

# Tamil Arasu

July-August-September 2002





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# CARRY ON YOUR TASK TOWARDS BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE

- Convocation address of the Hon'ble Chief Minister,  
Selvi J JAYALALITHAA at the  
23rd convocation of Anna University,  
Chennai on 20-8-2002.



**“Y**our Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu and Chancellor of Anna University, Hon'ble Minister for Education and Pro-Chancellor of Anna University, Dr. M. Thambidurai, Hon'ble Ministers of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr.E. Balagurusamy, Vice-Chancellor of Anna University, Members of the Syndicate of Anna University, Officers of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Members of the Faculty, Graduands, Students, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in associating myself with the 23rd Convocation of Anna University, which is one of the Premier Technical Universities in India, named after our illustrious leader Perarignar Perunthagai Anna whom all of us hold in high esteem. Perarignar Anna was not only a symbol of reformation and renaissance that took place during his life time, but was also a focal point of the cultural revolution and intellectual growth that marked the social firmament of Tamil Nadu at that time.



He rekindled, nurtured and cultivated the spirit of intellectualism that enriched the Dravidian cultural tradition of Tamil Nadu more than any other movement that the Tamil civilization was witnessed. Anna University, which bears his name, has been holding aloft the glory of Anna's name in the arena of higher education ever since it was formed in 1978.

It is said that freedom of enquiry, freedom of discussion and freedom of teaching are the hallmarks of any great educational institution and I am immensely happy that Anna University has been conducting several undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Engineering and Technology, and research programmes of various disciplines in an admirable way, following lofty academic standards and winning international accolades all the time.

I am firmly of the opinion that the social and economic well-being of a State depends heavily on a very well educated, skilled and motivated workforce, which alone can translate our dreams for the future into reality. The policy of our Government is to create such an educated, talented workforce in Tamil Nadu, so that my long-cherished dream of making Tamil Nadu the number one State in the country, excelling in all spheres of activity, becomes a tangible achievement very soon. It is gratifying to know that as many as 1,801 graduands are going to be awarded their much coveted degrees today and that 23% of these graduands are women. I feel elated when I realise that this happy phenomenon is a sure step towards the realization of the goal "Empowerment of Women" in all walks of life, a goal that I have always held dear to my heart.

It is an altogether different scenario now in Anna University which has achieved tremendous growth, from its inception as single institution as

**“ The Government of Tamil Nadu, after careful consideration of the emerging areas and the infrastructure facilities available at Anna University, has also given sanction for establishing a modern hi-tech training institute called the Centre for Survey Training and Research (C-STAR) at Anna University. ”**

the erstwhile College of Engineering, Guindy, to its present magnificent manifestation as a massive University, with 229 private engineering colleges having been affiliated to and six Government Engineering Colleges having been attached to it as its constituent colleges.

This changed situation points to the fact that Anna University will be producing more than 60,000 engineering graduates annually in future. Such enormous growth and expansion will not only achieve for Anna University the status of being the number one Technical University in India, but will also greatly help to realise my dream of lifting Tamil Nadu to the status of the number one State in India very soon.

Henry Adams is said to have remarked once -

**“A Teacher effects eternity; no one can tell where his influence stops”.**

Keeping in tune with this profound statement, I am sure that the teachers of Anna University have been working hard, with remarkable sincerity



and dedication, to produce technocrats of excellent calibre who would contribute to the development of society in their own inimitable manner.

It is often said that - **“the mediocre teacher tells; the good teacher explains; the superior teacher demonstrates; the great teacher inspires”** I am very happy to inform you that after taking over as Vice Chancellor of Anna University, Dr.E.Balagurusamy has chalked out several major plans to Improve the teaching styles in all the engineering colleges that have been taken into its fold. I would also like to inform this distinguished gathering that our Government is very keen that higher education in Tamil Nadu achieves real excellence and glory. This ambition of ours is reflected in the fact that the total budget allocation under Demand No.19 - Higher Education during the year 2002 - 2003 has been as high as Rs.793.35 crores. This will enable the State of Tamil Nadu to have an annual intake of about 60,740 students in all the engineering colleges, and about 45,334 in all the polytechnics in the State. The highly commendable policy of our Government in the field of Higher Education aims at consolidating the capabilities and infrastructure facilities built up so far, and improving the quality of education these institutions provide, rather than merely increasing the number of such institutions.

One of the primary concerns of our Government is to spread technical literacy among the poorer sections of society. Many scholarships have been initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, so that members from the disadvantaged groups of society have no difficulty in pursuing technical education in engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu.

It is encouraging to note here that Anna University has been upgrading its engineering

curricula to respond promptly to the new technological challenges and I am sure that the creation of two major centres - one, a Centre for Faculty Development and the other, a Centre for Student Affairs, has amply proved that Anna University is treading in the right direction. I understand that these Centres will organize training programmes that will empower teachers to meet the challenges involved in offering need-based courses in technological institutions. I would also like to point out that Anna University is experimenting e-governance techniques, which will be of great assistance to the University in effectively monitoring the administrative work of the 229 affiliated engineering colleges under its fold. The core competence of Anna University is evident from the efforts taken by the teachers to demonstrate to the people at large, the use of information, for the betterment of the State of Tamil Nadu. Besides conducting 'Counselling sessions' for the aspirants of engineering education at three additional centres, namely, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore, Anna University has also devised a system be used for on-line application processing and on-line issue of hall tickets for Tamil Nadu Professional Course Entrance Examinations to as many as 1,24,600 students at the beginning of this academic year. The other biggest advantage that our Government has offered to the student community in Tamil Nadu is that a greater number of students can enjoy the facility applying for Polytechnic and engineering courses this year, because of the reduction brought about in the minimum eligibility marks required for admission into these courses.

I am glad to note that a number of Engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu have come forward for accreditation by the National Board of Accreditation (NEA) due to the change in the revised fee structure for engineering courses from



this year, which will enhance the quality of technical education in the State. I am delighted to learn that Anna University has been awarded the '5 Star Status' by the National Accreditation and Assessment Council, which is a fitting tribute to the excellent service that this University has been rendering in the field of technical education.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, after careful consideration of the emerging areas and the infrastructure facilities available at Anna University, has also given sanction for establishing a modern hi-tech training institute called the Centre for Survey Training and Research (C-STAR) at Anna University.

Another important mission that Anna University has embarked upon, is the launch of a 'Micro-Satellite', completely designed and

having been recognized by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as the National Repository Centre. I am extremely proud to mention here that Anna University is the only Institution chosen by the ISRO to receive this grant and technical assistance, in the entire country. I congratulate the staff and faculty who have conceived this project, and the faculty who are working on this prestigious project. I do hope that the launch of a separate and exclusive satellite will be achieved by Anna University within the next 4 years.

I learn from the Vice Chancellor of Anna University, Dr. Balagurusamy, that the University is going to implement a "Tele-medicine" scheme soon, a scheme that will benefit immensely the rural masses who are now deprived of quality medicare facilities which are available only to city



created by Anna University, with a grant of Rs.4.85 crores from the Indian Space Research Organisation. Anna University enjoys the credit of

dwelling. I would like to add here that Anna University is going to set up this system in all the 229 Engineering Colleges, most of which are



conveniently located in the Interior rural regions of Tamil Nadu. Through this tele-medicine access, it will be possible for the Medical Officers attached to the Health Centres of different colleges in far away places, to receive the guidance of eminent doctors from reputable hospitals such as Apollo Hospitals and Sankara Nethralaya.

I understand that Anna University has introduced a scheme for the first time in India—the scheme of compulsory internship for six months in industries for engineering students to gain hands-on industrial practical exposure. My dear graduands, I strongly believe that this industrial training would surely make you job creators; not job seekers. You should be entrepreneurs rather than employees. Sir Winston Churchill once said “A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” Be an optimist to make Tamil Nadu an educationally forward, industrially developed, technologically and economically strong state, upholding all the time the values of traditions and culture nurtured by our forefathers.

Saint Thiruvalluvar says:-

தெரிந்த இனத்தோடு தேர்ந்து எண்ணிச்செய்வார்க்கு  
அரும்பொருள் யாதொன்றும் இல்.

which means ‘there is nothing difficult to attain for those who act in consultation with their chosen friends, duly examining themselves all the aspects of a work to be done, using skill and intelligence’.

Now, I would like to make a request to you, to the fresh and enthusiastic Engineering graduates present here. You can choose specific areas like Textile Technology to study and aim at

**“One of the primary concerns of our Government is to spread technical literacy among the poorer sections of society. Many scholarships have been initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, so that members from the disadvantaged groups of society have no difficulty in pursuing technical education in engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu.”**

working for the welfare of the weavers, especially the handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu, who are affected terribly due to fluctuations in the textile market, and who deserve your help more than other group of people in the State. With your engineering skills, you can easily propagate new technologies and persuade handloom weavers to switch over to the latest technology. Thus, handloom products can be made much more commercially viable in the local and international markets and service rendered to the people of the lowest strata.

I would like to remind you of the famous words of Franklin Roosevelt,

**“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little”.** I am sure, you will fulfill your obligation to the State of Tamil Nadu and to the Tamil Society, by skillfully displaying your talents in your chosen avocations, and directing your attention and technical prowess towards the upliftment of the poor and down-trodden.

I also request the Centre for Water Resources and Centre for Environmental Studies and Information Technology attached to Anna University to make a comprehensive environmental study in Tamil Nadu, and suggest ways and means of protecting the environment of the State. I am confident that this Centre which has been recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as a 'Centre of Excellence' will propose solid solutions to the number of environmental problems that the State of Tamil Nadu is confronted with, at present. We cannot live as if we have another earth or another planet to move to. On a daily basis, we need to do something that makes this world a better place to live in. We are the custodians of future generations. If we do not behave responsibly, they will not forgive us.

I would like to congratulate the faculty, the students and the administrators of Anna University for the meritorious work that they have been doing in this University and I appeal to them, to the student researchers mainly, to take up socially relevant causes for their study — causes such as environmental protection, unemployment, improved technology for rural artisans and rural enterprise, empowerment of women, and have natural resources such as solar energy, wind energy, tidal energy, etc. This way you can repay your State of Tamil Nadu, which has given you so much in terms of technical education that assures you lucrative jobs and a bright future. On this happy occasion, I wish to recall Isaac Newton's saying: "If I have seen further than others, it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants". Your parents and your teachers, along with the millions of who have lived and learned before you, have provided shoulders to you. You have the opportunity and the responsibility to see further, to learn more, to make our Tamil Nadu the best State in India, to make our India the best country in the world.

The great Western philosopher George Santayana once remarked that

***'Those who speak most of progress measure if not by quantity but by quality'.***

I would like to request all the engineering graduates assembled here to practise the aspect of 'quality' assiduously in your fields of interest. No doubt, quantity does matter in terms of fulfilling the ever increasing needs of the large population we have, but it is the quality of the services that we provide ultimately matters to them. Therefore, it is my earnest desire that all of you should cultivate the habit of becoming quality - conscious in all your endeavours. You have access to the kind of technology that we could not even dream of in the past, but the greatest technology is within you. Your mind and your heart are greater than any tool.

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***You have really nothing to worry about, since all of you can look forward to a very bright and prosperous future, to an exciting and satisfying career. Being qualified with a sound technical education and armed with highly respected engineering degrees from this internationally acclaimed University, I am sure that all of you will definitely have a very successful career.***

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Apply your mind and heart to whatever you do and thus ensure quality in the work you do.

I am aware of the fact that on this momentous occasion, when all of you are standing at the cross-roads of your life, you are full of apprehension. The question 'what next?' weighs heavily on your mind. The fact remains that you are brilliant, you have had the good fortune and great opportunity of having been shaped by one of the topmost technical universities of our country. You have really nothing to worry about, since all of you can look forward to a very bright and prosperous future, to an exciting and satisfying career. Being qualified with a sound technical education and armed with highly respected engineering degrees from this internationally acclaimed University, I am sure that all of you will definitely have a very successful career.

Sage Thiruvalluvar has stated in "Thirukkural",

வெள்ளத்து அனைய மலர்நீட்டம் மாந்தர்தம்  
உள்ளத்து அனையது உயர்வு.

which means 'the length of the water-flower's stem is to the extent of the water; so also the greatness of men is to the extent of their zeal and mental development'.

Do set up goals for yourselves. Well-defined goals give you a sense of direction and a feeling of accomplishment, as you draw closer and closer to them.

I consider it a rare privilege and a unique opportunity to address this learned audience and deliver the Convocation Address. Before I conclude my speech, I would like to draw the attention of the young graduands who have assembled here to the message of Perarignar Anna who said,

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**Do set up goals for  
yourselves. Well-defined goals  
give you a sense of direction  
and a feeling of  
accomplishment, as you draw  
closer and closer to them.**

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***"Dear Brother,  
Go to the people  
Live among them  
Learn from them  
Love them  
Serve them  
Plan with them  
Start with what they know  
Build on what they have".***

It is this advice, this profound observation, eloquently and powerfully expressed by Perarignar Anna, that I would like pass on to you all, not only for pondering over at present, but also for following truthfully, throughout your life.

On this memorable occasion, I wish to thank His Excellency the Governor, the Chancellor of Anna University, for having invited me to deliver the Convocation Address to this distinguished gathering. I wish to convey my warm regards and best wishes to the Vice Chancellor, the Faculty the Staff and all the engineering students graduating today. I wish the graduands all success, prosperity, good luck in all their endeavours, and a very bright future. ★

# Cauvery Issue

## All party meeting under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister



**U**nder the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa, an All Party Meeting was held on 20.9.2002 to protect the interests of Tamil Nadu on the Cauvery issue and also to reflect the united stand of the people of Tamil Nadu. In this meeting, totally 38 Political Parties in the State of Tamil Nadu and Farmers' Associations participated.

In the defiance of the Supreme Court order enjoining Karnataka State to

release 1.25 TMC ft. of water from its reservoirs to protect the interests of the farmers from the Cauvery Delta, and subsequently ignoring the decision of the Cauvery River Authority to release 9000 Cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu citing the grave law and Order situation in the State, on 19.9.2002 Karnataka State completely stopped the release of water to Tamil Nadu.

Under the circumstances, in order to reflect the unified opinion and the unanimous support of the people of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa convened an All Party meeting of the leaders of all the political parties in Tamil Nadu at the 10th Floor Conference Hall of the Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, Secretariat, Chennai.

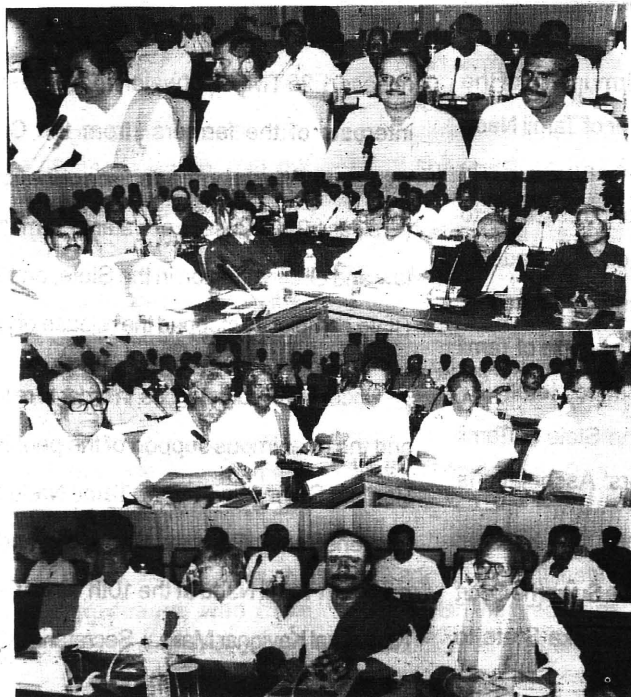




While severely condemning the Kamataka Government for disregarding the order of the Supreme Court, for refusing to accept the decision of Cauvery River Authority and having instigated a law and order problem and citing it as a reason, for not releasing water the leaders of the political parties expressed the view that in order to obtain justice for Tamil Nadu all the leaders should

unitedly and with one voice urge the Central Government that justice be done to us.

On this basis, as resolved at the meeting, a delegation of all the leaders of the political parties in Tamil Nadu and the representatives of the farmers' Associations of the Cauvery Delta region led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa will meet the Prime Minister of India and urge him to do justice to Tamil Nadu.





# **RELEASE OF WATER FROM KARNATAKA**

**Hon'ble Chief Minister's  
Meeting with  
Hon'ble Prime Minister**

**A**n All Party delegation, barring D.M.K. and C.P.I.(M) led by Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu met the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri A.B. Vajpayee at the Prime Minister's residence in New Delhi on 21.9.2002.

The delegation from Tamil Nadu consisted of Members from 33 Political Parties, 4 Union Ministers of State and 2 State Ministers of Tamil Nadu, 22 M.P.s belonging to the A.I.A.D.M.K. and other Parties and officials.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa presented a Memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister which contained a strong plea for immediate release of water by Karnataka as per the orders of the Supreme Court and the Cauvery River Authority, besides the three Resolutions unanimously passed in the All Party meeting held on



20.9.2002 at Chennai under the Chairpersonship of Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa explained at great length to the Prime Minister the pathetic condition prevailing in the Delta Areas of Tamil Nadu and pleaded for immediate intervention by the Central Government to ensure that water is released by Karnataka to Tamil Nadu.

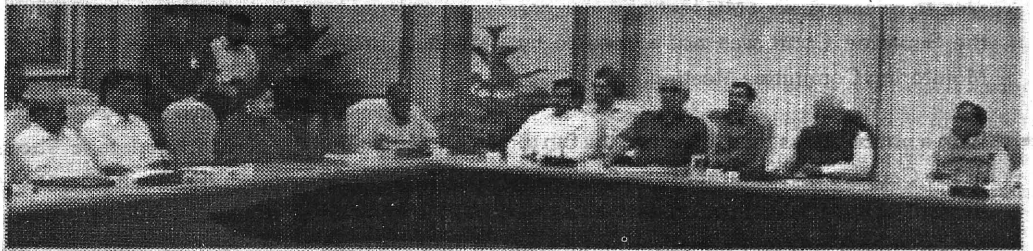
Leaders belonging to the Dravidar Kazhagam, the Pattali Makkal Katchi, the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Bharatiya Janata Party, Indian National Congress, Communist Party of India, All India Forward Bloc and Cauvery Delta Farmers Association also impressed upon the Prime Minister the urgent need to release water to Tamil Nadu immediately.

The Prime Minister informed the delegation that the Karnataka Chief Minister and a delegation from Karnataka were to meet him this evening (21.9.2002). During the meeting on that day He would impress upon them that the orders of the Cauvery River Authority should be obeyed.

The Details of the Memorandum presented by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to the Prime Minister is as follows :

### MEMORANDUM

- ★ The Cauvery River Authority formed in the year 1998 has met only on five occasions so far in the four years of its existence. The 4th Meeting of the Cauvery River Authority was held on 27.8.2002 after a gap of 10 months from the 3rd Meeting which was held on 10.10.2001. The 4th Meeting, it may be recalled, was held as per the directions of the Supreme Court of India to which the State of Tamil Nadu appealed, as its last resort, to provide immediate succour to the Delta farmers in Thanjavur, Thiruvavur and Nagapattinam Districts, which form the granary of the State and which are witnessing calamity like situation of an unprecedented magnitude.
- ★ The 4th Meeting which took place on 27.8.2002 also did not provide any relief to Tamil Nadu and since any further delay would have had disastrous consequences on the Cauvery Delta, where the farmers of Tamil Nadu have already lost their Kuruvai crop and are in fear of being unable to start their Samba crop operations. The Government of Tamil Nadu pleaded before the Supreme Court in its I.A. No.1 of 2002 in O.S. No.3 of 2002 to order the release of at least 2 TMC feet of water to Mettur Reservoir from the Karnataka Reservoirs on a daily basis. The Supreme Court of India, in its order dated 3.9.2002, directed that the State of Karnataka should release water from its reservoirs in Karnataka so that 1.25 TMC of water feet was ensured at Tamil Nadu's Mettur Reservoir daily till a final decision was taken by the Cauvery River Authority.
- ★ The Supreme Court's order came as a ray of hope to the farmers of the Thanjavur Delta area. However, while the distressed farmers of Tamil Nadu has still not seen a drop of Cauvery Water reaching their area. The Government of India convened the 14th (Emergency) Meeting of the Cauvery Monitoring Committee on 7.9.2002 hardly 4 days after the Supreme Court's order dated 3.9.2002. Tamil Nadu's





plea to release 1.25 TMC feet of water per day as ordered by the Supreme Court was not agreed to by Karnataka in the Monitoring Committee Meeting.

