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The yardstick of a Nation's development is the growth of every individual. The victory of democracy lies in ensuring that the basic needs of an individual like finance, food, education, housing, health, profession and security are fulfilled as a matter of course. In this sense, Tamil Nadu has achieved immeasurable growth.

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** hoisted the National Tricolour Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George at the Secretariat on the occasion of the 71st Independence Day on 15.08.2017, and paid his respects.



‘Work together for India’s unity and prosperity’

Independence Day Message of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 14.08.2017 (*English Translation*).

I am happy to convey my hearty Independence Day greetings to all, on this golden day when the Country got freedom from the British.

Independence Day is the day when we must remember the freedom fighters who waged several struggles and sacrificed their all, including life, to get freedom for the Country from British subjugation.

Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma’s Government is implementing many schemes to honour thyagis, who fought for the freedom of the Country, like increasing their monthly pension from Rs.11,000/- to Rs.12,000/-, family pension to their heirs from Rs.5,500/- to Rs.6,000/-, the special monthly pension to the descendants of Veerapandia Kattabomman, Marudhu Brothers, Muthuramalinga Vijaya RaghunathaSethupathy and V.O.Chidambaranar from Rs.5,000/- to Rs.6,000/- and the medical allowance to these pensioners from Rs. 100/- to Rs.500/-.

By way of recollecting the sacrifices of thyagis who laid down their lives in the cause

of the Country and to educate the younger generation of their sacrifices, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma’s Government set up memorials for them like Thyagi Subramania Siva Manimandapam, Thyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai Memorial, Thyagi Vanchinathan Memorial Mandapam, Veeranganai Velunachiar Memorial Mandapam, Veera Thaa Kuyili Memorial, Veerapandia Kattabomman Manimandapam and Thyagi Sundaralinganar Manimandapam and is periodically renovating all of them. Also, birth anniversaries of thyagis are celebrated as Government functions. The schemes framed by Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the welfare of freedom fighters are being implemented with great vigour by the Tamil Nadu Government that follows her path.

The speciality of India is finding unity in diversity. I appeal to you to safeguard that sentiment and work unitedly, discarding casteist and religious differences, for turning India into a prosperous and strong Nation. I once again convey my Independence Day greetings.



Chief Minister recalls patriotism of Puratchi Thalaivar, Amma; vows to take forward schemes for growth in all spheres



Independence Day Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 15.08.2017 (*English Translation*).

I bow to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who fostered Tamil language as its own life-giving vowels, Tamil Nadu as its very life-breath and who remained as the Eighth Wonder that conquered all the eight corners (of the world).

Dr. M.Thambidurai, Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Thiru. P. Dhanapal, Hon'ble Speaker of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Hon'ble Ministers, Judges of the Madras High Court,

MPs and MLAs, Tmt. Girija Vaidyanathan, Chief Secretary to Government, High ranking officers of the Government, Government staff, Thiru. T.K.Rajendran, Director General of Police, High ranking officers of the Police Department, staff and Constables, high ranking officers of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Central Reserve Police Force, Respected elders and ladies, Youth, Students and Media friends, I convey my respects and Independence Day greetings to all of you.



Many freedom fighters laid down their lives for giving us a free India. On this joyous day, let us pay a heroic homage to several thousand freedom fighters and great leaders who relentlessly fought to liberate the Country.

For India's freedom, countless leaders from Tamil Nadu made countless sacrifices like Veerapandia Kattabomman who roared heroically, unmindful of the British repression, Vellaiya Thevan and Pooli Thevan who embraced a heroic death in the battle field of freedom, Marudhu Brothers who succumbed to British conspiracy, Veeran Azhagu Muthukone who died to safeguard the honour of the motherland, Gopal Naicker, the historic hero who kissed the noose at the gallows, Maaveeran Dheeran Chinnamalai who was hanged for refusing to apologise to the British, Tiruppur Kumaran who died to protect the flag, Veera Vanchinathan, who shot himself for the Country's sake, V.O.Chidambaranar, who was tortured and yoked (in place of bulls) to the oil press in prison, Maha Kavi Bharathiar and Pavendar Bharathidasan, victims of British repression for their fiery anti-British songs, Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar whose two

