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This Government is therefore duty bound to ensure that the poor and the downtrodden are given all possible assistance to lead a decent and dignified life.

Selvi J Jayalalithaa
- Hon'ble Chief Minister

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In the Wrapper

Functions in which Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Selvi J Jayalalithaa participated :

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Hon'ble Chief Minister Opens John Pennycuick's Memorial Manimandapam and distributes of Government's awards on Thiruvalluar Day at Lower Camp in Theni District on 15.1.2013.

2nd Cover

Hon'ble Chief Minister Launches the Special Pongal Package at Kodanadu Co-operative Fair Price Shop in the Nilgiris District on 9.1.2013.



“Tamil Nadu poised for great leap in Industrial, Economic growth”

**Speech delivered by His Excellency, the Governor of Tamil Nadu
Dr. K. Rosaiah in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 1.2.2013**

Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly,

Vanakkam.

I am delighted to address the first session of the year 2013 and the sixth session of this fourteenth Assembly. This is my second address in this august House, for which I am greatly indebted to the people of Tamil Nadu. Over the years, this vibrant institution has reached the pinnacle of glory, with great leaders making great contributions to nurture and uphold the sacred democratic values enshrined in our Constitution. Recently, we were witness to the historic moment which marked the completion of 60 years of this Assembly, to commemorate which, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa had organised a befitting celebration. I take this opportunity to congratulate all of you and to remember, with pride and gratitude, all

those great leaders and members who have contributed to the evolution of this glorious institution. At this juncture, I extend my best wishes for the New Year to all of you. Let us start this year with a firm resolve to make Tamil Nadu the Numero Uno State in all fields.

2. Ever since the new Government took over the reins of governance, our State is marching ahead under the dynamic leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa, who is known for her indomitable courage, determination, resoluteness and decisive action. She is an indisputable mass leader who exemplifies true leadership and is the epitome of boundless compassion towards the poor and the downtrodden. At the same time, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has crushed anti-social elements with an iron fist and re-established an atmosphere of peace and stability in

Tamil Nadu in order to facilitate faster economic development. Her untiring efforts to provide exemplary governance through well-designed schemes and strategies, to realize the aspirations of the people, have invited accolades from all corners of the world. For the first time, the Annual Collectors and Police Officers Conference was held for three full days in December 2012. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, committed to giving exemplary governance, sat through the whole conference with rapt attention and made an unprecedented 343 announcements on the spot, thereby fulfilling all the demands made by the District Collectors and Police Officers, in the interest of better administration.

3. The vision of this Government, as stated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, is to achieve "material progress with distributive justice". This could be possible only by following inclusive developmental strategies. The mission of our Hon'ble Chief Minister is to fulfill the essential minimum needs like food, shelter and clothing so that all people, particularly the poor and marginalised, are able to lead a decent and dignified life. Under the visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Chief Minister, this Government has launched and implemented several schemes to achieve the objectives of a true welfare State. At the same time, Tamil Nadu is poised to take a great leap forward in economic and industrial growth, since several

infrastructure projects have been launched to create the enabling environment for rapid economic development. This Government is pioneering innovative approaches like the State Balanced Growth Fund, as part of its inclusive growth strategies, to bring about balanced economic development in the State.

4. The first day of Chithirai has been observed as the Tamil New Year Day all over the world for ages. But this was deliberately changed during the previous regime. This tradition was restored by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and she herself participated in the Tamil New Year celebrations during 2012 and distributed the newly announced awards such as Tamil Thai Virudhu, Kapilar Virudhu, U Ve Sa Virudhu and Avaiyyar Virudhu. The Tamil New Year Day will be celebrated in a grand manner this year also and Kambar Virudhu for the best scholar propagating the ideals of Kamba Ramayanam and Sollin Selvar Virudhu for the best Tamil literary orator will be given from this year onwards.

5. This Government is unparalleled in honouring freedom-fighters and Tamil scholars in recognition of their selfless sacrifices. Memorials are being built by this Government for such heroic and valiant personalities like Veeramangai Velu Naachiyar, Dheeran Chinnamalai, Sinthanai Sirpi Singaravelar, Suya Mariyadhai Sudaroli Jeevarathinam and





Thiyagi Sankaralinganar. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has built and inaugurated a memorial for Colonel Sir John Pennycuick to honour his selfless service rendered to the people of Tamil Nadu by constructing the Mullai Periyar Dam. The gesture of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in announcing the construction of a memorial for Karikaal Cholan, who built Kallanai, making the Cauvery delta the granary of Tamil Nadu, is praiseworthy. I also wish to mention that the various institutions propagating the Tamil language and culture are provided with liberal financial support. The Government has sanctioned Rs.100 crores for the World Tamil Sangam at Madurai, Rs.11.84 crores for the Tamil University, Thanjavur, and Rs.3.23 crores for the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Taramani. The present annual maintenance grant of Rs.40 lakhs to the historical Saraswathi Mahal Library will be enhanced to Rs.75 lakhs per annum. An expert committee

will be constituted to recommend measures for upgrading this library to international standards.

6. Political stability with proper maintenance of law and order is a *sine qua non* for economic prosperity. Under the sagacious leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, law and order has been well maintained in the State, making it a haven of peace and tranquillity. This Government will not spare anybody who tries to whip up communal passions. Land grabbers, anti-social elements and organisations that threaten public order have been severely dealt with. Land grabbing has been completely stopped and the inexorable hands of the law have caught up with these criminal elements. I commend our Hon'ble Chief Minister for providing strong leadership and giving uncompromising support and a free hand to the police to deal effectively with law and order issues. As a result of her firmness and resolve, timely interventions to ban the release of sensitive films having the

potential to disturb peace like “Dam 999” have averted serious law and order problems that could have engulfed the State. I urge film makers to show due respect for the sensitivities of the people while making such films and avoid hurting public sentiments. In a civilised society, heinous crimes committed against women and children should come to an end. I appreciate the boldness with which our Hon’ble Chief Minister has spelt out a strong, implementable and monitorable Thirteen Point Programme, including establishment of a Fast Track Mahila Court in each district, which has set the contour for policy makers and law enforcing authorities in the rest of India to adopt.

7. Whenever our Hon’ble Chief Minister has assumed the mantle of the State administration, the morale and discipline of the Police Force have soared, because it is being provided with a clear mandate to firmly quell disorder and the Police personnel are given infrastructure, weaponry, transport and all that is necessary to discharge their duties without fear or favour. Our Hon’ble Chief Minister has substantially increased the allowances for Police, Fire and Rescue Services and Prison staff; increased the Tamil Nadu Police Benevolent Fund, and given orders to establish three Police Canteens, a first for any Police Force in the country. The Hon’ble Chief Minister has sanctioned the construction of additional accommodation at a cost of Rs.472.50 crores and launched a mega scheme viz., “Own Your Own House” for 36,000 Police, Prison and Fire and Rescue Services personnel. All these measures have made the Police Force feel thoroughly motivated and enthused them to

display the highest levels of commitment and dedication in discharging their duties.

Chief Minister hastens to the Succour of Fisherfolk

8. The fishermen of Tamil Nadu, who earn their livelihood in their traditional fishing areas of the Palk Bay region, are victims of repeated harassment and murderous attacks by the Sri Lankan Navy. Taking a serious view of this, the Hon’ble Chief Minister has addressed the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India on twelve occasions since May 2011 and urged him to immediately intervene and take up the cause of our fishermen with the Sri Lankan Government. This Government is anguished that the harassment of fishermen of Tamil Nadu by the Sri Lankan Navy still continues as an unending agony, even as the Government of India has been showing utter disregard towards the woes of the Tamil fishermen. I urge the Government of India to impress upon the Sri Lankan Government the need to exercise restraint and to refrain from making unprovoked attacks on Tamil Nadu’s fishermen, who are also citizens of India.

9. The blatant violation of human rights and genocide of the Tamil citizens of Sri Lanka are highly condemnable. The Government of India should take this issue to international fora. The rehabilitation measures taken up by the Sri Lankan Government to resettle the displaced Tamil people and assuage their feelings are not proceeding as expected. I reiterate the resolve expressed by this Assembly on 8th June, 2011, to urge the Government of India to initiate action by working with other nations for imposition

of an economic embargo on the Government of Sri Lanka till the Tamils living in camps are resettled in their own places and are allowed to live with dignity, self-respect and equal constitutional rights on par with the Sinhalese.

10. The Hon'ble Chief Minister is waging a relentless struggle to secure for Tamil Nadu, a rightful share of the water of Interstate rivers. In spite of several rounds of discussion and even after the direction of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal to share water on a pro rata basis during a distress situation, the Government of Karnataka continues to utilize all the water of the River Cauvery brazenly and remains adamant and obdurate in refusing to release the water due to Tamil Nadu, with scant regard for the plight of the farmers in the Cauvery Delta. Due to the persistent and timely actions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in approaching the Supreme Court, Karnataka was compelled to release 63.55 TMC ft. of water to Tamil Nadu. However, this still leaves a shortfall of 31.4 TMC ft. as per the pro rata distress sharing formula. As a result, this year, Tamil Nadu has suffered a major setback in food production in the Cauvery Delta area. Therefore, this Government has proposed to file a suit in the Supreme Court seeking compensation for the crop loss from the Government of Karnataka. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has been urging the Government of India repeatedly to notify the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and I hope that the Central Government will accede to this demand without further delay. In the case of the Mullai Periyar Dam, the Empowered Committee appointed by the Supreme Court has found the dam to be structurally, hydrologically and seismically safe. The Government of

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Tamil Nadu hopes that the Supreme Court will deliver a favourable order upholding our stand.

11. The draft National Water Policy 2012 lays emphasis on the pricing of water and contemplates the setting up of an Authority to fix water tariff. The Government of Tamil Nadu considers this to be a gross infringement on the powers of State Governments. Water is a State subject and States should have the freedom to take decisions with regard to their water resources. Similarly, the policy suggests incentivizing States to undertake reforms on the lines contemplated in the draft policy. This Government considers that such a move should not result in tying up the release of Central assistance with water pricing decisions as conditionality. The pricing of natural resources like water is a highly sensitive matter, particularly for agriculture, since it affects the lives of millions of farmers and the State must necessarily adopt a cautious approach. In the case of linking of Inter-State rivers, this Government reiterates its demand for taking up the Peninsular River Linkage Project immediately to pave the way ultimately for the National Water Grid Project in national interest. In a situation wherein no tangible action is forthcoming from the Government of India, this Government is continuing to implement its own Intra-State river linkage programme vigorously with State funds by giving it a special thrust.

More Powers for States Sought

12. With regard to the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Government of India should ensure that the fiscal autonomy of the States is not compromised. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already highlighted this issue in the recently held National Development Council meeting. The Union Government should be prepared to consider more radical approaches, including the delegation of the levy, collection and appropriation of the substitutes for Value Added Tax (VAT), Central Excise Duty and Service Tax within the State, completely to the State domain. The Central Government should confine itself to inter-state GST, customs duties and direct taxes, which are more buoyant and grow with the economy. Without the Union Government creating the requisite atmosphere of trust amongst the States, it would be impossible to implement the GST regime. I urge the Central Government again to view these issues in a broader and more practical way, keeping in mind the federal perspective and giving due regard to the resource requirements and sensitivity of the States, so as to evolve a solution having broader acceptability amongst the States.

13. The Direct-Cash-Transfer initiative of the Government of India is not a panacea for

all the ills in the present welfare programmes. "Development is about transforming the lives of the people and not just transforming economies", says Joseph Stieglitz, well-known economist and Nobel Laureate. The noble ideals of transforming lives and eradication of poverty cannot be achieved merely by transferring money to the hands of the poor. Schemes such as the Public Distribution System and the supply of laptop computers free of cost, being implemented in Tamil Nadu, have multiple social objectives that cannot be substituted by a monthly emolument. Therefore, this Government supports the scheme of cash transfer through bank accounts only for some schemes like social security pensions and scholarships to students. However, we strongly oppose any move to monetize and transfer the benefits as cash in schemes like the Public Distribution System, fertilizer subsidy etc., where access and timely availability of entitlements should take precedence over administrative convenience. Further, any attempt by the Government of India to bypass the State Governments and transfer benefits directly to the beneficiary, disguised as direct cash transfer is not acceptable to this Government. Any fund transfer from the Central Government should be done



only through the State Government for better accountability. Similarly, allowing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the retail sector will put the livelihood of the poor self-employed people in peril. This Government, therefore, strongly expresses its disapproval of FDI in the retail sector.

14. As announced in my previous address, this Government has formed the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board to co-ordinate and expedite the formulation and implementation of major infrastructure projects. I am happy to note that the Government has already notified the Tamil Nadu Tender Transparency (Public Private Partnership) Rules, 2012, to guide and monitor the increasing participation of the private sector in infrastructure development. The Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Act and the relevant rules have also been notified. These structural reforms are only the first steps in institutionalising the system of speedy clearance of projects for creating world class infrastructure in the State. This Government will soon release the second volume of Vision 2023, detailing the entire list of projects that will launch the State on its chosen road to become the Numero Uno State in India.

Saraswathi Mahal



15. Our State could achieve a growth of only 8.05% in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) as against the target of 9% projected for the 11th Plan period. The poor performance of the agriculture and industrial sectors in the previous regime has pulled down the State's performance in that Plan period. Though the projection of the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at the national level is only 8% during the 12th Five Year Plan, our State has set for itself an ambitious target of 11% growth. This Government will take all out efforts to achieve this ambitious target and to ensure faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth during this Plan period. I am proud to mention, that this Government has enhanced the original estimate for the 12th Five Year Plan allocation from Rs.1.85 lakh crores as announced last year, to Rs.2.11 lakh crores. This is 148% higher than the 11th Five Year Plan allocation. The Annual Plan allocation for the year 2013-2014 will be increased to Rs.37,000 crores from Rs.28,000 crores fixed during the current year, which is an impressive increase of 32%. By prudent financial management, this Government will ensure that adequate financial resources are made available throughout the 12th Plan period for all developmental schemes.

Government committed to Transparency, Efficiency

16. This Government is fully committed to delivering transparent, efficient and exemplary governance by focusing on framing procedures and the use of technology. This Government will launch an ambitious Comprehensive Project Formulation, Execution and Management System which will integrate and computerise the entire process of projects and works implementation in the State, right

from the stage of preparation of estimates, tendering, award of tenders, execution of works including measurements, up to the final payment of bills. Such a

system will also include an e-procurement portal and the adoption of electronic tendering procedures in Government. This is expected to significantly enhance the efficiency of the project management processes in various departments and greatly speed up the implementation of projects.

17. The State will soon create the State Residents Data Hub (SRDH) for integrating Aadhaar numbers with the biometry enabled individual citizens' data derived from the National Population Registry. The SRDH will ensure the availability of a Unified Data Repository to service all departments. This is expected to help the Government in better targeting, effective service delivery, better accountability and enable effective monitoring of the schemes. It is also proposed to use this data hub for the Aadhaar based payment system to disburse welfare benefits,

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besides facilitating the implementation of Aadhaar enabled citizen centric service delivery.

18. This Government headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister has been

straining every nerve to resolve the power crisis, an unpleasant legacy left by the previous Government. The daily power consumption in the State has gone up from 180 million units per day in October 2012 to about 210 million units per day in January 2013. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already made a detailed statement in this House on 31.10.2012 regarding the various steps taken by this Government for improving the power situation. The Stage III, 600 MW Mettur Thermal Power Project has already commenced trial production. The 500 MW first unit of the joint venture between TANGEDCO and NTPC at Vallur has also been commissioned in November 2012. The second and third units of this joint venture of 500 MW each are expected to be commissioned by March and October 2013 respectively. Two units



"Schemes such as the Public Distribution System and the supply of laptop computers free of cost, being implemented in Tamil Nadu, have multiple social objectives that cannot be substituted by a monthly emolument."

of 600 MW each at North Chennai will be commissioned by April and May 2013 respectively. By operating existing power stations efficiently and procuring power from the Power Exchanges and other sources, the load shedding has also come down considerably.

19. TANGEDCO has successfully obtained substantial transmission capacity of about 500 MW from January 2013 to March 2013 by participating in e-bidding for inter-regional transmission capacity. This has enabled TANGEDCO to avail of power from outside the Southern Region, which it had already booked but was not able to avail of due to corridor constraints. In addition, TANGEDCO has also been able to get 150 MW of power from Odisha during the evening peak hours and early morning. Medium term power purchase of 500 MW for three years commencing from June 2013 has also been tied up. A Global tender has been already floated for the newly announced 660 MW Ennore expansion project and tenders would be soon called for 2 x 660 MW units each at Udangudi and Ennore with a total capacity of 2640 MW. I also congratulate the Hon'ble Chief Minister for announcing a truly path breaking Solar Energy Policy. As was done for Rain Water Harvesting, this Government will make the generation and use of solar energy a peoples' movement and achieve the targeted capacity of 3000 MW.

20. The State cannot achieve inclusive growth without ensuring higher growth in the Primary Sector. Therefore, the allocations for this sector have been increased to an all time high level. The ambitious target of achieving 5% growth in the Primary Sector is proposed to be reached during the 12th Plan period through integrated management of crop husbandry, animal husbandry and by developing allied sector activities, with a specific focus on enhancing farm level income. Increasing crop productivity, post-harvest management, augmenting storage capacity and strengthening marketing infrastructure are the main focus areas of this Government. These efforts would give more flexibility to farmers to adopt a market responsive cropping pattern and move towards higher levels of income on a sustainable basis.

21. This Government follows a balanced approach in fixing the procurement price for agricultural crops to take care of the farmers' interests, without compromising the economic compulsion to protect the consumers. This Government has enhanced the procurement price for paddy during 2012-2013 to Rs.1,350 per quintal for the fine variety and Rs.1,300 per quintal for the common variety. These rates are higher by Rs.70 and Rs.50 respectively, than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Central Government. Similarly, the State Advised Price (SAP) for sugarcane has been enhanced to Rs.2,350 per tonne including transportation cost, as against the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of Rs.1,700 per tonne fixed by the Central Government.

Timely Steps to Help Farm Sector

22. The deficient monsoon, the non-release of Cauvery water by Karnataka and the resultant delayed opening of the Mettur dam have severely affected the Agriculture Sector

in the State, particularly in the Cauvery Delta area. The timely decision taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to provide twelve hours of uninterrupted three phase power supply to the Cauvery Delta area and the special package of Rs.107.98 crores for Samba cultivation have helped to save the standing crops to a certain extent. As a special gesture, the Hon'ble Chief Minister ordered that the entire farmers' share of crop insurance premium in the Cauvery Delta area would also be borne by the State. Even so, the State is likely to suffer severely in achieving its food production targets. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already assured the Cauvery Delta farmers that they will be compensated for the crop loss due to water shortage. The High Level Committee, constituted by the Government to assess the crop loss and recommend relief measures, has submitted its report and the Government will announce suitable relief package shortly.

23. The State is successfully increasing milk production in order to achieve a "Second White Revolution". The average milk procurement by the dairy co operative sector has increased by nearly 4 lakh litres per day. This Government's flagship schemes of distribution of free milch cows, goats and sheep, are being implemented smoothly. By March 2013, the Government would have

distributed 24,000 milch cows and 10 lakh goats and sheep across the State. I am glad to note that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries constitute nearly 40% of the total beneficiaries under these schemes.