- ★ With a notice of less than 23 hours, the 5th (Emergency) Meeting of the Cauvery River Authority was convened on 8.9.2002. As the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was indisposed, the Minister for Finance Thiru C. Ponnaiyan and a team of officials from Tamil Nadu attended the meeting. Tamil Nadu pleaded that irrigation cannot be sustained unless the quantity of 1.25 TMC feet ordered by the Supreme Court is made available on a daily basis. This alone would help Tamil Nadu to atleast start the Samba cultivation by raising nurseries. It was also pointed out by the Tamil Nadu team at the meeting that a quasi - judicial body like the Cauvery River Authority cannot arrive at an adhoc formula on an issue touching the lives of lakhs of farmers. It was reiterated that as per the pro-rata distress sharing formula which was evolved by the Central Water Commission, a neutral body as early as in April, 2002, and discussed threadbare in the 13th Monitoring Committee Meeting on 9.8.2002 and which was accepted as simple and fair, it was clearly laid down that till the end of August, 2002, the deficit due to Tamil Nadu was 36 TMC feet of water. This was also accepted by the Government of India officials in the Cauvery Monitoring Committee Meeting held on 7.9.2002. As per the interim orders of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. Tamil Nadu has to get a total of 60 TMC feet of water during the months of September and October, 2002. Assuming that the same distress conditions may prevail in the months of September and October, 2002 also, as per the distress formula, nearly 40 TMC feet of water will have to be released to Tamil Nadu. Therefore it may be seen that 76 TMC feet of water will have to be made available to Tamil Nadu by the end of October, 2002. This would require Karnataka to release at least 1.5 TMC feet of water per day. It was therefore made clear at the Cauvery River Authority Meeting on 8.9.2002 that we cannot and are not in a position to accept anything less than the quantity ordered by the Supreme Court.

- ★ In spite of this reasonable and cogent request made before the Cauvery River Authority on 8.9.2002 pointing out the pathetic

situation prevailing in the Delta areas. An unilateral decision was taken by the Cauvery River Authority that Karnataka should make available 9,000 cusecs only on a weekly average basis to Tamil Nadu (about 0.8 TMC ft per day) as against the 1.25 TMC feet of water per day at Mettur, insisted upon by Tamil Nadu

- ★ As the acceptance of the Cauvery River Authority's decision would have disastrous consequences on the Delta areas leading to losses of an unprecedented magnitude, the Government of Tamil Nadu approached the Supreme Court without any further delay on 11.9.2002 and filed an Interlocutory Application before the Supreme Court of India pleading to set aside the decision of the Cauvery River Authority and to direct the State of Karnataka to release water as per the orders of the Supreme Court dated 3.9.2002, i.e. to ensure 1.25 TMC feet of water at Tamil Nadu's

Mettur Reservoir every day. The Tamil Nadu Government also pleaded for a directive to the State of Karnataka to release the water due to Tamil Nadu for the period of 5 days from 4.9.2002 to 8.9.2002 as per the Supreme Court's order dated 3.9.2002.

★ It may be recalled that after the receipt of orders of the Supreme Court on 3.9.2002, the Government of Karnataka did not immediately comply with the directions of the Supreme Court. It was only after a Cabinet Meeting and after an All Party Meeting that the Karnataka Chief Minister announced that water would be released to Tamil Nadu. Even after doing so as was widely reported in the media, the Government of Karnataka ensured that trains were held up in Karnataka railway stations were ransacked, Station Masters were gheraoed, signal rooms damaged and buses were not allowed to ply by violent mobs purported

to be farmers. It was also claimed that the farmers barged into the Kabini Dam and took charge of the sluices and closed the shutters and prevented the release of water. It is a moot point as to why the Karnataka Government was not able to take charge of the situation. The media have also reported that on 18.9.2002, five persons, purported to be farmers, jumped into the Kabini Dam and one of them died. As per the information which the Government of Tamil Nadu has received, these so called farmers were forcibly pushed into the Dam by anti-social elements in order to create an ugly situation.

- ★ Citing a stage-managed law and order problem cannot be the basis for flouting the orders of the Supreme Court or even for that matter the Cauvery River Authority. The Government of Karnataka could have easily mustered extra force either by rushing reinforcements from its own police or even mobilising para-military forces. The fact that the Chief Minister of Karnataka is pleading helplessness goes to show that this entire alleged law and order situation in Karnataka is State-sponsored and all these agitations have the blessings of the Karnataka Government.
- ★ It is pointed out that the water to be made available at Mettur Reservoir by Karnataka from its reservoirs as per the Supreme Court order on 3.9.2002 and also the Cauvery River Authority's decision on 8.9.2002 is as follows:

**Quantum of water to be ensured by Karnataka as per the Supreme Court Order and the Cauvery River Authority decision at Mettur Reservoir :**

- a) **As per the Supreme Court Order :**  
5 Days (from 4.9.2002 to 8.9.2002)  $5 \times 1.25 \text{ TMC ft.} = 6.250 \text{ TMC ft.}$
- b) **As per the CRA decision**  
**11 Days (from 9.9.2002 to 19.9.2002)  $11 \times 0.8 \text{ TMC ft.} = 8.800 \text{ TMC ft.}$**

Total Quantity of water to be ensured at Mettur Reservoir for 16 days (from 4.9.2002 to 19.9.2002) = 15.050 TMC ft.

Total Quantity of water actually received at Mettur Reservoir (from 4.9.2002 to 19.9.2002) = 4.822 TMC ft.

Shortfall (from 4.9.2002 to 19.9.2002) 15.050 TMC ft.  
4.822 TMC ft. = 10.228 TMC ft.

Against this background the Karnataka Government has unilaterally taken a decision on 19.9.2002 to stop release of water to Mettur Reservoir from the Kabini Dam and has openly proclaimed that this stoppage is indefinite. This is outright defiance of the Supreme Court's orders and even the orders of the Cauvery River Authority. It should be remembered that Tamil Nadu, which is the aggrieved State, and whose farmers are facing an unprecedented crisis, have been approaching every legal forum available to the State to redress its grievances even while precious time is being lost. While this is so, the State of Karnataka, where 4 Reservoirs have been thrown open for irrigation has been openly and consistently flouting the orders of the Supreme Court and other fora like the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the Cauvery River Authority. The State of Karnataka is openly engineering a law and order situation and using it as a pretext to defy the orders of the Supreme Court and other legal fora.

Driven from pillar to post, we, the representatives from Tamil Nadu place before the Prime Minister the followings:

- a) The pathetic and grave situation prevailing in the Cauvery Delta areas where lakhs of farmers have lost their Kuruva crop and are in fear of not being able to start Samba crop operations in nearly 12 lakh acres of agricultural lands leading to a calamity like situation and therefore to direct the Karnataka

Government to release water immediately as per the orders of the Supreme Court and the orders of the Cauvery River Authority, pending orders on the Interlocutory Application filed in the Supreme Court by the Tamil Nadu Government.

- b) The Government of Karnataka has openly defied the orders of the Supreme Court of India. The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the Cauvery River Authority by not releasing waters ordered by these fora and by unilaterally taking a decision to stop further release of water indefinitely.
- c) Since the mechanism for implementing the orders of the highest judicial body of this country cannot be left to the mercy of a rival State Government. The Government of India should amend the rules of the Cauvery River Authority so that the Central Government can take over the reservoirs in Karnataka and release water to Tamil Nadu as per the orders of the Supreme Court on 3.9.2002 and as per the Cauvery River Authority's own decision on 8.9.2002 pending further orders of the Supreme Court in the I.A filed by Tamil Nadu.

★ ★ ★



# A STABLE CLIMATE FOR INVESTMENT AND ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY

Inaugural Address by  
**Selvi J JAYALALITHAA,**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
at the inauguration of Mahindra City  
on 20-9-2002

I have great pleasure in inaugurating the Mahindra Industrial Park Limited, "Mahindra City" on 20.9.2002 at Chengalpattu near Chennai, before an enthusiastic gathering comprising the cream of Indian industry.

The origin of this project dates back to 1996, during my earlier tenure as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, when my Government at that time intended to develop an Automobile Ancillary park near Chennai, with private participation in the Associate Sector. Thereafter an MoU was signed between Mahindra Realty and Infrastructure Developers Limited and TIDCO on 2nd February, 1996. This paved the way for the establishment of "Mahindra City" which is being inaugurated today.

As all of you are aware, Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront of industrialisation and has over time developed a diversified industrial and institutional base. This ranges from production of goods in sectors such as automobiles, leather, textiles, petrochemicals, newsprint and IT, to a host of educational, financial, medical, legal, communication and infrastructural services.

You may recall that the new wave of liberalisation that began in the year 1991 throughout the country, ushered in economic reforms in the States too. Taking quick advantage of the emerging



liberalised economic scenario, the Government of Tamil Nadu headed by me released the new Industrial Policy in the year 1992, that brought in vibrant policy initiatives, which attracted substantial capital investments to Tamil Nadu then. This resulted in the upsurge of the economy until the years 1995-96. In fact it was during my earlier tenure as Chief Minister between 1995-96 that the investment of transnational majors such as the Ford and Hyundai Motor Companies came to Chennai, which are standing testimony to the accelerated industrial growth of the times then.

At present, the State is once again on the threshold of transformation and has been facing new challenges by way of Globalisation that impacts on the economic activity across the entire spectrum of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. The breaking down of national barriers has not only heightened the risk element amidst the producers of goods and services, but also at the same time increased the awareness and aspirations of the common consumer. However, as an optimist to the core, it is my firm opinion that the only way to meet the challenges of

the present is to convert these threats into opportunities. Also, to make the opportunities fructify into tangible investments, it is necessary to adopt competitiveness as the guiding factor in the manufacturing realm.

It is also imperative to provide world class infrastructural facilities and facilitate institutional reforms to cut transaction costs for new investors. The attainment of competitiveness is related to the development of human and material resources in the State. I am happy to inform you that Tamil Nadu is already geared up to take up these new challenges, as Tamil Nadu is endowed with knowledgeable managerial and skilled technical human resources that can be anchored in to bring in the required investments. The State of



Tamil Nadu offers a stable climate for investment policies and an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity. It is in this context that the establishment of Industrial Parks such as the "Mahendra City" assumes greater significance, because these innovative industrial ventures will certainly provide the required cutting - edge advantage to Tamil Nadu in our progress towards rapid industrialisation. I take this opportunity to commend the major initiative taken by Mahindra. & Mahindra in this right direction.

I once again reiterate the resolve and the commitment of the Tamil Nadu Government to make the State of Tamil Nadu the prime destination choice for investors. Chennai is already known as the "Detroit of not only India, but also of

South East Asia". Besides, the emergence of the Information Technology Corridor in South Chennai makes it the second "Silicon Valley" and the "software hub" of the entire nation. The State is poised for a resurgence in new communication technologies and Chennai is the landing point for two i2i (India to International) submarine cables and this, together with a wide network of Optic Fibre Cable connectivity, offering an unmatched bandwidth of 13 Tera bytes per second provides an exciting and conducive climate for IT entrepreneurs.

In the critical area of infrastructure needs, despite the severe financial situation of the State, my Government is determined to ensure quality and efficient power supply, improved facilitation in port development, speedy transportation and customer services. It is my firm belief that the range and success of these facilities will bring in the competitiveness to meet the challenges thrown up by the present era. My Government has all along been supporting the initiative and participation of the private sector in tandem with the efforts it is continually taking for achieving the highest standards in infrastructure development.



I am happy to note that today the Mahindra Industrial Park Limited, a joint venture with the participation of TIDCO (Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited) and ILFS (Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited) has come to fruition in a big way. I am glad to learn that the first phase of the park has been developed on 815 acres out of a total of 1343 acres.

Tamil Nadu has always remained an alluring destination from time immemorial. The Greeks and the Romans traded

throughout the State. The "Mahindra Industrial Park Limited" offers this spirit to the investors to make it their home in the new millenium.

On this memorable occasion, I wish the Mahindra Industrial Park Limited all success and I hope that enthusiastic investors will find the facilities offered in "Mahindra City" truly world class, and engage themselves in exciting industrial ventures that will bring



their wares in exchange for spices and condiments. The sea face of Tamil Nadu has always invited commerce over the centuries with South - East Asian countries. Tamil Nadu has always endeared itself historically to outside participation and the social bonds persisting to this day bear testimony to the resilience, friendly and enterprising disposition of the people of Tamil Nadu. I am sure that all of you will agree with me that globalisation is an opportunity for Tamil Nadu, as it would certainly serve to resuscitate the urge of competition and growth

prosperity and success not only to their projects but also to Tamil Nadu.

I thank the Chairman and staff of Mahindra Industrial Park Limited for having invited me to this inaugural function. I wish to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all of you and I wish you success in all your future endeavours.



## ANNADHANAM SCHEME

IN

TAMILNADU

TEMPLES

Our ancient epic "Pura Nanuru" states that "Those who give food are those who give life".

"உண்பு கொடுத்தோர் உயிர் கொடுத்தோரே"

"Thirumular" in his "Thirumanthiram" insisted that "When a person while eating should give atleast one handful of food to other".

"யாவர்க்குமாம் உண்ணும் போதொரு கைப்பிடி"

Feeding the poor is a concept well enshrined in our epics and literature. To implement that noble objective Annadhanam Scheme in Tamil Nadu Temples was announced in the Budget 2002-2003.

Our Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the "Annadhanam Scheme" on 23.03.2002 at Arulmigu Kapaleeswarar Thirukoil, Mylapore, Chennai.

In the first phase, the scheme was introduced in 63 selected temples in Tamil Nadu. Significant enthusiastic response from the donors, philanthropists and public, prompted the Government to introduce the scheme in more temples. Accordingly, it was extended to another 63 temples on 15.08.2002 and further more in 18 temples on 15.09.2002. Now this scheme is functioning successfully, in 144 temples in Tamil Nadu with the help of donors, philanthropists and public.

District wise details of temples in which the Annadhanam scheme is being implemented.

District	Total No. of temples
Chennai	9
Thiruvallur	5
Kancheepuram	5
Vellore	3
Thiruvannamalai	3
Thiruchi	7
Karur	3
Perambalur	2
Pudukottai	2
Thanjavur	7
Thiruvarur	4
Nagapattinam	5
Villupuram	4
Cuddalore	5
Madurai	8
Dindigul	6
Theni	2
Sivagangai	5
Ramanathapuram	2
Virudhunagar	4
Thirunelveli	6
Tuticorin	5
Kanniyakumari	3
Coimbatore	14
Nilgiris	2
Erode	9
Salem	8
Namakkal	4
Dharmapuri	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>

After the Utchikala Pooja in the above 144 temples, annadhanam is given to the devotees and others. One full meal contains, Satham, Sambar, Rasam, More, One Koottu or Porial and Pickles.

Instructions are issued to ensure atleast 100 devotees are fed. However in some temples like Palani, Thrithani and Thiruvannamalai, more persons are benefitted.

A separate Annadhanam Hundi is installed in all these temples. This Hundi is being opened on every Friday in accordance with the rules and regulations of the H.R& C.E. Act, and the proceeds being accounted for properly. The offerings received from the Hundi and the donations received from the donors and public are being accounted for in a separate account called "Annadhanam Scheme Account".

The donations offered by the donors are exempted from Income Tax under Section 80-G of the Income Tax Act. The Commissioner has also obtained 80-G exemption for the amount received as donations without earmarking any temple.

Temple authorities have been instructed to get exemption under section 80-G of the Income Tax Act for the benefit of the donors and accordingly most of the institutions have obtained certificate from the Income Tax Department.

One day Annadhanam expenses needs a minimum of Rs.1200/- per day for 100 persons. In order to enable the public to participate in the scheme instructions have been issued to the departmental officers to publish the Annadhanam Endowment Scheme. If any





donor invest Rs.15,000/- for the Annadhanam Kattalai scheme, the accrued interest from that investment will be utilised for providing annadhanam on any one of the days specified by the donor every year. Accordingly steps are taken to mobilize the fund for the continuous uninterrupted performance of the scheme and this performance is being monitored and reviewed regularly.

This scheme has evoked spontaneous response from the donors, philanthropists and public as may be evident from the contributions, donations made. So far from the Hundials kept in temples, Rs.128 lakhs have been collected, and Rs.414 lakhs have been collected as donations. It is proposed to create a corpus fund with such contribution, which would be invested. The income from the investment will be distributed to the temples which do not have sufficient hundial collection or donation.

Sofar the expenditure incurred on the Annadhanam Scheme is Rs.166 lakhs. 91 temples have surplus income, amounting to Rs.202 lakhs. The deficit in the remaining 53 temples in all Rs.9 lakhs which would be easily funded from the donations received.

22,83,980 persons were benefitted under the Annadhanam Free Midday meals scheme upto 26.09.2002.

Widespread appreciation from the press and the people in all walks of life have come for the implementation of the scheme.

All temples where Annadhanam Scheme is in force, instructions have been issued to conduct spiritual class for the Children on every Sunday between 3.00 to 4.00 P.M. for which a book called "Manavarkaluku Neethipothanai" has been prescribed. Lessons are taught from this book by the Educationist teachers/ Professors/ Thirukoil Pulavar. So far 66,345 children have benefitted by this scheme. •

# POVERTY ERADICATION AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION SHOULD GO TOGETHER



I am happy to visit this Centre again after several years. I recall with pleasure my participation in the function marking the dedication of this Centre to rural women and men on the Tamil New Year's Day in 1993, during my earlier tenure as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. On that occasion, I expressed my conviction that this Centre would play an important role in fostering environmentally and economically sustainable development. I went on to remark that the achievement of sustainable and equitable development remains the greatest challenge facing the human race. It is estimated that despite the good progress achieved over the past decades, more than a billion people in the world live in acute poverty and remain without access to vital

resources such as education, health services, employment and a decent income.

It is my firm view that poverty eradication and environment protection should go hand in hand, so that development becomes sustainable both socially and environmentally.

*Speech of Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Selvi J JAYALALITHAA while inaugurating  
Touch and Smell Garden, every child a  
Scientist Centre and declaring open of  
Bio-Technology Green House at  
Dr.M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation  
on 7-8-2002*

I am glad that today I have had the opportunity of inaugurating a Touch and Smell Garden for visually challenged children and also an Every Child a Scientist Centre and also the Bio-Technology Green House at this Centre. I am sure that these initiatives will help us to focus greater attention on physically challenged children and also to work towards technological leapfrogging which is one of the important elements of the 15-point Action Plan devised by my Government. I hope that these major

Rs.5 lakhs to the Touch and Smell Garden and I would like to allot another Rs.5 lakhs to the Bio-Technology Green House at this Centre where some wonderful work is being done which when it achieves fruition, will transform the agrarian economy of Tamil Nadu and will help to bring several thousand acres of waste land under development and especially where no fresh water is available and where no river water is available, where only saline water is available, this will help in bringing about cultivation in those areas



initiatives of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation will be replicated all over the State, particularly since we are making a major effort in bridging the digital divide between urban and rural Tamil Nadu.

and indeed transform the rural economy. I congratulate, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and I wish him all success.

I was especially impressed by the Touch and Smell Garden for visually challenged children, which is a unique concept and if I am not mistaken probably the first of its kind in India. In order to support this wonderful project and to help this Foundation to expand and extend its activities even further, I would like to announce a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs from the Government. Out of this amount, I would like to allot

I am happy to inform you that I inaugurated recently at Ramanathapuram the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Project as well as the environment-friendly Eco-tourism Programme and a Bird Centre. All these projects were prepared by the scientists of this Research Foundation and I would like to express my appreciation of the visionary work done by this Research Foundation in developing these projects. In fact, I am informed that the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Project is the first initiatives in the world



to manage biosphere reserves in a participatory mode by all the principal stakeholders. The M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation has shown that without linking the livelihood security of the local population, particularly the poor, with the ecological security of the area, sustainable development cannot be converted from a desirable concept to field level accomplishment.

My Government has plans to promote the production of organic vegetables, fruits, tea, spices and other products and thereby help the local farming community obtain the necessary certification required for export. Besides, we are planning to spread the Pulses Villages concept developed here all over the State, so that we can help our State reduce the import of pulses.