eyes were Nationalism and Spirituality, Veerar Sundaralingam who pulverized the British, Veermangai Velu Nachiyar, who exemplified female heroism, Veera Thaaai Kuyili who died, destroying the British arsenal, Thillaiyadi Valliammai who contracted illness and died due to her relentless fight against the British, Pagutharivu Pagalavan Thanthai Periyar who toiled for the success of non-co-operation movement in Tamil Nadu, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar whose call was 'Nation's upliftment is our upliftment', Mootharignar Rajaji, the conscience of Gandhi Adigal, who despised casteist and religious discrimination, Subramania Siva who kindled the fiery thought that one should roam about with the madness of nationalism and Dheerar Sathyamurthy who safeguarded the flame of freedom in Tamil Nadu from being snuffed out.

I wish to point out here that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma established monuments at the places where many freedom fighters lived, by way of honouring them.

The State Government is implementing many schemes for freedom fighters and their families like pension, medical facility, free bus

pass, priority in job opportunities and allotment of house.

Today, we are safely living in the Indian Republic after the eclipse of monarchy and alien rule. This is the hour to look back at the path we have traversed in the last 70 years.

The index of a Country's growth is the development of an individual. The success of Independence lies in ensuring that the basic needs of an individual such as finance, food, education, dwelling, health, occupation, job opportunity and safety are made available without any hassle. Based on these criteria, Tamil Nadu has achieved immeasurable development. Tamil Nadu has developed in all sectors and remains a model to other States.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar started his public life in the Gandhian way, wearing Khadi. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma donated her golden jewellery, during the war with Pakistan, to the then Prime Minister Thiru. Lal Bahadur Sastri. These two great leaders were patriotic by nature. That was why they were able to take the Country on the path of development.

From the time Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the State is progressing in all fields. People who had progressed on account of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave the throne once again to her in the 2016 general election. Without any slackening, we continue to do the work Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has left behind to us, in the cause of people.

“Amma's way of governance --- growth in all fields” – this is our motto. We function with this motto, smashing all hurdles and keeping ‘service to people’ as the sole goal.

From the date this Government assumed office with the blessings of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, to this day, I have inaugurated 33,139 completed projects costing Rs.6,772.25 crore and laid the foundation to 4,199 new projects worth Rs.1,114.44 crore. I am happy to say that this Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Amma, has done these works in a short span of time.

As a Country's progress is measured on the index of quality of education given, this Government, following the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has given priority to school education by making a whopping budgetary allocation of Rs.22,932.31 crore for 2017-2018. Hi-Tech ‘Computer labs’ costing Rs.438 crore will be set up in Government High and Higher Secondary Schools for imparting computer knowledge to students on par with those in private schools; ‘smart class rooms’ at an expense of Rs.60 crore and infrastructure facilities, costing



Rs.391 crore will be provided in primary and middle level education schools in the current year.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government is giving importance to public health. Through the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, more than 20.19 lakh persons have been treated from 2012 till date.

After the second green revolution was ushered in, in 2011-2012, Tamil Nadu recorded a great achievement of producing more than 100 lakh tonnes of foodgrains four times between 2011 and 2016 and won the Central Government's 'Krishi Karman' award as many times.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has permitted the tapping of 'Neera' from coconut trees; this will double coconut farmers income. Amma's Government has issued orders for distribution of Rs.2,247 crore as input subsidy to farmers who are affected by an unprecedented drought. The relentless efforts put in by Amma's Government have fetched compensation for crop loss to the tune of Rs.1,882 crore to farmers who have insured their crops under the new crop insurance scheme. The solatium of Rs.10,000/- given under the 'Uzhavar Paadhukaappu Thittam' to families in the event

of natural death of farmers, has been doubled to Rs.20,000/-.

All activities under the Public Distribution System have been computerized; distribution of 'smart cards' in place of the existing family cards, has commenced on 01.04.2017 and work is in progress.

The subsidy scheme for building mechanized boats suitable for deep sea tuna long liner fishing is being implemented jointly with the Central Government.

Industrial growth, under this Government, has improved due to uninterrupted power supply, the best infrastructure facilities, skilled labour and easy procedures. This Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has effected many changes in the industrial field and has simplified the procedure for investment.

From 2011 till date, direct foreign investment attracted by Tamil Nadu is 1,26,019 crore.