24. Under the compassionate leadership of our Hon'ble Chief Minister, this Government issued orders to implement the scheme to supply rice free of cost to all family card holders. Coupled with a robust Universal Public Distribution System, this has completely eliminated hunger from the State and food security for the poor has become a reality. The State Government spends Rs.4,900 crores per year for food subsidy alone. Considering the adverse agricultural season, our Hon'ble Chief Minister announced a special Pongal gift hamper consisting of 1 kilogram raw rice, 1 kilogram of sugar and Rs.100 in cash to all the 1.84 crore rice card holders on the festive occasion of Pongal at a total cost of Rs.300 crores. This has greatly boosted the spirits of our farmers during this difficult time and enabled them to celebrate the Pongal festival with customary enthusiasm and cheer.

25. During 2012-2013, the co operatives disbursed Rs.3,317.69 crores as crop loan for the period up to December 2012, which is 23% higher than the corresponding period



last year. This Government has also sanctioned Rs.72 crores during the current financial year to the District Central Co operative Banks for the revival of the short term co operative credit structures. The State Recruitment Bureau and a District Recruitment Bureau for each district have been constituted for the recruitment of personnel for the co operative societies. In consonance with the 97th Amendment to the Constitution, the State has established the Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission to conduct free and fair elections to all co operative societies in the State. The steps taken by the Government to make the co-operatives function again as vibrant democratic institutions by commencing the election process are laudable.

"The schemes of supply of free bus passes, text books, note books, bicycles, footwear, uniforms, school bags, geometry boxes, atlases, maps, colour pencils etc., have contributed immensely to achieving a higher retention ratio by generating much enthusiasm amongst children."

Tamil Nadu as investment destination

26. A growth rate target of 13.8% for the Manufacturing Sector is envisioned in the Vision 2023 to put the State on the path of faster economic development. Since non-availability of suitable land is a major hurdle in attracting new investments, the Government is considering a comprehensive policy to address the issues related to acquisition of land for industrial purposes. Enthused by the pro-active approach of the State Government, 17 Memoranda of Understanding were signed

in the current financial year with domestic and foreign investors, for an investment totalling Rs.26,625 crores, which will generate direct and indirect employment for over 1.45 lakh persons. While Tamil Nadu is already one of the leaders in attracting investments, the State will strive to become one of the top three investment destinations in Asia and also the most attractive State for investment in the country.

27. Promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is given special priority by the State since it provides large scale employment. Under the Revival, Reform and Restructuring package for the handloom sector, an amount of Rs.127 crores has been allocated by the State. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has benevolently announced several measures to protect the tea industry, particularly, small tea growers. Tea factories under INDCOSERVE are being upgraded to improve their operational efficiency at a cost of Rs.6 crores. A new tea factory will be opened at Nanjanad in the Nilgiris district to benefit small tea growers. A tea cluster common facilitation centre will be set up near Mettupalayam at a cost of Rs.15 crores.

28. In tune with the mission statement to provide "Health for All", this Government has been taking pioneering initiatives in both preventive and curative health care. It is indeed a matter of pride that the 12th Plan Document refers more than once to the exemplary performance of Tamil Nadu in the health sector and advises the Central Government to emulate many of the initiatives of the State. Tamil Nadu has already achieved the Millennium Development Goal of reducing Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) below 107. At present, MMR stands at 73 whereas Infant



Mortality Rate (IMR) has dropped to 22. Tamil Nadu is one of the few states in the country where the child sex ratio has been on the rise during the past decade. I am happy to inform the House that the State has received Rs.174 crores as incentive for achieving the target in the health sector under the 13th Finance Commission grant.

29. This Government's decision to convert the new building in the Omandurar Government Estate into a multi super specialty hospital, upheld by the Madras High Court and the Supreme Court, will strengthen tertiary health care facilities in the State by providing better and expert treatment for serious ailments to the economically weaker sections. The newly launched "Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme" has benefited 2,38,749 persons to an extent of Rs.534.39 crores so far. It is noteworthy that out of these, 82,829 beneficiaries availed of the facilities in Government hospitals and Rs.176.28 crores has been earned back by these hospitals. This Government has taken immediate and effective action to control dengue. With the concerted efforts of the Government and the ingenuity of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in advocating the

use of traditional medicines, the spread of dengue was brought under control.

Education Schemes Pay Dividends

30. This Government is striving to provide the needed infrastructure facilities in the State so as to ensure universal access to quality education. The Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) in the State for Primary schools is 27, which is much better than the national average of 30. The Trimester System and the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation System, which have been established under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, have been well received by the students, teachers and parents. The schemes of supply of free bus passes, text books, note books, bicycles, footwear, uniforms, school bags, geometry boxes, atlases, maps, colour pencils etc., have contributed immensely to achieving a higher retention ratio by generating much enthusiasm amongst children. Although the State has made phenomenal progress in terms of total literacy, the gender gap in literacy is still quite large and this Government is taking all steps necessary to reduce it. I am sure that by the end of the 12th Five Year Plan, the State would have made significant strides in this regard.

31. As announced during my last year's address, legislation has been enacted to merge the various Universities of Technology, thus making Anna University the largest Technical University in the country. Eleven university constituent Arts and Science colleges have been opened during the current academic year in areas where the reach of higher education is inadequate. Similarly, the Government has announced the opening of a National Law School in Srirangam taluk, besides setting up two Government Engineering Colleges and ten Government Polytechnic Colleges in needy places. The scheme of free distribution of laptop computers to students has been a huge success. Like many other pioneering schemes started by this State and later adopted

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elsewhere in the country, I hope this scheme will also be adopted at the national level.

32. With 48.45% of its population living in urban areas, Tamil Nadu has become the most urbanized State in the country. It has become the first State to experience the phase of rapid urbanization and its challenges. Therefore, the path set by our State on its way to addressing the challenges of urbanization would greatly influence the approach and policies at the national level in the area of urban development. The 12th Five Year Plan makes glowing references to the unique initiatives taken by Tamil Nadu like the creation of the State

Urban Development Fund and commended our efforts to bring about total sanitation. It is disappointing that the Government of India has not launched the JNNURM-II as was expected. However, Tamil Nadu has gone ahead with its own Mission Mode Projects in urban areas, the Chennai Mega City Development Mission and the Integrated Urban Development Mission, with an allocation of Rs.1,250 crores per annum from the State fund. The Government has completed the preparatory work for establishing the State Property Tax Board to guide and advise the local bodies on issues related to property taxes. This move will go a long way in strengthening the local bodies' own resources and instilling better fiscal discipline.

33. Fulfilling the housing needs of the urban poor is a daunting task. The slum population in urban areas in the State is estimated to be around 86 lakhs, as per the 2011 census. The housing shortage has been estimated at 28 lakhs. This Government will work towards the objective of making all the cities in our State slum free by rehabilitating all the families who do not have a decent dwelling. The strategies of rehabilitation will be both *in situ* development and resettlement. I hope that the funding from the Government of India under the Rajiv Awas Yojana and other programmes will be adequate to tackle this massive problem within a specified time frame. In order to make a beginning in this regard, seven pilot projects for the construction of 2,775 tenements for slum dwellers at a cost of Rs.206.09 crores will be taken up under the Rajiv Awas Yojana, for which the approval of the Government of India is awaited. More projects will be taken up in the coming years after completing the ongoing enumeration of eligible households.



34. While the State is rapidly urbanizing, the infrastructure needs of our rural areas, where more than 50% of the population lives even now, are equally significant. This Government is aware that better social and economic infrastructure in rural areas will arrest the unhealthy congestion in towns and cities caused by fast and haphazard urbanisation. The rural habitation centric approach adopted in the THAI scheme is a commendable strategy in this direction. The novel and ambitious “Chief Minister’s Solar Powered Green House Scheme” has been well received by the people. Considering the plight of the people living in the houses constructed by Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) under the Tsunami rehabilitation scheme, this Government has decided to provide Rs.30.69 crores for laying weathering course on the roofs of 16,883 affected houses to rectify roof leakages.

Pudhu Vaazhvu Project Lauded as Great Model

35. It is heartening to note that poverty in Tamil Nadu has been declining over the years. The 66th round of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) survey data shows that the total population living below the poverty line is 121.8 lakhs, which is 17.1% of the total population. The percentage of

population living below the poverty line in rural and urban areas is 21.2% and 12.8% respectively. The Pudhu Vaazhvu project launched by the Hon’ble Chief Minister is acknowledged by the Government of India as one of the best models in the country for poverty alleviation. The Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM), a new poverty alleviation scheme, is being jointly implemented by the State and the Central Governments, in a mission mode. It envisages the creation of sustainable livelihoods for families living below the poverty line, within a target period of five to seven years in all the 31 rural districts of Tamil Nadu. As the Government of India’s Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) was found inadequate to deal with the complexities of urban poverty, the State has launched the Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihood Mission, without waiting for the launching of the Urban Livelihood Mission promised by the Central Government. I hope that the Government of India will soon launch this important programme and assist the State in tackling the problem of urban poverty more pointedly.

36. The Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 envisages skill training to be given to 20 million youth over the next 11 years. This includes 15 million persons entering the

job market in the next 11 years and 5 million persons who are already part of the work force. The Tamil Nadu State Skill Development Society is being reconstituted as the Tamil Nadu State Skill Development Corporation to facilitate the participation of the private sector and trade associations. While training unskilled youth outside the education system, this Government will simultaneously focus on re-engineering our education system to enhance the skills and employability of outgoing students.

37. Considering the importance of a road network of high quality in spurring economic growth and equitable development, Rs.3,623 crores has been sanctioned this year for the improvement and maintenance of roads. This Government has sanctioned 121 new bridges at a cost of Rs.235 crores with the assistance of NABARD. Preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been undertaken for the Chennai Peripheral Ring Road for a total length of 162 km connecting Mamallapuram and Ennore. I am happy to inform the House that this Government has initiated steps for developing a deep water port at Nagapattinam through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP).

Dual Diesel Pricing Pushes STUs to the brink

38. A good public transport system plays a vital role in supporting urban and rural livelihoods. In order to provide adequate transport facilities in the State, particularly to the unserved rural areas, the State Transport Undertakings (STUs) have increased the number of scheduled services from 19,167 in June 2011 to 20,500 as on December 2012. Also, with the introduction of new buses, the average age of the fleet has come down drastically, making bus travel a lot safer, more reliable and comfortable. State transport buses are the predominant mode of transport for the

"Medium term power purchase of 500 MW for three years commencing from June 2013 has also been tied up. A Global tender has been already floated for the newly announced 660 MW Ennore expansion project and tenders would be soon called for 2 x 660 MW units each at Udangudi and Ennore with a total capacity of 2640 MW."

poor and the middle class. Therefore, in spite of steep fuel price hike, which came into effect from 14.9.2012, this Government has ensured that the burden is not passed on to the public, by compensating the loss of Rs.383 crores per annum to the State Transport Undertakings. However, to our utter dismay, the Central Government, which only speaks about protecting the Aam Aadmi, has withdrawn the subsidy completely on the diesel supplied in bulk to STUs with effect from 18.1.2013. This has resulted in a sharp 23.75% increase in the fuel cost again, of Rs.744 crores per annum, adding up to a total annual increase of Rs.1,127 crores within 4 months, forcing the STUs to the precipice of financial disaster. This Government has decided to challenge this dual pricing policy of the Central Government in the appropriate court as it is against public interest and discriminates against STUs and benefits private operators who continue to enjoy subsidised fuel.

39. It is well known that the Department of Youth Welfare and Sports Development gets prominence whenever our Hon'ble Chief Minister takes the reins of the State administration. The Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor stadium, constructed during her tenure in 1993, has helped us to create sports facilities of international standards in the State. This Government has now substantially enhanced the allowances and awards given to various sports persons. I am very glad to inform this august House that due to the initiative taken by our Hon'ble Chief Minister, the prestigious

20th Asian Athletic Championship will be held in Chennai from 2nd to 7th July, 2013. I am confident that this will motivate our youth to obtain access to international events and create the spirit of competing with the world's best.

40. This Government has issued orders for the creation of nine new taluks by bifurcating the existing taluks in the year 2012-2013. The High Level Committee constituted for this purpose is also examining the need to create additional taluks. Its recommendations will be taken into account by the Government while forming new taluks in future. This Government is committed to creating an Integrated Land Record Management System by functionally integrating the departments of Revenue Administration, Land Administration, Survey and Registration. Land Records Management Centres are being created in 21 taluks of Kancheepuram and Tirunelveli districts under the National Land Records Modernisation Programme. I hope that this initiative, when upscaled in the entire State, will make land records management more comprehensive and user friendly.

41. Our State is well known for its inclusive welfare programmes. Enhancement of the Social Security Pension amount to Rs.1,000 per month by this Government has given substantial relief to the poor and the destitute. There are several programmes targeting the

differently abled, women and children in order to achieve the goal of inclusiveness. Also, many innovative schemes are being implemented for the socially disadvantaged groups viz. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities. Extending the scholarship benefit to Adi Dravidar and Tribal students studying in private colleges is a path breaking initiative. All these initiatives of this Government will certainly eliminate the gap in the socio-economic status of the different target groups.

42. I have outlined here a few of the policies and programmes formulated and implemented by this Government. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister, with the overwhelming support of the people, is providing efficient, transparent and people friendly governance. With her profound wisdom, innovation and sagacity, I am sure that she will be able to fulfill the aspirations of the people and make the State a leader in the country in achieving inclusive growth, development and universal prosperity.

43. I am confident that this House will deliberate on all the key issues in a very constructive and positive manner and guide the Government to implement the schemes in an exemplary way. With these words, I conclude my speech and wish you all the best once again.

Nandri, Vanakkam, Jai Hind. ■



Pennycuick's qualities recalled, Karikalan to be honoured for Kallanai



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalalithaa's** speech
after opening Col. John Pennycuick's Memorial Manimandapam
at lower camp in Theni District on 15.1.2013 *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru. O. Panneerselvam, who has delivered the felicitation address in this fine function, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Thiru. K.V. Ramalingam, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Law, Courts and Prisons, Thiru. N.R. Sivapathy, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Special Programmes Implementation, Thiru. K.T. Rajenthirabhalaji, Hon'ble Ministers, Members of Parliament and Legislature, Representatives of Local Bodies, Chief Secretary to the Government, Tmt. Sheela Balakrishnan, Public Works Department Secretary, Thiru. M. Saikumar

who has delivered the welcome address, Secretary, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information Department, Dr. M. Rajaram who is to propose a vote of Thanks, Theni District Collector, Dr. K.S. Palanisamy, Government officers, Police officers, Respected Elders, Ladies, my veritable goddesses who sustain me, my dear siblings, who are Idaya Deivam MGR's blood unto blood and dearer to me than my own life,

At the outset, I offer my respects soaked in love to all of you.

I am immensely happy to declare open a Manimandapam for Col. John Pennycuick,

who built the lifeline of South Tamil Nadu, the Mullai Periyar dam amidst great difficulties and spending his own money, on his birth anniversary today. I am also delighted to speak to my dear people of Theni District. Also, I am immensely happy to distribute awards including Thiruvalluvar Award to Tamil scholars on this Thiruvalluvar Day and financial assistance to elderly Tamil scholars.

In the 19th century, it was a common phenomenon for the Vaigai river basin to suffer from drought and famine. The Periyar river, located above the Vaigai basin, has its source in Sivagiri hills in the Western Ghats. After joining its tributary, Mullaiyar in the south, it flowed west and emptied itself in the Arabian sea wastefully.

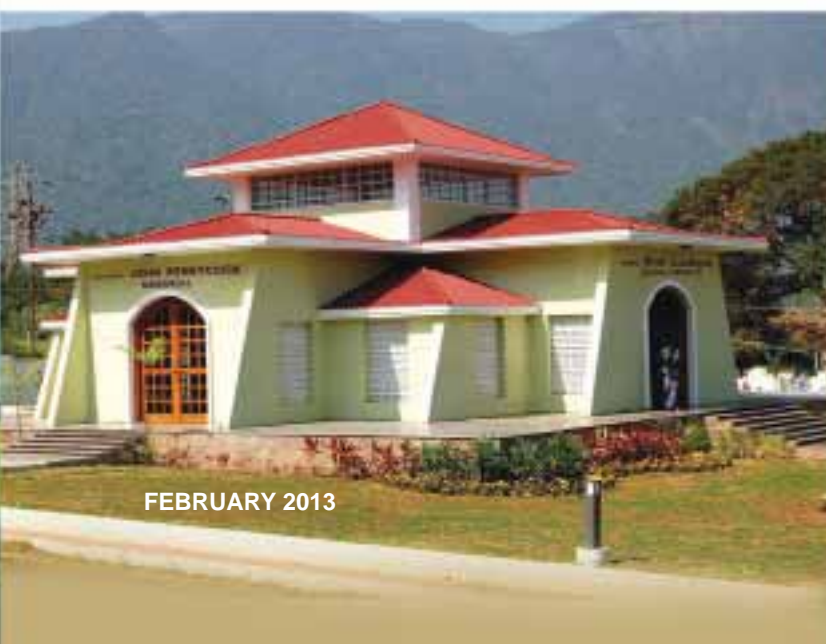
On learning of this, the then British Government prepared a plan to divert the west flowing waters of Periyar to the Vaigai Basin so as to avert the recurring drought in the basin. For implementing the plan, the British Government needed an efficient person with self-confidence to undertake inspection works, prepare blueprints and estimates. It appointed Col. John Pennycuick to the post.

Col. John Pennycuick took up the work and sent a project report to the British



Government in 1882. The report envisaged the construction of a dam across Periyar and diverting the waters eastwards to Vaigai river. The cost was estimated at Rs. 53 lakhs.

For implementing the project, the British Government negotiated with the them Travancore princely state. Finally, on 29.10.1886, a lease agreement was signed between the British Government and the Travancore princely state. The lease was for 999 years from 1.1.1886. As per this agreement



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8,000 acres of land as water spread area and 100 acres of land for construction of the dam were leased out to the British Government. The annual lease rent was Rs. 5/- per acre. Water could be stored upto a height of 152 feet from the river level.

Work on the construction of the dam started in 1887. It was entrusted to Col. John Pennycuick. Unmindful of the hindrances caused by wild animals, torrential rains and flash floods, the dam work continued for 3 years. When the dam construction was half way through, continuous rains caused a lull in the construction activities.

The British Government did not make timely allocations of funds for continuing the project. History tells us that Col. Pennycuick, when he learned of the lack of funds, went to England, sold his family properties and completed the Mullai Periyar Dam construction out of the sale proceeds. The then Governor of Chennai Presidency. Lord Wenlock threw open the dam for people's use in October 1895. The dam helps in the irrigation of 2.23 lakh acres in the districts of Theni, Dindigul, Madurai, Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram.

From this, it is evident that Col. John Pennycuick had worked with great self

confidence, determination, perseverance and courage to complete the dam construction somehow, whatever be the hurdles.

Even in those days, Col. John Pennycuick had constructed the dam with lime surki granite on gravitational basis, as those constructed in America and European countries. That is why the Mullai Periyar Dam is strong even today with a capacity to withstand the pressure from land vibrations.

I would like to point out in this context that the Mullai Periyar Dam, constructed strongly by Thiru. Pennycuick was further strengthened on short, medium and long term basis during Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's rule and during my rule – that is between 1980 and 1994.

When the water level rises to more than 152 feet, the full shortage capacity, 86,000 cusecs of water can be discharged through 10 sluice gates. In addition, 3 sluice gates have been constructed to discharge 36,000 cusecs of water. Provision has thus been made to discharge 1,22,000 cusecs of water totally.

Besides strengthening the safety of the dam, strong arguments were also advanced in the Supreme Court on behalf of Tamil Nadu Government in a case connected with the dam. An experts committee set up by the Central Water Resources Ministry also submitted its

report to the Supreme Court. On the basis of that report, the Supreme Court passed orders on 27.2.2006 permitting the raising of the water level in the Mullai Periyar Dam to 142 feet from 136 feet and later to 152 feet after completing the remaining works and certification by experts.