In this context, I would like to emphasise that it is unfortunate that in our country millions of people, especially children, are still malnourished, amidst an abundance of food. I am happy to inform you that my Government has already launched an ambitious Malnutrition-free Tamil Nadu programme to end this sad irony. Similarly, life expectancy in our State is rising, yet preventable diseases like tuberculosis,

malaria, HIV/AIDS and leprosy are persisting. Here again, we are determined to launch campaigns for the eradication of these debilitating diseases which limit the productivity of those affected. All these programmes will be possible only with people's participation as well as professional guidance.

On this memorable occasion, I have great pleasure in releasing the Twelfth Annual Report of the Centre. I learn that it contains a chronicle of the work carried out by over 200 scientists of this Centre, not only in Tamil Nadu, but also in States like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal during the last year. I congratulate all the scientists and scholars for the splendid work they have done.

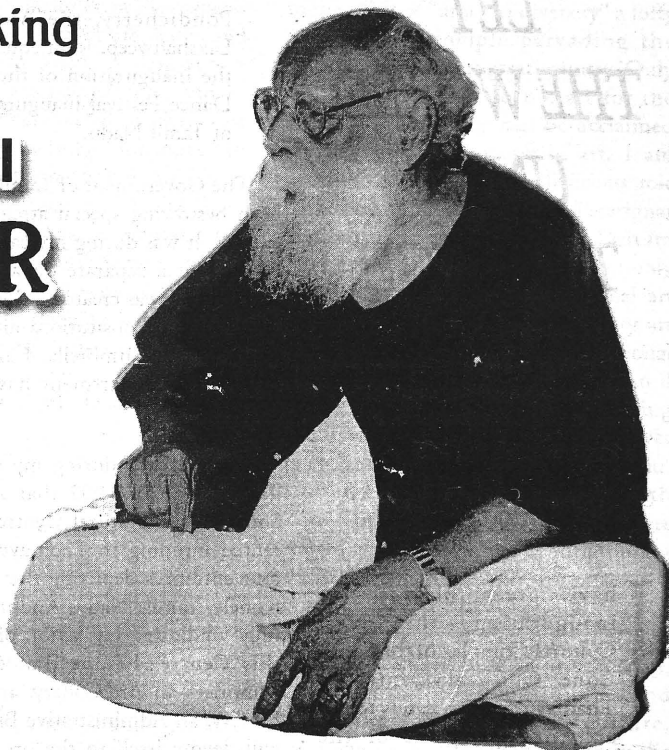
I wish you all continued success and I look forward to increasing collaboration between the Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation and the Government of Tamil Nadu in future also. My last visit was nine years ago. In future I hope that these visits will be more frequent. On the occasion of the Birthday of Dr.M.S.Swaminathan, I take this opportunity to wish him many more happy returns of the day and wish him long life in the service of the nation and success in all his endeavours.



The task before us is our fight against poverty, in bringing about a life of dignity for the poor and needy, are many and difficult. There are some who may think it impossible. I would only remind of George Santayana who said, "the difficult is that which can be done immediately; the impossible is that which takes a little longer..."

- Hon'ble Chief Minister, Selvi J JAYALALITHAA

# Thought provoking sayings of **THANTHAI PERIYAR**



- ❖ What we need today is the growth of knowledge, in order to advance in every field. Knowledge should have its sway.
- ❖ The people of a land should first of all be educated if they are to seek progress, to lead a good and cultured life and to gain a proper understanding in the spheres of politics, economics and industry.
- ❖ Teachers, Parents, Officers - all should try to foster good conduct, discipline, fairness and honesty in students.
- ❖ Students should not waste their school-life, as it is very, very precious. Their mind should not be distracted by any event outside. Particularly, students should not participate in agitations.
- ❖ What is literature for? How should literature be? What can be called literature? Why should it exist? My view is that it should not only help man to live, but also be conducive to the progress of society.
- ❖ If the principle of co-operation is established in a proper manner in our country, then society will be free from the cares and anxieties of the morrow and will be enabled to live a life of peace, joy and contentment.
- ❖ Good conduct, honesty and fairness not only enhance a man's dignity, but also are beneficial to all others.
- ❖ Mere enthusiasm, courage and a sense of sacrifice alone will not do in the youth. The youth can be of service only when they have the capacity to discriminate the good from the bad, the possible from the impossible and to reflect and ponder dispassionately.
- ❖ Education is a must for enhancing the country's glory. Industrial growth is essential for a life of self-respect and comfort.

# LET THE WORLD UNITE THROUGH ART

Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Selvi J JAYALALITHAA

I have great pleasure in inaugurating the New Cultural Complex of the South Zone Cultural Centre at Thanjavur, which caters to the artistic aspirations of the people of the Southern States namely, Tamil Nadu, Andhra

Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and the Union Territories of Pondicherry, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. I am equally delighted to associate myself with the inauguration of the All India Crafts Fair and the Folk Dance Festival inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, during my tenure, has always been bestowing special attention on the development of art and culture. It was during my earlier tenure as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu that a separate department called the Directorate of Art and Culture was created in December 1991 with a view to bringing all educational institutions and other bodies imparting courses in arts under one umbrella. I am happy to inform you that this Art & Culture Department has now developed into a full-fledged Directorate.

Infact it was during my previous tenure as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in 1992 that 25 acres of land was allotted to the South Zone Cultural Centre, which was then functioning in a rented building in Thanjavur. The new Cultural Complex with four entrances depicting the art forms of the four Southern States namely, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala has fully vindicated my action of having allotted 25 acres of land to this Centre. I hope that the new Cultural Complex which comprises an Art Gallery, an Auditorium, an Exhibition Hall, a Library, an Administrative Block and a Central Open Air Theatre will devote itself to the promotion and dissemination of South Indian Art forms and continue to win more accolades and wide acclaim.





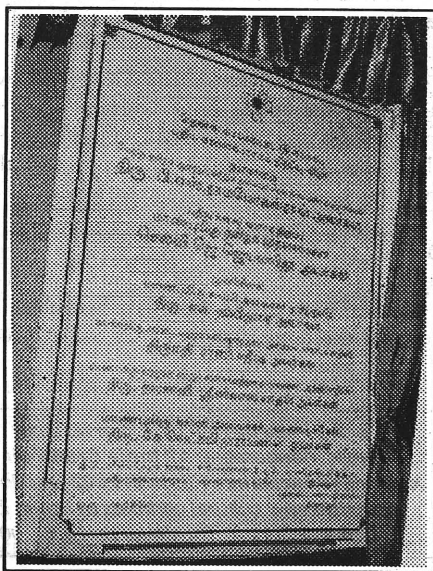
The culture of the people of any race includes various aspects such as their customs and traditions, standard of life, faiths and beliefs and particularly art forms. As we know, Indian culture has been hailed all over the world for its richness, and in particular, South Indian Culture is celebrated as the most advanced and ancient culture not only in India, but indeed in the entire world. It is gratifying to note that scholars of both national and inter national repute have observed that the Tamil Culture in this region is the oldest in terms of time and the richest in content. As part of the rich Tamil Society, one is immensely elated by the fact that Tamil Culture is not only ancient, but also an embodiment of many distinguished features.. The ancient Tamils regarded people living all over the world as their own kind as illustrated by the world famous lines of 'Purananooru' (புறநானூறு) an ancient Tamil Treatise, which I quote:

“யாதும் ஊரே யாவரும் கேளிர்”

which means

“EVERY TOWN IS  
OUR HOME TOWN  
EVERY MAN IS OUR KINSMAN

This cosmopolitan and humane outlook is still intact in Tamil Nadu and I hope that the South Zone Cultural Centre situated in Thanjavur, the ancient Tamil town renowned for its divinity and cultural heritage, will stand as a lasting testimony



to the spirit of “unity in diversity” a lofty and noble principle pervading the cultural ethos of our great country. Only those who are able to use art for the welfare of humanity can be acclaimed as truly great exponents of art. I am happy to recall here the illustrious role played by our revered leaders Perarignar Perunthagai Anna and Idhaya Deivam Puratchi thalaivar M.G.R. who not only successfully made use of traditional art forms like drama and contemporary art forms like cinema to propagate rational thinking among the people of Tamil Nadu, but also undertook path-breaking social reforms and trail blazing initiatives in social transformation in Tamil Nadu. Cultural Centres, such as the South Zone Cultural Centre at Thanjavur, were started at 7 places in the country during 1986.

The main objectives of these Cultural Centres such as preservation, innovation, promotion and dissemination of art and culture, encouraging and involving youth in the promotion of not only developed arts, but also contemporary arts such as folk and tribal arts are being realised by the South Zone Cultural Centre at Thanjavur in an outstanding manner. On the occasion of the inauguration of its new cultural complex today, I wish to convey my warm greetings to all those who are associated with the South Zone Cultural Centre.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has come out with a 15 point programme, which, I am proud to mention, is a holistic prescription for the all-round development of the State in all spheres of activity. The 12th point in the 15 point programme deals with development of art and culture. It is in this context that I would like to outline a few initiatives taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the promotion of art and culture. I am

happy to mention that my Government has taken steps to extend financial assistance to 1640 artistes in the State, who are in indigent circumstances. During this year, at a cost of Rs.30 lakhs, 500 such indigent artistes will be provided with financial assistance of Rs.500 per month, and the rest will be covered during the next year. In order to encourage artistic talent folk arts, street plays and cultural



programmes to be conducted by proficient artistes will be organised in all the Districts. For this purpose, Rs.2 lakhs is being sanctioned to each District and a sum of Rs.10 lakhs will be provided for Chennai City. Besides at a cost of Rs.3.50 lakhs, 5 new awards at the rate of Rs.2,500 each to 5 eminent artistes in each District are to be distributed through the 'District Art Society' functioning in each District under the Chairmanship of the District Collector. Besides, it has also been proposed to issue identity cards to artistes proficient in various fine arts.

The Government of Tamil Nadu and the Government of Kerala have sanctioned a sum of Rs.1.50 crores as matching grants to the South Zone Cultural Centre. Tamil Nadu did not stop with that, but went a step ahead. Tamil Nadu has allotted land for the Centre besides sanctioning Rs.2 crores for the completion of the new cultural complex.

There is a noble saying in Tamil which says

“கலையினால் உலக ஒற்றுமை  
காண்போம்”

which means

“Let the world unite through Art”

True to this saying, the South Zone Cultural Centre is carrying out its functions extremely well. Last year, in collaboration with the Art and Culture Department of Tamil Nadu, this Centre conducted many cultural programmes throughout the year. This Centre, along with Cultural troupes from other Zones, has been conducting cultural programmes depicting the art forms of other States too. I am also happy to note that this Centre is sending cultural troupes to various countries such as Mauritius, West Germany, United Arab Emirates and Russia and is thereby propagating our rich cultural traditions abroad.

I thank His Excellency the Governor, who is the Chairman of the South Zone Cultural Centre, and the organisers of this function for having invited me to participate in this colourful function. I am happy that the Hon'ble Minister for Culture from Karnataka is with us today.

On this memorable occasion, I wish to convey my best wishes to the South Zone Cultural Centre, and all the officers, staff members and artistes who have assembled here today, and express the hope that they may achieve success in all their future endeavours.

**Address by Hon'ble Chief Minister  
while inaugurating All India Craft Fair &  
National Folk Dance Festival 2002 and declaring  
open the new cultural complex of South Zone  
Cultural Centre, Thanjavur on 24-6-2002.**

Democracy is not a form of Government alone. It is an invitation to a new life - an experiment in the art of sharing responsibilities and benefits - an attempt to generate and coordinate the inherent energy in each individual.

This is the Age of common man .... systems and school of thought whether it is in Philosophy or Politics, eithics or economics, are certainly meant for him.

The Supreme Task before the University is to give those who seek, a vision of Knowledge, its True proportions and perspectives to maintain the sovereignty of ideas and ideals in the world.

Let wisdom be your weapon  
Let virtue be your guide and

companion

March with determination

Act with enthusiasm

Gain laudable victories

for the good of all mankind

I am having much faith in art as a powerful medium through which best ideas can be conveyed to the people. All progressive nations have recognised this. It is not merely lucrative profession but also an effective medium for protecting high ideals to the nation.

Our literature, arts and architecture are fine specimens of human intelligence.

Rationalism does not mean repudiation of basic and fundamental truths and axioms but the annihilation of dubious modes of thought and action.



Perarignar

ANNA

speaks



# TO CREATE VALUE AND WEALTH FOR A KNOWLEDGE BASED STATE

**T**he first meeting of the Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council under the Chairpersonship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa was held on 22.8.2002 in the Cabinet Room at Secretariat.

The Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa was attended by the members of IT Council which includes Thiru D. Jayakumar, Vice Chairman - Minister (Law & IT), Dr. M. Thambidurai, Minister (Education), Thiru Sukavaneshvar, Chief Secretary, Mr. Kiran Karnik, President - National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), Ms. Sudha Raju, Vice-Chairperson, Manufacturers Association of Information Technology (MAIT), Mr. P.K. Mohapatra, Chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Tamil Nadu Council, Dr. M.S. Ananth, Director - Indian Institute of Technology - Chennai, Dr. E. Balagurusamy, Vice Chancellor - Anna University, Ms. R. Rajalakshmi, Director, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), Mr. K. Mahadevan, Chief General Manager (Operations), BSNL, Chennai and Mr. N. Parameswaran, Chief General Manager, VSNL, Chennai and Thiru Vivek Harinarain, Secretary (IT), Thiru Madhavan Nambiar, CMD, TIDCO and Thiru Hans Raj Verma, MD, ELCOT.

On this occasion Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa released a Booklet and a CD entitled "Achievements of Tamil Nadu in IT sector" (Volume-I). The Booklet was received by Mr. Kiran Karnik, President, NASSCOM and the CD by Ms. Sudha Raju, Vice Chairperson, MAIT. The Booklet highlights various achievements of Tamil Nadu in the IT sector. Tamil Nadu has a number of splendid achievements in the IT sector, especially in the Registration Department where the computerization programme of the department has been selected by the Government of India for a documentary entitled "Information Technology in Service to the Citizen". The booklet also highlights the achievements in computerization in the Land Administration and Management System introduced in the Revenue Department, Computerisation of the Transport

Department, Online issue of Admission cards for TNPCEE besides others.

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa also inaugurated the new Web Site of the Tamil Nadu Government. The website has been completely redesigned with many unique features. State-of-the-Art techniques have been adopted to create this new, elegant web site, which makes browsing through the Government web site very simple and interesting. This new page contains Links to the profiles of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Ministers and department wise details. The information content is also being reviewed continuously to keep it updated and most citizen friendly. The highlights of the new web site of the Government of Tamil Nadu are as follows:

The Home Page has a shared border showing the modernity of IT Parks and the traditional temples, amidst the fluttering National Flag.

The Home Page is made inter-active by the addition of a What's New section with photographs, which will highlight the development programmes being launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ All the contents are easily accessible using the "Drop Down Menu" buttons to avoid cluttering.

- ❖ Search and Site Map facilities have been added.





- ❖ Tamil pages have been grouped and can be accessed with a single link.

- ❖ A Department page has been added to show the details of all the departments of the Government. It gives the contact details of the Ministers, Secretaries to Government, Heads of Departments, links to relevant Citizen's Charter and Policy Note documents and lists the websites relating to the department.

- ❖ All pages have been grouped under Government, Services, Documents and Contacts with exhaustive cross-linking between the pages.

As the Chairperson of the Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council, Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalithaa delivered the introductory speech before the deliberations of the Council began. The Tamil Nadu

Information Technology Council deliberated on the new IT Policy of Tamil Nadu. The IT Policy of Tamil Nadu - 2002 is drawn up with a vision, namely :

*"To put the smile of prosperity on the face of every citizen of Tamil Nadu by leveraging Information Technology (IT) to create value and wealth for a knowledge-based State.*

The IT Policy of Tamil Nadu - 2002 has the following objectives :

- ★ To establish Tamil Nadu as the Destination of Choice for IT investments .
- ★ To upgrade the quality of life for the citizens through e-Governance and IT applications in Government.
- ★ To empower people in the rural areas so as to bridge the Digital Divide.
- ★ To develop Research and Development initiatives.
- ★ To promote use of Tamil in Information Technology.

The Council deliberated on the draft policy which include the Destination of Choice, Promotional Initiatives, Human Resources Development Initiatives, e-Governance and IT Applications in Government, bridging the Digital Divide, Research & Developmental Initiatives, use of Tamil in Information Technology so that the State will metamorphos from online to Online thereby becoming the Knowledge Capital of India.

• • •



# **KNOWLEDGE BASED SOCIETY PRIORITY OF GOVERNMENT**

- Hon'ble Chief Minister  
**Selvi J JAYALALITHAA**

**“A**t the outset, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you to the First Meeting of the Tamil Nadu State Information Technology Council. It gives me great pleasure to Chair this distinguished Council and address its members.

I would like to focus on “The Tamil Nadu Strategy for Rapid Growth” in the Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) Sectors. I am quite aware that no discussion on IT is complete, unless it is laced with a lot of data. Therefore, I will not disappoint you and so here are some facts. The world production of hardware and software is in excess of 2000 Billion US Dollars and the world trade accounts for over 60 percent of this. The share of India continues to remain less than 1 percent in both world production and world exports. The question I would like to raise here is : Should we be disappointed?

My answer is “CERTAINLY NOT”; I see tremendous potential both for India as well as for Tamil Nadu, as a vast and varied market in I.T. is awaiting.

It has been rightly observed that when "the going gets tough - the tough get going". It is true that the economic recession that set in, in early 2000, the terrible incidents of the 11th of September 2001 and the accounting misdemeanors of some top US Multi-National Corporations have all clouded the environment with a lot of uncertainty. And yet for the financial year 2002, the Indian IT industry incredibly maintained a silver lining with a sustained growth and registered a high 33% increase in exports. Tamil Nadu also crossed the One billion US dollar mark in software exports. It was the number one State in annual growth registering an increase of Rs.2107 crores in a single year marking an increase of 68% over the previous year. Our total for the year ending 2002 was Rs.5223 crores.

My Government has set for itself the goal of making Tamil Nadu the number one State in IT and its Allied Sectors including areas as diverse as Foreign Direct Investment, IT for e-Governance initiatives, and application of IT in Government departments. Information Technology will also be utilised as an instrument for shortening the competitiveness of the old economy industries connecting the populace in rural and remote areas with urban centres generating rural wealth and employment.

Translation of this grand vision into action points requires a set of imaginative Policy Directives that address both the present and the short-term needs. This also requires to be done by careful deployment of scarce resources through an appropriate "Return On Investments" (ROI) strategy.

The Governor's address to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and the Budget for the year 2002-2003 of the Government of Tamil Nadu outlined specific sector targets, which are briefly as follows :

- ★ Technological leap-frogging through promotion of Research and Development; co-ordination between academia and field, and attention to connectivity and content in order to bridge the Digital-Divide.

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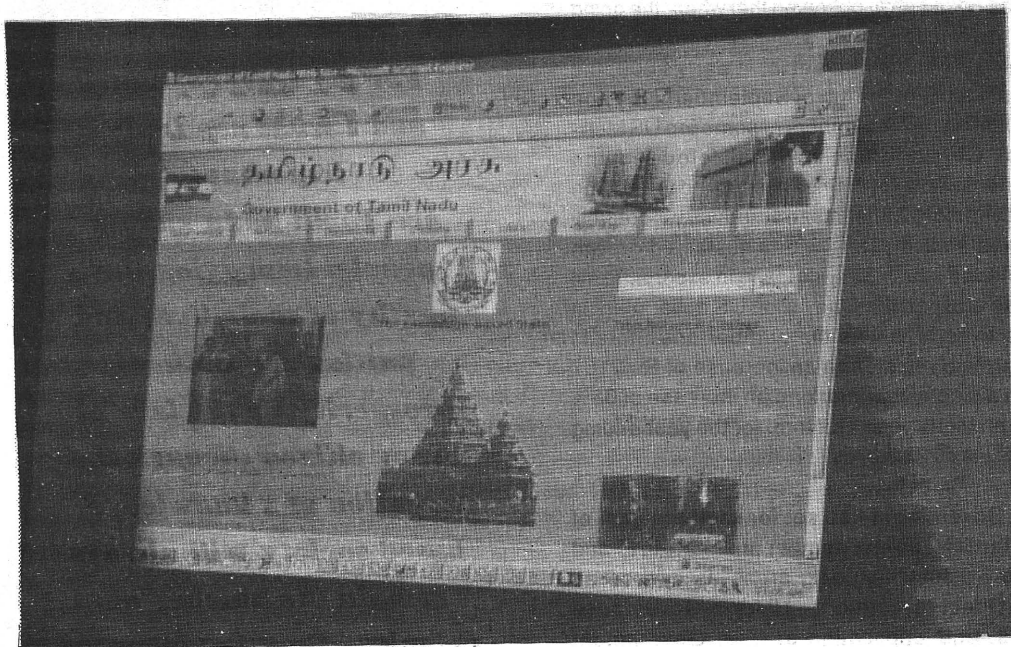
***For my Government  
and I what are truly  
important  
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people. Improving the  
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every citizen through the  
creation of a knowledge  
based society will always  
remain the number one  
priority of my Government.***

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- ★ Creation of an International Research & Development Knowledge Park at Chennai in partnership with the IIT.
- ★ Setting up of Special Purpose Vehicles to plan, develop and promote Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli as IT Enabled Services (ITES) Hubs of Tamil Nadu.
- ★ Deployment of Wireless in Local Loop Technology for extending Internet penetration to the remotest rural areas of Tamil Nadu.