Steps have been taken to create new industrial parks in an area of about 19,615 acres in the industrially backward southern States of Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Pudukkottai, Dindigul, Theni, Virudhunagar, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari.

To achieve the goal of 'House to all', 3,27,714 houses are constructed, from 2015-2016 till date, at an expense of Rs.11,457 crore for the economically weaker families residing in Town Panchayat, Municipality and Municipal Corporation areas.

In 2016-2017, 24 combined water supply schemes were taken up at a cost of Rs.901.33 crore to benefit 22.71 lakh people. The dole to the unemployed has been doubled; in the



last six months alone Rs.13 crore has been distributed to 57,000 beneficiaries.

The state Government that is following the path of Amma is implementing the 'kudimaramathu' scheme, with the participation of farmers, for increasing the storage capacity of lakes. In the first phase, works have been taken up in 1,519 lakes at a cost of Rs.100 crore and they are about to be completed. Acceding to the request of farmers, it has now been planned to restore 2,065 lakes at a cost of Rs.300 crore.

To improve the water bodies in 23 Districts in the State, 220 works have been taken up at a cost of Rs.787 crore through the IAMWARM II project (Integrated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management). To re-charge ground water and to convey water from rivers to lakes, it has been planned to construct new check dams, underground retaining walls and anaicuts at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore, spread over a period of 3 years. In the current year, check dams, underground retaining walls will be constructed at 75 places and anaicuts at 10 places at a cost of Rs.350 crore.

Government takeover of sand quarries, to make available sand to people without any interruption, has been ordered.

Awards have been announced for the artistes of Small Screen and Big Screen and they will be distributed soon.

For the Country's development and welfare of all sections of people, this Government, following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has taken great care in framing many new schemes, implementing them speedily and in monitoring them to ensure that the benefits of the schemes reaching the people quickly.



Our Tamil Nadu was brimming with Tyagis, who, without any consideration for their own lives, sacrificed them for India's freedom. It has the honour that great Tyagis who broke the chain of slavery through non-violence, freely roamed the land.

By way of honouring these thyagis who dedicated their entire lives to realize their sole aim of Country's freedom, I am happy to announce that their pension, will be increased from Rs.12,000/- to Rs.13,000/-, the family pension of their heirs, from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.6,500/- and the special pension to the heirs of those who had participated in the freedom struggle and contributed in a significant way, from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.6,500/-.

I assure on this auspicious day that this Government will continue to work for fostering and safeguarding the freedom, to turn India into a super power and Tamil Nadu, a prosperous State.

Perarignar Anna Naamam Vazhga!; Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Naamam Vazhga!; Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's fame Wonguha! Let us create a strong Bharath through a prosperous Tamil Nadu.

Nandri; Vanakkam.

‘Statistics show crime rate down in Tamil Nadu, only the prejudiced cry wolf for political reasons’



Reply of the Honble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 08.07.2017 to the debate on the demands for grants for the Departments of Police and Fire and Rescue Services for the year 2017-2018 (*English Translation*)

.....

Hon’ble Speaker,

O ! Our incomparable Leader – you have made the party’s flag that bears the visage of the founder into a flag of fame in the entire Country; you are our elixir; our mother; you are the gentle light that the world lauds; the light that protects our lineage; the light that has directly received the baton from the founder of

the party; the light that never dims; you are the pinnacle of courage that astounds the world of intelligentsia; you are the replica of kind heartedness that gives munificently; one who has totally identified with the poor; you are a wonder lamp; our mother, at once loveable and protective and safeguarding us till date! I bow in the direction where you are repose.



Hon'ble Speaker,

For the Police Department, from the date of its inception till date, our Amma's period of rule was the golden age of great rejuvenation.

