologists, scientists, research scholars and students could study the area in order to know more and more information about the period when the sea had covered the land. In fact the Ariyalur region was considered as 'Mecca' of geologists and research scholars and they are visiting the amazing site every year from all over the world.

As a museum depart-



Hon'ble Minister for Finance Dr. Navalar Nedunchezhiyan released the Free Prize Coupons under Small Savings Scheme. The Vice Chairman of the Small Savings Advisory Committee, Thiru J. Paranthaman MLA, received the coupons.

ment, particularly the Commissioner of Museums through the Geology Section, has taken keen interest to preserve and protect this area in order to educate the general public and students about the fascinating phenomenon of marine transgression and regression, the fossil formation and the geological importance of this region by creating a new fossil museum in and around Ariyalur. In this connection we are also in touch with the Geological Survey of India Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation Ltd. 'TANCEM', Department of Geology and mining for gathering more and more information about this area.

The study of fossils en-

ables us to determine the evolution of animals and plants through ages. It also helps in correlating rock beds of one area with that of the another. Moreover, the study of fossils constitutes an integral part of any investigation leading to the discovery of new deposits of coal and petroleum. The various types of fossils, the fossil wood displayed in the Geology gallery of the Government Museum Madras are exclusively from Ariyalur, Tiruchi District. A huge ammonites fossil wood displayed in the geology gallery attracts the attention of most of the visitors. Ariyalur, an amazing village is undoubtedly a treasure for the geologists.



The activities of Tamil Nadu Archives



The three main interest which every official Archives Repository ought to serve, are the administrative, the public and the Historical interests. The Tamil Nadu Archives formerly known as Madras Record Office was established in 1909. The forerunner of this Archives was a small repository of records organised in the Council room in 1805. In that year Lord William Bentinck, Governor of Madras 1803-6 pooled the work of record for the different departments by separating all but the most important records and placing them in charge of a Record Keeper. However, greater attention of the Government of Madras was first directed to this Archives only in 1836 a year previous to the passing of the Public Record Office Act of 1838, in England.

Records centralised in Tamil Nadu Archives

Records of Public Administration grow with its increase in extent and activities. This increase in

accumulation of records compelled the Government to devise proper measures for their custody and preservation. Hence the records of the Secretariat, Confidential as well as non-confidential from 1670 down to 1990 are centralised in Tamil Nadu Archives. Besides the Secretariat records, the records of the Board of Revenue, Chief Conservator of Forest, Survey and Settlement the High Court, the District Courts etc., are also centralised. Book published in various languages in this State ever since the passing of the registration of books Act 1867 are also in this Archives. The nature of books vary from Administrative Reports, Selections from Records, Almanacs, Gazetteers, departmental manuals, Books of reference, periodicals, etc.,

The Tamil Nadu Archives is headed by the Special Commissioner of Archives and Historical Research. He is the Chief Archival authority in the Tamil Nadu. He is primarily responsible for the proper preservation, publication and administra-

tion of current records housed in this Archives. He also exercises control over the non-current records preserved in this office of all Heads of Departments, the Collectorate etc., He advises the Government on all Technical matters relating to Archives and represents them on bodies like the Indian Historical Records Commission. He is also Member-Secretary of Fellowship Scheme awarded by this Archives.

Research Facilities

One of the prime duties of this Archives is that of making records available for Historical Research. The records preserved in this office furnish materials of immense value as a source and information of the past facilitating research. The earliest researches into the old records were carried out by scholars like George Garrow W. Huddleston in 1858, and Mr. Talboys Wheelers in 1860, Dodwell in 1911 and Dr. Baliga in 1935 at the instance of Government. It was not till the year 1930

that the University began to realise the richness of the Historical materials within their reach resulting in continuous stream of Research students, who started to attend this office. The scholars belong to the University of Madras, and also from Universities of other States in India and also from Universities of Foreign countries. All records including confidential records barring the records of last 30 years are thrown open for bonafide Historical Research, even among the current records, those that have been placed at the disposal of the press have been thrown open for research.

Publication Cell

The Records of the Government from 1670 to 1760 numbering more than 310 have been printed in extense. Besides this, some old Dutch records, Anandaram Pillais diary have also been printed and published. Compendium on important subject of Administrative and Historical interest were also issued. Special publication studies in Madras Administration - 2 volumes were prepared and published. At present the Publication Cell attends to the issue of Select Documents on different topics of interest to

Research Scholars, Historians, administrators, learned institutions, Research Centres etc., So far nine have been published. Besides this, the Section brings out a half yearly journal, Avana Amudam mainly to arouse the Archival consciousness and focus on the treasure in this Archives.

Conservation of records

The Preservation practices in Tamil Nadu Archives are noteworthy since it has been one of the leading exponents of scientific records in preservation, ever since its formation in 1909. The records that are very old, fragile and brittle are being repaired and mended with chiffon, a dexterious variety of Kashmir silk. Activities of the conservation division has gained special importance by the introduction of the modern practices and machineries. The following are brief descriptions.