By way of crippling this order of the Supreme Court, the Kerala Government passed a legislation, 'Kerala Irrigation and Water (Safety) Act 2006'. As per this Act, the water level in Mullai Periyar Dam was fixed at 136 feet. Under my orders, a petition was filed in the Supreme Court in March 2006 on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government contending that this Amendment Act was ultra vires of the Indian Constitution. The case is still pending in the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court appointed on 18.2.2010 an experts committee with powers under the chairmanship of Dr. A.S. Anand, former Chief Justice of India for examining the safety aspects of the Mullai Periyar Dam. Tamil Nadu and Kerala nominated former Chief Justice of India as their representatives on the committee.

This committee utilised the services of the Central Water Commission, Central Water and Power Research Station, Geological survey of India and Central Soil and Building materials Research Station to conduct tests in the dam

sites and in laboratories. On the basis of these reports, the experts committee submitted its report to the Supreme Court in April 2012. In that report it stated clearly that the Mullai Periyar Dam was strong and the water level, as permitted by the Supreme Court, could be raised upto 142 feet and to the full level of 152 feet after completing the remaining works. I hope the Supreme Court will give a favourable judgement to Tamil Nadu on the basis of this report.

Also, I moved a resolution in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 15.12.2011 and got it passed. The resolution wanted the Central Government to deploy immediately the Central Industrial Security Force to the Dam site to protect the dam, the Kerala Government to amend the Kerala Irrigation and Water Safety (Amendment) Act so that the water level could be raised to 142 feet and that Kerala Government should not place hurdles to Tamil Nadu to complete the remaining long term dam safety works. The resolution further asserted that Tamil Nadu would not give up its rights under any circumstances.

As usual, the Central Government did not act upon this resolution too.

Since the Kerala Government placed hurdles in taking up the maintenance





works, my Government filed a petition in the Supreme Court. The Court ruled that Tamil Nadu Government should not be hindered in taking up the maintenance works. Following the Court's ruling, maintenance works have been taken up.

Col. John Pennycuik could construct the Mullai Periyar Dam because he was courageous, determined and self-confident.

In this regard, I would like to narrate a story to you.

A married woman came to her mother with sadness writ large on her face.

"What is the matter," the mother asked her daughter.

The daughter listed all her problems and said, "I don't know how I am going to get over all these difficulties."

The mother, who patiently heard her daughter's tale of woes took her to the

kitchen. She mounted 3 vessels with water on the burners on the stove and lit them. Soon, the water started boiling. She put a carrot in one vessel, an egg in another and some coffee powder in the third.

Though the daughter did not understand what this was all about, she observed patiently.

After some time, the mother dismounted the vessels from the stove, took out the carrot and egg and poured the coffee in a cup.

"Can you see what these things are," the mother asked.

"This is a carrot, the next one is an egg and this is coffee," the daughter replied.

"OK, touch the carrot and tell me how it is," the mother told the daughter.

"It is very soft," the daughter said.

"Touch the egg and tell me how it is."

"Some what hard," the daughter said.

"Now drink the coffee," said the mother.

"It is very tasty," the daughter said, and asked her mother, "What's all this about?"

The mother replied: "We boiled the three articles some time back in the same type of water. We dismounted them at the same time. Yet, each one is different from the other."

"How hard the carrot was in the beginning! After boiling it in water, it turned soft, quite contrary to its nature."

"The embryo that was in a liquid form within the egg turned hard after boiling."

“And the coffee; it changed the water itself into a tasty drink.”

“My dear child, life’s difficulties are just like this heating. The crux of the matter is - How we are going to face them,” said the mother.

The daughter’s face brightened. She wiped away her tears. The worries were forgotten; they had vanished.

Success is certain if there is determination and courage to meet any situation and tackle it.

The Mullai Periyar dam proclaims this truth loudly.

More ancient than this Mullai Periyar Dam is Kallanai (Grand Ancient) constructed across Coleroon river. Built 2000 years ago by Karikala Chozhan and benefiting crores and crores of people till date, this dam is an engineering marvel. Among the dams still under operation in India, Kallanai is the most ancient. I am happy to announce that a Manimandapam will be set up by way of commemorating and honouring the services of Karikala Chozhan for building such a strong dam.

Thiruvalluvar Day is being celebrated today. Through his work, Thirukural, Thiruvalluvar showed the way for ethical living. Thirukural transcends country, religion and language and shines as an universal scripture for moral living for the whole world. It is Thirukural which gives the exposition



on life’s is basic doctrines of Righteousness, Wealth and pleasure. Though written in couplets, it encompasses the whole world. The ideas expounded in Thirukural are endorsed universally. That is why Mahakavi Bharathiar sang: “Tamil Nadu gave Valluvar to the world and attained sky-high reputation”.

I am doubly happy as I am declaring open the Col. John Pennycuick Manimandapam on Thiruvalluvar Day and honouring a person who exemplified the Thirukural tenet, “determination brings success” - by constructing the Mullai Periyar Dam. I had announced already that Thiru. W. Stuart Sampson, grandson of Col. John Pennycuick would be invited to this function. An invitation was sent to him to participate as a State Government guest. Due to unavoidable reasons, he could not participate.





I am happy to announce that the new bus stand, now under construction in Theni will be named 'Col. John Pennycuick Bus Stand' by way of commemorating his memory.

Thiru. Karunanidhi was responsible for the removal of the immortal Thirukural couplets from the State Transport buses and substitution of his own sayings in their place. Such a person had announced that an agitation would be launched over a non-issue of improper maintenance of Thiruvalluvar statue at Kanniyakumari. I want to make one thing clear to Thiru. Karunanidhi.

It was the All India Anna DMK Government which instituted an award in the name of Thiruvalluvar. It was the AIADMK Government which passed a resolution in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly demanding the national status of literature to Thirukural. It was in AIADMK's rule that an University in the name of Thiruvalluvar was started.

A decision was taken to erect a statue for Thiruvalluvar on the rock adjacent to

the Vivekananda Memorial Rock and the foundation was laid on 15.4.1979 by the then Prime Minister Thiru. Morarji Desai in the presence of the then Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivar MGR. It was during Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's rule that an experts committee was set up to examine in detail several aspects like the quality of the rock design of the statue, plans for its installation and the estimated expenditure. In my first term of office, Rs. 1,28,50,000/- was released towards statue installation works. With these funds, Thiru. Ganapathy Sthapathy undertook works to some extent then. This is the true state of affairs. For Thiru. Karunanidhi to say that he was solely responsible for the unveiling of Thiruvalluvar statue, is like hiding a pumpkin in a bowl of rice. Thiru. Karunanidhi has once again demonstrated that there is none to overtake him in uttering lies.

Chemical coating of Thiruvalluvar statue takes place once in 4 or 5 years. It was done for the first time in 2004, during my rule. It



was again coated in 2008. Now works are afoot for this again. It was mischievous for Thiru. Karunanidhi to say that chemical coating was not done in the last one and a half years after the change of regime in 2011. I would like to state that I have greater concern for Thiruvalluvar (statue) than Thiru. Karunanidhi.

“Pallaar Muniya Payanila Solluvaan
Ellaarum Ellappadum”

I would like to remind Thiru. Karunanidhi of this couplet which means - “Everyone will deride him who mouths empty words which kindle hatred.”

On this happy occasion, I am immensely happy to distribute the Thiruvalluvar Award to Kalaimamani Dr. N. Murugan, Mahakavi Bharathiar Award to Bharathi Kaavalar Thiru. K. Ramamoorthy, Paavendar Bharathidasan Award to Prof. Dr. S.N. Kandaswamy, Thamizh Thenral Thiru. Vi.Ka. Award to Dr. Tmt. Prema Nandakumar, Muthamizh

Kavalar Ki.Aa.Pe. Viswanatham Award to Dr. N. Rajagopalan, Perarignar Anna Award to Thiru. K.R.P. Manimozhian, Perumthalaivar Kamarajar Award to former Member of Parliament Thiru. Singaravadivel, Thanthai Periyar Award to Dr. K. Samarasam, Annal Ambedkar Award to former Member of Parliament Thiru. Tha. Pandian and a cheque for Rs. 1 lakh and a gold medallion to each one of them. I am also happy to distribute financial assistance to the elderly Tamil scholars.

My prayers to god that those who have received the awards and financial assistance should lead a long and happy life with good physical health and all prosperity. I request them to render their advice and suggestion to the Tamil Community.

I take leave of you, hailing ‘Anna Naaman Vazhgaa; Puratchi Thalaivar Naaman Vazhgaa’.

Thank you and Vanakkam. ■

PONGAL PACKAGE WITH SAREES AND DHOTHIS FOR 1.84 CRORE FAMILY CARD HOLDERS



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalalithaa's** speech after launching the special Pongal package at Kodanadu Co-operative fair price shop in the Nilgris District on 9.1.2013 *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary to Tamil Nadu Government, Secretaries to Government Departments, Officers, Respected Elders, Ladies, my veritable goddesses who sustain me, my dear siblings who are Idayadeivam Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's blood unto blood and who are dearer to me than my own life,

At the outset, I offer my kind regards to all of you.

I am extremely happy to meet you all today in this fine function. 'Abundance for all; poverty should be a thing of the past' – this is my Government's policy. Pongal festival is approaching. The purpose of this function is that the people of Tamil Nadu should not suffer from any deficiency in the present situation. The monsoons have failed us. Uncertainty stalks the survival of the



crops in the delta districts. The Karnataka Government has not released our share of the Cauvery waters. The Central Government has not notified the final order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in the Government Gazette despite our repeated demands. Hence our rights and our share in the Cauvery waters have not been ensured.

Still, a relief package has already been announced for delta farmers. We have already made the assurance that the Tamil Nadu Government will compensate the farmers in full whatever be their loss. Also, a committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Finance Minister to decide the areas to be declared as drought-hit and the quantum of compensation to be disbursed.

Even before the committee submits its report, the Pongal Festival will intervene. To enable the people of Tamil Nadu to celebrate the Pongal Festival with happiness, a Pongal package worth Rs.160/-, consisting of a kilo of raw rice, a kilo of sugar and a cash grant of Rs.100/-, will be distributed to each of the 1.84 crore family card holders under the public distribution system, along with sarees and dhotis at no cost. My Government has organised this function and inaugurated the launch of this package so that my dear citizens of Tamil Nadu can celebrate the Pongal Festival happily and without any sadness. Today this Pongal package is distributed at a ration shop in Kodanadu



to family card holders. Simultaneously, this package will be made available to the 1.84 crore family card holders throughout Tamil Nadu.

Fair price shops throughout Tamil Nadu will remain open on January 13, even though it happens to be a Sunday. I offer my new year and Pongal Greeting's to all the people of Tamil Nadu. With these words I take leave of you, hailing Anna Naamam Vaazhga and Puratchi Thalaivar Naamam Vaazhga. ■



GAITY, COLOUR MARK REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS ON THE MARINA

The 64th Republic Day celebrations of the Government of Tamil Nadu started with much fanfare and gaiety near the Mahatma Gandhi statue on the Marina in the morning of January 26, 2013.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J. Jayalalithaa was escorted to the dais by a motorcycle-borne brigade of the traffic police. On the way, the Hon'ble Chief Minister acknowledged the greetings of the people with a smile and waved to them. The Chief Secretary to the Government, Tmt. Sheela Balakrishnan received the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the dais.

His Excellency, the Governor of Tamil Nadu Dr. K. Rosaiah was escorted to the dais by six motorcycle-borne IAF personnel. The Hon'ble Chief Minister received the Governor with a bouquet. His Excellency went to the visitors enclosures and conveyed his Republic Day greetings to the people there.

Right on the dot at 8 a.m, the Governor unfurled the national flag and paid his respects. The Hon'ble Chief Minister and others followed suit while the Police Band played the National Anthem. A helicopter of

the Indian Air Force flew low and showered petals on the National Flag and mast.

This was followed by a march-past by the contingents of the army, navy, Air force, Tamil Nadu special police, (both men and women units), Tamil Nadu Special Police commando force (both men and women Units), Cavalry force, Prison Police, Fire rescue force, senior NCC cadets and the Bands of different forces. His Excellency, the Governor took the salute.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, presented bravery awards including the Anna medals.

The Anna award carries a medal, a cheque for Rs. 1 lakh and a citation. The six awardees this year were: The late Devaraj of Kancheepuram (his wife Dilli received the medal), the late Jawahar of Arani (his wife Mahalakshmi received the medal), L. Siva of Solarputhur in Erode District, P. Thangavelu of Forest range, Dharmapuri district, M. Raja of Nanguneri, Nellai district, and the Krishnagiri District Fire rescue squad of Thenkanikottai consisting of Natarajan, N.S. Selvam, V. Raju, P. Bethiah, Rajabhooshanam and Venkatasamy.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, then presented the Kottai Ameer Communal Harmony Award



to M. Ayub Khan of Kumbakonam. Apart from a medal, the award carries a cheque for Rs. 25,000/- and a citation.

The Gandhiadigal Police medals were presented to Superintendent of Police, N. Devarani, Salem District, additional Superintendent of Police, I. Eswaran, South Chennai Prohibition Wing Additional Commissioner S. Vimala, Dharmapuri District Special Assistant Inspector Sakthivel, and Tiruchi District Head constable Stalin Chandrasekar. In addition to the medal, a cheque for Rs. 20,000/- was also presented to each one of them.

The Agricultural special award for the farmer who records the highest productivity by adopting the System of Rice Intensification technology was presented to Thiru. Solamalai of Velliyamkundu region in Madurai District. Along with the medal, a cheque for Rs. 5 lakhs was given to him.

Shortly after this, school students presented cultural events. Their colourful costumes and graceful dances to the beat of patriotic songs regaled

the on-lookers assembled to witness the pageantry. The folk art events, Dummy Horse dance (Poykkal Kuthirai Aattam), Mayilattam, Oyilattam, Madhuri Dance of Andhra Pradesh, Kudumbaja Dance of Madhya Pradesh, Pingi Dance of Gujarat and Bamboo stick dance of Mizoram were all presented with gaiety.

A rich tableaux of floats depicting the various welfare and popular schemes put up by 23 Government departments also added colour to the events. The Police Department motorcycle brigade's daredevilry wrapped up the events. It was announced that the Police Department bagged the 1st prize and the Information and Public Relations Department and the Horticulture Department the 2nd & 3rd Prizes in the floats event. ■



The Mahatma Remembered



Pledge against Untouchability





SOFT SKILL CENTRES TO TRAIN STUDENTS IN SOFTWARE PROGRAMMES

To acquaint students with the 60 types of basic software programmes identified by the World Skills Manual and to train them in these skills, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of soft skill centres in 30 colleges under 5 universities at a cost of Rs.1.35 crores.

The colleges identified for locating the soft skill centres are :

Presidency College, Chennai, Sri Subramaniasamy Government Arts College, Thiruthani and Rajeswari Vedachalam Government Arts College, Chengalpattu under the Madras University; Arignar Anna Government Arts College, Cheyyar, Muthurangam Government Arts College, Vellore, Government Thirumagal Mills College, Gudiyatham, Thiru A. Govindasamy Government Arts College, Dindivanam, Thiru. Kolanjiappar Government Arts College, Virudhachalam, Government Arts College, Dharmapuri and Government Women's Arts and Science College, Bargur under Thiruvalluvar University; Government Arts College, Melur, Government Women's Arts College, Nilakottai, Ramanathapuram Government Arts College, Paramakudi, V.S. Sivalingam Government Arts College, Poolankurichi, Government Women's Arts College, Sivagangai under the Madurai Kamaraj University; Government Arts College (Autonomous), Kumbakonam, Kunthavai Nachiyar Women's Government Arts College, Thanjavur, Dharmapuram Gnanambikai Women's Government College, Mayiladuthurai, Mannai Rajagopalaswamy Government Arts College, Mannargudi, Government Arts College, Thiruverambur, Tiruchirapalli, Government Arts College, Ariyalur,

Government Arts College, Thanthonimalai, Karur and Government Women's Arts College, Pudukottai under Bharathidasan University; Women's Government Arts College, Salem, Thiruvalluvar Government Arts College, Rasipuram, Government Arts College, Udumalpet, LRG Government Women's Arts College, Tiruppur, Government Arts College, Ooty and Rani Anna Government Women's Arts College, Tirunelveli under Bharathiar University.

Also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued orders for setting up Incubation and Technology Transfer Centres in 9 universities at a cost of Rs.29.88 lakhs each, to provide a link between the university and the community.

The 9 universities where these centres are to be located are : Madras University, Annai Theresa Women's University, Bharathiar University, Bharathidasan University, Madurai Kamaraj University and Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.

These centres will address the tasks of developing entrepreneurial skills and technological knowledge, especially information technology in students, encouraging them to utilise their innovative skills for commercial production and shaping the students into future industrial entrepreneurs capable of providing employment to many.

Research methodologies and inventions will be preserved in these centres so that research scholars, students and the community at large can benefit. College - village technology clubs also will be set up through these centres.

These measures of the Government will help enhance the intelligence quotients of students after detecting them and will promote a sense of community dedication in students. ●



4,340 MORE TENEMENTS FOR POLICE PERSONNEL AT A COST OF RS. 472.05 CRORES

Police Constables work with a sense of duty. Not only do they provide security to people's life and property, they also assist in the Country's economic growth by curbing any semblance of terrorism. By way of protecting the interests of the police constabulary, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has been functioning with the goal of locating their lines nearer to their place of work and meeting their housing needs fully.

To this end, 50,424 tenements have been constructed so far. Now, 7,526 are under construction. Last year, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the construction of 3,440 tenements at a cost of Rs. 287.95 crores.

This year also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered construction of 4,340 tenements at a cost of Rs. 472.05 crores. This will comprise 6 dwelling units on 2,446 sq.ft for Superintendents/Deputy Commissioner/Commandants, 7 units on 1,100 sq.ft for Deputy Superintendent of Police/Assistant Commandant 62 units for Police Inspectors

on 850 sq.ft 170 units on 850 sq.ft for sub-inspectors and 4,095 units on 650 sq.ft for Head Constables and Constables. In the first phase, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has released Rs. 100 crores for these works.

As Chennai city is the capital of Tamil Nadu, VIPs' transit through the city is more. For the security of these VIPs and for maintaining law and order during exigencies, police personnel in other areas are summoned to Chennai city. For their stay, there is a dormitory in the Chennai Police Commissioner's office premises. As the dormitory is located in an old building, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the re-construction of the building at a cost of Rs. 2.59 crores on a 1,593 sq. metre area with 2 floors so as to accommodate 500 constables.

At times of natural calamities like cyclone and flood, the demand on human resources will be more to take up relief work at lightning



speed and to restore normalcy. To supplement the work of Government officials during times of natural calamities, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that civil defence corps be set up at Chennai, Mamallapuram, Tirunelveli, Madurai and Tiruchirapalli. The strength of the corps will be 500 for Chennai, 200 for Mamallapuram, and 100 each for Tirunelveli, Madurai and Tiruchirapalli. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the disbursement of Rs. 89 lakhs towards non-recurring expenditure like providing training to these corps personnel. The District Collector concerned will act as District Controller for these Civil Defence Corps and Deputy Collector/Divisional Collector will act as Deputy Controller.

Modernising Checkposts

Check posts have been located at district borders and state border areas to prevent the escape of anti-social elements and the smuggling of essential commodities like sand. Presently, 107 check posts are engaged in these tasks. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered strengthening and modernising of these check posts. In the first phase, a sum of Rs. 4.15 crores has been allotted for modernising 25 check posts at a cost of Rs. 16.17 lakhs each. This amount will be spent on constructing buildings for the check post, purchase of materials, communication equipment and on purchase of vehicles.