It is no exaggeration to say that Amma, during her rule, trusted the Police Department the most and showered countless welfare schemes for the sake of the development of that Department. The reason – their hard work, sacrificing their sleep for people to sleep in peace; vigilance till the culprit is arraigned before law; preventing occurrence of crime and solving it speedily once it takes place; one pointedness to establish and get conviction to the perpetrator of the crime and exhibition of great tolerance. Hon'ble Amma weighed all these factors, gave total freedom to Constables and a majestic look to the force and raised the status of the Department as the best one in the world by providing modern weapons, ultramodern vehicles, medals, prizes and promotions to achievers and gallantry awards to those who work, not caring for their own lives. I present my reply to the debate on the demands for grants to the Departments of Police and Fire Service of this Government that does not serve even an inch from the footprints of our Puratchi Thalaivi Idaya Deivam Amma, for the year 2017-2018.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Hon'ble Members expressed various views on the demands for grants for these two Departments, moved by me in this House on 06.07.2017. They have also moved cut motions on the demands for both these Departments. I wish to answer in response to the views expressed by Hon'ble members and to the subjects raised in the cut motions.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Saint Tiruvalluvar defines a good Government as one that is endowed with good army, citizens, food, governance, friendly relations and security. Speaking about leadership, Simon Sinek, a famous English writer says: 'Leadership is not about the next Election, it is about the next generation'. Warren Bennis, a popular American writer states: 'Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality'.

Our Idaya Deivam Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma inherited all these traits, took up the leadership of All India Anna DMK as the political heir of Bharatha Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR, smashed the many hurdles and conspiracies mounted by political opponents, scored historic victories for the party and worked for the state's peace, prosperity and progress, keeping them as her life time goal. I offer my gratitude to her.

I pledge that Amma's Government will follow the policies and goals of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in the way she chalked them out and continue to work to implement them without any slackness.

Generally speaking, when law and order is maintained and peace prevails, that State will prosper and people will be happy with greater job opportunities and increased per capita income.

If a Government rules, protecting the rights of people, removing discrimination on the grounds of caste and religion, reducing the disparity between the haves and have nots, promoting unity between the majority and minorities, establishing that all are equal before law and renders social justice, that Government will be

considered as a welfare Government and one that is liked by people.

Maintenance of law and order and prevalence of peace are imperatives for the economic growth of a state through proper implementation of Government schemes and for attracting investments and starting of industries by local entrepreneurs and multi national companies.

Realising this, Hon'ble Amma gave due importance to the maintenance of law and order, gave priority to Police carrying out their works honestly, effectively and independently without any interference, created the conducive atmosphere for them and provided them the needed modern facilities.

Amma's Government that functions in the footsteps of Hon'ble Amma, is careful that there is no interference in the Police Department's work, fulfills their needs and takes steps to continue to keep the state a garden of peace by establishing the Rule of Law.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Some members have found fault and vented negative views about the state of law and order and the performance of the Police Department. They have voiced their views as per their perception and the information they got. Those who engage in debates without sufficient data and without a strong base will end their speech only in personal attacks. They are aware of the complementary aspects of a Government's scheme or policy decision or publication of a Government order. But some of them have made it habitual to magnify minor defects, issue statements or conduct agitations with a narrow thinking that such schemes and policy decisions will fetch a good name to the Government.

In a democracy, every one has got the right to criticize the Government's actions. But, they engage in these acts with the sole aim of getting publicity in newspapers and television without considering whether they are putting that right to proper use or whether people will benefit from their action.

Government takes steps to remove any genuine defects after examination, if they are brought to its attention by the opposition Members in a fair manner. Instead, if they take up the good programmes of the Government or issues that are beyond the state's jurisdiction and attack the Government on them, it only shows their propensity of attacking the Government without reason.

Hon'ble Speaker,

In the last six years, the Police Department, on the advice of the State Government, is maintaining law and order by taking severe action against criminals – rowdies, thieves, dacoits and anti-social elements – and maintaining Tamil Nadu as a garden of peace by preventing communal and political conflicts.

In the Assembly election held last year, the DMK's President, its office bearers, the leader of the opposition in the Assembly unleashed a false campaign in the media and in public meetings that law and order had collapsed in Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's good governance and employed different tactics in the belief that a lie repeated several times would become a truth.

But people thought otherwise and gave the mandate to AIADMK to rule the State. This proved that the Opposition's charges were all contrary to truth and were politically motivated. Also, the Assembly election itself went off

smoothly without any problem. This is the best example for the excellent maintenance of law and order in the last six years.

The many crime prevention steps taken by the Police Department have brought down the incidence of crime in the last six years.