Fumigation

At present, in the Tamil Nadu Archives, the records are protected against the ravages of record pests by a method of fumigation with para-di-chlore benzene crystals kept in the Fumigation cabinets specially made for the purpose. These cabinets cannot touch the fringe of the problem, for one thing,

they are not as effective as the Vacuum Fumigation Chambers, for another, they are suitable only for small record rooms. Hence a Vacuum Fumigation Chamber, 500 cubic feet capacity was imported from U.S.A. and installed here. Fumigation is done in this mechanical Vacuum Chamber with a mixture of Carbon dioxide and ethylene Oxide @:1 by weight.

De-Acidification

The Archival Department had introduced the process of de-acidification of documents before repair, by the process of de-acidification process. There is another process called Dry-de-acidification Process in which liquid ammonia is used to remove the acidity in the papers. Air tight cabinets are also used for this process.

Machine Lamination

This is the method by which fragile and brittle papers are reinforced with two coats of a plastic foil of cellulose acetate, the foil being melted into the paper by means of heat and pressure without adhesives. The foil is completely transparent, water repellant and flexible. The papers laminated with the foils will therefore be perfectly legible, protected from dust and liquids that may be spilled on them and

rendered strong and flexible to withstand considerable use and handling. Lamination is done with the aid of a Laminator Barrows Rotary Drum type laminator.

Photo copying machine

A photo copying machine has been installed in this office in 1979 and photo copies from records and books are supplied to the researchers on payment for photo copying charges.

Microfilm Unit

A Microfilm Unit has been installed in this Archives. A Programme has been drawn and the records of this Archives are being Microfilmed and preserved. Microfilm copies of records required by the Research Scholars will also be attended to as and when necessary arises.

Electronic Stencil Cutting Machine

An Electronic Stencil Cutting Machine with electrically operated Duplicator in A4' size has been installed here for reprinting old documents. Some of the select documents are being printed in this machine.

There is also a well equipped Binding Section with trained personnel functioning in the conservation

division of this Archives.

Tamil Nadu Council of Historical Research

In order to encourage research on the various aspects of life in the South, the Government of Tamil Nadu created the Council of Historical Research with effect from 17.12.73 to provide necessary facilities and a suitable environment for those who have the competence and ability to work on the various aspects of South Indian History.

The Tamil Nadu Council offers 4 Fellowships every year. The Council consists of 6 members. The Honourable Minister for Education is the Chairman. The Commissioner of Archives and Historical Research is Member-Secretary and the Commissioner and Secretary to Government in the Education Department is an Official Member. All the other 3 Members will be non-officials nominated by the Government. One of the aims of the Council is to encourage those who possess the competence and ability, to write a connected account of the various aspects of life in South India through Fellowships.

Training in Records Management

The Training Wing of this

Archives has been imparting Training in Record Management to those who are in-charge of the record room in Government offices etc., The period of training is for 30 working days. So far 107 sessions have been conducted with about 30 Trainees in each session. The Training in Record Management is given by the Assistant-Commissioner (Training) who is assisted by one Research Assistant and supporting Staff. The number of persons trained so far is 2,183. About 100 Government Offices including Mofussil offices have sponsored candidates for the Training. This training in Record Management training is also given to the staff of private organisations, after collecting Rs.500 as fees. This schemes have been extended to the members of non-Governmental Organisation including public undertaking after securing a course fee of Rs.500.

Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records:

The main function of the Committee is to acquire records from private individuals, institutions, business houses, muts, temples, churches etc., and to unearth the importance of these private records. The

Regional Committee consists of the following members.

1. Commissioner of Archives and Historical Research, Tamil Nadu Archives, Madras-8 as Chairman

2. Deputy Commissioner and respective Assistant Commissioners in the District Member-Secretaries

3. Seven Official members: 2 members from Learned Institutions, 3 members from Universities and 3 Non-official members.

District Gazetteers

The work of revising the existing District Gazetteers and preparing new District Gazetteers for the District for which there are no Gaz-

etteer, is being attended to by the Gazetteer Unit of this Archives. The revised Gazetteers of Dharmapuri, Nilgiris and Kanniyakumari Districts are under print and will be released shortly.

District Record Centres:

Five district Record Centres were organised at Madurai, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Tiruchi and Salem with a view to centralising and preserving the records lying in various offices of the District Head Quarters and in the various field offices of the State Government, keeping in view the urgency of salvaging and preserving the extremely valuable records in order to help for the re-construction of South Indian History and all aspects

of life in the Districts.

Conclusion

The Archives, being Memorials of official transactions preserved for official references are distinguished for their impartiality and authenticity. The value to Administrator, Historians and Researchers cannot be over-estimated for they furnish proof of facts and study materials to them respectively. It is these records of public administration that the Tamil Nadu Archives primarily preserves, Students of History and Politics, Economic and Sociology, each with a special taste for some subjects, will find in them a great deal of valuable information which they can hardly find elsewhere.