Every year there is recruitment to the Tamil Nadu Police Force. An unprecedented 12,208 constables were selected in 2012. After due training, the selected personnel are posted to different districts and police units. In the coming years also, the need for training will continue. For strengthening the training infrastructure, the Hon'ble Chief Minister

has sanctioned Rs. 14.95 crores. This fund will be utilised for renovating the class rooms in 37 places like Armed Police complex, Special Police Complex and Police Training Schools, streamlining drinking water and other infrastructure facilities, streamlining the physical training grounds and development/new construction of kitchens/dining halls and lodging places for the trainers.

Narcotic drugs impair not only the security and sovereignty of a country but also harm the general well-being of humanity, especially the youth. To root out this menace and strengthen the Narcotic Intelligence Division, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 36,32,430/-. This amount will be utilised for purchase of 2 video camaras, one digital camera, 4 Bolero jeeps, 8 motorcycles and 7 computers and their components.

To improve the efficiency of the Tamil Nadu Special Police, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the procurement of 4 buses at a cost of Rs. 69.01 lakhs.

Trails left behind by criminals are very important to apprehend them. To further improve the working of the Forensic Department, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of two blood plasma inspection units with facilities for examining blood samples at the regional forensic laboratories at Tiruchirapalli and Coimbatore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also created six posts in these two units – a deputy director, a science assistant grade II and a laboratory assistant – and has sanctioned Rs. 53.25 lakhs for purchase of machines, materials, furniture and laboratory equipment.

These measures of the Government will enthuse the police personnel and give them the impetus to work more efficiently. ●

PROTECTED DRINKING WATER TO 2,297 RURAL HABITATS

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has given administrative sanction for a Rs. 94.04 crores combined water supply scheme to supply drinking water to 248 rural habitats in the Panchayat Unions of Kovilpatti, Kayatharu, Ottapidaram, Vilathikulam and Pudur in Thoothukudi District. An annual maintenance expenditure of Rs. 1.62 crores for this scheme has also been sanctioned. The water source for this scheme will be Thamirabarani river near Seevalaperi.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also allotted Rs. 301.50 crores for a combined drinking water supply scheme to cater to 1,766 rural habitats in Pudukottai District and 125 habitats in Sivagangai District with Cauvery river near Thirupparaithurai, as water source. The habitats in Pudukottai District are in

Panchayat Unions of Viralimalai, Annavasal, Ponnamaravathy, Thirumayam, Arimalam, Kunnaandaarkoil and Pudukottai. The habitats to benefit in Sivagangai District are in the Panchayat Unions of S.Pudur and Saakottai. An annual maintenance expenditure of Rs. 10.86 crores has also been sanctioned.

Likewise, a Rs. 54.14 crores Combined Drinking Water Supply Scheme has also been sanctioned to supply drinking water to 158 rural habitats in the Panchayat Unions of Kudimangalam and Udumalpet in Tiruppur District with Thirumoorthy Dam as the water source. The annual maintenance charge for this scheme will be Rs. 1.20 crores.

These measures of the Government will ensure protected drinking water supply on a regular basis to the people of these regions. ■

117th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose



Hon'ble Ministers paid floral tributes to the portrait of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, kept near his statue at Chennai to mark his 117th birth anniversary on 23.1.2013. The Worshipful Mayor of Chennai Corporation and the Secretary to the Government, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information Department participated on the occasion.



34

OWN BUILDINGS ORDERED FOR COMMERCIAL TAX OFFICES

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa issued orders last year for the total computerisation of the Commercial Tax Department, at a cost of Rs. 231 crores, so as to make its work easy.

Many of the offices of this department that earns revenue to the Government, are functioning from rented buildings. As the structure of these buildings is unsuitable for this department's office work, the traders who come to these offices and the office staff there are put to difficulties on many occasions. There is inadequate space for preserving the documents. Also, the Government has to shell out a huge amount as rent for these buildings every year.

To mitigate these difficulties, the Hon'ble Chief Minister already ordered construction of own buildings for 34 offices in 15 places – Thiruvannamalai, Mayiladuthurai, Lalgudi, Pudukottai, Tiruchirapalli, Nannilam,

Srirangam, Sivagangai, Dindigul, Erode, Watrap, Coimbatore, Mettupalayam, Kovilpatti and Panrutti – in 2011-2012 at a cost of Rs. 20.15 crores.

In the current year, orders have been issued for the construction of own buildings for 16 Commercial Taxes Offices in 10 places – Ranipet, Virudhachalam, Kallakurichi, Chenji, Arur, Ariyalur, Tiruppur, Ambasamudram, Nanguneri and Thiruchendur – at a cost of Rs. 11.18 crores.

These buildings will be spacious and have all modern facilities like conference hall, ramp for the use of the differently abled, railings, toilets, computer room, record room, protected water supply, inverter and fire fighting equipment.

Through these actions of the Government, the Commercial Tax Department's work will improve. ●

CHIEF MINISTER'S NOD FOR SPORTS EVENTS FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED

By way of bringing out the sports abilities of the differently abled, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 30 lakhs for the conduct of state-level sports events among the differently abled from 2012-2013 and distribution of prizes to winners.

The first, second and third prizes in these events are Rs. 5,000, Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 2,000 respectively for men and women athletes each, along with certificates and medallions.

Beach Sports in Coastal Districts

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 20 lakhs as non-recurring grant and Rs. 5 lakhs as recurring grant for the conduct of beach sports events in 10 coastal districts



from 2012-2013. The first, second and third prizes in these

events will be Rs. 3,000 /-, Rs. 2,000/- and Rs. 1,000/- each for men and women sports personnel respectively along with certificates and medallions.

Chennai Open Super Shuttle-cock Competition

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed that a 'Chennai Open Super Shuttle – Cock' competition, on the lines of 'Chennai Open Tennis' and 'Chennai Open Squash' events be conducted every year from 2013 and has allotted Rs. 1 crore as a recurring grant.

New A/C for Stadium

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also ordered the replacement of the air conditioning and lighting facilities at the Jawaharlal Nehru Multi-Purpose Indoor Stadium (constructed in 1995 during the earlier regime of the Chief Minister for the 7th South Asian Games) and installation of a sound system of international standard. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 5 crores for the provision of these facilities. ■





Speedy steps for Orathanadu Ramayyanpatti Veterinary Colleges

To improve the economic condition of Tamil Nadu people, distribution of abundant cattle alone is not enough; quality veterinary facilities should be made available in a great measure. This requires veterinary doctors in great numbers. It was announced in last year's budget that a Veterinary College and Research Institute would be started in Tirunelveli for the needs of the southern districts and another at Orathanadu in Thanjavur District for the needs of the delta people.

Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa ordered the setting up of a Veterinary College and Research Institute at Orathanadu at a cost of Rs. 88.12 crores. An allotment of Rs. 16.34 crores was made last year for this. The Hon'ble Chief Minister had already ordered for 177.92 acres land to be transferred with ownership rights for setting up this college and research station.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also sanctioned 69 teaching and 78 non-teaching staff to this college. The break-up of the teaching staff is - 13 Professors, 18 Joint Professors, 36 Deputy Professors, 1 Deputy Librarian, 1 Deputy Director of Physical Education. The breakup of the non-teaching staff is:- 1 Accountant, 2 Supervisors, 3 Farm Managers, 7 Assistants, 1 Electrician, 20 Junior Assistant/Typist, 16 Laboratory Technicians, 5 Laboratory Assistants, 20 Attender/Animal Attender and 3 Drivers.

An allotment of Rs. 37.85 crores has been made to create infrastructure facilities in this College and Research Institute and another Rs. 3.62 crores for purchase of equipment.

Last year, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the setting up of the new Veterinary Medical College and Research Institute on 139.21 acres in Ramayyanpatti, Tirunelveli. Another allotment of Rs. 12.59 crores was also made.

Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned 80 teaching and an equal number of non-teaching staff for this college. They are: 1 Dean, 17 Professors, 23 Joint Professors, 37 Assistant Professors, 1 Assistant Librarian and 1 Deputy Director of Physical Education. The non-teaching staff are: 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Accountant, 1 Assistant Accountant, 2 Supervisors, 3 Farm Manager, 7 Assistants, 1 Wireman, 20 Junior Assistant/Typist, 16 Laboratory Technician, 5 Laboratory Assistant, 20 Attender/Animal Attender and 3 Drivers.

To provide infrastructure facilities for this College and Research Institute and purchase equipment, Rs. 43.91 crores and Rs. 3.40 crores have been allotted.

Through these measures, Tamil Nadu will turn out the highest number of Veterinary Doctors in the Animal Husbandry field. ■

TAMIL NADU SUIT AGAINST KARNATAKA CLAIMING DAMAGES

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**
on 21.1.2013 (*English Translation*)

The Cauvery river water issue is a life and death issue for Tamil Nadu. A majority of the channel irrigated lands in Tamil Nadu depends on Cauvery waters. Tamil Nadu's rights over the Cauvery waters are age-old. By traditional rights and by natural flows we have to get the waters. Those rights have been guaranteed under the agreements made between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka in 1892 and 1924.

To establish this right and to carry on agricultural operations in the Cauvery delta areas, - the granary of Tamil Nadu - my Government has been continuously fighting constructively, fiercely and with one-pointedness. The people of Tamil Nadu are well aware of this.

In the current irrigation year, the Karnataka Government has not come forward to release water to Tamil Nadu as per the interim order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, now in operation. On my advice that a petition be filed in the Supreme Court for the release of water on a pro rata basis as per the Tribunal's order of 3.4.1992, an interim petition was filed by the Tamil Nadu Government.

On account of my continuous insistence and the Supreme Court's intervention, the

Karnataka Government was forced to release the water. When this case came up for hearing in the Supreme Court again on 26.11.2012, the court advised the Chief Ministers of the two states to resolve the issue through negotiations, keeping in mind the interests of the farmers in the both the states.

I went to Bangaluru and held discussions with the Karnataka Chief Minister on 29.11.2012. During the discussions, I stressed that the deficit quantum of 53.4 TMC ft in the release of waters should be released before the end of December; 30 TMC ft water in the next 15 days to meet the immediate needs. But the Karnataka Government expressed its inability to release even a drop of water.

Hence, on my orders, the Tamil Nadu Government filed a petition in the Supreme Court praying for the release of at least 30 TMC ft of water from the deficit quantum before 15.12.2012 for saving the Samba crop.

The Supreme Court which heard the petition on 5.12.2012 ordered the Cauvery Monitoring Committee to meet immediately and decide on the same day the quantum of water needed for the crops grown in the two states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

The Monitoring Committee met on 7.12.2012. It did not accept Tamil Nadu's plea for the immediate release of 36 TMC ft of water for saving its crops. It ordered that Karnataka should ensure the release of 12 TMC ft of water to Tamil Nadu in December 2012. The Supreme Court recorded in its order of 10.12.2012, the proceedings of this meeting.

By way of drawing the attention of the Supreme Court once again to the decision of the Monitoring Committee, the Tamil Nadu Government filed a petition on 20.12.2012 pleading for the release of at least 18 TMC ft of water by Karnataka Government. The petition refrained from mentioning about the release of the deficit quantum of water or the release of 12 TMC ft of water ordered by the Monitoring Committee.

The Supreme Court heard the petition on 4.1.2013. It ruled that the Cauvery Monitoring Committee can pass orders on the quantum of water needed for the crops in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, including the deficit quantum water to be released to Tamil Nadu.

Following this court direction, the Cauvery Monitoring Committee met on 10.1.2013. It recorded in its proceedings that a deficit of 31.4 TMC ft of water has occurred in the pro-rata release of water during the distress period, to Tamil Nadu as measured at the Biligundlu point in the period between 1.6.2012 and 31.12.2012. The committee also recorded that Karnataka had not released the water in a regulated way as per the interim order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

Following this, one more petition was filed in the Supreme Court, on my orders

on 17.1.2013 praying for a direction to Karnataka Government to release immediately 12 TMC ft of water to save the crops to some extent. On the next day, 18.1.2013, it was stressed in the Supreme Court that the petition should be taken up immediately and a decision given. The petition is due to come up before the court on 28.1.2013.

The Kuruvai and Samba crops were greatly affected as Karnataka did not release water from its 4 reservoirs in a proper manner. Besides, hydel power generation has also been affected.

I have already initiated several measures to save the Samba crop grown by the Cauvery delta farmers and ordered distribution of subsidies. The people of Tamil Nadu know this very well. Apart from this, I have also ordered the setting up of a high level committee under the leadership of the Hon'ble Minister for Finance for touring the Cauvery ayacut areas and submitting a report on further relief to be given to farmers. The committee has inspected the Cauvery delta areas and is to submit its report shortly. I would like to state that my Government will take appropriate action on the basis of that report.

Not only this, I have directed the filing of an original suit in the Supreme Court claiming damages from Karnataka for the loss incurred by Tamil Nadu due to its intransigent attitude. The suit is to be filed, taking into account that Karnataka has not released waters as per the orders of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, now in force and on the basis of the finding recorded by the Cauvery Monitoring Committee that Karnataka has not released to Tamil Nadu its due share of water. ■

NEW COURT COMPLEX, JUDGES QUARTERS TO AID JUDICIARY

To provide proper infrastructure for the effective functioning of Courts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Selvi J Jayalalithaa had passed orders for the setting up of an integrated court complex comprising all courts and quarters for judges, at Dindivanam at a cost of Rs. 17,31,69,000/-.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the construction of an integrated court building at a cost of Rs. 8,31,60,000/- and judges quarters at a cost of Rs. 2.10 crores at Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam District. She has also passed orders for a new integrated court building at a cost of Rs. 4.12 crores and quarters for judges at a cost of Rs. 71.50 lakhs at Thittakudi, Cuddalore District, and a new integrated court

building at a cost of Rs. 4,33,18,000/- and quarters for judges at a cost of Rs. 64.13 lakhs at Mudukulathur, Ramanathapuram District.

Moreover, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 1,41,68,000/- for construction of houses for judges working in Krishnagiri, Krishnagiri District. Of this, the house for the additional district judge will cost Rs. 64.90 lakhs, that of the additional special judge Rs. 40.37 lakhs and that of the Magistrate II Rs. 36.41 lakhs.

Totally, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 21,64,09,000/- for construction of new court buildings and quarters for judges.

These activities of the Government will greatly help in the functioning of the judiciary which is one of the pillars of democracy. ●

118 CENTRES TO TRAIN 4,615 NEWLY APPOINTED VAO's

Each Government Employee should know thoroughly the procedures adopted in his department, the rules and regulations governing his department and the welfare measures implemented through his department. For this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been conducting several training programmes for helping the employees in each department.

Village Administrative Officers should be highly efficient. Hence, it is essential that they should be trained in

administration and in matters connected with land survey.

Taking this into account, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 1.03 crores for setting up 118 training centres across the state to train the newly appointed 4,615 Village Administrative Officers, for acquiring the needed materials and towards other expenses.

Through this measure of the Government, Village Administrative Officers will get the necessary training and this will pave way for an efficient village administration. ●



'NAME NEW DOMESTIC TERMINAL AFTER PURATCHI THALAIVAR'

D.O. letter dated 18.1.2013 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Shri Ajit Singh**,
Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Government of India, New Delhi.

“I understand that the new Domestic Terminal II and the Expanded and Modernized International Terminal II of the Chennai Airport are ready for inauguration. They will be welcome additions to the infrastructure of the City of Chennai which is seeing ever increasing numbers of air passengers, both domestic and international.

“At present, the existing Domestic Terminal in the Chennai Airport is named after Perunthalaivar K. Kamaraj while the existing International Terminal is named after Perarinar Anna, both distinguished former Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu. I consider that it would be most fitting if the new Domestic Terminal II in Chennai Airport is

named after Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR, who was one of the most illustrious, charismatic and popular Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu. Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR's name is eternally embedded in the hearts of the people of Tamil Nadu. Therefore, this gesture would be greatly welcomed by the people of Tamil Nadu who continue to have the greatest admiration and affection for Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MGR.

“I would be grateful if the Government of India could kindly consider this request and make a suitable announcement prior to the inaugural function of the new Domestic Terminal II of Chennai Airport.” ■

UNDERGROUND SEWERAGE FOR 5 TOWN PANCHAYATS

Town Panchayats have to expand their infrastructure facilities like protected drinking water supply, solid waste management and underground sewerage system to keep pace with the growing urban population. Taking this into account, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been implementing several schemes.

To improve public health, the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has decided to implement underground sewerage schemes with treatment plants in all Town Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies.

Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has given administrative sanction for the implementation of the underground sewerage scheme, in the first phase, in the 5 Town Panchayats of Sengam, Pennadam, Perundurai, Velankanni and Palanichettipatti at a cost of Rs. 166.38 crores in 2012-2013.

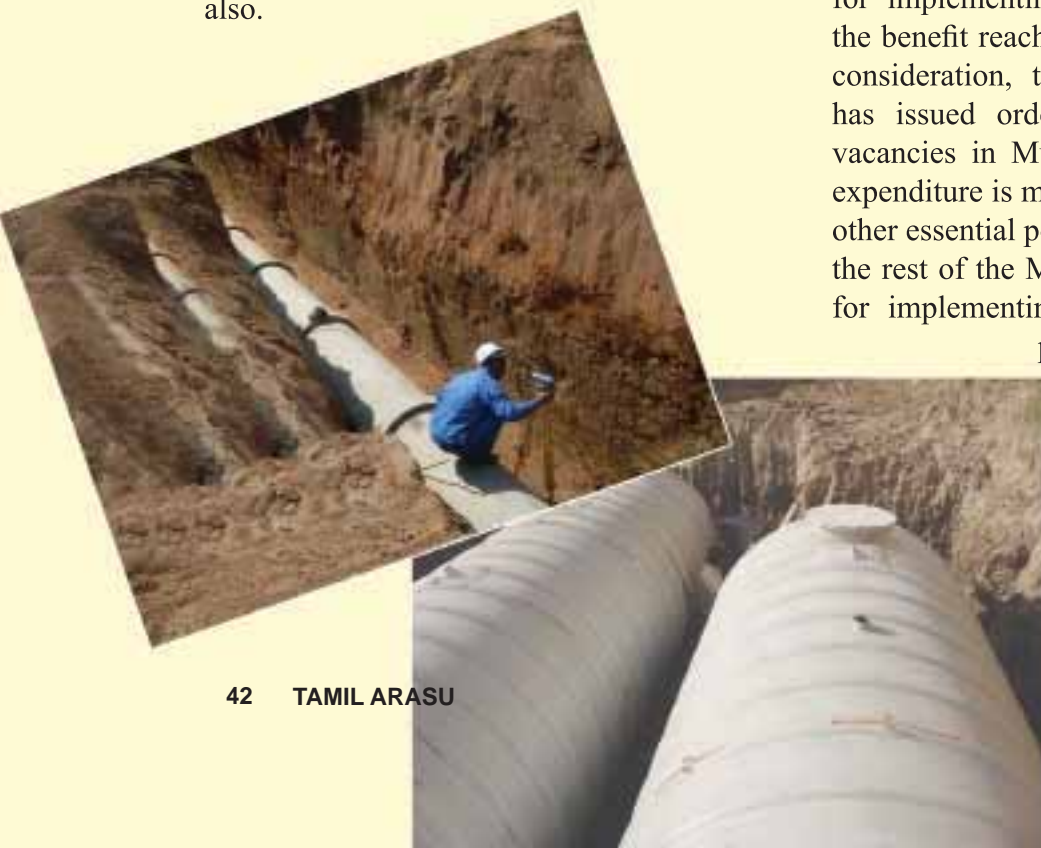
The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has been taking action vigorously to increase and improve infrastructure in towns and cities also.