After deliberations in this Council, my Government will be quickly coming out with the "New IT Policy of Tamil Nadu" which will outline the medium and long-term plans for the growth of IT during the next four years in Tamil Nadu.

I am proud, to share with you the fact that a sound agro industrial base, comfortable power



position, well-developed infrastructure, high quality literacy and outstanding human resources already exist in Tamil Nadu and make Tamil Nadu the most favoured destination for IT related activities in entire South East Asia.

In this context, I would like to point out that Tamil Nadu's potential, as the Destination of Choice for IT investments needs to be marketed globally. This will be ensured by participating in national and international IT related exhibitions and fairs, and by organising seminars, workshops and exhibitions in India and abroad. In fact, I would like to use this opportunity to invite you all to attend and actively participate in the "Connect 2002" an International IT event in Chennai, and "Coimbatore IT.com 2002" at Coimbatore, both events to be organised in partnership with the CII by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

To establish Tamil Nadu as the "IT Enabled Service and Business Process Outsourcing capital" of the world, my Government will provide the road map for accomplishing enviable targets such as -

- ★ Enabling each and every remote corner of the State with Optic Fibre Cable connectivity
- ★ Digital literacy for all students
- ★ Simplification of procedures and e-maintenance of records in Government departments
- ★ Improved global connectivity in public private partnership
- ★ Augmenting skills for English and non-English speaking markets.

The future e-Governance projects of my Government will be driven by a paradigm shift from "IT looking for a problem Domain" to the "Domain needs looking for an IT solution".

Recognising the need for an increased role of the private sector in IT development, e-Governance initiatives will be implemented through Public-Private partnership with suitable revenue generating and revenue sharing arrangements put in place.



A few of these projects designed as self-sustaining entities with built-in revenue models are the **e-Governance Project of the Tamil Nadu Registration Department** which has been chosen as a model project for inclusion in a documentary entitled "IT in Service to the Citizen" being produced by the Government of India. The e-Governance project for bridging the digital divide in the rural areas - RASI - "**Rural Access to Services through Internet**" is being extended to ten districts in Tamil Nadu.

Other departments where e-Governance initiatives have been undertaken are Revenue, Police, Transport, Health, Higher Education, School Education, Rural Development and Municipal Administration to name a few.

The International competitiveness of Tamil Nadu is clearly demonstrated by the selection of Chennai as the location for Back Office of the World Bank. In all 153 countries were analysed before India was chosen. In India, all-important centres of IT were then put under a microscope. At last, after rigorous evaluation Chennai emerged as the winner on account of the following :

- ★ A pro - active, stable and friendly Government
- ★ A cultured, safe and well-endowed city
- ★ The best pool of IT and accounting knowledge
- ★ Continuous supply of power and
- ★ World class international connectivity -

and I think that it is definitely a feather in the cap of Tamil Nadu which has gone a long way in establishing Chennai as the leader of IT in the entire country.

The year 2002 is shaping up as a challenging year for the IT industry. The days of fast paced spending are behind us. Investments and purchase decisions are under close scrutiny. Business management with restricted resources, but higher efficiency and growth will be a challenge to all of us. How to do more with less is the big question presenting itself before all of us.

The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) predicts that "Business Process Outsourcing" (BPO) will be the big ticket for Indian IT in 2002. Global outsourcing to India will accelerate and some of the giants of the Indian software scene will enter the BPO business. Xansa (India) calls 2002 "a year of hope". We will strive to get a larger portion of this piece of hope, and I am sure our strenuous efforts in this area will definitely pay rich dividends.

Another strategy for Rapid Growth in Information Technology has been to ensure that business and Government transactions, knowledge and power of the Internet are available to the people in their local language. This enables technology to truly penetrate into each and every corner of the State creating a revolution for wealth creation, employment opportunities and entertainment.

As you are aware the State has been a pioneer in the use of Tamil in IT with over 1000 websites developed in the local language and I am happy to inform you all that the Tamil Virtual University provides Internet based resources to the Tamil Diaspora throughout the globe.

For my Government and I what are truly important are Tamil Nadu and its people. Improving the quality of their lives and putting the smile of prosperity on the face of every citizen through the creation of a knowledge-based society will always remain the number one priority of my Government. I intend to use Information Technology and IT Enabled Services as my guided missiles for ushering in a new era of rapid development and prosperity in Tamil Nadu.

Once again, I extend a warm welcome to all of you, and I look forward to a thought provoking-session with all of you".

*Introductory speech of  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
Selvi J Jayalalithaa at the  
Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council -  
first meeting on 22-8-2002.*

## *All-round efforts for the rapid creation of infrastructure in rural areas*

Speech delivered by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J. JAYALALITHAA during the discussion with the Chairman, National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on 1-8-2002.



*It gives me great pleasure to welcome Mr. Nanda, Chairman, NABARD, to this meeting. I would like to thank Mr. Nanda for the keen interest he has taken in supporting developmental activities in Tamil Nadu.*

*In the 10th plan period, Tamil Nadu has to secure 4% growth in the primary sector. We have to take a comprehensive view of agriculture and development. NABARD has taken the positive step of supporting rural infrastructure through the Rural Infrastructural Development Fund. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking all-round measures to facilitate the rapid creation of rural infrastructure. I would like to request the Chairman, NABARD to continue to extend support to the Government of Tamil Nadu for creation of rural infrastructure and also to step up the outlays.*

*We are taking positive steps to improve the Co-operative Credit System. We are here to discuss certain improvements to the system so that the overall performance can be better. I would request the Chairman of NABARD, for assistance for Secondary Grade Schools and upgradation of Primary Health Centres. The*

Chairman, NABARD, should also consider extending refinance for Agri-Business Units established under the New Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.

I would like to bring to the specific notice of the Chairman, NABARD, the serious problem caused by the stagnation of handloom stocks due to poor market conditions. I request the Chairman, NABARD to immediately consider revision of the credit limit of Cooperative Banks for lifting handloom stocks. This should be looked into sensitively in view of the distress faced by handloom weavers. I request an urgent and sympathetic response.

I am confident that the Chairman, NABARD will consider our suggestions for greater support from NABARD.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister requested liberal assistance from NABARD for the following programmes :

1. For the year 2001-2002, Tamil Nadu has utilized loan under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to the extent of Rs.288.48 crores for various projects in Highways, Irrigation, Rural Roads, construction of Secondary School Buildings, upgradation of Primary Health Centres, etc. For the current year, it is proposed to draw Rs.350 crores mainly for improvement of Schools and upgrading Primary Health Centres into 30 bedded hospitals. NABARD may kindly consider to increase the amount of refinance to the State.

In the last 3 years, NABARD has increased the rate of interest by 1.5% on its advances to Self-Help Groups, assistance to State Government for share capital participation and short term credit limits for marketing of agricultural crops. This rate should be reduced from the present 8.5% to 6.5% (or) 7%.

NABARD should consider refinancing loans extended for new requirements in rural area such as purchase of computers, formation of Internet kiosks, etc.

To increase NABARD refinance to the State, NABARD should relax the norm of 25% minimum lending in short term agricultural loans in the case of State Apex Co-operative Bank and 40% in the case of District Central Cooperative Banks on par with refinancing of Regional Rural Banks.





மாண்புமிகு முதலமைச்சர் செல்வ ஜெ ஜெயலலிதா அவர்கள்  
மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர்களுடன் நடத்தும்  
வறட்சியான பருவநிலை குறித்த ஆய்வுக்கூட்டம்  
தலைமைச் செயலகம் சென்னை  
30.7.2002



## BE ALERT AND ATTEND TO THE GRIEVANCES OF THE PEOPLE

### Hon'ble Chief Minister's advice to the Collectors

**"N**ormally, I would have preferred to give you adequate notice and hold a regular Collectors' conference and discuss all matters pertaining to your districts at length. But we are meeting today under slightly different circumstances. The seasonal conditions have not been very favourable to us. The South West Monsoon is playing truant and water has not been let out into the Cauvery. Hence, this emergency meeting is to face an extraordinary situation.

Rainfall data indicate that there is an overall deficit in the rainfall to the extent of 13% in the State from January 2002. Though on the face of it, it looks marginal, the deficit has not been uniform throughout the State. There are a few districts which have had normal or even excess rainfall. But there are also some districts which have had a deficit of even 60%. A few of these deficit districts had scanty rainfall during the last year also. Hence, we have to prepare ourselves to meet any adverse conditions arising out of this scanty rainfall.

As you are aware, we have been quite alert to this situation and have been sanctioning funds periodically from the Calamity Relief Fund to augment the drinking water position in as



many as 22 districts and works are going on. Nevertheless, I thought it would be useful if I hear first hand from the Collectors about the situation prevailing in their districts and to ensure that we are geared up to meet any adverse situation.

Providing drinking water to the public is our top priority and adequate supply of drinking water to the entire public should be ensured at all costs.

I would request Collectors to be extremely alert and attend to all requests or grievances about drinking water supply expeditiously.



Collectors should also evolve a mechanism of getting regular feed-back from all parts of the districts regarding availability of adequate quantity of water. I would like to hear from you what the position is in your district and how much of the money already released has been spent.

We are aware that the storage position in various reservoirs is low and the crop coverage, in the delta area and elsewhere, has been below normal. I would request the Collectors to ensure that adequate quantity of agricultural inputs are available in case farmers want to take up replanting or go in for an alternative crop. Fortunately, we have adequate stocks of

food-grains with us in our public distribution system. It goes without saying that in a scarcity situation like this, the public distribution system should work at its peak efficiency and Collectors have an important role in ensuring this. Even at the cost of repetition, I would like to impress upon the Collectors that notwithstanding the adverse seasonal conditions, no citizen of Tamil Nadu should be a victim of hunger.

We should also keep in mind that the cattle population also be taken care of. It is our responsibility to ensure drinking water and fodder for the cattle.



I had a very detailed meeting at Thanjavur with a few of you to provide relief to the people of the delta districts. I had laid particular emphasis on employment generation to help agricultural labourers get work under the programmes. I would like to hear from the Collectors of the delta districts as to how far they have been able to provide employment to the landless agricultural labourers. I would also like the Secretaries and the Collectors to explore the possibility of taking up works under the ongoing schemes in the next couple of months itself, at least in the affected districts.

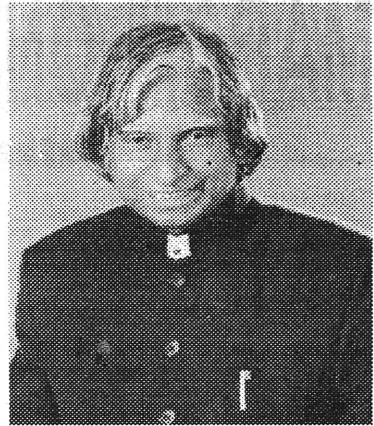
With these introductory remarks, I would like to hear from you what the situation is and suggestions as to how we can proceed in the weeks ahead".

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- Speech of Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J JAYALALITHAA in  
Collectors Meeting held on 30-7-2002.

**B**harat Ratna Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam born in 1931, represents some of the best aspects of Indian life.

The son of a boat owner in Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu, he had an unparalleled career as a Defence Scientist culminating in the highest civilian award of India, the Bharat Ratna. As Chief of the country's research and development programme, Abdul Kalam demonstrated a great potential for dynamism and innovation that exist in our defence research establishments. He rose from obscurity through sheer dint of endeavour and became the architect of the Indian Defence Missile Programme. The missiles Agni, Prithvi, Trishul, Aakash and Nag have raised India to the level of a missile power of international reckoning.



A graduate from the St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirapalli, Abdul Kalam later studied aeronautical engineering in the Madras Institute of Technology which was regarded as the crown jewel of technical education in Southern India in the fifties. After passing out as a graduate aeronautical engineer, Abdul Kalam joined the Directorate of Technical Development and Production of the Ministry of Defence.

He later joined the Indian Committee for Space Research as a Rocket Engineer which during the later half of 1962 had decided to set up the Equatorial Launching Station at Thumba. He became a member of the team led by Prof. Vikram Sarabai which aimed at organising an integrated national space programme with the equipment for the manufacture of rockets and launch facilities developed and produced indigenously.

Prof. Abdul Kalam was chosen to lead the team for the launch of Satellite Launch Vehicle. The India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle, SLV III was successfully launched on 18th July, 1980.

Prof. Abdul Kalam was appointed Director of the Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory, Hyderabad. He was appointed as Head of the DRDL in February 1982. As Director of DRDO, he developed the missile programme and the first launch was conducted of the Trishul on 16th September, 1985. He was appointed as the Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister and Secretary, Department of Defence Research & Development and Director General of Defence Research and Development Organisation. Later he became Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India with the rank of a Cabinet Minister. Dr. Kalam

## **Dr. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM**

**President of India**

**- a Profile**

believes defence technology can be used as a technological tool for national development.

Abdul Kalam was conferred the Padma Vibhushan on Republic Day 1990 and the Bharat Ratna during 1997.

Dr. Abdul Kalam has this to say about his life in "Wings of Fire - an autobiography".

"Each individual creature on this beautiful planet is created by God to fulfil a particular role. Whatever I have achieved in life is through His help, and an expression of His will. He showered His grace on me through some outstanding teachers and colleagues, and when I pay my tributes to these fine persons, I am merely praising His glory. All these rockets and missiles are His work through a small person called Kalam, in order to tell the several-million mass of India, to never feel small or helpless. We are all born with a divine fire in us. Our efforts should be to give wings to this fire and fill the world with the glow of its goodness".

# MARCH ONWARDS

- PERARIGNAR ANNA

**Mr** Chancellor,  
Pro-Chancellor,  
■ Vice-Chancellor,  
Graduates of the Year  
and Friends!

Thankful as I am for the unique honour conferred on me by this institution, it is not without hesitation and a good deal of trepidation that I stand before this august assembly to-day to deliver the Convocation address, for though it is a pleasure to be present on the happy occasion of greeting the graduates of the year and wishing them all a bright and prosperous future, it is not an easy task to place before them appropriate guidelines-conscious as I am of my own limitations and aware of the eminence of those who stood at this rostrum in the past and gave weighty and worthy advice to graduates. Stalwarts in various walks of life scholars of erudition and experience, administrators of rare abilities, have all been here to deliver instructive discourses, and I do not for a moment imagine that I have the capacity to add anything substantial to what has been already said by those who preceded me. I am convinced therefore that to be called upon to deliver this address is not so much an invitation but as a command to me to bestow the most careful and considered thought on the role of Universities in general and of the Annamalai University in particular.

The fact that I am conscious of my own limitations gives me a sense of relief, for attempt I shall not to offer original ideas or theories with a special stamp, but only reiterate some of the cardinal principles enunciated by those who offered their advice in past years perhaps with annotations here and there, bringing to bear the lay-man's point of view to the findings of experts in various fields connected with education. This is the age of the common man-whatever the regrets some might have and it is his point of view that matters most and I do claim to represent him in all his ruggedness. Systems and schools of thought, whether it is philosophy or politics, ethics or economics are certainly meant for him.

Of course, the interpretation should come from scholars and experts and the art of translating them into every day activity is to be undertaken by the administrators. Universities as the repositories of knowledge and the nursing ground for the emissaries of thought, wisdom and service, have got a prominent role to play - and the prominence is growing every day. as more and more individuals get themselves equipped for the task of bettering society in all its sectors and spheres. This is all the more so in this age when we have eschewed monarchy and autocracy and have inaugurated the era of democracy. During the monarchical or feudal days. Universities had to train scholars and poets to adorn the chambers of Royalty or the gilded mansions of Lords and nobles and their wisdom was meant for the mansion, not for the marketplace. Those were days when numbers did not count,





nor were eminent scholars asked to face the problems confronting the masses. They were content to work in secluded spheres, far from the din and noise of the common man, and weave the costly fabric of philosophy or poetry which in turn was to be converted into dazzling garments for the select and the privileged.

The role of the University today is not cloistered and confined as in the past. Its function has been enlarged not in its fundamentals but in its domain. It has to take into account the common man not to perpetuate, his commonness, but to trim and train guide and lead him, for he is called upon to day to perform uncommon tasks. He is asked to do his duty as the citizen of a democracy - a task which kindles sweet hopes but which demands patience and perseverance faith and confidence, faith in himself and in others and confidence in his inherent ability to shoulder the responsibilities. The common man has become the Ruler of the land-he holds his destiny in his own hand. Unlike in a bygone age, when rulers were born either in palaces or in mansions, to-day, every hamlet and every hut has become the birth place of a potential ruler and the duty to-day, the responsibility to-day of the Universities is to fashion out of him an individual fitted and equipped for the task of making democracy fruitful and effective.

I said that the duties and responsibilities of Universities have grown in demension and scope, but pointed out that the fundamentals remain unaltered and these fundamentals are of permanent value and of perennial interest. The supreme task before the University is to give those

who seek vision of knowledge in its true proportions and perspectives, to maintain the sovereignty of ideas and ideals in the world. A balanced mind, the ability to discriminate between what is merely trivial and what is important, the capacity to look at a problem from all its angles without fear or favour to be tolerabnt of the other man's point of view, these are fundamentals which are unalterable and it is only the Universities that can provide society with a continuous stream of men and women endowed with these qualities. While addressing the University of Brussels, Dr.S.Radhakrishnan, our former President made the following statements:

"For its proper functioning, democracy requires more qualities than other forms of Government. It is in the Universities that we can develop the true spirit of democracy, appreciation of other points of view and adjustment of differences through discussions. It can be kept healthy and strong by the exercise of individual responsibility and judgement. In Universities, we have to re-call the struggles of the past and realise the perils and possibilities, the challenges and opportunities of the present."

Democracy is not a form of Government alone it is an invitation to a new life an experiment in the art of sharing responsibilities and benefit an attempt to generate and co-ordinate the - inherent energy in each individual for the common task. Hence we cannot afford to waste a single talent impoverish a single man or woman or allow a single individual to be stunted in growth; or held under tyranny and the Universities should, through the graduates it sends forth year after year, annihilate the forces that attempt at agrandizement and tyranny, fight against cant and hypocrisy and enthrone human dignity.

Graduates of the year, I wish you all a prosperous future for, after all, the immediate concern of every individual, graduate or no graduate, is to acquire the means for a decent living. That is the first motivation for all human activity and no one can ignore it, but that ought not to be the sole objective. Something higher and nobler than mere individual material advancement is expected of you for remember that this University education is a privilege that you enjoy, for which you are deeply indebted to the community of which you are a member. Most of the money needed for maintaining institutions for higher education come from the revenues collected from the community through the State and a good proportion of that revenue come from the tillers and the toilers, men who did not enjoy the privilege, men who willingly submit themselves to discomfort, so that they can enable the next generation to lead a better life. Graduates of the Annamalai University, may I ask you, how are you going to repay-what is to be your contribution to the social chest on which you have drawn so largely. Unless you replenish

it richly, coming generations will find only an empty coffer. Your superior education increases your responsibility to society and therefore, apart from or along with your own individual advancement, society has got a right to expect an adequate return from you - not so much in terms of money as in terms of service - in toning up society, in bringing light into the dark alleys, sunshine into dingy places, solace unto the afflicted, hope unto the despondent and a new life unto everyone.

That this is a welcome and worthy ideal none would dispute, but not everyone will come forward to transtate that ideal into action - and yet our ancient as well as modern thinkers have all stated in unmistakable terms that wisdom is manifested in action.

Unless service is the outcome, the sermons become sweet nothings. As Jefferson stated, **"We must dream of an aristocracy of achievements arising out of a democracy of opportunities"**.