At the end of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule in 2005, the number of murder crimes registered was 1,366; at the end of the successor DMK Government rule in 2010, the number of murders registered was 1,715, recording a 25.5 per cent rise compared to the previous AIADMK regime. But when Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma again took over the reins of administration in 2011, this number had come down to 1,511 at the end of her regime in 2016. That is, it has come down by 11.9 per cent.

The number of 'murder for gain' cases was 74 in 2005 and it rose to 153 in 2010, an increase by 106.8 per cent but in 2016 it came down to 92, a reduction of 39.9 per cent.

Hon'ble Speaker,

As for theft cases, 437 cases had been registered in 2005 in AIADMK's rule; it rose to 1,817 in 2010 at the end of DMK's rule, an increase of 315.8 per cent. In 2016 in AIADMK rule, this number came down to 1,680, a 7.5 per cent fall.

The number of property involved cases, including murder cases, in 2010 was 23,068 and in 2016, it was 20,055, a reduction of 3,013 cases. From these statistics, it is clear, the crime prevention action of the Police is bringing down murder and property related crimes.

Compared to other States, the number of property related crimes in 2015 in Tamil Nadu

was less, as per that year's annual report of the National Crime Records Bureau, released last year.

To cite an example, the number of cases registered in 2015 in Maharashtra was 87,329, in Uttar Pradesh-60,144, in Madhya Pradesh – 43,163, in Rajasthan – 36,664, in Karnataka – 29,463, in Bihar – 29,105, in Haryana 28,493, in West Bengal – 22,388, in Telangana – 20,219, in Gujarat – 19,661 and in Andhra Pradesh, 19,170. But in our state, these crimes were only 18,263 in that year.

While comparing crime occurrence, the quantum, crime rate is used. This is an index for the number of crimes that has taken place for one lakh population. The crime rate in respect of property-related crime in Tamil Nadu in 2015 was 26.4. This was 14 points less than the national average of 40.4.

But the crime rate in Haryana was 104.7, in Maharashtra 73.3, Arunachal Pradesh 70.1, Assam 57.6, Madhya Pradesh 56, Telangana 55.3, Rajasthan 50.7, Karnataka 47.5, Odisha 38.8, Andhra Pradesh 37.3 and in Gujarat 31.5.

From these data, it is clear that the crime rate in respect of property-related cases in Tamil Nadu in 2015 is less than the national average and less than other States when compared with them.

Hon'ble Speaker,

It is a matter of pride for all of us that Tamil Nadu continues to be in the premier place at the National level in respect of recovery of stolen assets in the three years 2013, 2014 and 2015 as per the statistics of the National Crime Records Bureau for these years.

Statistics reveal that incidence of crime is increasing globally on account of population explosion, increase in the number of vehicles, higher rate of migration by people to cities, occurrence of digital crimes due to the information technology revolution and exploitation of the changing social environment for earning money through illegal means.

But, in our State, the data I have furnished, reveal that crimes are coming down due to the steps taken by the Police Department on the basis of intelligence reports.

Crime against women is also declining in the last six years as greater attention is bestowed on such crimes, cases are registered immediately on all such complaints and legal action is initiated against the accused.

For example, in the five years in the earlier DMK regime (2006-2010), 961 dowry death cases, 7,071 molestation cases, 3,840 sex harassment cases and 2,835 rape cases had been filed. Total number was 14,707 cases.

In the last 6 years between 2011 and 2016, 598 dowry death cases, 7,351 molestation cases, 1,435 sex harassment cases and 6,980 rape cases had been filed. The total number is 16,364. During the DMK regime, 2,941 cases were filed in a year on an average, but in Amma's rule, it was on an average 2,727 cases only. This will make clear that these crimes are coming down during AIADMK rule.

The number of rape cases has slightly increased, because such complaints are registered as rape cases under the appropriate sections of law instead of registering and closing them up as petitions and molestation cases as had been done during DMK rule. The victims are also coming forward without any hesitation

to file the complaints. Another reason for the increase in number is the change effected in the meaning in respect of age for being considered as an offence of rape under the POCSO Act.

As per the National Crime Records Bureau data, total number of crimes against women in Uttar Pradesh in 2015 was 35,527, in West Bengal – 33,218, in Maharashtra – 31,126, in Rajasthan-28,165, in Madhya Pradesh – 24,135, in Assam – 23,258, in Odisha -17,144, in Andhra Pradesh – 15,931, in Telangana -15,135, in Bihar – 13,891, in Karnataka -12,705, in Kerala – 9,708, in Haryana -9,446 and in Gujarat -7,762.