Last year, (2011-2012) the Hon'ble Chief Minister had allotted Rs. 757.28 crores - Rs. 506.48 crores for creating infrastructure facilities in Municipal and Municipal Corporation areas and Rs. 250.80 crores in Town Panchayats – and several works have been taken up.

Likewise, in the current year also (2012-2013), the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 750 crores for continuing the works under the Integrated Urban Development Plan – Rs. 500 crores for Municipalities and Municipal Corporations except Chennai and Rs. 250 crores for Town Panchayats. Besides, several other works are also being executed through the Municipalities like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and other schemes implemented with assistance from Japan and Germany.

It is not enough if funds alone are allocated for the welfare programmes of people to be implemented through Municipalities. It is important that adequate staff is appointed for implementing the scheme and making the benefit reach the people. Taking this into consideration, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued orders for filling up the 620 vacancies in Municipalities where the staff expenditure is more than 49 percent and such other essential posts in the 1,182 vacancies in the rest of the Municipalities as is necessary for implementing welfare programmes for people.

These measures of the Government will pave the way for a better and healthy environment for the people living in Municipal areas.



Chief Minister declares open L&T Shipyard cum Port Complex



The L&T Ship Building Ltd. and Shipyard cum Port complex have come up on 1,143 acres area in Kattupalli village, Ponneri Taluk, Thiruvallur District as a joint venture of L&T Company and TIDCO with an investment of Rs. 3,375 crores. The Ship Building Yard, measuring 810 acres is the biggest in India. The yard has facilities for building huge cargo ships and specially designed ships to carry petrol and natural gas. It can also fabricate oil exploration infrastructure for extracting crude oil and natural gas from the seabed and heavy duty machinery for ship building. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open this yard and port through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 30.1.2013.

Technical Adviser Appointed

It was announced in the 2011-2012 Budget of the Tamil Nadu Government that the production capacity of the Ariyalur Cement factory would be increased to 15 lakh metric tons per year from the present 5 lakh metric tons. 'Messrs Development Consultant Private Ltd', has been appointed as the technical adviser for preparing a detailed project report for this. The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the appointment order to the company on 30.1.2013.

12 Appointed on Compassionate Grounds

The heirs of eight employees of the Tamil Nadu Cement Company's Ariyalur Cement Factory, who died in harness, were given appointment orders by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 30.1.2013 on compassionate grounds. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also gave appointment orders to the heirs of 4 employees of the Geological and Mining department who had also died in harness. Seven other persons were given appointment orders in connection with acquisition of land. For the welfare of the employees of the Alangulam and Ariyalur cement factories, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presented an ambulance and a jeep costing Rs. 25 lakhs each.

The Hon'ble Minister for Industries presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister two cheques, one for Rs. 1,72,36,000/- and the other for Rs. 1.86 crores. The former represented the dividend of Rs. 25.36 lakhs declared by the Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation, which had earned a profit of Rs. 4.36 crores in 2011-2012 and a privilege amount of Rs. 1.47 crores and the latter the dividend on the capital invested by Tamil Nadu Government in the Kallakurichi Co-operative Sugar factory in Kachirayapalayam, Villupuram District, which had earned a profit of Rs. 6.36 crores in 2010-2011. ■



'Sack Fertilizers Minister Azhagiri for skyrocketing fertilizer prices and subsidy loot by companies'

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 24.1.2013 (English Translation)

Agriculture, the main occupation of villagers, is imperative for our country's economic development. It is agriculture that gives people life-sustaining nourishment.

Fertilizers are the life breath of such an important profession. A country's fertilizer policy should ensure availability of fertilizers at a reasonable price. But in India, where agriculture is the prime occupation, the fertilizer policy has been framed to encourage corruption and permit private fertilizer factories to rake in huge profits. On account of this, farmers are being exploited for the last two years.

To protect farmers and stabilise the maximum retail price, the Central Government was adopting a flexible subsidy policy for fertilizers.

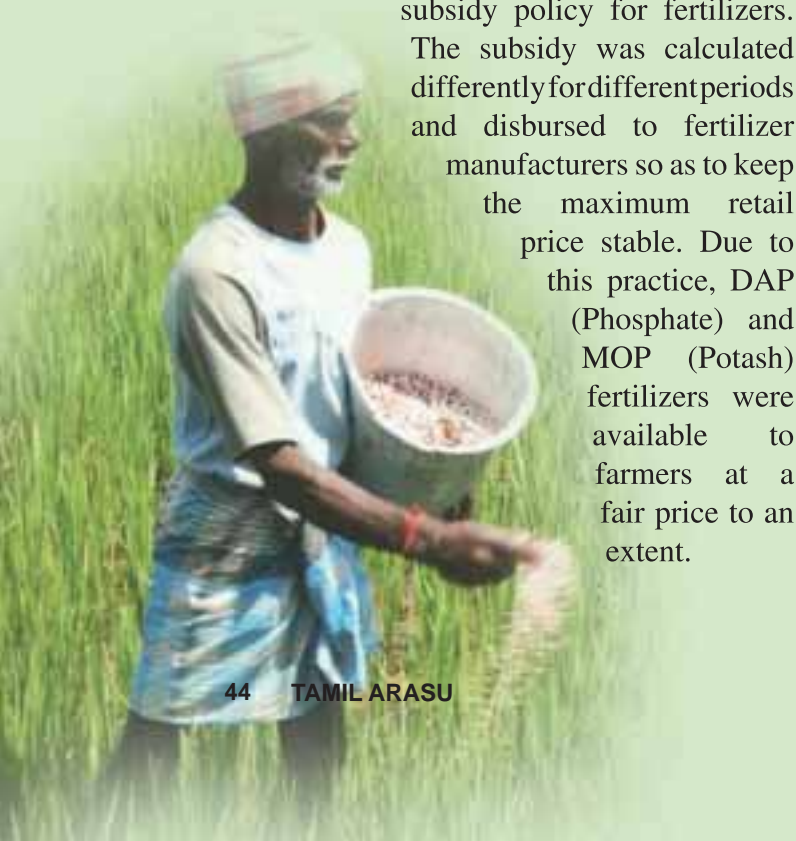
The subsidy was calculated differently for different periods and disbursed to fertilizer manufacturers so as to keep the maximum retail price stable. Due to this practice, DAP (Phosphate) and MOP (Potash) fertilizers were available to farmers at a fair price to an extent.

A new policy of 'nutrient based subsidy from 1.4.2010', was announced by the Central Government. As per this new fertilizer policy, the annual subsidy would be announced by the Central Government every year and disbursed to the fertilizer manufacturers. But the manufacturing units fix their retail price as per the market condition. That is, the Government subsidy has become constant and the maximum retail price has become variable. This has resulted in the continuous spiralling of fertilizer prices.

The price of fertilizers has doubled and trebled on account of the Central Government's 'nutrient based' subsidy policy. For example, the price of DAP fertilizer shot up to Rs. 1,200/- per 50 kg bag in 2012 from Rs. 486 in 2010. Likewise, the MOP fertilizer price rose to Rs. 840 (50 kg) from Rs. 231. The price of complex fertilizer has skyrocketed to Rs. 1,110 (50 kg) from Rs. 374.

Farmers have been severely affected on account of this wrong policy of the Central Government. Pointing this out, I wrote a letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 26.6.2012 strongly urging him to withdraw this anti-agriculturist policy and restore the old policy which ensured stability in the maximum retail price. The Prime Minister has not taken any action so far in this regard.

In this situation, the media carried reports that fertilizer manufacturing companies had



sold DAP fertilizer in June 2012 in the retail market at Rs. 25,000/- per metric ton and that the Government had given them a subsidy of Rs. 14,300/- per metric ton. But in the same period, the price of imported DAP fertilizer was only Rs. 31,900/- per metric ton. Even after accounting for transport charges, the fertilizer companies gained a huge profit upto Rs. 5,000/- per metric ton.

As for MOP fertilizer, the media reports further stated, that the companies, in 2011-2012, got a Government subsidy of Rs. 16,054/- per metric ton. They got in addition Rs. 5,500/-. The Minister of State in the Central Ministry of Chemicals and fertilizer Thiru. Srikanth Jana brought this to the attention of Thiru. Azhagiri, Minister for Chemicals and fertilizers of the Central Government.

The media reports also stated that the Minister of State, Thiru. Srikanth Jana had sent a note to the Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister, Thiru. M.K. Azhagiri on 3.8.2012 pointing out that the fertilizer manufacturing companies had swallowed Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 5,000/- per metric ton in DAP and about Rs. 6,000/- per metric ton in complex fertilizer and that the manufacturing companies should be required to submit to the Central Fertilizer department the details of their manufacturing cost and make available the utilisation certificate.

The media had also pointed out that Central Minister of Thiru. Azhagiri did not take any action on a note sent by Thiru. Srikanth Jana in the beginning of 2012. That note had said that the fertilizer companies, in collusion with the Central Government fertilizers department, had obtained permission from the department to move their stocks to the market at a time when there was no demand for fertilizers. The companies had done this to pre-empt possible reduction in the subsidy in 2012-2013 on

account of the falling prices of fertilizer in the international market. This should be stopped, the note advised.

When newsmen queried the Minister Thiru. Azhagiri about this, he replied, according to newspaper reports, “Go and ask the Prime Minister”.

Taking the two together – no action by Hon’ble Prime Minister on my letter and no action by the Minister Thiru. Azhagiri on the note sent by Thiru. Srikanth Jana – people now wonder whether the ‘nutrient based subsidy’ policy was after all for promoting corruption.

As per media reports, fertilizer companies have earned huge profits to the tune of Rs. 1,000 crores because of the Central Ministry of Chemicals and fertilizers headed by the Minister Thiru. M.K. Azhagiri, son of the DMK President Thiru. M.Karunanidhi. The Central Government and farmers have incurred a loss of Rs. 1,000 crores. Government money is being looted in the name of fertilizer subsidy to farmers.

People wonder whether the Fertilizer Minister Thiru. M.K. Azhagiri’s silence on this corruption issue is symbolic of the saying “silence is acquiescence”.

I strongly urge the Hon’ble Prime Minister to dismiss the Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister, Thiru. M.K. Azhagiri who, by ignoring the note of the Minister of State in his Ministry, caused a loss upto Rs. 1,000 crores to the Government and farmers. I also urge the Hon’ble Prime Minister to institute a CBI enquiry on this issue, find out the truth, retrieve the loss caused to the Government and also initiate appropriate criminal action against those responsible for it. ■



BOOST FOR CANCER CENTRES IN MADURAI, COIMBATORE

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been taking several steps to improve the health and hygiene of the entire population of the State and to upgrade medical facilities.

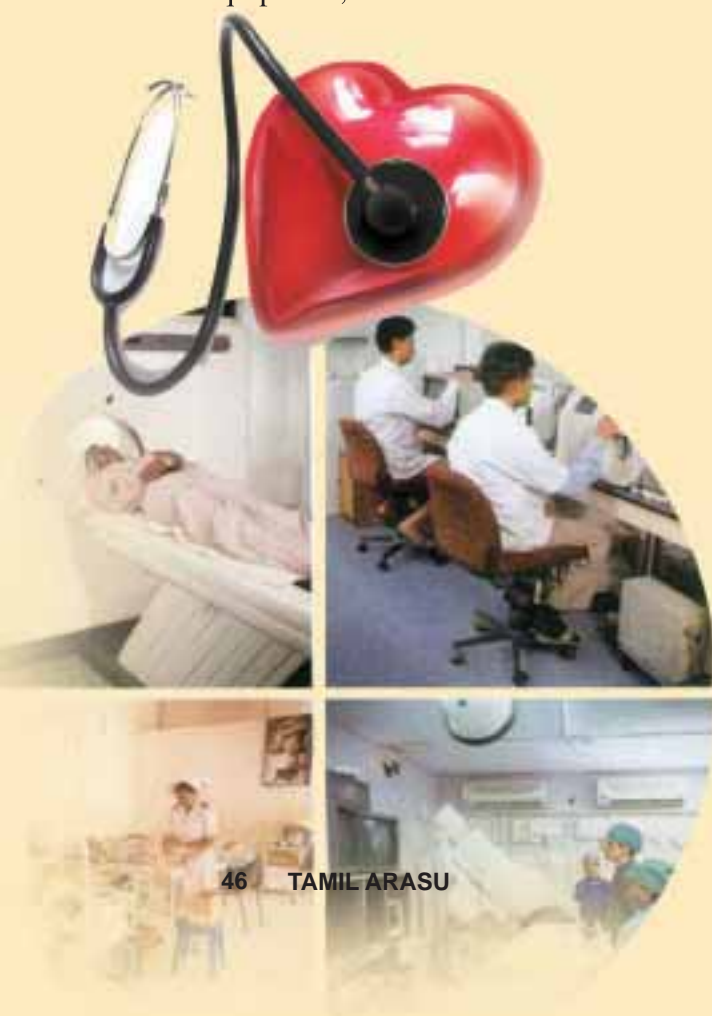
Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 28.63 crores for setting up these two zonal centres. Of this Rs. 14.26 crores will be spent for the centre at the Madurai Government Rajaji General Hospital – Rs. 10 crores for the purchase of medical equipment, Rs. 3.2 crores for construction of a

building and Rs. 1.24 crores as recurring expenditure for creating 48 new posts. For the Coimbatore centre, Rs. 10 crores is allotted for the purchase of medical equipment, Rs. 3 crores for the construction of building and Rs. 1.37 crores as recurring expenditure for creating 46 new posts.

The need for special medical treatment for cancer patients has increased. Taking this into account, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 1.20 crores as State Government's share for purchase of medical equipment to the Thanjavur Medical College Hospital. This allotment is made under the National Cancer, Diabetes and Cardio Vascular diseases Prevention Programme jointly implemented by the Central and State Governments.

King Institute to be revived

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed that the King Vaccine and Research Institute at Chennai, one of the best laboratories in the whole country, be revived, the vaccine production resumed and a tissue bank be set up there. A sum of Rs. 9.70 crores has also been allotted – Rs. 7.42 crores for constructing a new building, Rs. 1 crore for setting up a laboratory for tissue culture and Rs. 1.25 crores for setting up a tissue bank. ●



ADI DRAVIDAR, TRIBAL STUDENTS GET 25 NEW HOSTELS

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has issued orders for the starting of 25 new hostels in 2012-2013 for Adi Dravidar and Tribal students, - 16 for schools, 8 for colleges and one for ITI students. Each hostel will accommodate 50 students and 1,250 boy/girl students will benefit.

These hostels will be started at S.Kodikulam, Rajapalayam, Arachanallur, S.Pungampalayam, Karumanthakudi, Devakottai, Athur, Thopur, Neikopai, Kumaratchi, Periasamipuram, Kadamban kulam, Ogaiyur, Kallakottai, Subramaniapuram, Viralimalai, Ooty, Tiruchi, Udumalpet, Ulundurpet, Nannilam, Thirupathur, Arakkonam, Pudukkottai and Chennai.

To manage these hostels, 75 posts will be created at the rate of 3 each. The posts are 'graduate warden', 'cook' and 'security / attendant', for each hostel. The government will incur a recurring expenditure of Rs. 3,33,03,600/- and a non-recurring

expenditure of Rs. 49,93,750/- on account of these hostels.

For the 7,828 boy students in the 68 college hostels run by the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, 3,932 two-tier beds will be provided. For the 4,588 girl students in 61 college hostels, 2,313 two-tier beds will be provided. An allotment of Rs. 5,28,01,475/- has been made for this.

Electronic weighing machines costing Rs. 5,000/- each will be supplied to all hostels and the Boarding and Lodging schools under the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department for measuring correctly the food and other articles supplied to the students there. An allotment of Rs. 80.80 lakhs has been made for this.

A napkin incinerator will also be supplied to all the 582 girls' hostels and Boarding and lodging schools for upkeep of the health of the hosteliars and the environmental hygiene of the premises. An allotment of Rs. 1,45,50,000 has been made for this. ■





Chief Minister lambasts gas cylinder cap, wants supply sans ceiling

**Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 17.1.2013 (English Translation)**

At a time where there is unbridled corruption, price rise, train fares hike, petrol price rise and the like, the Central coalition Government in which the DMK is a partner, has permitted oil companies to fix the price of diesel on their own and has announced that only 9 LPG gas cylinders will be supplied in a year to domestic consumers at the subsidised price. The announcement is like adding fuel to fire.

The decision taken today at the meeting of the committee for political affairs, is a harsh blow to the poor and the downtrodden.

The poor, marginalised and the middle class people are already struggling on account of price rise. As if to vindicate the saying 'misfortune never comes alone', the diesel price hike has now been imposed on them. I vehemently condemn this.

The lifeline of a country's economy is diesel. The Central Government kept the power to fix the price of diesel to itself as any increase effected in its price will have a cascading effect on the prices of essential commodities and on bus fares, vehicle charges, etc. The Government's decision to permit the oil companies to fix the price of such an essential commodity as per global trends will only result in pushing up inflation and the price of all other essential commodities.

The policy to tag the domestic price of petrol and diesel to that of international market is not a correct one. Economic experts are clamouring for a change in the policy. Without

finding a way out, the Central Government's decision to permit the oil companies to fix their own prices for diesel, which is bound to push up its price, cannot pave the way for a healthy economy.

Of the country's crude oil needs, 30 per cent is met indigenously. Only 70 per cent is imported. In such a situation, how is it justifiable to pass on to the common man the rise in the price of diesel on account of linking it to the international market?

Due to this action of the Central Government in which the DMK is a partner, a dangerous situation has arisen where the vehicle charges for going to schools and offices, the price of all commodities transported through road and bus fares are likely to rise steeply.

The oil companies will hereafter do to diesel what they have been doing to petrol which has been de-regulated earlier. On account of this, it is certain that petro-chemical products' prices will shoot up periodically, triggering a



general price increase around. This will result in further lowering of the standard of living of the poor and marginalised sections of the people.

The Central Congress coalition Government's announcement that the supply of subsidised LPG cylinder to domestic consumers will be increased to 9 per year from 6 is only a ruse to escape from the wrath of the people over its decision which has opened the way for a price rise in diesel. All sections of the people are demanding that LPG cylinders, an essential fuel for the poor, deprived and middle classes, should be supplied without any ceiling. When this is so, the announcement that the supply of subsidised cylinders will be increased to 9, is disappointing.

The DMK President Thiru. Karunanidhi is delivering harangues periodically over price rise. The cabinet committee for political

affairs in which his son Minister Thiru. Mu.Ka. Azhagiri is a member has taken this anti-people decision. Did Thiru. Azhagiri participate in this meeting and support the decision to increase the price of diesel and LPG cylinders? Or did he oppose? Or did he keep silent due to language difficulty? Or did he not participate in the meeting at all? Only Thiru. Mu. Karunanidhi, President of the DMK which is buttressing the anti-people Central Government should explain to the Tamil Nadu people.

Be that as it may, I strongly urge the Central Government on behalf of Tamil Nadu people to withdraw, taking into account the interests of the poor, marginalised people, the policy decision of permitting the oil companies to fix the price of diesel on their own. I also urge it to supply LPG cylinders without any ceiling at subsidised rates. ■



Cuddalore, Nagapattinam fishermen get processing parks

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered, for the welfare of fishermen and the development of fisheries, the setting up of a Fisheries University on an 85 acre land at Panangudi and Nagore Muttam villages in Nagapattinam Taluk, fish nursery farms with modern facilities at 11 places at a cost of Rs. 37 crores and fishing jetties with all facilities at a cost of Rs. 63 crores.