And when I seek your help and co-operation in the supreme task of serving society, please do not wink and smile and say, it is all so easy to say, I am not unaware of the difficulties in the way, nor am I going to brush aside the influence of the environment on you. May be, the world in which you are to begin the journey is one which will dim your hope, disturb your determination. You may come face to face with the unpleasant sight of practices widely differeing from the principles inculcated in you. You may find self-seekers enthroned and the patient worker decried. Tyranny of all sorts may stare at you and every step you take will be a struggle. I admit that the environment is such that even people with robust optimism will be discouraged and forced to take to the path of ease and comfort.

But, we should also realise that a continuous stream of men and women endowed with the spirit of service have been carrying on the crusade successfully and have conferred rich benefit on humanity.

We, the Tamilians have been holding aloft this ideal for more than two thousand years and hence we find in Pura Nanuru this passage,

“உண்டால் அம்ம இவ்வுலகம் .....

தமக்கென முயலா நோன்றாள்  
பிறர்க்கென முயலுநர் உண்மை யானே!”

- புறம் 182

“The world exists.....

Because there are selfless people who strive for the good of others.”

- Puram 182

As inheritors of that rich legacy, you are best fitted to overcome even the environment and serve society to the best of your abilities.

Anyone, who proposes to do good must not expect people to roll stones out of his way, but must accept his lot calmly if they even roll a few more upon it. “A strength which becomes clearer and stronger through its experience of such obstacles is the only strength that can conquer them,” says Albert Schweitzer.

Though the problems in various contries are of a similar nature, the peculiarity attached to the problems of our country is of a pronounced nature.

Ours is not a case of starting from scratch - had that been the case the only thing needed would have been the intensity of effort to be put forth. Ours is a case of erosion of the mind - we are not in search of fields, but have to engage in the task of fertilising and irigating it. We are not in search of ideals, but are engaged in the more intricate task of calssifying, codifying and verifying layers of ideals. We are not wanting in culture - but have to cleanse it from the cob-web of time and de-adulterate it. In short, we have to rediscover ourselves, and re-construct our entire thought. Once we were the custodians of everything noble, but we have allowed the germs of decay to multiply and thrive. Our task to-day is to allow fresh air and sunshine and regain the original shape and stature- that which made us well-known in distant lands and climes.

Our literature, art and architecture are fine specimens of human intelligence - but they bear the ravages of time and also the effect of currents and cross - currents so that to-day we have to listen the Foreign Historian or scholar in order to realise the "Glory and grandeur" of our own country.

Age commands veneration - but unless it is recuperated, decay sets in. Our culture and civilisation and hoary, but we have allowed scars and wrinkles to disfigure them. It is our duty, therefore to re-discover and re-construct what is ours and enrich it by drawing liberally upon the achievements of other countries.

Our Problem is not want of a system - in any branch of knowledge. We have fine specimens in all spheres. We claim also - and that rightly - immortality for our systems, but we have not succeeded in keeping them fresh and young, effective and energetic, for we have allowed them to decay.

"If a system has to endure," says Dr.Radhakrishnan, "it must be perpetually young and ready to change." In other words, it must be capable of accepting new ideas, have the resilience of mind which the young have, have the openness, flexibility and spirit of adventure by which they accept what is given to them and transform it out of recognition.

Eos, a Goddess falling in love with a mortal, prayed to God to grant immortality to the lover - 'yes', said God, and the mortal gained immortality. But he grew old, infirm, senile, decayed - and what was a feast once to the eyes of Eos became a sight to shun and grieve over - and he who gained immortality longed for death - for what is life if it becomes a prey to decay? Then Eos sighed and said, "I prayed for immortality for my lover, forgetting to pray for perpetual youth."

We, in this country are facing some such situation - and we are in charge of the task of re-

juvenating our culture and civilisation - our entire thought. Instead of attempting that, we have been, for too long a period, doting upon the decayed forms attempting to defend them from critics and currents of new thought. And while other parts of the world, after persistent and patient search after truth, have arrived at new conclusions and are scaling new heights, we are content to sit near the shattered rampart and narrate past glory. Our religion has degenerated into rituals, our society which was once classless and casteless has degenerated into watertight compartments of caste and creed, and, all the while, we have kept either silent or have been supplying defence to superstition and orthodoxy by offering liberal interpretations in a scholarly way. Unwittingly, we have been allowing this state of affairs to exit, despite condemnation and protest. And, more than that, whenever a doughty warrior comes forth to fight against the evils prevalent, we decry and denounce him as an annihilator of noble values and hoary systems. Periyarn Ramasami represents and symbolises the fury and frustration in a sizable section of society at this state of affairs. To allow systems to degenerate and at the same time denounce those who champion the cause of Rationalism is but to perpetuate superstition and orthodoxy and allow this society of ours to get decomposed.

Universities offer the proper forum for a free and full discussion of these intricate problems and graduates trained here are to go forth as emissaries of that social reconstruction which is long overdue. The country looks to centres of learning like this University to enable the people to pursue the path of progress braving difficulties and, if need be, courting danger.

Graduates of the Annamalai University, let me call upon you to carry on the crusade against caste which cannot co-exist with democracy, against superstition which cannot co-exist with science and against tyranny of various dimensions which cannot co-exist with liberty, equality and fraternity.

Pursuing vocations for your and your families well - being you have to perform your duty towards society. You are to become torch-bearers of Rationalism and Rationalism does not mean repudiation of basic and fundamental truths and maxims, but the annihilation of dubious modes of thought and action. You have to work

hard and with daring and dash, for we have to clear cob-webs which are centuries old and let reason reign supreme.

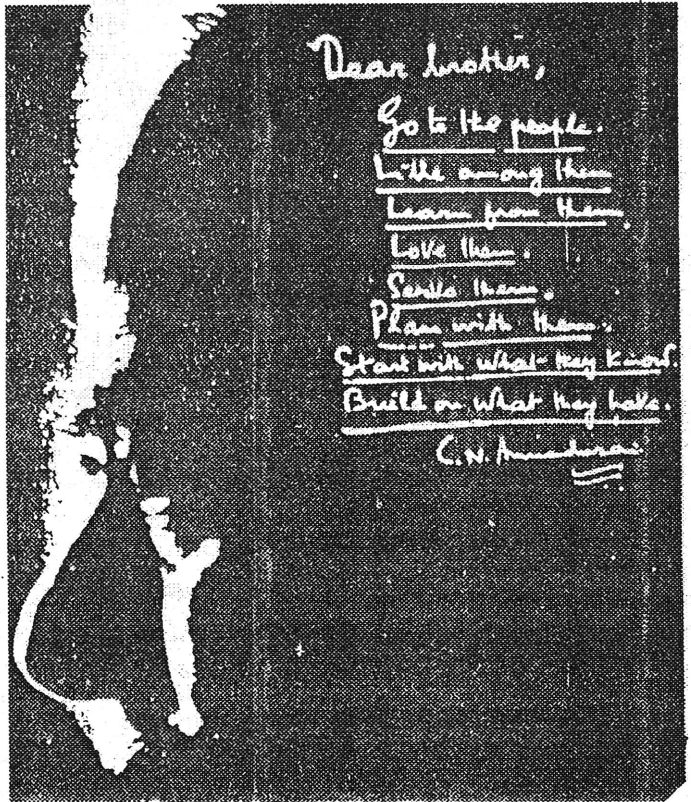
Another peculiar feature of our times is the fact that we are a nation in the making, and, if in their anxiety to forge integration, some confuse unity with uniformity, it is the duty of men trained here to enunciate clearly the principle and see to it that, in the name of unity, no part of the country is made to become the vassal of another part-knowingly or unknowingly. We cannot be a party to foul play, however worthy the goal. Just on the eve of independence, Rajaji stated with an acumen all his own.

"Our political experiment is really like melting iron and metals and pouring them into a crucible and making an alloy, an alloy which can stand wear and tear. It is not like the chinaware that other people have turned out in their countries. Their democracies were easy to make like plastics. But we are dealing with metals."

National integration is a goal, worthy and much-sought after, but neither in the field of language nor in the economic sphere, could we tolerate injustice and domination. That is exactly why this Government was brought into existence-it represents the determination of the people not to be coerced into accepting Hindi as the Official Language.

When we plead for the continuance of English as the link language, some people do misrepresent us and misinterpret our motive. They trot out untenable arguments and disputable statistics, bring in the bogey of disintegration and want to silence people by threats and troops. Problems were never solved by autocratic methods and this problem of language is intimately connected with our way of life, not for the present alone but for the future as well.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has stated in unmistakable terms that Tamil and English can serve all our purposes, the former



as the Official Language of this State and the latter as the link language. If it is accepted and the most emphatic of Hindi protagonist do accept that- if it is accepted that English can serve admirably as a link between our State and the outside world, why plead for Hindi to be the link language here? What serves to link us with the outside world is certainly capable of rendering the same service inside India as well. To plead for two link languages is like boring a smaller hole in a wall for the kitten while there is a bigger one for the cat. What suits the cat will suit the kitten as well.

English is foreign some argue, as if we were out to destroy or give up everything



foreign. We bring foreign wheat in foreign ships. We seek foreign aid not only in the shape of money but also in the form of technical know-how and not a week passes without one or other leader undertaking a journey to the West or East to secure whatever aid is possible to secure. And on top of all these things, we have given up so many systems peculiarly our own.

We are not content with Rural economy, we want Trombays and Ennores. And we are not conscious of their being foreign; only in the matter of language we pose as ultranationalists and dub the English language as foreign.

Shelley and Byron, Keats and Coleridge, Emerson and Bacon - they are not foreign to us in the strict sense of the term. Is Tiruvalluvar a mere Tamilian? They are all World Citizens - World Teachers. And the language enshrining their thoughts is not to be discarded just because it comes from another country. That we are not going to accord a higher status to English is borne out by the fact that we have accepted and are implementing with due caution the principle of making Tamil the medium of instruction in colleges - progressively.

University education is an epitome of all that is best in thought cultivated in various countries, and from you should radiate universal thought and cosmopolitan ideas.

And if we are to get all these and more from out of the Graduates of the University we have to re-examine the methods in vogue in Universities, in teaching and in administration, and so perfect them that every student feels that he is a Co-sharer of the pleasure and privilege of knowledge along with his Professors. I shall not dabble in methods of teaching or administration - experts in that field are the natural custodians-my plea is only as regards the necessity for a re-examination.

While the functions assigned to Universities are mostly of the same type, the Annamalai University, by its structure and spirit, has got a special function of its own. The great founder's nobility and generosity has made this institution gain the esteem of eminent men here and elsewhere; but if we analyse the thought and motive force

of Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar, we will find that he wanted this place to be not only a seat of learning but also a centre of learning and research of Tamil Culture and Tamil polity. He had the foresight to realise that Tamilians were going to cultivate their special talents and that was exactly why he started and made a success of the Tamil Isai Movement. Rajah Sir was never a man of tall talk - he believed in solid work and he knew the time was bound to come for us to delve deep into our annals and literature, culture and civilisation, and succeed in getting due and adequate recognition in the world forum.

Truly great has been our achievement in the field of literature. To be able to announce to the world that we the Tamilians do possess

“நற்றிணை நல்ல குறுந்தொகை ஐங்குறுநூறு  
ஹொத்த பதிற்றுப்பத் தோங்கு பரிபாடல்  
கற்றறிந்தார் ஏத்தும் கலியோ டகம்புறமென்  
றித்திறத்த எட்டுத் தொகை”

- எட்டுத் தொகை விளக்கப்பாடல்

*“The eight Tamil anthologies of variegated kinds are the following: NATTRINAI, the laudable KURUNTHOGAI, AINKURUNURU, equally important PATITRUPATHU, the admirable PARIPADAL, the learned KALITHOGAI, AKANANURU and PURANANURU*

- An explanatory Poem on Eight Anthologies.

*and to present to the world the great Tirukkural which is a Code of Conduct for the entire humanity are something about which we can have pardonable pride and pleasure.*

And yet, are we devoting enough attention to these Tamil Classics? Not till the last decade. Addressing the Convocation here in 1943, the late lamented Sir R.K.Shanmukham Chetty had the following to say :

“I graduated with a complete ignorance of Tamil Culture and history; in fact with a great deal of contempt for these. I attained a fair degree of proficiency in English Literature and the history of European culture.

I acquired some knowledge of even Anglo-Saxon and Gothic. I read the translation of the Bible in the Gothic language by Bishop Ulofilas, but I had not read the Kural of Valluvar. I could understand Chaucer, but the name of Ilango was nothing but a name. Even after leaving College, I kept alive my interest in these studies and built up a Library in which there was not a single Tamil book.

In my early youth when I lived in a World of my own with no sense of responsibility, all this made no difference to me and I was proud of my learning. Soon when manhood came with its cares and problems, I found myself a stranger in my own home..... Gradually I began to realise the incongruity of my scheme of life and for some time now I have been endeavouring to rectify the balance. It was only a few years ago that I seriously attempted to study some of the Tamil Classics. I find that they are fit to rank among the immortal works of the World. I now bitterly regret my neglect of the treasures of my own land."

It was not an apologia, but the expression of a new determination and Sir R.K.Shanmukham lived to establish the truth that he had mastered not only the Tamil language but Tamil literature as well. Had he lived for some more years, he would have travelled many a land carrying the message of Tamil Classics, which spoke at such a hoary past about.

"ஒன்றே குலமும் ஒருவனே தேவனும்"

- திருமந்திரம் (2066)

"There is but one God and one creed"  
-Thirumandram (2066)

"யாதும் ஊரே; யாவரும் கேளிர்;"

- புறம் (192)

"Every country is my country;  
Every man is my kinsman"

- Puram (192)

"வினையே ஆடவர்க்கு உயிரே"

- குறுந்தொகை (135)

"Nothing but deed is the soul of man" -  
Kurunthogai (135)

"நல்லது செய்தல் ஆற்றிர் ஆயினும்,  
அல்லது செய்தல் ஒம்புமின்."

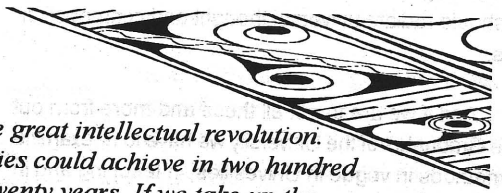
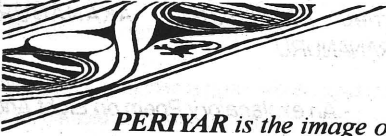
- புறம் (195)

"Even if you cannot do good to others,  
do refrain from doing harm."

- Puram (195)

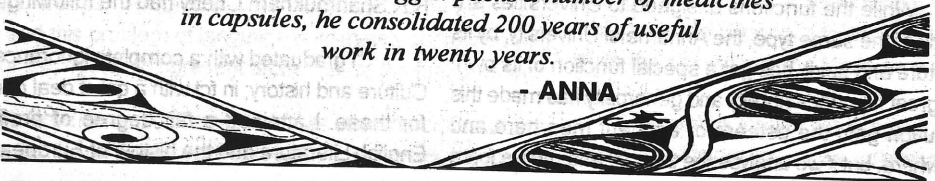
"எவ்வழி நல்லவர் ஆடவர்  
அவ்வழி நல்லை; வாழிய நிலனே!"

- புறம் (187)



*PERIYAR is the image of the great intellectual revolution. What the people of other countries could achieve in two hundred years, Periyar has done in twenty years. If we take up the continent of Europe, a chain of great thinkers as Voltaire and Rousseau had to strive hard for two or three centuries to create a great awakening against a government established in fifty years. To create a rationalistic outlook which dawned in two centuries there, Periyar boldly ventured to achieve in twenty years. He planned and acted accordingly. In other words, he put centuries in capsules. Even as a druggist packs a number of medicines in capsules, he consolidated 200 years of useful work in twenty years.*

- ANNA



"As the people, so is the country". - Puram (187)

"செல்வத்துப் பயனே ஈதல்." - புறம் (189)

"The use of wealth lies in benefaction". - Puram (189)

"தீதும் நன்றும் பிறந்தர வாரா" - புறம் (192)

"Good and evil come to us not through Others but by our own acts". - Puram (192)

"பகுத்துண்டு பல்லுயிர் ஓம்புதல் நூலோர் தொகுத்தவற்றுள் எல்லாம் தலை". - குறள் (322)

"Sharing food with others and guarding all lives in this world is the essence of the advice given by the wise".

- The Kural

thoughts now placed before the world as blossoms of the modern age.

You, graduates of the Annamalai University, have got to undertake the special task of carrying the message that our classics contain, to the entire world and declare that what was the most ancient here is what is being introduced to-day as the most modern.

South India is the home of the most ancient culture. Though for a fairly long period there was the mist of ignorance, thick and widespread, it has now been acknowledged by all that Dravidian Civilisation of a highly developed character can be traced back to the second and third millenia before Christ. Many a foreign scholar has borne testimony to the perfection with which Tamil language has been developed into an instrument of precise and subtle thought and to the beauty and richness of the literature - which is contained in it. Dravidian literature, philosophy, art and architecture offer, therefore, a rich and fruitful field for exploration and critical investigation.

Not for mere glorification but for a just appreciation of all that is of real value and beauty in our past heritage, we need this research and investigation.

I do not propose to talk about your responsibility in the political arena. Suffice it to say that you should make democracy safe and sound, salubrious and fruitful.

Carry the message that this University has given to you wherever you go, whatever the station you find yourselves in and elevate the common man - the average man - who is the back bone of this and other countries. Permit me to present before you a portrait of the Average Man -

"He seems incredible but represents two-thirds of mankind. He lives in a hut. He cannot read or write. His energy is sapped by disease. He labours up to 15 hours a day. He works on land he does not own. He and his family are usually hungry. He will die young. But he still has hopes for his children; that they will be strong and healthy; will be able to read and write; will know individual freedom in a peaceful world. This is the world's Average Man."

And the world over, this Average Man has become conscious of the injustice done to him and as a consequence we find agitations and marches, struggles and clashes. In many a country, measures to raise his level have been undertaken. Take a pledge, here and now, that we will not lag behind and leave our Average Man in the lurch. For if the base is weak, the dome is doomed. Inheritors as you are of a noble heritage, you are eminently fitted for this noble task, and on its success depends the future of this nation as of others. Let us remember what Woodrow Wilson said,

"Nations are renewed from the bottom not from the top..... real wisdom of human life is compounded out of the experiences of ordinary men. The utility, the vitality, the fruitage of life comes like the natural growth of a great tree, from the soil, up through the trunk into the branches to the foliage and the fruit. the great struggling unknown masses of the men who are at the base of everything are the dynamic force that is lifting the level of society. A nation is as great and only as great as her rank and file."

May I submit my plea to you, youths  
blossoming forth from this institution, be  
firm but not obstinate, let there be a  
blending of ideas, but never cheap  
imitation and injurious adulteration,  
beware of mistaking obsessions for  
principles and fads for facts, strike at a  
synthesis and avoid subservience, fail  
not to protest against injustice but project  
not your own view as the final one, forget  
not the ancient Tamil saying.

“கற்றது கைம்மண்ணளவு கல்லா  
துலகளவு” – தனிப் பாடல், அவ்வை.

“What we have learnt is as  
small as a handful of earth. What we  
have not learnt is as large as the  
world.”

- A Solitary Verse, Avvai.

and falter not when you practice  
what you profess.

University education gives you  
the basic needs for this stupendous  
task, but that is not enough. say along  
the Lafacetyee.

*I read, I study  
I examine, I listen,  
I reflect, and out of  
all this, I try to form  
an idea in which I can put as  
much of commonsense  
as I can.*

And remember the longest  
journey is the journey inward, and  
since graduation is but the starting  
point of that journey, I wish you success  
- reach the goal yourselves - teach  
others to march towards the goal, and  
let that goal be,

a world without  
beggar's out-stretched  
palm, the miser's  
heartless, stony stare,  
the piteous wail of  
want, the pallid face  
of crime, the  
livid lips of lies  
the cruel eyes  
of scorn,  
a race without  
disease of flesh or  
brain, shapely and  
fair, the married  
harmony of form and  
use - where  
life lengthens, fear  
dies, joy deepens,  
love intensifies, and  
Man regains his  
dignity.