But in Tamil Nadu, the total number of crimes against women registered in 2015 was only 5,847. Hence, because of the excellent preventive actions taken by the Police, crimes against women were substantially less in Tamil Nadu when compared to other states.

By way of providing a guarantee to women for their development and safety under this Government, which is working on the lines of Hon'ble Amma, the Police are making adequate safety arrangements at events where they congregate, work places, educational institutions, commercial complexes, temples and the like.

Police have prevented terrorism rearing its head in the State by watching keenly the activities of banned fundamentalist organizations and taking the necessary precautionary measures. Naxal terrorism has been prevented from taking root in the State by mounting vigilance through erection of check posts in State borders and launching search operations in forest areas.

Also, the Department handled the agitations conducted in the last six years by many

organizations over various demands efficiently and patiently and saw to it that no law and order problem arose.

In most of the cases filed, action is taken quickly, the accused are traced and arrested and stolen properties are recovered and handed over to the owners. Even in cases where no clue is available, the accused are apprehended through efficient investigation.

Hon'ble Speaker,

In modernizing the Police Department , providing the needed facilities to the personnel in uniform and in announcing and implementing many excellent welfare schemes designed with a vision, the Tamil Nadu Government, in the last six years after Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi assumed office, continues to be a model to other States. I wish to point out some of them. They are Own Your House Scheme, a Canteen to sell goods at cheap rates to Police personnel, closed user group (CUG) mobile network scheme, Tamil Nadu food subsidy scheme, free full body scan scheme, Tamil Nadu Government Special Assistance scheme, Police Welfare Assistance scheme, Group Insurance scheme and gratuity to the family of Police personnel who are injured while discharging their duty or die in gallant acts. Also, the different allowances given to Constables are hiked now and then.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Besides implementing welfare schemes to Police personnel, Hon'ble Amma's Government is improving infrastructure facilities for them including vehicles and office buildings.

For example, the allotment to Police Department in 2010, at the end of the DMK's

rule, was 2,962 crore. This year's (2017-2018) Budget allocation is Rs. 6,483 crore.

Under the modernization scheme, the State Government, jointly with the Central Government has provided modern training, communication facility, buildings and vehicles at a cost of Rs.560.12 crore.

Besides taking steps to fill up posts in time by collecting advance information on the likely vacancies to be caused, promotions are given now and then to substitute personnel who are working in different positions.

Against the sanctioned posts of 1,23,570 in the Police Department, the number of employees, as on 30.06.2017, is 1,05,099. Orders have been issued to fill up the vacancies and the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and Personnel in Uniform Recruitment Board are taking steps in this regard.

In the last six years, 20,301 Constables and 1,304 sub-inspectors have been recruited and appointed in vacant posts after imparting training. Likewise, 49,574 personnel have been given promotion - from the level of first grade constable upto the level of Director General of Police - between 16.05.2011 and 30.06.2017.

The Tamil Nadu Police Housing Board, started with the primary objective of constructing quality apartments for Police personnel, has constructed in the last six years, 14,835 apartments for constables, 453 Police stations, 89 office buildings, 27 dormitories and 129 other buildings and handed them over; 6,399 apartments for constables, 117 Police stations, 43 office buildings, 14 dormitories and 30 other buildings are under construction. All these, are at a cost of Rs.2,283.42 crore.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma issued orders on 30.12.2012 for the creation of a 'Discretionary Fund' of Rs. 5 crore every year for purchase of articles for the Police Department without waiting for Government sanction but after getting the administrative approval of the Director General of Police. This scheme is not only innovative but a pioneering attempt. This has helped purchase of articles then and there for the use of the Department all over the state.

Also, for contingency expenses, a monthly disbursement of Rs.3,000/- for small Police stations, Rs.5,000/- for middle level stations and Rs.7,000/- for big stations is made. A permanent advance of Rs.10,000/- is also given to every Police station every year.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Realising the importance of the National e-governance programme's Crime and Criminals Tracking Network Systems – CCTNS, introduced by the Central Government, the State Government decided to implement the scheme, allotted needed funds and is implementing the scheme through the State Crime Records Bureau.