By proper processing of fish, the overseas market for processed fish will increase and this will result in higher foreign exchange earning and higher income to fishermen. Taking this into account, the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has decided

to set up fish Processing Parks in 13 coastal fishing towns on a Public-Private Partnership mode. As a pilot project, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that a Fish Processing Park be set up at Peria Kanganangkuppam village, Cuddalore District on 1.94 acres at a cost of Rs. 14 crores and another at Nagore village in Nagapattinam District on a 2.19 acres area at a cost of Rs. 23 crores.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also issued orders to increase the salary of the 712 part-time sanitary workers in the Animal Sub-Centres under Animal Husbandry Department to Rs. 300/- per month from Rs. 60/-.



PUTTING THE SMILE BACK INTO COMMON FOLK'S DENTISTRY

To take the benefits of modern dentistry to the common people, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's government has already opened a separate section for dentistry in all Medical College Hospitals and in 15 Non-taluk hospitals. Dental treatment is offered in 22 hospitals and 208 primary health centres 3 days in a week. Recently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open a multi-storeyed building costing Rs. 14 crores at the Dental College and Hospital in Chennai as part of an expansion programme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given permission to upgrade the Dental College and Hospital in Chennai into a Centre of Excellence.

For this, new buildings are to be purchased. The number of seats for higher education in dentistry is to be increased from 35 to 58. Orders have been issued for the creation of 27 posts for dental teachers, 6 posts for teachers

in medicine and 3 non-medical posts. A sum of Rs. 10 crores has also been allotted for these works.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the construction of a 3 storeyed building on a 7,681 sq.ft area and at a cost of Rs. 5 crores at the Government Siddha Medical College Complex, Palayamkottai.

For direct and uninterrupted water supply to Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital from the Thamirabarani river, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 6.55 crores and a maintenance charge of Rs. 12.37 lakhs every year.

The other financial allotments made are for the renovation of the Silver Jubilee Auditorium at the Stanley Medical College, Chennai (Rs. 1.90 crores) and for creation of 34 Counselling Centres, one each in the districts and 3 in Chennai (Rs. 2.51 crores) for identifying the problems faced by the adolescents and taking steps to solve them. ■

Rs. 50 crores for Tribal Welfare

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 50 crores for the development works for scheduled tribes. Of this amount, Rs. 10.10 crores will go to the forest department, Rs. 15.40 crores to the Directorate of Tribal Welfare and Rs. 24.50 crores to the Directorate of Employment and Training.

The Forest Department will improve the 'Hut' houses in the Tribal residential areas, (Rs. 2.20 crores), as well as roads (Rs. 5.90 crores) and schools (Rs. 2 crores).

The Directorate of Tribal Welfare will spend Rs. 1.50 crores for streamlining and

improving Tribal Welfare schools, distribution of drinking water (Rs. 2.50 crores), economic development of Tribals (Rs. 10 crores), and training for development of skills (Rs. 1.40 crores). The Directorate of Employment and Training will utilise its funds for starting Industrial Training Institutes for the tribals in Karumanthurai, Kollimalai, Jamunamarathur, Anaikatti and Gudalur areas.

These actions of the Government will pave way to improve the basic living condition of the Scheduled Tribes. ■



BOOST TO CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN TOWNS AND PANCHAYATS

In keeping with the 'Vision Tamil Nadu 2023', announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalithaa, the Tamil Nadu Government has been providing financial assistance to local bodies through Tamil Nadu Urban Development Fund, World Bank, Multi-national co-operation Agency, Japan and the German financial Institution, KfW.

Already, underground sewerage, drinking water supply and several other urban development schemes costing Rs. 500 crores are being implemented with the assistance from KfW under the long term Urban Infrastructure financial assistance – Tamil Nadu Plan.

In continuation of this and on the advice of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, KfW, the

Tamil Nadu Government and the Tamil Nadu Urban Development Fund have signed an agreement for getting a further assistance of Rs. 520 crores under phase II of the assistance plan.

Under this plan, schemes for enhancing the quality of drinking water, underground sewerage, roads and for other urban infrastructure will be implemented upto 30.6.2018.

These measures of the Government will pave way for improving the provision of basic facilities to people in Municipal and Town Panchayat areas and for upgrading the works in local bodies. ■



‘WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY DUAL PRICING POLICY FOR DIESEL’

D.O. letter dated 24.1.2013 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**,
Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Dr. Manmohan Singh**,
Hon’ble Prime Minister of India

“May I invite your kind attention to the recent decision of the Government of India of partial deregulation of the price of diesel and the introduction of a dual pricing policy under which the price of diesel for bulk consumers has, all of a sudden, been hiked steeply by Rs.11 per litre and a staggered increase of 55 Paise per litre per month for retail consumers has been effected? To me this appears to be one of the many short-sighted measures taken by the Central Government, which is going to further increase the burden on the common people and aggravate their misery. Perhaps you are unaware that this peculiar dual pricing policy has landed bulk consumers like State Transport Undertakings in a very precarious financial situation and in the case of

Tamil Nadu, our State Transport Undertakings are forced to suffer an increased burden of Rs.750 Crore in their fuel bill per annum. I am appalled at the callousness and deviousness of this shocking move that defies all logic.

You will appreciate the fact that the State Transport Undertakings provide transport services to the poor and downtrodden people and these are vital for their commuting to their work-place to earn a living. It is neither feasible nor advisable to raise the bus fares to make up for the huge and sudden increase in the diesel price since it will be unbearable for the common people. The world over, public transportation by buses is subsidized in the interest of the larger public good. It is equally the duty of the Central Government to share the

burden of subsidy to provide affordable public transportation facilities to the poor people of this Nation. The Central Government cannot shirk its responsibility and pass on the burden of their own financial mis-management to the States and impose untold hardship on the citizens. I am aghast at the callous attitude of the Central Government, which pays only lip service to protecting the “aam aadmi”, but rains one blow after another on them, even as it perversely allows the super rich owners of luxury cars including high priced SUVs running on diesel to continue to enjoy subsidy and pay almost Rs.10 less per litre than State Transport Undertakings that provide transport to the poor!

Given the opacity of the pricing policies of the oil companies, the serious doubts expressed

about the methodology by which the so called “under-recoveries” by the oil companies are estimated and the profitability of the upstream oil companies, I really wonder whether there is any justification for the partial decontrol of retail diesel prices and the huge increase in the price for bulk consumers. In normal marketing practice, it is the bulk consumers who enjoy discounts. All this leads me to question what the true motive behind these perverse decisions could be. I really wonder whether the move is to protect public interest or to benefit private interest.

I, therefore, request you, Mr. Prime Minister, to order an immediate withdrawal of this ill-conceived, ill-timed decision which is totally inflationary, discriminatory and anti-poor”. ■

‘MILAD GREETINGS TO ALL FOLLOWERS OF ISLAM’

Message of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**
on Milad-un-Nabi (*English Translation*)

I offer my good wishes to the followers of Islam all over the world on this Milad-un-Nabi Day.

‘Be compassionate towards the poor; be pure in heart and conduct; feed the hungry’ – this is the message Prophet Mohammed gave to the world.

Let us realise that his teachings such as patience, tolerance, peace and brotherhood, will uplift us in life and peace will prevail in the world. Out of this realisation let us take a pledge to follow his path.

I once again offer my good wishes to all Islamic brothers and sisters on this happy occasion. ■



Chief Minister makes fervent appeal for scrapping dual pricing of diesel

**Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 25.1.2013 (English Translation)**

The Public Sector undertakings were set up with the noble goal of preventing concentration of wealth in the hands of a few and dispersing the country's prosperity to all sections of the people, especially the poor and the marginalised. Among the public sector undertakings, State Transport Corporations occupy a prime place.

Such an important sector as the State Transport Corporations was incapacitated during the previous minority DMK rule. Fuel and spare parts for the buses could not be purchased, buses stationed in courts as sureties could not be redeemed and the employees were not paid their salaries and the retired persons, their pension. In short, the State Transport Corporations were paralysed to such an extent that one feared that the very purpose for which the public sector undertakings were set up would come to naught.

The State Transport Corporations are now functioning well as a result of the steps taken to set things right after I assumed office as the Chief Minister for a third term in 2011. The State Transport Corporations' activities now are such that the poor, downtrodden and the middle class people in Tamil Nadu travel long distances at a low fare, students commute to their schools and colleges at no cost and people in hamlets with no transport facility visit places in the rest of the country.

The Corporations are operating their buses without any profit motive. They have imbibed

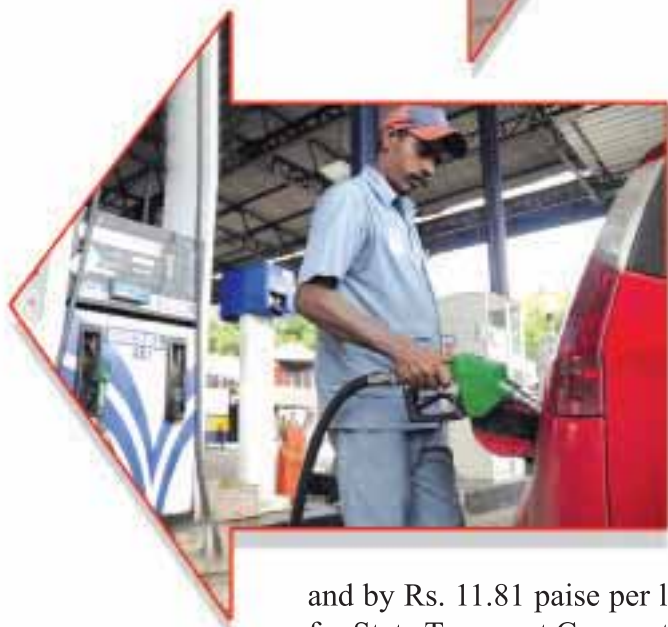
the motto, "Service to people is service to God", and function accordingly. In sum, the State Transport Corporations are functioning in a manner as to support for the economic and social growth of the country.

When the Central Government hiked the diesel price by Rs. 6/- in September 2012 the State Transport Corporations incurred an additional loss of Rs. 383 crores a year. Still, my Government bore the loss without passing it on to passengers in order to protect the interests of the poor, marginalised and middle class people.

Hardly 4 months after effecting an increase in diesel price, the Central Government has passed on the right to fix the diesel price to oil companies. It has cited the international market price as the reason for its action, but that is only a ruse. The Central Government's action will only fuel inflation. I have not only condemned this anti-people action of the Centre but also emphatically demanded that the move be reversed. But as usual, the Central Government did not heed my voice.

On the contrary, as if to give a practical shape to this anti-people move the oil companies have issued orders raising the diesel price by 55 paise per litre and to the extent of Rs. 11/- per litre for bulk consumers including the State Transport Corporations.

That is, the diesel price has been increased by 55 paise per litre for private sector transport buses that operate with profit motive alone



and by Rs. 11.81 paise per litre for State Transport Corporation buses that operate without any profit motive and only with service for the poor and marginalised sections as their motto.

On account of this hike, the State Transport Corporations will incur a loss of Rs. 1,000 crores in a year. A situation has come about where there is no alternative for increasing bus fares to compensate the loss. A review meeting was held at the Secretariat on 24.1.2013 to consider the ticklish situation facing the State Transport Corporations. I presided over the meeting.

Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity and Prohibition and Excise, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Hon'ble

Minister for Transport, Chief Secretary to Government, Development Commissioner and Principal Secretary, Home Department, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Principal Secretary, Transport Department, and other high Government officials participated.

The meeting discussed in detail the additional burden imposed on the State Transport Corporations on account of the increase in the diesel price and the steps to be taken to tackle it.

After the discussions, it was decided that a detailed letter be sent to the Hon'ble Prime Minister requesting him to drop the dual pricing policy for diesel - one for the State Transport Corporation buses which operate with the spirit of service and another for profit-propelled private buses - pointing out the burden the State Transport Corporations have to bear on account of the hike in diesel price. It was also decided to request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to take steps for supply of diesel to State Transport Corporations at a reduced price. As per this decision, I have also written a detailed letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Through this statement, I strongly urge the Central Government to advise the oil companies to immediately drop the dual pricing policy for diesel that affects the poor and the downtrodden.

Also, I am happy to announce that the State Government, taking into account the people's interest, will bear the State Transport Corporations additional burden itself.

I expect the Prime Minister, seeing the fairness behind my request made in my letter to him, will issue orders for rescinding the increase effected in the price of diesel supplied to the State Transport Corporations. If this is not done, there is no option but to filing a case in the Supreme Court in this regard. ●



CHIEF MINISTER OPENS CEMENT FACTORY IN KARUR DISTRICT, FIRST OF ITS KIND

The Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd. has set up a new cement factory at 'Kagithapuram' in Karur District at a cost of Rs. 100 crores. The manufacturing capacity of the factory is 600 metric tons per day. This is the first plant to be set up in the Country utilising the lime sludge of the Newsprint plant and the fly ash of the electricity generation station there. The new factory can provide employment to 300 persons. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated the new cement factory on 30.1.2013 through video conferencing at the Secretariat.

The Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd. earned a profit of Rs. 108.94 crores in 2011-2012. A cheque for Rs. 12.22 crores was handed over to the Hon'ble Chief Minister by the Hon'ble Minister for Industries as Tamil Nadu Government's share of the dividend. ■

CHILDREN'S HOME STAFF TO GET NEW TENEMENTS

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has taken a decision to pull down the present tenements of the full-time employees of Children's Homes and to replace them with new dwelling units. This decision has been taken as the present buildings are highly dilapidated and are on the verge of collapse.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the demolition of the employees' tenements

at the two Children's Homes in Chennai, at the 'Observation Homes' in Ranipet, Malliputhur, Thattaparai, Panchapalli, Thanjavur and Cuddalore and at the Government special home in Chengalpattu and their replacement with new ones. For this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 15.61 crores for the construction of 166 employees tenements. ■





FURTHER BOOST TO RURAL EDUCATION WITH NEW ENGINEERING, ARTS COLLEGES

To help rural students in Tamil Nadu to continue their education, 11 Affiliated Arts and Science Colleges were started in 2011-2012. Orders were issued for the starting of an engineering college at Bodinayakanur, Theni District from 2012-2013. The engineering college is functioning now.

Following these, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has now issued orders for starting two Government Engineering Colleges, one at Chettikarai, Dharmapuri Taluk, Dharmapuri District, and another at Sengipatti, Thanjavur Taluk, Thanjavur District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given administrative sanction for Rs. 179.80 crores at the rate of Rs. 89.90 crores for each college for executing various works like construction of buildings, purchase of implements, furniture, appointment of teachers and construction of hostels for students, library and laboratory. In the first phase, each college is allotted Rs. 14.10 crores.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of multi Polytechnic Colleges at 10 places – Srirangam in Tiruchirapalli District, Gandharvakottai in Pudukottai District, Sankarapuram

(Villupuram), Perundurai (Erode), Ariyalur (Ariyalur), Uthankarai (Krishnagiri), Jolarpet (Vellore), Usilampatti (Madurai), Andipatti (Theni), and Chekkanoorani (Madurai).

For these 10 multi polytechnic colleges Rs. 138 crores have been allotted – Rs. 133 crores for providing infrastructure facilities at the rate of Rs. 13.30 crores for each college, and Rs. 5 crores at the rate of Rs. 50 lakhs to each of the colleges towards expenses for laboratory equipment, computers, furniture and books for the library.

The University Engineering College at Kancheepuram is at present temporarily located on the campus of the Kancheepuram Bhaktavatsalam Polytechnic College. For the construction of own building for this college, 4.32 hectares of dry land have been identified at Karapettai village, Kancheepuram Taluk. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given administrative sanction and allotted Rs. 20 crores for constructing a building with all basic facilities for this engineering college.

These measures of the Government will help the poor and downtrodden students to become engineering graduates. ■

Concessional Fees for Adi Dravidar Students

News in Picture



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** presented a cheque for Rs. 39,24,500/- on 17.1.2013 to Thiru. Suresh Jacob, President of the Nilgiris Planters' Association. The amount represents the dues to be paid to the N.P.A. Centenary Polytechnic College, Kothagiri, the Nilgiris District, towards the concessional tuition fees for Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribe students and Adi Dravidar students converted to Christianity. The dues are for the period 1999-2000.

96th Birth Anniversary of M.G.R.

News in Picture



The Tamil Nadu Government observed the 96th Birth Anniversary of the former Chief Minister Bharatha Ratna Dr. M.G.R on 17.1.2013. Hon'ble Ministers, and the Worshipful Mayor of Chennai Corporation paid floral tributes to the portrait kept near his statue. The Secretary to Government, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments & Information Department and Director, Information and Public Relations were present during the occasion.

200 TIFFIN CENTRES IN CHENNAI TO SELL QUALITY FOOD AT CHEAP RATES TO THE POOR

There is a proverb which says that he who eats right suffers no disease. The meaning is that no illness will daunt a person who takes nutritious food at the correct time and to satisfy hunger. For creating a disease free society, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Selvi J Jayalithaa's Government has been taking several measures for making available a variety of nutritious dishes to the poor and the marginalised sections.

A majority of the poor living in slums in Chennai are low wage earners like loaders, drivers and daily coolies. The floating population that comes to Chennai on some errand is also high. All these people cannot afford to spend much on food from their low incomes.

Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has decided to start 1,000 tiffin centres within Chennai Corporation limits for preparing quality food in a hygienic way and selling it at subsidised rates. In tune with

poet Bharati's vision that the poor should be fed nutritious food, in the first phase, each municipal ward in Chennai city will have a tiffin centre. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given administrative sanction to start 200 tiffin centres. For implementing this scheme, 500 metric tons of rice will be made available to the Chennai Corporation every month through the Civil Supplies Corporation at a subsidised rate of Rs. 1 per kilo. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued necessary orders for this.

In these tiffin centres, idli will be sold at Rs. 1 per piece, sambar rice at Rs. 5/- and curd rice at Rs. 3/-. A committee headed by the Corporation Welfare Officer will be set up to oversee the works in these centres.

Daily coolies, push cart and hand cart pullers, loadmen, auto drivers and workers in the unorganised sectors will benefit from this measure. ■



ESI MEDICAL FACILITY FOR 37,000 MORE WORKERS

Workers play an important role in the industrial growth and economic development of a country. Taking this into consideration, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has launched several social security schemes for workers.

Under the Employees State Insurance Act, an integrated social security scheme, Employees State Insurance Scheme is being implemented.

Through this scheme, several social security measures like medical facility for the workers and their families, assistance for indisposition, delivery, prolonged assistance for indisposition, welfare assistance for the dependants, assistance for the temporary and permanently incapacitated, assistance for undergoing family planning operation, for obsequies, assistance for those who have lost their jobs, and distribution of walking sticks, wheel chair, denture and spectacles are being implemented.

For the medical facilities of the employees in the organised sector and their families, 191 dispensaries with a bed strength of 2,363 and 9 hospitals are functioning.

Taking into account the labour strength in the ever-increasing factories in the districts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed last year the opening of a dispensary with 3 doctors

in the Thakkalai area of Kanniyakumari district, another dispensary with 2 doctors at Manavalakurichi and a dispensary with 2 doctors at Padappai area in Sriperumbudur Taluk of Kancheepuram district.

Now, the labour force has increased on account of the growth of industries all over Tamil Nadu. To extend all the medical facilities available under the Employees State Insurance Scheme to these workers also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued order that the areas where the factories are located be attached to the nearby ESI dispensaries.