And to get these things realised, let us one and all strive  
towards the ideal enunciated by Tiruvalluvar,

“உறுபசியும் ஓவாப் பிணியும் செறுபகையும்  
சேராது இயல்வது நாடு.” – குறள் (734)

“A country is that which is free from excessive hunger,  
endless disease and destructive enmity”. - The Kural

I am confident that you are being sent into the wide world by  
the Annamalai University with this objective - you are bound to win,  
for you are adequately equipped with the spirit supplied by this great  
institution. May your life be a bright one, and may its lustre brighten  
the entire land! Accept my congratulations, and march onwards,  
towards the land of smiles.

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*Convocation address delivered at  
Annamalai University on 18-11-1967.*





# WELCOME TO TAMIL NADU - IT RULES HERE

- Selvi J JAYALALITHAA  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu



have a comprehensive IT Policy, the first State with a Right of Way (ROW) Policy, the first State in the entire country to introduce computer education in Higher Secondary schools. It is now our goal to propel the State to the "Number One" position in the next three years, in terms of IT exports. This ambitious policy seeks to position Tamil Nadu as a Destination of Choice globally.

The new IT Policy 2002, I am sure, will be a beacon light to guide Tamil Nadu and its Tier-II cities to the centre stage of the world. We have the best human resources, excellent standards of academia and a well developed existing industrial base.

**T**he traditional factors of production have evolved around Labour and Capital. The modern factors of production are Knowledge, Communication and Information Technology. Tamil Nadu - the land of tradition and modernity - is at the forefront of an ICT led revolution combining both.

The State is blessed with robust infrastructure in human resource, power, civic amenities, educational and health infrastructure and international airports and seaports. Our strongest attractions are the availability of world-class global high bandwidth connectivity and a Government that is proactive and supportive of the development of enterprise and initiative.

We have several firsts to our credit, including the credit of being the first State to

My Government will use Information Technology to empower the people with knowledge and participation in the decision making process, through a Public-Private Partnership programme to take the fruits of technology to the masses. The growth rate of 67.8% in software exports in a lean year such as 2001-2002 demonstrates the inherent strength and resilience of Tamil Nadu.

Connect 2002 provides the window for you to have a glimpse of the platform of business opportunities that exists in Tamil Nadu. Having seen what Tamil Nadu has to offer, I am confident you will not have to look anywhere else for all your IT Investments.

Welcome to Tamil Nadu - IT rules here.

# AN OUTLINE FOR ONLINE REVOLUTION

## IT Policy of Tamil Nadu 2002

### ★ VISION

To put the smile of prosperity on the face of every citizen of Tamil Nadu by leveraging Information Technology (IT) to create value and wealth for a knowledge-based State.

### ★ BACKGROUND

- Tamil Nadu has emerged as a center for IT investments in IT services and IT Enabled Services (ITES)
- Tamil Nadu has the required key resources of skilled and educated manpower, higher standard of educational institutions, good infrastructure, effective cost of operation and a committed Government.
- Steps have been taken to use IT as an active tool in enhancing productivity, transparency and efficiency.
- IT friendly environment has been created for all stakeholders of the new digital economy.
- Tamil Nadu is working towards an IT revolution. IT has pervaded all the key segments.
- Tamil Nadu was the first State to come out with an IT policy. Its pioneering concepts like Right Of Way (ROW) and Computer Education in Schools have become all India role models.

- A communication revolution is taking place in Tamil Nadu with availability of large International and National Bandwidth for both Basic and Value Added Services by several Public / Private Service Providers.

### ★ OBJECTIVES

- To establish Tamil Nadu as the Destination of Choice for IT investments.
- To upgrade the quality of life for the citizens through e- Governance and IT applications in Government.
- To empower people in the rural areas so as to bridge the Digital Divide.
- To develop Research and Development initiatives.
- To promote use of Tamil in Information Technology.

### ★ WAY FORWARD

- For a successful way forward for translating the objectives, involvement, commitment and monitoring from the highest level is needed.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has created: -

- A State level "Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council" (TNITC) chaired by the Honourable Chief Minister and having representatives from the Government, Industry and Academia.



- An Executive Committee of the "Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council" to be headed by Chief Secretary comprising of selected representatives from the Tamil Nadu Information Technology Council.

## ★ Definitions

The following are the definitions of the terminology used in this Policy.

- IT Companies will include IT Services (ITS), IT enabled Services (ITES), Private Communication Providers (PCP's), Software industries including Services and Training Institutions as covered in IT Policy 1997, IT maintenance & servicing units and hardware units as covered in IT Policy 1997.
- IT Services are broadly defined as systems integration, processing services, Information Services (IS) outsourcing, packaged software support and installation, hardware support and installation and IT training and education.
- IT enabled Services are human intensive services that are delivered over telecom networks or the internet to the range of business segments which will include
  - ◆ Medical Transcription
  - ◆ Legal Database processing
  - ◆ Digital content development / animation
  - ◆ Remote Maintenance
  - ◆ Back office operations - Accounts, Financial services

- ◆ Data Processing
- ◆ Call Centres
- ◆ Engineering and Design
- ◆ Geographic Information Services
- ◆ Human Resources Services
- ◆ Insurance Claim Processing
- ◆ Payroll Processing
- ◆ Revenue Accounting
- ◆ Support Centres
- ◆ Website Services
- ◆ Business Process Outsourcing (BPO's)

- Private Communication Providers include Class A, Class B and Class C - Internet Service Providers, Right of Way Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) holders, Basic Service Providers and Value added service providers like Kiosk Operators under the Rural Access to Services through Internet Project.

## ★ DESTINATION OF CHOICE

- IT in Tamil Nadu will be synonymous with the entire State. The IT exports from Tamil Nadu has grown from Rs. 3116 crores in 2000- 2001 to Rs.5223 crores in the year 2001- 2002 constituting 14.7% of all India exports. The Government of Tamil Nadu will launch special drives for making its cities vibrant and innovative, customer-focused and conforming to international standards in quality of life indicators to make the entire State a knowledge powerhouse to capture 20% of Indian market by the end of the Tenth Plan period.

★ **CONCESSIONS EXTENDED TO THE IT INDUSTRY:**

● **Fiscal Incentives**

IT Industry will continue to enjoy facilities of unrestricted movement of capital equipment including hardware, peripherals, captive power generation sets, UPS sets and Telephone Exchanges, subject only to Sales Tax payments.

- An industry setup anywhere in Tamil Nadu having an investment of Rs.50 crores and above and below Rs.100 crores is eligible for a Capital subsidy of Rs. 25 Lakhs.
- Rs 100 crores and above and below Rs 200 crores is eligible for a subsidy of Rs.50 Lakhs
- Rs.200 Crores and above is eligible for a subsidy of Rs.1 00 Lakhs.

Capital subsidy as applicable to electronics industries at 20% of fixed assets subject to a maximum of Rs.20 lakhs will be available for all IT industries, irrespective of their location in the State. Where the unit is also eligible for capital subsidy for backward / most backward areas, this special subsidy will become part of such subsidy.

New industrial units (small, medium or major) where more than 40% of the total workers employed are women shall be eligible for an additional Capital subsidy of 5% of investment in fixed assets subject to a ceiling of Rs.1 0 lakhs. Relaxation of FSI (Floor Space Index) to the extent of 100% will be given in designated IT Parks. Such requests need to be addressed to the concerned Regional Development Authorities.

50 % exemption of the Stamp Duty and the Registration Fee will be given at the time of purchase of a land/ building for IT industries. This will be conditional to the concerned company putting up the facilities to commence the operations within twelve months from the date of the transaction. The certification in this regard will be undertaken by ELCOT.

Apart from development of software and hardware Industry through ITPs / STPs the Government will also encourage software development outside the Parks by giving such stand-alone units the same incentives as the Units in the ITPs / STPs. There will be no locational restrictions for setting up units exclusively engaged in software development/ training.

An Information Technology Park (ITP) will be treated as an "industry" and be eligible for backward area capital subsidy benefits. Private ITP developers, will be given assistance in land acquisition and re-zoning, wherever required. The Government will also facilitate provision of water, power connection and roads, ITP promoters will be assisted in obtaining necessary cable and satellite link for connectivity. ELCOT will be the nodal agency for the above.

All Software Industries including Services and Training Institutions in IT will be entitled to "Industry" status. Such units shall be eligible for all concessions and incentives applicable to Industries. For the purpose of this clause, accredited Training Institutions will also be eligible to claim industry status, subject to certain norms which will enable them to obtain Term Loans and Bank Finance at industry rates.

Certification for Software training will be governed by existing standards prescribed by



the Department of Communication and Information Technology, Government of India. For quality certification of training in hardware, servicing and maintenance, ELCOT will be the Nodal Agency to prescribe minimum standards for eligibility.

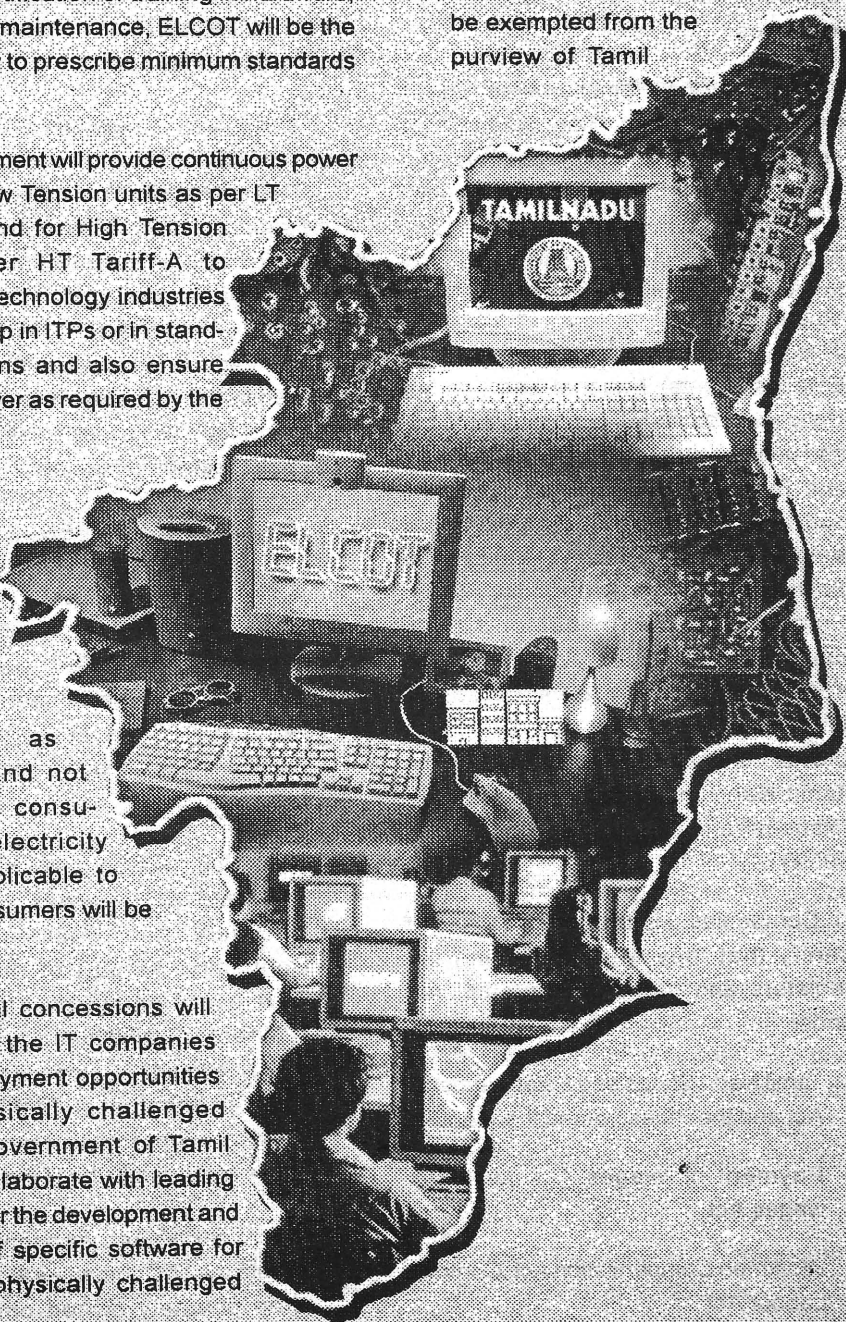
Government will provide continuous power supply for Low Tension units as per LT Tariff 11-C and for High Tension units as per HT Tariff-A to Information Technology industries whether set up in ITPs or in stand-alone locations and also ensure quality of power as required by the industry.

For the purpose of power tariff, IT maintenance and servicing units a hardware units will be treated as Industrial and not Commercial consumers and electricity tariff as applicable to Industry consumers will be charged.

Special concessions will be given to the IT companies giving employment opportunities to the physically challenged persons. Government of Tamil Nadu will collaborate with leading institutions for the development and promotion of specific software for the use of physically challenged persons.

#### ★ ADMINISTRATIVE INCENTIVES

- All software industries will be exempted from the purview of Tamil



Nadu Pollution Control Act. Hardware units will require clearance from Pollution Control Board as applicable to other industries.

- In addition to the exemption already given from Chapter II of the Tamil Nadu Shops and Establishments Act 1947, further exemption from the provisions of Chapter III of the Tamil Nadu Shops and Establishments Act covering sections 12 to 16 will be granted for IT Companies.
- The Tamil Nadu (Industrial Establishments) National and Festival Holidays Act, 1959 is applicable to IT companies. Under Rule 6A of the National and Festival Holidays Rules 1959, the software companies if they require their employees to work on a National or Festival Holiday, have to send a notice in Form 6A to the Inspector having jurisdiction over the area in which the software company is situated. IT companies will be exempted from the provisions of Rule 6A and Rule 7 of the Tamil Nadu Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays Rules 1959.)
- IT Companies will be permitted to self certify that they are maintaining the registers and forms as contemplated under
  - ❖ Tamil Nadu Shops and Establishments Act and the Rules framed there under.
  - ❖ Payment of Wages Act Minimum wages Act
  - ❖ Workmen Compensation Act Contract Labour Act

- ❖ Employees State Insurance Act
- ❖ Employment Exchanges Compulsory Notification of Vacancies Act Payment of Gratuity Act
- ❖ Equal Remuneration Act

This self certification by the IT companies will be regarded as sufficient compliance with the requirements of different Acts and the Rules in there under regarding the maintenance of registers and filling of the returns. The first filing shall be manual. Ther after, the subsquent returns shall maintained in electronic form. Any distortion of facts while making self certification will be dealt with stiff penalties.

#### ★ PHYSICAL INCENTIVES

- Under the Open Space Reservation (OSR) Rules under the Development Control Rules, 1999 of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Agency, the requests of the IT companies for maintaining the space will be considered favourably.
- Tamil Nadu will be positioned to attract investments in areas of Disaster Recovery and Business Process Continuity. As part of the initiative, Government will undertake to ensure that sufficient bandwidth and power is made available to an IT Company at alternative locations throughout Tamil Nadu. The standard norms for assistance for disaster will be extended to the IT industry also.
- Motor Vehicles Act has been amended to enable the IT Companies to make use of hired privately owned omnibuses to



transport their employees between their residences and work place.

- In all the Technology Parks set up by Government & Joint Ventures, there will be an Executive Authority of the Park, which will function as the Single Window for all statutory clearances required for the units, within the Parks. In the case of private sector Technology Parks, ELCOT will assist in getting all clearances fast.
- Annual awards for excellence (which will include export performance) will be instituted by the Government for IT industries. The Government will also encourage IT companies to attain "Certificates of Excellence".

#### ★ INFRASTRUCTURAL INCENTIVES

Separate task forces on Cyber Security, Prevention of Cyber Crimes and IT infrastructure will be established.

#### ★ PROMOTIONAL INITIATIVES :

##### APPROACH

- The experience gained from the successful promotional efforts which resulted in projecting Tamil Nadu as the 'Detroit of South-Asia' will be utilised to display similar market savvy approach to make Tamil Nadu to emerge as Knowledge-Capital of India.
- Government will take effective steps to create a brand equity for Tamil Nadu and encourage participation in International / National events to position Tamil Nadu as the Destination of Choice. Government will

manage Destination of Choice Fund (DOCF) for these initiatives in association with corporates and professional bodies.

- Potential areas in ITES will be given preference so as to effectively increase exports from Tamil Nadu. A specific policy for ITES sector will be brought out.
- Government will encourage and send business delegations in Public-Private Partnership to emerging markets so as to create necessary networking environment to tap the large global market for the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector of Tamil Nadu. Sufficient enabling environment for teaching foreign languages will be created, so that opportunities in major markets in non-English speaking countries like Germany, Japan, France etc., could be tapped.

Government of Tamil Nadu will also facilitate the participation of SME's in Government approved International/ National IT trade shows and exhibitions so as to enable them to tap new markets. A 30% subsidy will be allowed in respect of the stall rent payable by the participating SME units with turnover not exceeding Rs. 10 crores in the preceding year.

Simultaneously, the market base for the large players operating in Tamil Nadu will also be enhanced in areas like financial software services, multimedia, design services through effective use of International Channels and forums wherever needed.

- A separate policy with industry specific incentives to attract hardware investments

to the State will be formulated.

- Government recognises the need to put in effective mechanism to deter infringement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Software piracy and crimes associated with Internet and IT. With the passage of IT Act 2000 by Government of India, sufficient enabling mechanism including training for the law enforcing authorities will be put in place to deal with cyber crimes.

The availability of English speaking IT skilled manpower in abundance will be leveraged to position Tamil Nadu to attain a dominant share in the export market in key areas like IT training and educational sector, outsourced processing services including backend work in industry verticals such as Finance, Insurance, Banking and Airlines.

- Domain expertise in non-IT areas will be synergised with IT industries to expand their base of activities and level of penetration. This will promote Business Process Outsourcing (BPO's) for MNC's.
- ITES afford a unique employment opportunity in the State. Skilled and Semi Skilled IT Professionals will find a place in ITES Industry.
- Computer Education programme in the Government schools will be extended to enable the youth to pick up adequate computer skills down to 6th standard in a phased manner. Specialised training required for ITES employment will be built into the colleges training programme.

- The Government will promote Tamil Nadu as a favoured ITES destination. Keeping in view the cost-effective nature of this sector, action will be taken by the Government in

- ❖ Creating sector specific infrastructure facilities.
- ❖ Amendment to legal and regulatory framework.
- ❖ Creating a conducive environment.

#### ★ SOCIAL INITIATIVES

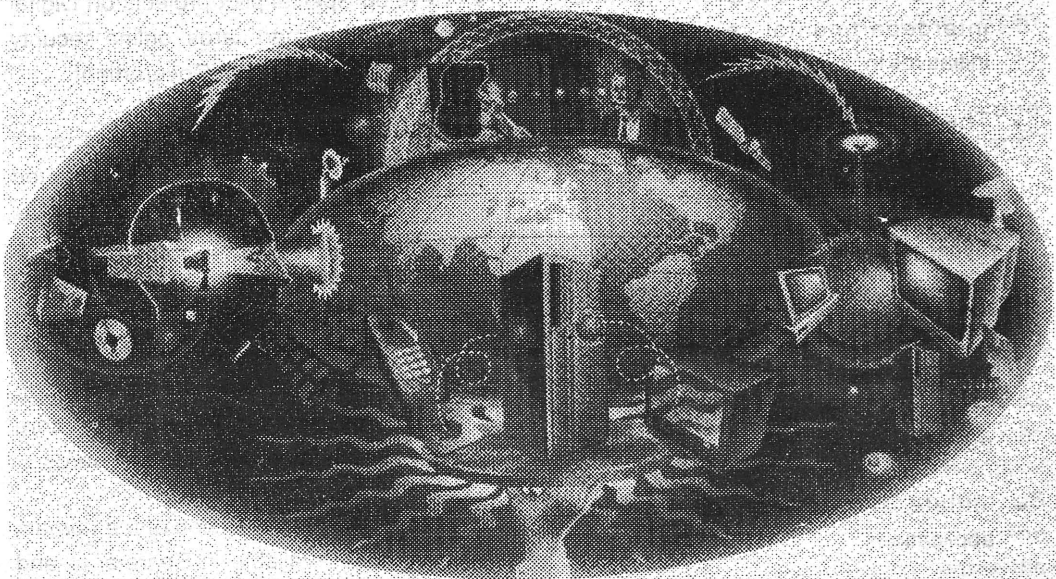
Corporate health services, golf courses, International schools and such other special needs will be made available for business houses by encouraging private initiatives.

#### ★ INFRASTRUCTURAL INITIATIVES

Knowledge Industry Townships (KITs) will be created in the IT highway in Chennai through a Public Private Partnership programme.