The Teachers Day Celebrations was held at Madras on 5.9.95. Hon'ble Minister for Education, Thiru K. Ponnusamy distributed the Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Awards for Outstanding Teachers on the occasion. Hon'ble Minister for H.R. & C.E., Thiru M. Ammamuthu Pillai was present.





Fisheries Development

Fisheries play a vital role in generating rural employment, augmenting protein rich food and earning foreign exchange. Tamil Nadu has a coastline of over 1000 kms. East coast 940 and West coast 60 kms, There is ample scope for development of marine fisheries along the entire coast line of the State with a continental shelf area of 41,412 sq.kms. Inland water spreads like major reservoirs, tanks, ponds, brackishwater estuaries etc. account for 3.71 lakhs hectares which are suitable for fish production. The population of Marine fishermen is about 5.22 lakhs. Out of this, about 3.02 lakhs fishermen are actively engaged in fishing. 77,425 are engaged in inland fishing.

In order to improve the socio-economic condition of fishermen and generating employment opportunities in rural areas, the State Gov-

ernment has been implementing various schemes for increasing fish production (Both Marine and Inland). There is significant increases in fish production during the year. During 1992-93, 4.20 lakh tonnes, and in 1993-94, 4.25 lakh tonnes, and during 1994-95 the production is 4.38 lakhs.

Marine Fishery

At present about 7195 mechanised and motorised fishing crafts and 24,367 non-mechanised traditional crafts are engaged in marine fisheries along Tamil Nadu Coast.

Fishermen Co-operatives

Fishermen Co-operatives continue to play a vital role in the socio-economic development of fishermen. These co-operatives extend credit facilities to fishermen, undertake distribution of fishing gear and equipment as well as the marketing of

their fish landings. Some of them are engaged in distribution of essential commodities. At present 775 registered Fisheries Co-operative Societies with one Apex Co-operative Fisheries Federation are working with a membership of 3,02,254. The State Government extends financial assistance by way of share capital assistance, to Fisheries Co-operatives. The share capital assistance is intended to enable the fisheries co-operative societies, to increase their borrowing capacity for availing assistance from banks.

A new scheme, for the development of marine fisheries in coastal area, has been evolved with the assistance of National Co-operative

Development Corporation. The Integrated Marine fisheries development project envisages the supply of fishing crafts, nets, gears, insulated boxes

for storing fish, outboard motors etc. The scheme will enhance fish production, ensures larger share of marketing value of fish to the producer, to improve the living conditions of fishermen and to promote habits of savings and thrift among the fishermen. The scheme is being implemented in five coastal Districts of ChengaimGR, Quaid-E-milleth, Ramanathapuram, Chidambaranar and Kanniyakumari through fishermen Co-operatives. The total number of beneficiaries will be 6050 fishermen. The total project cost will be Rs.1588.20 lakhs. The project will be implemented through the Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation which was registered on 6.11.91. The National Co-operative Development Corporation would provide Rs.1,449.67 lakhs as loan and Rs.67.44 lakhs as subsidy to the Government, and Government in turn will provide Rs.786.66 lakhs as loan, Rs.458.38 lakhs as share capital and Rs.343.16 lakhs as subsidy to the Apex Federation and the Apex Federation will pass on, the assistance to the primary societies. Initially the Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.362.42 lakhs as ways and means advance

for implementing the project. This project is being implemented from 1992-93 for 5 years. The Integrated Marine Fisheries Development Project is to be extended to other marine districts in the II phase of the project. The II phase project proposals at an estimated cost of Rs.48 crores is under examination of the Government.

111 fisherwomen co-operatives are functioning and their main activities are generating credit for marketing of fish, handicrafts, training, distribution of essential commodities through fair price shops, provision of job opportunities etc. During the year 1993-94, Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.10/- lakhs for the supply for 30,000/- bamboo baskets to the fisherwomen members of the fisherwomen co-operative societies.

During the year 1994-95 Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs on the basis of 50% subsidy for the distribution of 10,000 aluminium containers to 10,000 fisherwomen members of the Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies. From 1991-92 the Government has taken a policy decision to extend share capital assistance to Fishermen Co-operative Societies so as to relieve the poor fishermen

from the clutches of middlemen and to enable them to reap the maximum benefit from their landings. Under this scheme Fishermen Co-operative Societies are assisted by paying a sum of Rs.1.00 lakhs as share capital assistance so as to supply the crafts and tackles to the fishermen. For 1993-94, ten more societies were selected and the share capital assistance was extended to the tune of Rs.50,000/- per society.

Fisheries Co-operative Societies

1. Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies...	352
2. Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies...	278
3. Prawn Farming Co-operative Societies	5
4. District Co-operative Fisheries Federation and Unions	10
5. Fish Marketing Co-operative Societies	17
6. Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	111
7. Half-a-million Job Boat Buildings Co-operative Society	1
8. Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	1
Total	775

Number of Members -	
Marine	1,90,457
Number of Members -	
Inland	77,425
Number of Fisherwomen	34,372
	3,02,254



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