Accordingly, the following areas will be attached to the dispensaries given in brackets:

Ponnakudi area in Palayamkottai Taluk in Tirunelveli District(ESI dispensary at Vannarapettai); Nagercoil urban area in Kanyakumari District (Nagercoil), Paravai urban area in Madurai North and Vadipatti Taluk (Thallakulam and Paravai), Chinnabamanpatti in Satur Taluk, Virudhunagar District(Sattur), Madurai urban area in Madurai District(Paravai), Chengalpattu urban area in Kancheepuram District(Chengalpattu), Athur





area in Karur Taluk, Karur District(Karur and Puliur), Vallakundu area in Madurai Taluk and in Madurai District(Munichalai), Siruseri area in Chengalpattu Taluk, Kancheepuram District(Kelambakkam), Sethur area in Rajapalayam Taluk in Virudhunagar District(Rajapalayam), Pannimadai and Chinnathadagam areas in Coimbatore District(Thudiyalur), Manali urban area in Ponneri Taluk in Thiruvallur District(Manali), Gobichettipalayam urban area in Erode District(Gobichettipalayam), Vengaivasal area in Sholinganallur Taluk in Kancheepuram District (Tambaram), Nalli and Yezhaayiram Pannai areas in Sattur Taluk in Virudhunagar District (Sattur and Thayilpatti), Srivilliputhur urban area in Srivilliputhur Taluk in Virudhunagar District (Srivilliputhur), Virudhunagar areas in Rajapalayam, Srivilliputhur and Sivakasi Taluks in Virudhunagar District (with dispensaries at Rajapalayam, Srivilliputhur, Aamathur,SivakasiandAlangulam),Veeranam, Valasaiyur, Kullampatti and Minnampalli areas in Salem and Vazhapadi Taluks of Salem District (Ammappettai), Madurai urban area (Azhagar Kovil) in Madurai North and Melur Taluks of Madurai District (Thallakulam and Melur dispensaries). Workers, numbering 37,709 will benefit due to these steps.

Workers are greatly affected due to accidents in the fire cracker factories in Virudhunagar District. Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of a flying supervisory squad to monitor these fire cracker units and to prevent accidents.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the creation of 5 posts for this flying squad. They are one Joint Chief Inspector, one Inspector of factories, one Typist cum Junior Assistant, one Driver and one Office Assistant. The Joint Chief Inspector will be the Chief of the squad.

This squad will take up multifarious activities like organising sudden inspections, supervising the safety measures available in the work place and the health condition of workers, creating awareness among workers and the managements about safety aspects, conducting awareness campaigns through drama, dance and video programmes in villages and monitoring the day-to-day occurrences in the fire cracker and match box manufacturing factories. On account of this, Government will incur an expenditure of Rs. 38.70 lakhs.

Of the 62 Government Industrial Training Institutes functioning now, 58 are located in their own buildings. Most of these institutes were started 40 years ago. As the furniture in these institutes were purchased many years ago, they are in damaged conditions. On account of this, the students are put to a lot of difficulties.

Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 75 lakhs for the purchase of classroom furniture to the 15 Government industrial training institutes at Virudhunagar, Tuticorin, Thiruchendur, Dindigul, Paramakudi, Pudukottai, Tiruchi, Nagapattinam, Coimbatore, Erode, Coonoor, Guindy, Ambattur, Mudukulathur and Thirukuvalai. ■

First Meeting Infrastructure Board

News in Picture



Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** presided over in a meeting of the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board held at the Secretariat on 4.2.2013. Hon'ble Ministers and officials participated in the meeting.

More than Rs. 98.67 crores for Harnessing Water

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has allotted Rs. 98.67 crores for the construction of a check dam, bed dams, repairing of sluice gates, sea erosion walls and development of lakes.

The works to be executed are a bed dam on Vaigai river at Ladanendal Village, Manamadurai Taluk, Sivagangai District at a cost of Rs. 12.85 crores to take the river water to Maaranaadu lake and 9 other lakes and another bed dam on the same river at Aathur village to carry water from Vaigai to Parthipanur Big and Small Lakes as also to two other lakes, (Rs. 16 crores). Repairing the upper Anaicut sluice gates (Rs. 4.50 crores) for diverting water for irrigation to lands in Elamanoor village,

Srirangam Taluk, Tiruchirapalli District, constructing a check dam across Korattalaiyar at Thirukandalam village, Uthukottai Taluk, Thiruvallur District (Rs. 35 crores), for storing Krishna water, constructing a bridge across Marudaiyaar from Ambalavaarkattalai to Chundakudi Road (Rs. 10 crores), developing the Peikulam, Pottaikulam and Korampallam lakes in Thoothukudi District (Rs. 20.07 crores) and repairing the sea erosion wall (Rs. 25.60 lakhs) near Chinnakuppam on the Ennore Express Highway, North Chennai are also to be taken up on the orders of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa. ■

FILM INSTITUTE'S PREVIEW THEATRE TO BE RE-CONDITIONED

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered re-conditioning of the preview theatre in the MGR Government Film and Television Training Institute with all modern facilities at a cost of Rs. 99 lakhs.

The modernisation includes designing the theatre acoustically, installation of Xenon Lamp House and other ancillary equipment, an uninterrupted power supply gadget (UPS), temperature controller, push-back theatre seats and ancillary equipment, centralised air conditioning with acoustical ducting, power conditioning, and electrical termination with attendant infrastructure.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed digitisation at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs

of the old black and white news reels produced by the Tamil Nadu Film Division. This will ensure their proper preservation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the purchase of a direct telecast equipment 'Live Back Bag' which has a greater speed and greater memory – at a cost of Rs. 18 lakhs for the Tamil Nadu Film Division for transmitting the events in which the Chief Minister participates, wherever they are held, to all TV Channels.

For renovating the Kamaraj Memorial at Chennai and for installing a statue of Kavimani Desika Vinayakam Pillai at Nagarcoil, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 25 lakhs and Rs. 10.80 lakhs respectively. ■

CHIEF MINISTER ORDERS ANIMATION COURSE IN FILM INSTITUTE

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered the starting of diploma courses in Animation and Visual Effects by utilising the modern digital film production technology at the MGR Government Film and Television Training Institute, and has allotted Rs. 9.50 crores for this.

The 3-year diploma courses recognised by the AICTE will be offered from the coming academic year. Those who opt for this 3 year course will be issued diplomas by

DOTe (Directorate of Technical Education). Graduates with proficiency in painting, film technology and screenplay are eligible to join the course.

In the first year, training will be given in painting and film technology skills. In the second and third years, special training will be imparted in Animation and Visual effects hardware and software. Relevant practical training in the film industry will be provided. This diploma course will turn out experts solely for the film industry. ■

The Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), a subsidiary scheme of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNURM) is being implemented with Central and State Government's financial assistance.

Under this scheme, the following works are proposed to be executed:-

950 houses are to be constructed at Chinnamanoor Municipality at a cost of Rs. 15,81,70,000/-; 460 new houses in Usilampatti Municipality at a cost of Rs. 10,01,52,000/-; 520 new houses at Paramakudi Municipality (Rs. 7.15 crores); 118 houses in Periakulam Municipality (Rs. 2,15,73,000); 606 houses in Hosur Municipality (Rs. 13,39,29,000); and 513 houses in Vellore Municipal Corporation

(Rs. 10,93,65,000). Basic facilities will also be improved in all these areas.

For the implementation of these schemes, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has released Rs. 22,99,55,000/- as the first instalment in 2012-2013.

This programme enables the poor and the marginalised people in slums to move to dwelling units located in good and healthy environment.


Toilets for the Differently abled

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the release of Rs. 8,19,38,000/- for the construction of disabled-friendly toilets in public buildings in 108 Municipalities which come under the jurisdiction of 7 Municipal Administrative Zones. ■

GIVING SLUM DWELLERS DECENT DWELLINGS



FEBRUARY 2013



GOVT. HR. SEC. SCHOOL

Higher Secondary School for Kallar Girls at Chekkanoorani

The Backward classes and Most Backward Welfare Department is running 285 Government Kallar Reclamation Schools for the benefit of the Piramalai Kallar Reclamation which is predominant in the districts of Madurai, Theni and Dindigul. Of these, 24 are Higher Secondary Schools, 25 High Schools, 25 Middle Schools and 211 primary schools. The total strength of these school is 37,556.

To encourage students from the Piramalai Kallar community to take to education in greater numbers, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has already issued orders for the upgradation of the following Government Kallar schools.

Primary schools at Perumalpatti in Madurai District, at Karuvelanayakkanpatti and Po. Meenakshipuram in Theni District to be upgraded into middle schools:

- Middle schools at Karadikal and Muthupatti in Madurai District and at Siddhargal Natham in Dindigul District to be upgraded into high schools; and

- the high schools at Markkaiyankottai and Muthanampatti in Theni District and Chennamanayakkanpatti in Dindigul District to be upgraded into higher secondary schools.

Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued orders for starting a separate Government Kallar Girls' Higher Secondary

School at Chekkanoorani in Madurai District for the girl students now studying in 6th to 12th standards in the Government Kallar Higher Secondary School there. A sum of Rs. 2.22 crores has also been allotted for the new school. Of this amount Rs. 2.02 crores is for the construction of the building and Rs.20 lakhs for the purchase of laboratory and sports implements, and materials like tables, chairs and bureaus.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has been implementing several schemes for protecting the interests of the minority communities and for their educational and economic development.

Already orders have been issued to raise the pension of Ulamas to Rs. 1,000/-, the number of such beneficiaries to 2,600, the Government grant to Wakf Board to Rs. 1 crore for making good its deficit, a special financial assistance of Rs. 3 crores towards retirement benefits not extended so far to pensioners and the grant to Hajj Committee to Rs. 20 lakhs.

Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of a Wakf Board Development fund for taking up repair and other special works in its mosques and dhargas and for collecting donations for the fund. For the year 2012-2013, the Government's grant for this fund will be Rs. 3 crores. ■



CHIEF MINISTER REITERATES DEMAND ON NAMING TERMINAL

*Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of
Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalithaa** on 31.1.2013
(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Civil Aviation Minister Thiru. Ajit Singh had written to me that the second terminal of Chennai domestic airport had been modernised and the international airport expanded at a cost of Rs. 2,015 crores and that they were to be inaugurated by His Excellency the Vice President of India on 31.1.2013. He had invited me to participate in the function. I accepted the invitation and replied that I would participate.

The former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Bharatha Ratna, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR was an incomparable and charismatic leader of the state who had championed the cause of the poor and continues to rule the hearts of the people even today. I stressed through a letter to Thiru. Ajith Singh that the second domestic terminal be named after Dr. MGR, and said it would be received well by Tamil Nadu people and that the Central Government

should make an announcement on this before the inauguration of the terminal.

His Excellency, Thiru. Hameed Ansari has arrived in Chennai today (31.1.2013) to inaugurate the second terminal even while there was no announcement on my request.

As per the protocol, I went to the airport and received the Vice President. At the same time I have to register regretably that I did not participate in the inauguration of the second domestic terminal as the non-receipt of a favourable reply over my request had hurt me and the people of Tamil Nadu deeply.

I strongly urge the Central Government to take steps immediately to name, by way of respecting the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu, the second terminal of the Chennai domestic airport after Bharatha Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR. ■



Chief Minister opens 3-lane bridge on Adyar and 14 more bridges

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 30.1.2013, 15 bridges constructed at a total cost of Rs. 104.78 crores. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open the Dharapuram by-pass road, 4 Travellers' Bungalows and 2 buildings for Government offices, all built at a cost of Rs. 3.90 crores.

The bridges opened are: a 3-lane bridge across Adyar and adjacent to Thiru.Vi.Ka. bridge Chennai (Rs. 15.64 crores), a railway overbridge at Madurantakam, Kancheepuram District (Rs. 22.50 crores), a bridge at Vaazhaipandal, Vellore District (Rs. 5.34 crores), one at Narayanakuppam, Thiruvannamalai District (Rs. 3.20 crores), a high level bridge at Thiruvakkarai, Villupuram District (Rs. 9.80 crores), one at Kothampatti in Tiruchy District (Rs. 1.96 crores), high-level bridges across Vannar river in Thanjavur (Rs. 5.15 crores) and across Kudamurutti river at Manathidal-Valappakudi in Thanjavur District (Rs. 4.41 crores), a high level bridge across Naasuvankarai Odai at Mathur, Tiruppur District (Rs. 2.40 crores), a bridge across Amaravathi river at Peramiam Chellampillai

Goundamputhur in the same district (Rs. 5.39 crores), Thaampoki bridge across Amaravathi river at Anna Nagar – Velampoondi in Karur District (Rs. 2.30 crores), new bridges to replace the damaged causeways at Pazhayapalayam (Rs. 90 lakhs) and at Kathirampatti, both in Erode District (Rs. 1.15 crores), one at Maruthipatti in Sivaganga District (Rs. 3.34 crores) and another at Manakudi, Kanniyakumari District (Rs. 21.30 crores).

The Dharapuram by-pass road in Tiruppur District, laid at a cost of Rs. 2 crores runs from Upputhuraipalayam to Madhukampalayam at Dharapuram.

The Travellers' Bungalows are located at Edapadi, Salem District (built at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs), at Pappireddypatti in Dharmapuri District (Rs. 44 lakhs), at Dharmapuri (Rs. 22 lakhs), and at Villupuram in Villupuram District (Rs. 29 lakhs).

The new building constructed at a cost of Rs. 17 lakhs at Pappireddypatti in Dharmapuri District will house the Sub-Division and Section office and the one constructed at a cost of Rs. 35 lakhs at Thenkasi in Tirunelveli District will house the Divisional office. ■

Chief Minister Envisages road grids for integrated growth

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has directed that road grids be formed wherever new roads are laid or existing roads developed so that areas surrounding the roads can register development.

The road grid proposal is to be implemented as a pilot project in the area where the 62 KM Chennai outer ring road is to come up. In the first phase, the outer ring road is to be laid from Vandalur on NH 45 to Nemiliseri on NH 205 and in the second phase from Nemiliseri to Minjur on the Tiruvotriyur – Ponneri – Panjetty road. For preparing a detailed project report for this scheme, Rs. 5.22 crores has been allotted. Among other things, the report will take into account road design, contour of the road, geological factors and land acquisition work.

For works like developing, strengthening and repairing 130 roads in the state an allotment of Rs. 211.60 crores has been made.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has accepted in principle, construction of 4 railway overbridges, and has allotted Rs. 30.86 crores for connected works including acquisition of land. The overbridges are to come up on NH 7 between Sivadi-Dharmapuri railway stations at the 144th KM point, another at Vennampatti, the third on the Hogenekal-Pennageram-Dharmapuri-Thirupathur Road between Dharmapuri-Palacode railway stations and the fourth on Dharmapuri-Papparapatti road.

For maintenance of roads, the Government has decided to switch over to 'performance based maintenance contract' method. This provides for the maintenance of the roads over which contract is entered into, continuously for 5 years and works connected with repairs, renovation, strengthening, and developing structuring where needed.

In the first phase, 191.4 KM of highways and 185.988 KM of main district roads in Pollachi Division, Coimbatore Taluk will be taken up for maintenance under the new method at a cost of Rs. 121.62 crores and Rs. 112.31 crores respectively. ■





Mechanisation, Irrigation to boost farm productivity

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government is keen on increasing farm productivity and ushering in a second green revolution in the State. It should be noted that Tamil Nadu won the 'Krishi Karman' award for 2011-2012 for creating a record in food grain production.

To encourage mechanisation of agriculture, modern machinery is supplied to farmers through primary agricultural co-operative societies at low rents. The mechanisation programme requires technical experts in large numbers. Taking this into account, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has already issued orders for starting a 2-year diploma course in agriculture at the State Agriculture Training Institute at Kudimiyanmalai, Pudukottai District through the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University.

As farmers have no adequate experience in operating, repairing and maintaining the agricultural machinery offered to them at subsidised rates, they are hesitant to use them in a large measure. To remove this impediment, it has been decided to train 300 rural youth in operating the different kinds of agricultural implements, as well as repairing and maintaining them. The training will be provided through the Agriculture Engineering Department at its workshops in the districts of Coimbatore, Madurai, Vellore, Tiruchi, Tiruvarur and Tirunelveli. In each workshop, 50 persons will be trained.

For improving irrigation facilities, the Irrigation Development and Water Management Scheme is being implemented. Under this

scheme, forming canals, water distribution for irrigation on a rotational basis, land survey, one-time distribution of execution grant to irrigation sabhaas, organising training and plan seminars and such other works are undertaken.

To extend Irrigation schemes area to Villupuram, Cuddalore and Thiruvannamalai districts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has given administrative sanction for Rs. 99.03 crores.

This scheme will be implemented in the ayacuts of Manimuktha river scheme, of Pillanthurai Dam and Cheyyar Dam in these districts between 2012-2013 and 2015-2016 and in the Ellis Dam scheme between 2012-2013 and 2014-2015. The Manimuktha river Irrigation Development and Water Management Scheme will be implemented at a cost of Rs. 46.86 crores to benefit 16,131 hectares, the Pillanthurai scheme at a cost of Rs. 20.57 crores to benefit 6,985 hectares, the Ellis Dam scheme at a cost of Rs. 13.56 crores to benefit 5,232 hectares and the Cheyyar Dam scheme at a cost of Rs. 18.02 crores to benefit 7,952 hectares. Totally 36,300 hectares of land will benefit.

In the first phase of implementation of this scheme this year, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 21.19 crores to benefit 10,400 hectares. The break-up: Manimuktha scheme - Rs. 6.52 crores to benefit 3,200 hectares; Pillanthurai scheme - Rs. 4.89 crores - 2,400 hectares; Ellis Dam scheme - Rs. 4.89 crores; 2,400 hectares and Cheyyar Dam scheme - Rs. 4.89 crores; 2,400 hectares. ■

New Government Quarters to replace old in Chennai

The rental quarters for State Government employees in 17 places in Chennai Metropolitan city including Peters Road Colony, Lloyds Road Colony and Todhunter Nagar part I and II are in a highly damaged condition due to efflux of time. As the repairing charges are high, it is better to replace them with new houses. Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has decided to demolish the 2,238 rental quarters in these 17 places and construct new tenements with higher floor-space index (FSI) and in greater numbers. Under this plan, rental quarters for Government employees and flats for the public under the self-financing scheme, are to be constructed.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed that a total of 6,254 tenements be constructed under this plan, at a cost of Rs. 1,740 crores. Of these, 3,646 flats will be for Government

employees for rent and 2,608 flats for the general public under the self-financing scheme.

In the first phase, 2,522 rental flats and 1,770 self-financing flats will be constructed and in the second phase 1,124 rental flats and 838 flats for the public will be constructed.

Planned growth will help people in urban areas get their basic needs fulfilled. Master plans new Town Development Plans contains regulatory guidelines to ensure proper growth in the scheme areas in plans prepared for towns. The total area, now coming under the commissionerate of town plan is 1,28,869 sq.km. But the Master Plan covers only an area of 6,950 sq. km. Non-scheme area is 1,21,919 sq.km. Deducting the agricultural lands (58,243 sq.km) and forest lands (21,431 sq.km) the left over area is 42,245 sq.km. In the non-scheme areas, there is



unregulated urban growth. To regulate this uneven growth, the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has decided to enforce the master plan in all the non-scheme areas in three stages with the help of universities and technical experts.

In the first phase, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the preparation of a Master Plan utilising modern technology through the Bharathidasan University at a cost of Rs. 4.91 crores for the scheme areas coming under the Composite Local Planning Area measuring 8,447 sq.km spread over Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchi, Thoothukudi, Tiruppur, Erode and Hosur.