Infrastructure like ELNET Software city and TIDEL in Chennai, TEX CITY at Coimbatore etc., have acted as beacons for software industries. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) will be created to own and take forward the initiatives to position Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Tirunelveli and Salem as the best Tier II cities for IT investments. Specific focus will be made to attract substantial portion of the ITES market as well as BPO's market.





#### ★ PHYSICAL INITIATIVES

Enabling mechanism will be created so that existing infrastructure in industrial estates like Perungudi/Maraimalai Nagar/ Ambattur could be put into use in a cost effective manner by IT companies.

#### ★ HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

- Basic training in computers will be introduced in all schools from the high school level. The endeavour will be to cover all schools within a 5 year period. Training of teachers will also be done in a phased manner over the 5 year period. In addition to Government sponsored training programmes, State Government will facilitate and co-ordinate with other sponsors like INTEL, IBM, APPLE, etc., for training of teachers.

- Government of Tamil Nadu will encourage IT Companies to obtain ISO 9000 process certification. Small Scale Industries (SSIs ) will be eligible to claim the incentives offered by TIIC for obtaining such certification.

#### ★ E- GOVERNANCE AND IT APPLICATIONS IN GOVERNMENT

Various computerisation projects executed in Government Departments like Transport, Registration, Sales Tax and Education need to be integrated to effectively deliver the services needed by the citizens. Hence plans are made to introduce Electronic Delivery of Services (EDS)

- The front office and back office needs will be assessed by the creation of a high-powered Special Working Group (SWG) on e-Governance, which will be reporting

to the TNITC. SWG will facilitate interdepartmental. e- Governance initiatives in

- The assessment, implementation, monitoring and standardisation of IT projects of the State.
- Synergetic utilisation of IT as an enabling tool for efficiency and effectiveness in EDS.
- Playing a key role in making an inventory of existing application packages used in the Departments.
- Initiate and develop projects in IT applications.
- Develop Interoperability Systems and Standards for seamless transfer of information between domains and make it mandatory through legislative mechanisms.
- Initiate moves to encourage developing the linkages for the existing databases to the public domain to enable online activities and seamless integration.
- Initiate and develop Data Warehouses in every Department to facilitate the process of EDS. These data warehouses will be linked to the Central Database, which will be maintained by the Government Data Center.
- Set up and facilitate specific communication networks for the Government sector.
- Establish links worldwide with institutions for interchange of ideas & experiences.
- Develop Special pilot projects on Digital signatures, Smart cards, online security issues and Paperless Government.
- The policies and specifications as stipulated by the SWG will be supported with the best practise guidance, tool kits and pilot projects. Connecting to the existing systems and databases and developing a comprehensive information system that integrates into a data warehouse for analytical data mining to support decision-making will be the core issue for the Interoperability standards.
- Steps towards conversion of the domain knowledge available in Secretariat and Government offices all over the State in key areas will be digitised and made available for all departments to facilitate a knowledge-based decision making process.
- All Elected Representatives of the Legislative Assembly and Panchayat Chairpersons will be trained on the use of Computers and E-mail.
- Suitable innovative schemes will be devised in consultation with Government employees to upgrade the levels of IT usage in Government Departments up to the Section Officer level. Specific need based syllabus will be drawn up to remove the techno-phobia in rural and semi urban offices.
- Touch screen kiosks with suitable bilingual software and Internet facilities will be deployed widely throughout the State.

- IT Act 2000 of Government of India, Chapter III, Section 4 provides for recognition of Electronic Records. Section 5 deals with legal recognition of Digital signatures. Government will come out with guidelines for e- signature and Electronic records as per Section 6 of the Act.
- Government of Tamil Nadu will set a specific annual target in order to ensure that e-governance activities of each department are completed within the next four years and will pass directives to take the following action :
  - Create an IT cell with Secretary of the Department as the Chairman, Heads of the Departments as members and a nodal officer from the department as a convener in each Department / Government Body for the implementation of IT Applications.
  - Launch & ensure wide participation of existing staff in computer literacy programmes.
  - Prescribe knowledge of computers as an essential qualification recruitment and promotion at various levels.
  - Provide PCs and set up LANs with necessary software upto the Section Officer level.
  - Develop and maintain a Portal for the Departments
  - The role and responsibility of the IT cell in each Department Government Body will be .
  - To prepare an over all IT vision or strategy for a four year period for the Department.

Identify the key areas which have maximum citizen interface, and which can be electronically delivered.

- Implementation, maintenance and frequent upgradation of the Applications.
- Government will establish a Portal for exchange of information and views on the directions of the Government's IT strategy and emerging trends in the industry, identify key issues associated with EDS for viable Public Private Partnership, discuss the policy framework to develop channels for EDS in an integrated manner. Government will also develop district level portal, to function as a hub for EDS services of the district, inform the developmental activities, propagate the policies, highlight the emerging areas for the non-urban areas, address the local officials and the elected public representative.

### BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

- The majority of population either do not have access to Internet and wherever there is access, majority of population could not log on to Internet because of the language barriers. They are not able to actively participate in the socio-economic activities of the State. The entire society at large will get the maximum benefit effectively only if people can interface with computers in their own language.
- To achieve this
  - Tamil will be given a prominent role in IT
  - To create databases on the information available in Tamil



- ♦ To evolve plans for deployment of IT in Tamil in cooperation with different agencies.
  - ♦ To design, develop and maintain portals in Tamil.
  - ♦ To promote content creation efforts in Tamil for dissemination of information.
  - ♦ To facilitate Research in technology areas such as Voice Recognition, search engines and Optical Character Recognition in Tamil.
  - ♦ To provide advice to agencies concerned with the use of Tamil Software products.
  - Accelerate the process of PC and Internet penetration in the rural areas.
  - A bilingual Internet portal will be set up with links to State Government departments and services to provide single window access "Any Time Any Where".
  - Tamil Nadu Government will encourage the development of IT applications that benefit under privileged people in the State. For instance, IT can help hill tribal people in Tamil Nadu to sell their products through the Internet.
  - In order to bridge the Digital Divide a public access programme similar to ISD / STD booths needs to be put in place even in remote villages using appropriate technologies. Government will encourage setting up of Internet Kiosk and Online Libraries in existing Infrastructure like Public Libraries / Public Government Offices throughout the State.
  - The experience gained from the SARI (Sustainable Access in Rural India) Project as well as Indo Agri Project has been studied in depth. The Government based on the study has announced the implementation of rural connectivity in 10 districts through RASI -Rural Access to Services through Internet. Through RASI and other initiatives, Government will encourage and gradually implement rural connectivity throughout Tamil Nadu for
  - Empowerment of rural women
  - Creation of Rural Employment opportunities.
  - Widely distributing economic development in rural areas.
  - Reducing the need for people to move to urban areas.
  - Providing access to emergency services such as Police, Health Care etc.
  - Providing Information on various Government Schemes.
- ★ **DEVELOP RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**
- India is fast becoming a hub of Research and Development activity. Multinational companies (MNC's) have chosen India as their base for R&D activities. Tamil Nadu Government will leverage the State's Unique Selling Proposition (USP) of an 'intellectual powerhouse' to convince IT MNC's to set up research centres in Chennai.
  - Anna University has been made as an apex body for all the self-financing engineering colleges under G.O. Ms No 25/K2 dated 22/1/2002.

- Investments in Very Large Scale Integrated chip (VLSI) design services / Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASIC) design services and Embedded System design will be promoted for enhancing the employment of highly qualified professionals.

- Nano Technology is an emerging area for effective delivery of Health, Energy and Computing. These areas need fundamental R&D. Enabling initiatives will be undertaken to seed R&D activities in areas like Advanced computing, Nano Computing, Bio-Informatics, Nano and Micro Sensors and other devices in addition to supporting International conferences in universities and engineering colleges in the State.

- Efforts initiated to forge alliances with Technology Information Forecasting Assessment Council-Centre of Relevance and Excellence (TIFAGCORE), Govt. of India, MIT Media Lab by ELCOT towards enhancing R&D capabilities that will lead to products "Made in India" will be further strengthened.

#### ★ **USE OF TAMIL IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

- Efforts already taken in use of Tamil in Information Technology by the Government will be further strengthened.
- The Government will facilitate Research in Tamil Nadu computing.
- The Tamil Software Development Fund (TSDF) will be further strengthened for devising IT solutions in Tamil.

- All websites will be converted in to Bilingual.

#### ★ **SUMMARY**

Tamil Nadu will consolidate its leadership position and firmly establish its pre-eminent position in IT.

The strength of Tamil Nadu especially in Tier II cities will be marketed globally to attract and retain foreign investments. Additionally, Tamil Nadu based IT companies will be encouraged to globalise their operations.

The large base of engineering institutions in the State is a significant asset. They will be encouraged to interact with industry, centres of excellence so as to have the best match of Industry-Academia.

The Government emphasis will be on governance with transparency. This policy is aimed at removing illiteracy and promoting technocracy, creating opportunities specially targeting rural areas. Tamil will be given a prominent place not only in the IT world but also in the commercial world.

Sufficient mechanism will be created to implement cyber laws. Software piracy, IPR issues and violation of cyber laws will be curbed. Enabling mechanisms and institutions will be created for this purpose. Technical capabilities of the State Police will be enhanced to handle cyber crime.

In short, this policy will make Tamil Nadu as the "Destination of Choice" for IT investments globally. The State will transform from Inline to Online the becoming the Knowledge-Capital of India.

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**T**he Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa conducted Grievance Day meetings for Police, Fire and Rescue Services and Prison personnel of the 4 Police Zones of the State and for the personnel attached to the Chennai city Police. This is an unique and direct interface of the Hon'ble Chief Minister with the members of the uniformed force never before undertaken by any Chief Minister and unparalleled anywhere in India and was undertaken to understand the problem of the police personnel in the field and to provide redressal to their grievances after following due procedure. This exercise, which was conducted on 26.7.2002 for the South Zone, on 2.8.2002 for the West Zone, on 5.8.2002 for the Central Zone, on 7.8.2002 for the North Zone and on 14.8.2002 for the Chennai City Police covered 8152 personnel belonging to all ranks of the uniformed force. Taking into consideration the nature of grievances which have emanated from this interface with the uniformed personnel, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that some immediate measures be taken to ensure redressal of their grievances:-

1. A large number of dependants of those uniformed personnel are awaiting appointment on compassionate grounds. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that all such persons be given suitable employment immediately in the Prison/ Fire/ Police Departments. Depending upon their qualifications and

## Hon'ble Chief Minister Redresses the grievances of Police Personnel

physical parameters, they will be absorbed either in the vacancies available in the force or in the ministerial wings of the department and other civilian posts available in the department. The Police Department will be going in for computerisation in a massive way and dependants who have suitable qualifications will be utilised suitably in this area also.



2. In order to ensure that shortage of strength does not stand in the way of the police discharging their duties effectively, vacancies in the Police Force will be filled up by a crash programme of recruitment. Priority will be given to the recruitment of Women Sub-inspectors and Women PCs in order to ensure that every regular Police Station has at least one Woman Sub-Inspector and two Women Police Constables.
3. The demanding and strenuous nature of an uniformed person's job requires that he/she has a well settled domestic life. A large number of requests for transfer, especially those pertaining to transfers to the same place where the spouse is working, or where aged parents are living with no one to care for them etc. were received. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that all such transfers must be granted immediately to ensure a peaceful domestic life for the uniformed personnel. In order to ensure that in future transfers on genuine grounds are done without delay, suitable delegation of powers to the Zonal, Range and District Officials will be given.
4. The sensitive and arduous nature of work of the uniformed force personnel makes them more vulnerable to disciplinary action than other sections of Government Officials. It was noticed that even minor transgressions resulting in disciplinary action have stood in the way of promotions for a large number of persons, leading to a sense of frustration and despair. To enable these personnel to start afresh with a "clean slate" and to encourage them to work with enthusiasm and a positive attitude, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that all minor punishments should be cancelled. In addition, a review will be done of all cases involving major punishments by the next appellate authority.
5. A large number of personnel are languishing for want of even a one stage promotion in their entire career due to the stigma of minor transgressions. Others have been denied promotion even without incurring a single punishment. Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that in such cases of persons languishing for want of promotion, especially those on the verge of retirement, all of them will be given a one step promotion depending on their seniority, by cancelling minor punishments pending against them. Those eligible persons with no punishments will be given the one step promotion immediately.
6. In order to ensure that a police officer has the opportunity to acquaint himself with all areas of policing, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that every directly recruited police officer should have exposure to the various wings of the department like Law and Order, Armed Reserve, Tamil Nadu Special Police, Traffic etc. and their service should not be confined to anyone wing alone. Suitable amendments to existing rules will be made to ensure this.
7. The practice of Special Sub-Inspectors being singled out for wearing a "Red Braid whistle Cord" will be dispensed with and they also will wear the Khaki Colour Braid Whistle Cord like the rest of the Force.
8. The dangerous and strenuous nature of work of the uniformed force makes them susceptible to injuries and illnesses. A large number of cases claiming reimbursement from the Tamil Nadu Police Health Fund are awaiting clearance. It was noticed that many of the personnel could not claim reimbursement because of certain reasons such as the illness not being included in the approved list, or the hospital where treatment was taken not being in the approved list. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that necessary Government Orders be issued incorporating such diseases and extending the number of authorised hospitals to give immediate relief. A one time exemption for cases involving those who have taken treatment in hospitals not included in the approved list will be given. Adequate funds will be made available to clear pending claims. Revised Lists of approved hospitals will be published in Chennai, all District Headquarters and all Taluk Headquarters.
9. The Government will undertake a massive programme to upgrade all the eleven Police Hospitals with the help of the Health Department. It will be ensured that round the clock services will be available for police personnel in these hospitals, which will be fully equipped. Admission of police personnel in need of treatment will be effected all the 24 hours.
10. With the increasing number of women joining the Police Force, resulting in a problem of Women Police with infants and with no one to take care of them, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that provision be made for creches

for the benefit of the Women Police personnel all over the State with trained Ayahs to care for the babies.

11. The Tamil Nadu Police / Fire / Prison forces are known for their brave personnel, many of whom have performed heroic deeds and shown valour under extenuating circumstances. It was found that a large number of personnel who have performed such heroic deeds have not been recognised either due to procedural delays or other reasons so far unexplained. Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that all such heroic deeds be given due recognition by way of certificates, medals, accelerated promotion, etc. as per procedure.

14. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has instructed all Senior Police, Prison and Fire Services and Rescue Department Officers to ensure that redressal of grievances of the personnel under them should receive top most priority. The Superintendents of Police have been instructed to attend the Armed Reserve Parade every Friday and listen to the grievances of the policemen. They must set aside



12. It was found that a large number of personnel had grievances pertaining to pay parity, junior drawing more pay than senior, stagnation in promotion etc. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that all such cases be reviewed by the DGP, Director of Fire Services & Additional Director General of Prison Services and a special report sent to Government Zone-wise within a month's time.

13. Several police personnel have brought it to the notice of the Hon'ble Chief Minister that penal rent has been levied on them for over-stay in quarters. Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that henceforth, personnel transferred out of a particular station should vacate their quarters in time. However, as a one time measure such penal rent outstanding so far will be waived.

Tuesdays as Grievance Days for the local police personnel attached to the district units. DIGs will hold grievance days once in a month. Addl. DGPs, DIGs, Zonal IGs and IGs of Special Units will hold Grievance Days once in two months. The DGP will hold Grievance Days once in three months. All grievances of personnel should be followed up by swift action and decisions taken should be communicated by written order.

15. A similar pattern will be followed for the Prison and Fire Service personnel also. ★

I have great pleasure in addressing the members of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on the occasion of their Executive Meeting and I wish to convey my warm greetings to all of you on this significant occasion. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry which was established around three quarters of a century ago has grown from strength to strength with a membership of 500 chambers of commerce and industry today. It is heartening to note that over this period, the FICCI has developed excellent capabilities to analyse the fast developments and fluctuations that are occurring in the economic landscape of the country and also to suggest ideas and approaches which can guide both the Central Government and the State Governments.

The economy of Tamil Nadu has been undergoing a transition from a predominantly agrarian economy to one led by rapid growth in services. The contribution of the primary sector to the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) has declined from over 50% in the 1960s to around 17% as of now. While the share of the secondary sector is currently around 33%, the tertiary sector has shown significant growth and has a share of around 50% as of now. With a share of around 7% in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of the country, Tamil Nadu stands first in the country in respect of the number of factories and the total number of workers employed in the factories.

The State of Tamil Nadu enjoys a substantial percentage of the Indian output in respect of heavy commercial vehicles, light vehicles, auto components, power driven pumps, leather products, newsprint and software.

According to a recent study conducted by the Economist Intelligence Unit on World Investment Prospects, India is likely to be the 11th largest

MY CHERISHED DREAM  
IS TO  
TRANSFORM  
TAMIL NADU  
INTO A  
NEW GROWTH  
MODEL  
FOR ENTIRE INDIA

- Speech by Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Selvi J JAYALALITHAA at the  
Federation of Indian Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry (FICCI), National Executive  
Committee Meeting on 5-7-2002.





beneficiary of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows among emerging markets in the period between 2002-2006. This is a marked improvement from its earlier 16th position during the period 1997 - 2001. I am happy to mention that for Tamil Nadu, which is today the third largest recipient of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), this trend in the international arena is a heartening one.

To look at the larger picture, the State of Tamil Nadu ranks 4th in terms of per capita income among the larger States and appears to have successfully undergone a demographic transition to reach near replacement levels of fertility and is set to attain stabilization levels in terms of population growth. Significant strides in accessing quality health and educational facilities for our people have also been made. While it is my wish to propel the State to the forefront, there are many areas of difficulties, which cannot be ignored while planning strategies. Since the number of people employed in the agricultural sector continues to remain high, of the order of around 50%, the declining contribution of the agricultural sector in the State economy implies considerable

unemployment and underemployment in that sector.

High levels of unemployment and poverty in Tamil Nadu imply that income distribution in the State is highly skewed and I feel that it is high time that this unhealthy phenomenon is totally eliminated. It is necessary to ensure that a large portion of the population in the State acquires the requisite purchasing power necessary to propel demand for goods, commodities and services being produced in the secondary and the tertiary sectors of its economy. It is necessary to see that inter-district disparities in socio-economic performance do not become major constraints. I am determined to ensure that this does not happen and I propose to build on the strength of the present and address the weaknesses and imbalances that remain. This will involve redefining the role of the Government as a prime mover and facilitator for the overall development of the people. Involvement of non-Governmental organizations and the private sector in the development process is becoming Governmental organizations and the private sector in the

development process is becoming increasingly important. It is a matter of significance that over the last eight days, the State has signed three MOUs with major and all round developmental objectives in mind. The first with TATA Steel for setting up an integrated Titanium Dioxide Plant at a cost of Rs.2000 crores in the Tirunelveli - Tuticorin Districts, which would try to use the local mineral and manpower resources to bring prosperity to the area. The other two, one with the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC), and the other with ASCENDAS, a subsidiary of Jurong Town Corporation, a Singapore Government promoted Company, will involve private sector participation in infrastructure development in a very big way, thereby paving the way for private investment to the tune of several hundred crores of rupees in Tamil Nadu shortly.

Besides, in response to the representations received from trade and industrial associations, my Government has reduced the Entry Tax on certain inputs and raw materials to 3% and has allowed the set off for the local Sales Tax on finished products. The relevant notification was issued on the 1st July, 2002. I hope that these trade-friendly measures will accelerate further growth in the trade and industrial area in Tamil Nadu.

We have unveiled a 15-point programme to realize our commitment to secure a 'healthy and Productive life for all' and make Tamil Nadu the foremost State in the country in all spheres of activity, with human development indices comparable to the best in the world. My strategy for economic reconstruction and development include the following :

1. Fiscal consolidation - because high and unsustainable revenue and fiscal deficits force the Government to resort to higher taxation to meet the growing expenditure commitments. Our aim is to reduce unproductive expenditure

of the Government and reprioritize resource allocation in the State Budget to production-oriented sectors such as infrastructure development, health, education etc. Two High Level Committees, namely, the A.M.Swaminathan One Man Commission for suggesting expenditure and staff reform to the Government and the other, the Dr.Raja Chellaiah Committee for suggesting methods for greater revenue augmentation to the Government, were appointed by my Government for furthering fiscal consolidation.