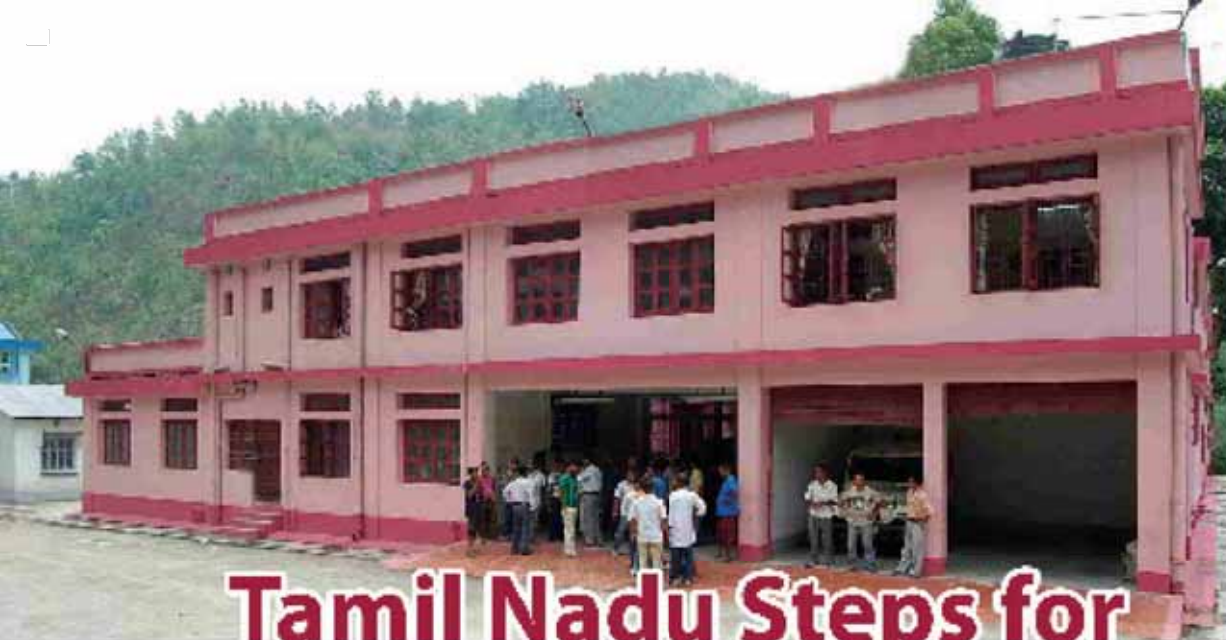
Town Planning offices are flooded with applications for building plan approval. To avert delay in the disposal of these applications, the Hon'ble Chief Minister

has directed on-line verification of the building plans at the town planning offices at Coimbatore, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Salem, Tiruchy, Erode, Thoothukudi, Vellore, Tiruppur, Kancheepuram, Mamallapuram Local scheme areas, Mamallapuram New Town Development area, Chengalpattu Zonal office and the Commissionerate of Town Planning at Chennai. A sum of Rs. 2.20 crores has been allotted for this.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also allotted Rs. 10 crores this year for taking up special maintenance works at the State Government employees' rental quarters in scheme areas at Thanjavur, Erode, Coimbatore, Hosur, Tiruchy, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Salem, Anna Nagar, K.K. Nagar and Nandanam in Chennai. ■



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** presenting a cheque for Rs. 10 lakhs at the Secretariat on 4.2.2013 to Selvi Prema, a Tamil residing in Mumbai, for emerging first in the Chartered Accountant Examinations at the All India Level.



Tamil Nadu Steps for Medical Services for all

For providing quality medical service to people, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalithaa has directed the upgradation this year of 20 primary health centres (PHCs) into 30-bed hospitals in taluks where there are no upgraded PHCs.

Eight posts have been sanctioned for each of these upgraded hospitals. They are 3 Medical Officers, 1 Nurse, 1 Radiographer, 1 male hospital worker, 1 female hospital worker and 1 Health Worker. The Government will incur Rs.18 crores as expenditure on account of this.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the upgradation of 36 Urban Primary Health Centres, (One for each of the 4 zones in the 9 Municipal Corporations) into 24x7 centres (offering round the clock service) and has created 108 Nurse posts, at the rate of 3 for each of these 36 centres.

One health centre, each of the Health Centres functioning under the 13 Municipalities of Pallavaram, Tambaram, Avadi, Cuddalore, Thiruvannamalai, Pollachi, Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Nagercoil and Rajapalayam, will

be converted into a 24x7 centres. To work in these centres, 39 nurse posts have also been created, 3 for each of these centres. Necessary orders have been issued in this connection.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed that Urban PHCs be started in each of the 12 upgraded municipalities of Maraimalai Nagar, Anagaputhur, Jolarpet, Melvizharam, Ambasamudram, Vikramasingapuram, Thiruthangal, Valparai, Punjaipuliampatti, Vellakovil, Thiruvakudi, and Gudalur (Theni). To work in these urban PHCs, 108 posts have been created, 9 for each. These posts are 1 doctor, 1 pharmacist, 1 Laboratory technician, 4 Women Welfare Workers/ANM, 1 Hospital worker and 1 Health Worker.

As the need for special treatment for cancer has increased, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has released Rs. 1.20 crores for the general hospital at Chennai for purchase of medical equipment and for constructing buildings, under the National Cancer, Diabetes and Cardio vascular diseases Prevention Plan, jointly executed by the Central and State Governments. The amount represents State Government's share.

As the Adyar Cancer Hospital has to handle a larger volume of patients now, the annual maintenance grant for the institution for 2012-2013 has been increased to Rs. 1.75 crores. Also, the grant will be enhanced automatically by 10 per cent every year.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme has been in operation from 11.1.2012 for providing quality medical service to all people in Tamil Nadu. Later, the scheme was extended to Sri Lankan Tamils in the refugee camps in the State and to the members of the farmers protection scheme.

Insurance Scheme Extended

Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that the benefits of the insurance scheme be extended without considering income ceiling to families in which even one member of the family is a differently-abled person.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already ordered the setting up of the Medical Services Recruitment Board, the first of its kind in the whole country. Orders have been issued to recruit through this Board, 2,159 doctors immediately to fill up the vacancies.

These activities of the Government will ensure continued availability of quality medical service to people. ■

CHIEF MINISTER OPENS NEW BUILDINGS, BUS STAND



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open on 30.1.2013 at the Secretariat through video conferencing new buildings and a bus stand totally costing Rs. 9,74,50,000/-.

The new office building of the Erode Municipality costing Rs. 6.48 crores, the new Quarters for sanitary workers there, costing

Rs. 76.50 lakhs and Quarters for sanitary workers in Gudalur Municipality, Theni District (Rs. 50 lakhs) in Sathur Municipality, Virudhunagar District (Rs. 50 lakhs), and a new office building in Chengalpattu Municipality (Rs. 50 lakhs) comprise the buildings opened. The bus stand opened is in Arani Municipality in Thiruvannamalai District (Rs. 1 crore). ■

Steps to curb Human-beast confrontation

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Selvi J Jayalalithaa has allotted Rs. 10.44 crores for taking up several measures to prevent elephants and other wild animals from entering human habitations.

People residing in areas around Hosur and Dharmapuri in Dharmapuri zone, Coimbatore in Coimbatore zone, in North Nilgiris and Gudalur, Sathyamangalam in Erode zone, Kodaikanal and Dindigul in Dindigul zone, Thirupathur and Thiruvannamalai in Vellore zone, Theni in Madurai zone, Srivilliputhur in Virudhunagar zone, Tirunelveli in Tirunelveli zone and Udumalpet and Pollachi in Anamalai Tiger sanctuary are put to great difficulty when wild animals intrude into their areas.

Measures to be taken up to contain the animals in their areas include erection of moats, storing water on a large scale by building check dams in animal habitats, creating tanks and ponds, sinking deep



borewells to improve water facility, providing alarm bell facility, erection of solar power fences, commissioning more forest guards and providing the facilities they need, distribution of torch lights, developing habitats of animals and growing food crops that the wild animals like most.

To create environmental awareness among all people in Tamil Nadu, especially students, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed that ECO - clubs be formed in 100 schools in each district and has allotted Rs. 80 lakhs at the rate of Rs. 2,500/- for each club for the 3,200 clubs in the 32 Districts.

Also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed supply of laboratory equipment for testing water and soil to 1,000 schools in the State and an air-testing equipment to each District so that students can learn about the environmental conditions that pollute water, soil and air. An allotment of Rs. 55 lakhs has been made for this.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed the setting up of a wild life research institute at the Arignar Anna Zoological Park at Chennai. In this Institute an Environmental



Education and Awareness Centre, a Wild Life Forensic Science and Research Hall and centres for field study and research on herbivorous and carnivorous animals, are proposed to be set up.

Eight posts - 2 Scientists, 4 Junior Researchers and 2 Assistant Veterinary doctors have been sanctioned for this Institute and Government will incur a recurring expenditure of Rs. 26.99 lakhs per year.

A butterfly park and a 'Star park' of trees ascribed to the astrological constellations are to be located in a 10 hectare land in the upper Anaicut region near Srirangam in Tiruchi District at a cost of Rs. 4,94,45,000/-. The butterfly park is for preserving the very rare varieties of butterflies, that are on the way to extinction. It will be a recreation centre for the tourists visiting Srirangam. ■



Own buildings for Students' Hostels

Own buildings will be constructed this year for 56 Backward, Most Backward, Denotified and Minority Communities students' hostels which are now functioning from rented buildings. The hostels that can accommodate 100 students will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 1.24 crores each and those with 50 student capacity at a cost of Rs. 71.15 lakhs each. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has given approval for the implementation of this scheme at a cost of Rs. 50 crores.

Of the 56 hostels, functioning at present from rented buildings, 28 are for the backward

classes (8 with a student strength of 100 and 20 with a strength of 50 students), 21 for the most backward (6 with 100 students and 15 with 50 students), 4 for the de-notified communities (1 with 100 students and 3 with 50 students) and 3 for the minority communities (all with a 50 student strength).

On orders from the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency will instal, in each new building, equipment for heating water with solar energy and solar photo voltaic at a cost of Rs.3.95 lakhs. ■

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has issued orders for the payment of a monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000/- each to the leprosy patients in the 10 Government Rehabilitation Homes run by the Department for the Welfare of Differently abled persons. At present, they don't enjoy any such benefit. Leprosy patients numbering 6,161 will benefit and Government will incur an expenditure of Rs. 7.80 crores.

Orders have also been issued for the procurement of footwear from the open market at the cost of Rs. 300/- a pair, and their distribution to the 1,301 inmates of these homes who are unable to stitch their own footwear either due to old age or limbs getting dysfunctional on account of illness. The Government will incur an expenditure of Rs. 3,90,300/- on account of this.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed that the food allowance to the 8,214 students

studying in the 23 Government special schools run by the Department for the Welfare of the Differently abled persons and the 54 Government recognised special schools, be increased to Rs. 650/- per person per month from the present Rs.450/-. The Government has allotted, Rs. 5,33,91,000/- for this.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has doubled the salary subsidy of the 302 special teachers in the Primary Training Centres, State Resource-cum-Training centre special schools and day care centre run by NGOs under the supervision of the Department for the Welfare of the Differently abled persons and the 600 teachers in the 205 special schools for the mentally retarded, to Rs. 10,000/- per month.

This salary subsidy scheme has also been extended to the 30 deaf and dumb special schools and the 9 special schools for the visually impaired. Through this, 117 teachers, at the rate of 3 per school will be given Rs. 10,000/- each every month.

Totally, 1,019 special teachers will benefit and Government will incur an expenditure of Rs. 12,22,80,000/-.

The allotment for the scheme to distribute artificial limbs to differently abled students and employees/self-employed personnel has been increased to Rs. 1,05,20,000/- this year from Rs. 35.20 lakhs.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also exempted, in the interest of the differently abled, the battery-operated three-wheeler motor bikes used by them from the 14.5 per cent value added tax.

These steps taken by the Government will bring cheer to differently abled persons. ■

CHIEF MINISTER ORDERS Rs. 1,000 A MONTH FOR LEPROSY PATIENTS





IMPROVED FACILITIES AT 11 ITIs

At present, there are 62 Government Industrial Training Institutes in Tamil Nadu offering training in 39 engineering and 17 non-engineering branches.

Of these 62 ITIs, 58 function from their own buildings. As these buildings are 40 years old and more, they need repairs and renovation. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has decided to renovate the class rooms, workshops, toilets, electrical wiring, flooring and ceiling and improve water and toilet facilities and provide modern equipment and machinery for practical training at these Institute.

In the first phase, the following 11 ITIs have been taken up for renovation. The figures in brackets indicate the break up of cost for renovation and purchase of equipment respectively:

Ariyalur – Rs. 80 lakhs (Rs. 39.74 lakhs & Rs. 40.26 lakhs) Coonoor – Rs. 1 crore (Rs. 50 lakhs & Rs. 50 lakhs); Nagapattinam – Rs. 80 lakhs (Rs. 40 lakhs & Rs. 40 lakhs), Thiruverambur in Tiruchi District – Rs. 1.20 crores (Rs. 81.46 lakhs & Rs. 38.54 lakhs); Coimbatore – Rs. 1.25 crores (Rs. 62.50 lakhs & Rs. 62.50 lakhs); Chennai (North) – Rs. 90 lakhs (Rs. 45 lakhs & Rs. 45 lakhs); Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram District – Rs. 1 crore (Rs. 50 lakhs & Rs. 50 lakhs); Erode – Rs. 75 lakhs (Rs. 37.50 lakhs & Rs. 37.50 lakhs); Thoothukudi – Rs. 1.20 crores (Rs. 63.65 lakhs & Rs. 56.35 lakhs); Tiruchendur in Thoothukudi District – Rs. 1 crore (Rs. 70 lakhs & 30 lakhs); and Dindigul – Rs. 1 crore (Rs. 50 lakhs & Rs. 50 lakhs).

Totally, Rs. 10.90 crores has been allotted for these 11 ITIs. This measure will help provide the best facilities to students. ■





Chief Minister hastens to add 11 more dispensaries for Employees

Medical facilities are provided to workers through 183 ESI dispensaries, 5 mobile dispensaries, two employees dispensaries and 9 hospitals with a total bed strength of 2,363.

To cater to the medical needs of the ever - increasing labour force, it has become necessary to open more and more dispensaries. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has already ordered the opening of a dispensary at Thakkalai in Kanniyakumari District in 3 systems of medicine, at Manavalakurichi region and at Padappai in Kancheepuram District in 2 systems of medicine and the opening of a Siddha medicine section in 10 ESI dispensaries.

This year, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the opening of new dispensaries at the following 11 places with a total staff strength of 118 and at a cost of Rs. 6,75,00,112/-.

Ramanathapuram – 2 systems of medicine - 13 staff – Rs. 68,48,524/-;

Paramakudi – 2 systems of medicine – 13 staff – Rs. 66,44,374/-;

Nilakottai in Dindigul District – 2 systems of medicine – 13 staff – Rs. 67,49,824/-;

Kangeyam in Tiruppur District – 3 systems of medicine – 15 staff – Rs. 93,73,508/-;

Kodaikanal in Dindigul District – 1 system of medicine – 8 staff – Rs. 37,91,612/-;

Cheygar in Thiruvannamalai District – 3 systems of medicine – 7 new posts and 9 through deputation – Rs. 78,67,288/-;

Sathyamangalam in Erode District – 1 system of medicine – 8 staff – Rs. 34,23,812/-;

Punjaipuliampatti in Erode District – 2 systems of medicine – 11 staff – Rs. 57,68,374/-;

The Palladam dispensary in Coimbatore District, which at present dispenses medicine in one system will be upgraded to a 3 system dispensary. Five more staff will be added to take the staff strength to 16, Government will incur a recurring expenditure of Rs. 58,53,922/- Sultanpettai in Coimbatore District – 2 systems of medicine – 13 staff – Rs. 60,95,674/-; the dispensary at Vellakoil in Tiruppur District will have – 2 systems of medicine – 12 staff – Rs. 64,87,624/-; and the one at Ariyalur in Ariyalur District – 2 systems of medicine – 5 new posts and 7 through deputation – Rs. 44,49,498/-.



Siddha Treatment in ESI dispensaries

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalithaa has directed that as in ESI hospitals, a Siddha Medicine Section be started in 10 ESI dispensaries at Triplicane, Avadi and Korattur in Chennai zone, at Ambur and Ranipet in Salem zone, at Dindigul and Thirunagar in Madurai zone, and at Udumalpet, Tiruppur- I and Kattur- I in Coimbatore zone: To these sections, 20 posts have been created at the rate of 2 for each dispensary- an Assistant Medical Officer and a Pharmacist. For this an allotment of Rs. 1,36,29,360/- has been made.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that an Ayurvedic section be started in the ESI hospitals at Sivakasi, Tiruchi, Salem, Vellore and Hosur. Ten posts have been created at the rate of 2 for each hospital to run these Ayurvedic sections - an Assistant Medical Officer and one Pharmacist. For this, Rs. 67,56,360/- has been allotted.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed that Homoeopathy and Unani medicine sections be started at the ESI Hospitals at Coimbatore and Madurai. To run these sections, 8 posts have been created

at the rate of one Assistant Medical Officer and one Pharmacist for each section of discipline in each hospital. An allotment of Rs. 25,56,600/- has been made for each discipline of treatment.

Training for Fire - Cracker Units

To provide the needed training in an effective way to employees and workers in the fire cracker industries, a training centre has been set up at Sivakasi.

Located for the present at the Kaleeswari Government Arts College at Sivakasi in Virudhunagar District, the centre will provide several kinds of training like safety procedures to work superintendents, and Supervisors and workers. It will conduct training courses with experts as well as classes in the factories and provide training. For constructing its own building and for creating posts to run this centre, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 2,36,76,338/-. The newly created posts are: one Factories Deputy Chief Inspector, three Factory Inspectors, one Librarian, one Superintendent, one Assistant and one Office Assistant. ■

Protected Drinking Water Supply to 2,563 Rural Habitats



Supply of protected drinking water to all is essential for the creation of a healthy society. With this end in view, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered the implementation of a Rs. 260.54 crores Combined Water Supply Scheme for providing protected drinking water to Cuddalore Municipality area, Bhuvanagiri and Parangipettai Town Panchayats and 812 other rural habitats in Cuddalore District with Coleroon water as source. Orders have also been issued for disbursal of Rs. 6 crores every year towards maintenance works of this scheme.

Similarly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the implementation of a Rs. 315.70 crore Combined Water Supply Scheme to provide protected drinking water to 1,751 rural habitats around Kunnaandarkovil, Gandharvakottai, Karambakudi, Thiruvarangulam, Aranthangi, Viralimalai, Annavasal and Pudukottai in Pudukottai District with Coleroon river as source. For maintenance works an annual expenditure of Rs. 9.61 crores has also been approved.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 1,13,50,000/- for renewing 37 seepage wells in the Periyar, Vaigai and Tambaraparani rivers in the districts of Theni, Dindigul and Tirunelveli as part of the Combined Water Supply Scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned drinking water schemes, with financial assistance from Tamil Nadu Urban Development Programme III, in Pallavaram Municipality (Rs. 99.95 crores), Pammal Municipality (Rs. 43.10 crores) and in Theni, Allinagaram Municipality (Rs. 68.83 crores).

As 42 Local Bodies were merged with Chennai city, the number of wards in the Chennai Corporation has increased to 200 from 155. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 15.18 crores towards the additional expenditure incurred in the supply of drinking water to these extended areas through the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board and in undertaking sewerage works in these areas.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Government has taken a decision to set up a 120 mld (million litre per day) sewage treatment plant additionally at Koyambedu at a cost of Rs. 76.71 crores in view of the higher generation of sewage there because of the large number of commercial complex functioning in the area. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued orders for transfer of Rs. 38.36 crores from the Infrastructure and Basic Facilities Fund this year, for setting up the Treatment Plant.

These measures of the Government will help in meeting the drinking water needs of the people greatly. ■