2. Agricultural and industrial sectors of the economy to be revived to ensure assured and remunerative livelihood for the people involved.
3. Fostering comprehensive rural and urban infrastructure improvement.
4. Open - governance, fiscal transparency and corruption-free administration to eliminate avoidable transaction costs.

I have set for Tamil Nadu a target of 8 percent growth of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for the period 2002-2007. If this is to be achieved, we have to squarely and urgently address the apparent areas of stagnation in the economy. As have indicated earlier, we have to make a concerted attempt to increase the purchasing power of the people in rural areas, which would translate into demand for goods and commodities being produced in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

We have already announced our commitment to increase the agricultural growth rate from the present 2.72 percent to 4 percent during 2002-2007 and have outlined our strategy in this regard in the recent budget. I shall briefly summarize our approach towards this sector:

Optimizing utilization of land area for cultivation by integrating wasteland development and rainwater harvesting. I am happy to mention that my Government has already initiated a massive Wasteland Development Programme covering about 20 lakh Hectares. During this year itself, about 3.33 lakh Hectares are going to be treated under this scheme and



the rest in the next 3 years time. We have solicited private sector participation in reclamation of wasteland, as this process is capital intensive and offers new opportunities for employment for large numbers of people in the rural areas.

Ensuring remunerative returns to the on-farm and non-farm work force in the State by improving production and productivity of land, horticulture development for value addition and development of agro-based rural industries. We are implementing a new scheme, which aims at identifying and developing at least one economic activity with a minimum capital of 1 crore rupees with a sustainable employment base, in each of the 385 blocks of the State and we hope that this scheme will rapidly transform the rural economy of Tamil Nadu in a big way. We are also launching a new programme for training one lakh farmers over three years in methods of high profit commercial crop production.

Rural Tamil Nadu needs a new social contract, under which we will endeavour to provide reliable and quality infrastructure which will include telephone and internet connectivity, assured water and power supply and a thriving local market with necessary backward and forward linkages to

ensure attractive returns for the farm and non-farm work force. Industries in Tamil Nadu face the following key challenges and vital changes as the national economy opens up for the free trade with the rest of the world :

- The domestic industries would face much greater competition at home - from cheaper, better quality and value added imports.
- Our business enterprises have to not only successfully compete in the domestic market but also penetrate overseas markets.
- The competition will be in terms of cost, quality of products, timely delivery schedules and good customer care service.

Four sets of policy implications follow from the aforesaid challenges, which would form part of the "New Industrial Policy" of my Government, to be unveiled by me shortly.

- Streamlining administrative regulations and processes so that they do not constrain proliferation and development of business in the State.



***We are going to establish the  
Dr. MGR Knowledge City in  
Chennai where a state-of-the-art  
Biotech Park will also be  
established with the collaboration  
of Cornell University of the USA.***

- Improving industrial productivity and profitability in high-end as well as labour intensive sectors in terms of cost and quality of output, and enhancing adaptiveness in the new liberalized business environment. Tamil Nadu's greatest opportunity lies in its core strengths - strong manufacturing capabilities in areas like textiles, engineering etc. a high quality and scientifically trained workforce, and a strong R and D tradition. I propose to build upon this base and also modernize and diversify into new growth sectors.
- Developing adequate and quality infrastructure for attracting industrial investments and sustaining the process of industrialization.
- And finally, optimizing the competitiveness in the new growth sectors such as Bio-technology, Information Technology, Telecommunications, Genetic Engineering etc.

My aim is to make Tamil Nadu a knowledge driven and digitally literate society. I personally perceive the role of IT as an instrument for widening access, rather than the gap between those who are linked and those who are not. Information technology offers great opportunities for the socio-economic transformation of Tamil Nadu in terms of employment opportunities, reduction in the cost of providing service and improved competitiveness of the old economy industries, enhancement of

efficiency, transparency and responsiveness in governance, and digital connectivity between rural and urban areas.

I am proud to mention that Tamil Nadu is emerging as a major hub for software and hardware development and has the potential to become an IT corridor to the entire South East Asia region. As you are aware the state of Tamil Nadu is endowed with abundant software professionals and offers a number of competitive advantages to the IT industry. After elaborate site-evaluation studies, institutions like the World Bank, ABN-Amro Bank, Standard Chartered Bank and several MNCs have chosen Chennai to establish their IT enabled back office operations.

However, certain bottlenecks remain which can constrain growth in this sector. These include: inadequate quality network infrastructure and minimal penetration of IT in rural areas, still-nascent concept of customer service, high access costs etc.

My Government is taking the steps necessary to address these structural problems in the IT sector. I am happy to announce that a submarine cable with a capacity of 8.4 tbps (terra bytes per second) was launched in April 2002 in Tamil Nadu by private sector initiative. A Broad band optic fibre cable network of over 5000-Km aimed at enhancing the e-traffic handling potential has been laid in Tamil Nadu and this will be expanded further to cover every nook and corner of Tamil Nadu.

We are going to establish the Dr. MGR Knowledge City in Chennai where a state-of-the-art Biotech Park will also be established with the collaboration of Cornell University of the USA. Apart from this, MIT Media Lab, USA, and others would set up facilities here, making Chennai truly a knowledge hub in the region. We have plans for establishing a second IT Complex in Chennai too

in collaboration with ASCENDAS for which the MoU was signed in my presence only on 4-7-2002 and I am happy to state that the work will be started on this shortly.

Successful industrial development is ultimately also a process of socio-economic redistribution. For the process of industrialization to remain dynamic and sustainable, it is necessary that the State policies try to bridge the new emerging inequalities by widening access to all in respect of new skills, resources and opportunities. I would be unwilling to base Tamil Nadu's future industrial prosperity on the fortunes of just a few sectors or a few cities or a few regions. I would rather strive to create institutions that would engender broad-based industrialization on an enduring growth pattern.

Finally, I would like to repeat what I said during the inaugural meeting of the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission a few days ago, which I think sums up my whole vision of development for the State of Tamil Nadu for the next 10 years.

I would like to set the following development goals for Tamil Nadu.

First, by the year 2010, the per capita income of Tamil Nadu would be doubled.

Second, by the year 2005, there would be universalization of education until Class V, with a special effort for girls and disadvantaged groups.

Third, by the year 2006, Tamil Nadu will not only be the leading player in the field of IT in India, but will also become a regional gateway to Asia, home to half the humanity.

Fourth, by the year 2008, Tamil Nadu will be the top ranking manufactured goods exporter in India and will double its export earnings, and

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***I am proud to mention that  
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the potential to become an  
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South East Asia Region.***

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**”**

Finally, by the year 2010, all villages in Tamil Nadu will possess electricity, a trunk road, telephone and Internet connectivity, a school, clean water and sanitation, a village health worker and local self-government.

This is my dream, this is my vision for Tamil Nadu and this is the theme the Government headed by me has been striving to turn into a reality.

I believe in real, equity-based and balanced development that covers all the sections of society. I invite all of you to share my cherished dream to transform Tamil Nadu into a new growth model for entire India, worthy of emulation by the rest of the country. I am also sure that in the seminar you have planned for tomorrow on "Tamil Nadu : Prime Investment destination in India", the obvious merits of Tamil Nadu as an investment destination will be well highlighted.

I would like to thank the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry for having invited me to share my thoughts on Tamil Nadu and its growth with you, and I wish to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all of you for a bright future and success in all your endeavours.

**"I** am happy that the MoU between the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) has been signed today.

In fact, when the Hon'ble Union Minister for Power met me on 22nd April, 2002, he agreed immediately to my request to establish a 1000 Mega Watt capacity Thermal Power Project near Ennore Port in North Chennai. This MoU could have been signed much earlier but because of the announcement of the by-elections and due to the Code of Conduct that we had to follow, this has been delayed.

I am immensely happy that we have been able to sign this MoU in July itself. It is because of the

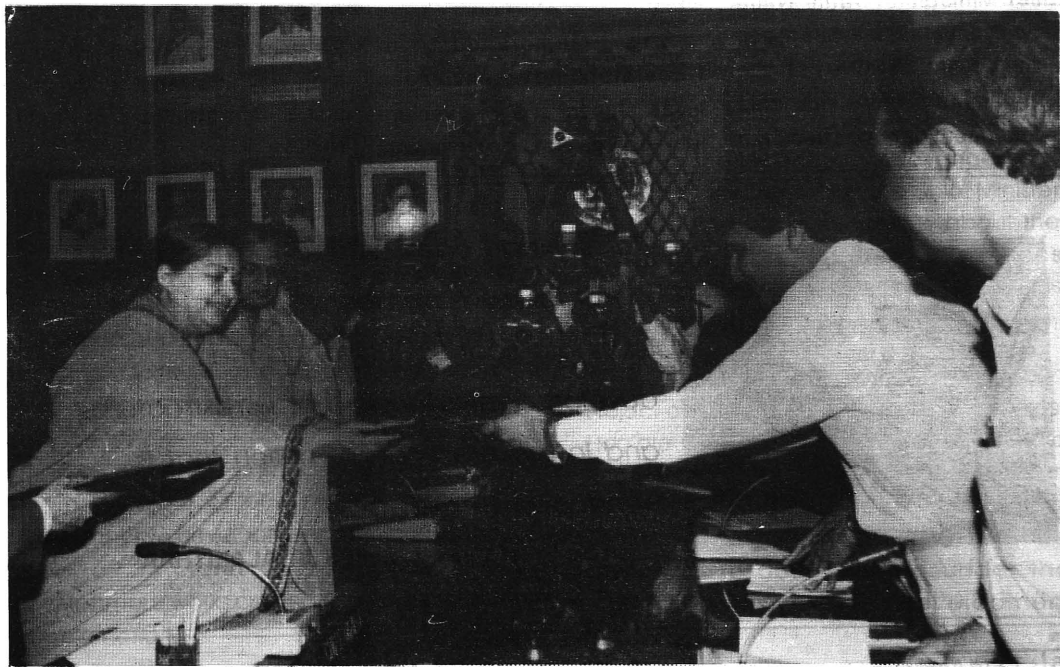
political will on both sides - State Government and the Union Government. I must say that the political will and speed with which this MoU has been signed will go a long way in strengthening the electricity sector in Tamil Nadu.

This is a historic event and has paved the way for a new era. As the Union Minister pointed out, this

## Strengthening the power sector of Tamil Nadu

- Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Sri J JAYALALITHAA

is the first time that a Joint Venture MoU has been signed between the TNEB and NTPC. We have created new history and we will create new history in future also. We are committed to effecting reforms in the electricity sector. As you know, we have constituted the State Electricity Regulatory Commission and we hope to privatise transmission and distribution in





future. We are waiting for the Central Act to be passed in the Parliament.

I wish this project all success", said Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa.

In the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa and Thiru Suresh P.Prabhu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Power, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and National Thermal Power Corporation was signed on 12.7.2002 by Thiru K. Gnanadesikan, Chairman, TNEB and C. P. Jain, Chairman & Managing Director, National Thermal Power Corporation at the Secretariat, Chennai. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several initiatives for the comprehensive and sustainable development of power sector, a

critical infrastructure essential for the economic development of the State of Tamil Nadu. Energy Security figures as the 9th point in the 15th Point Programme of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. With a view to creating additional power generation capacity in Tamil Nadu for meeting the ever increasing power requirement of the Tamil Nadu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Selvi J Jayalalithaa requested Hon'ble Union Minister of Power Thiru Suresh P.Prabhu when he called on her on 22.4.2002 to establish a 1000 MW coal based Thermal Power Project at North Chennai utilising the available infrastructure at Ennore Port. This Memorandum of Understanding is the result of that initiative taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa.

This Memorandum of Understanding envisages establishment of a joint venture with equity participation by National

Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB). The estimated cost of the Project is expected to be about Rs.5000 crores.

This Project is expected to achieve financial closure by the end of the financial year and is expected to be commissioned during 2006-2007. This Project will supply the entire 1000 MW to Tamil Nadu Grid thereby facilitating uninterrupted and quality power supply to the Chennai Metropolitan Area.

A unique feature of this Project is that this is the first joint venture of its kind, i.e. first joint venture in power sector between a Central Power Generating Company namely, National Thermal Power Corporation and a State Government owned Electricity Board namely, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board which will go a long way in strengthening the power infrastructure of Tamil Nadu.

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*"Tamil Nadu has a very good record in industrial development in Technological Education in the development of Industrial Infrastructure and in the presence of milieu that is conducive to growth".*

- Hon'ble Chief Minister, Selvi J JAYALALITHAA.



## *Hon'ble Chief Minister's visit in Andipatti Constituency*

Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J. Jayalalithaa, visited Andipatti constituency and inaugurated various schemes at a function held at Melmangalam on 16th September 2002.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a 300 Bedded Hospital for the Andipatti Medical College and also inaugurated the Madurai Kamaraj University College of Arts and Science, Andipatti.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid foundation stones for 1196 developmental projects to the tune of Rs. 69.34 crores and also launched 166 development works costing Rs.22.08 crores in the same function.

The Chief Minister laid foundation stones for 594 works exclusively for Andipatti constituency amounting to Rs.34.97 crores which included a 300 bedded Government Hospital.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that she had opened 108 all Women Police Stations so far. The Andipatti Station would be the 109th.

The Chief Minister also said that the proposed Government Hospital would be constructed on the Medical College Campus.

Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed her hope that during 2003-2004; the new Medical College would accommodate 100 students. A nursing college would also be started on the campus. Introducing a computerised Redressal System - a Touch Screen system for people to record their grievances, first of its kind in the State. Hon'ble Chief Minister said that it would have details about the constituency and nature of petitions received. The public can well utilise this system for recording their grievances.

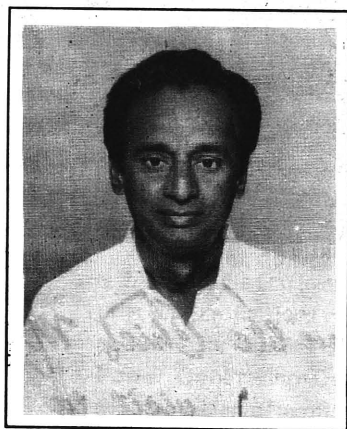
Launching a total Poverty Eradication Project at an estimated cost of Rs.1.8 crores, Hon'ble Chief Minister said 2000 Self Help Groups for the upliftment of rural women would be formed in the next two years. Moreover special training would be imparted to 5000 women under the entrepreneurship development programme.

# **Tamil Nadu Government's efforts to achieve a reduced population Momentum for sustainable development**

**Thiru S. SEMMALAI**  
Hon'ble Minister for Health

**"** I am happy to say that the National Commission on Population has convened this Conference at the most appropriate time, when most of the States are on the threshold of finalising Population Policy. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, the State Population Policy is nearing finalization, which will soon be put on board. Tamil Nadu with a population profile of 6.2 crores, accounting for 6 percent of the Country's population has a decadal growth of 11.19 percent. A declining birth rate from 31.4 in 1971 to 19.2 in 2000 is the best tribute to the sustained political will and administrative commitment of the Government of Tamil Nadu. What we have achieved over the years in terms of

crude birth rate, Infant Mortality Rate, Couple Protection Rate, Crude Death Rate, Life Expectancy, Total Fertility Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate are by no means less significance when compared to All India level. We feel that, still "we have miles to go" to achieve desirable demographic features.



Despite the ubiquitous phenomenon of poor health seeking behaviour of individuals and under funding of health sector, the State Population Policy will aim at achieving,

S1. No.	Indicator	Goals for 2007
1.	Infant Mortality Rate by	30 per 1000 live births
2.	Crude Death Rate by	6 per 1000 population
3.	Maternal Mortality Rate by less than	< 1 per 1000 live births
4.	Life Expectancy at Birth at	70 years
5.	Crude Birth Rate at	15 per 1000 population
6.	Couple Protection Rate by	65 percent
7.	Total fertility Rate by	1.7
8.	Reduction of Higher Order Births at	10 percent
9.	Male participation in contraception at	10 percent



It is our endeavour to ensure that these goals stand achieved by 2007.

Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Idhaya Deivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi, while assessing the various dimensions of the Population Profile, directed us to lay greater focus on (a) Meeting the unmet need for family welfare, (b) Ensuring survival of children in general and new born in particular, (c) Reducing the momentum of population growth, (d) Integrating Population Programme with other developmental activities, (e) Promoting Community Health Activism and (f) Empowering women in all spheres. On the above thrust areas, we intend to delineate Policy contours, in tune with the National Population Policy. Improving the quality of life of the people, by achieving a balance between population, resources and environment would naturally constitute the mission of our policy.

According to the findings of the National Family Health Survey, Tamil Nadu 1998-99, 13 percent of currently married women have unmet need for Family Planning. The unmet

need for spacing methods is 7 percent and for limiting birth is 6 percent. It is our endeavour that this unmet need has to be sufficiently and carefully met through enhancing the services for use of contraceptives, which would result in the increase of Couple Protection Rate from 52 percent to 65 percent. Adoption of appropriate strategies like strengthening infrastructure through optimal utilization of Operation Theatres in Hospitals, promoting private participation in the form of approving Nursing homes for Family Welfare Services and utilizing the services of Integrated Child Development Scheme and self-help groups shall constitute the Broad spectrum of activities. Next to Kerala, Tamil Nadu has been able to reduce the fertility level considerably. The Total Fertility Rate has come down to 2 from 3.9 in 1971. However, as per National Family Health Survey (India) findings, the wanted Fertility Rate in Tamil Nadu is 1.71. The tendency of the people to have less number of children on one side, but actually begetting children till the couple gets a child of their own choice - male or female will be addressed in a more effective way through sustained and need based I.E.C. activities. We will be working out a Plan of Action whereby, the Higher Birth order will be brought down from the current level of 24.2 to 10 by 2007.

**"I am proud to mention that the Tamil Nadu is the only state in the entire country to have formulated specific demographic goals, as far as population control is concerned...."**

**- Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Selvi J JAYALALITHAA**

Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Idhaya Deivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi, has time and again emphasized the need for ensuring child survival through reducing the Infant Mortality Rate from the present level of 51 to 30 per 1000 live births by improving the Institutional deliveries and providing Anti-natal and Post-natal care and raising the age at marriage for females. Intervention programmes, including enhancing the quality of life of adolescent girls through provision of IFA Tablets, strengthening Primary Health Centres

with hi-tech diagnostic facilities and reaching the un-reached through Mobile Health Services are some of the measures initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Resolutely and strongly committing ourselves to bring down the aggregate growth in population and to regulate the population density, we are embarking upon a programme of increasing the practice of birth spacing method, safe abortion services, sustaining low fertility rate, reducing the number of women entering child bearing age and also increasing age at marriage. Through these measures, we hope to achieve a reduced population momentum for sustainable development.

Time and again, our Hon'ble Chief Minister Idhaya Deivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi has drawn the attention of Policy makers and programme implementers on the nexus between poverty and poor health. Enhancing the quality of life of the people through appropriate health intervention strategies and integrating them with developmental programmes of other sectors would alone lead to a healthy populous State. Towards this end in view, the State Population Policy will address the wider issue of bringing a real convergence of various services and integrating them for attaining a stable Population level. Much has been said about it in various fora, but little has been done. The State Population Policy would take up the issue in right earnest and evolve a comprehensive approach.

Promoting Community Health activism at base level and ensuring involvement of elected representatives through decentralizing the Family Welfare activities will be given prime place in our policy initiative. Unless, participatory approach is ensured, the policy will not succeed.

**Decisive role of women  
in ensuring 'Child by  
choice and  
not by Chance' will be  
emphasized in the State  
Population Policy.**

Formation of District / Panchayat Level Committees, allowing the opinion makers to have greater say in implementation process are envisaged in the State Population Policy.

Decisive role of women in ensuring '**Child by choice and not by Chance**' will be emphasized in the State Population Policy. This could be possible only by empowering women. Activating self-help groups, women's fora and mobilizing opinion on gender equity will be the core areas of our Policy. Encouraging child-bearing women to motivate their husbands to go in for contraceptives, though appear to be a very hard choice, shall form the focus of action.

In fine, I would like to state that the State Population Policy contours spelt out above are reflective of the framework provided by our Hon'ble Chief Minister Idhaya Deivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi. It is our hope that through a target-free approach, motivating the eligible couple to adopt small -family norms, discouraging higher-order births and ensuring Maternal, Child Health will result in stable population over the decades.

- Speech delivered at the  
Conference on Population Policy held  
at New Delhi on 25-9-2002.

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**Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J JAYALALITHAA inaugurated various schemes at Melmangalam in Andipatti Constituency on 16-9-2002.**