Under this scheme, a web site in the name 'Service Portal' has been created with the help of the Central Data Centre for taking up works like verification of passport and personal conduct of individuals, tracing missing persons, tracing missing articles and vehicles by a comparative study and comparing identity cards; the general public also can register their complaints through this website and download forms for applying for licence.

Between 2011-2012 and 2016-2017, Hon'ble Amma made 680 announcements during the motion of grants for the Police Department. Of this, 415 were implemented totally; 261 are under various stages of implementation; 3 are in G.O. issuing stage; and one is under the scrutiny of the Central Government. By implementing 99.5 per cent of the announcements made, I am proud to record that Hon'ble Amma's Government remains a Government of achievement.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Following the motto 'Prevention is better than cure', the Police Department is taking all steps to prevent occurrence of any law and order problem, crime and extremist and terrorist incidents.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Policing is a challenging task though it caters to people's welfare. A knowledge of law, capacity to investigate, administrative acumen, presence of mind, courage, and above all impeccable honesty and the like are the important traits that make Police work a sacred one.

In that way, the Tamil Nadu Police, with a sense of duty, dignity and discipline as laid down by Perarignar Anna, is friendly to law abiding people and a threat to transgressors putting them down with an iron hand. It shines as the model to other States in the maintenance of law and order.

The vagaries of weather, natural disasters and their own families are no matter to them in discharging their duty which they do tirelessly. I appreciate the Police Department's selfless service.

However, some people, without understanding this, make it a habit to blow up untoward incidents that occur once in a blue moon and blame the Police instead of appreciating their services and encouraging them. I appeal to all not to raise a hue and cry over a little bit of slackness that occurs here and there with an understanding that Police Constables too are a part of this society and they are also subjected to societal impacts.

The American writer Mr. Sidney Sheldon once said: “My heroes are those who risk their lives every day to protect our world and make it a better place – Police, firefighters and members of our armed forces”. In accordance with this sentiment, I firmly say that Hon’ble Amma’s Government will extend all assistance to the Police Department to turn it into a force that can meet all challenges in the changing environment for catering to the needs of the people, protect peace in the State and help the state to become the best one in the Country.

I also firmly believe that Police personnel will acquit themselves well in meeting our expectations and aspirations and earn the appreciation of all people in the future too.

Department of Fire and Rescue Services

Hon’ble Speaker,

Besides discharging their duties efficiently, staking their lives, personnel of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services are good at handling emergencies brought about by disasters. People greatly appreciate their incomparable work to bring normality when havoc is caused by Nature’s fury in the form of floods and cyclone.



The Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Department has been fully developed in all respects with the induction of technology, due to the keen efforts put in by the Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and the strong backing provided by this Government.

As announced by Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, two modern snorkel vehicles whose ladders can reach a height of 104 metres were commissioned on 04.03.2017 to fight fires in multi storeyed buildings. These ladders are the firsts in the whole of the Country to reach such a height. The Leader of the Opposition gave this information yesterday. My reply is: “It should be noted that this vehicle was used to douse the fire at the Chennai Silks fire accident at T.Nagar, Chennai, recently”.

The Budget allocation of Rs.159.22 crore for this Department in 2010-2011 has been increased to Rs.222.91 crore in 2016-2017.

From 2011-2012 to 2016-2017, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made 51 announcements in respect of this Department during the motion of demands for grants. Of these, 35 have been fully implemented. For the rest G.Os have been issued and work is in different stages of progress.

In the last six years rule of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, 15 new fire and rescue services stations were set up. For constructing the T.Nagar station, the Greater Chennai Corporation has selected the site. The Tamil Nadu Police Housing Board will shortly commence the construction works.

Steps have been taken to supply gradually small foam tenders to important cities to fight fire accidents in chemical units and factories. Sanction has been accorded for the supply of these tender to Sriperumbudur, Sivakasi, Cuddalore, Madurai, Thirumangalam, Chennai Tondiarpet and they will be put to public use shortly.

As per the announcement of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the following facilities were declared open for the personnel of the Department: a barracks to accommodate 50 bachelors at Mint Street, Chennai, the first of its kind in the state; quarters for employees at Mint Street; quarters for station officers at Washermenpet and own building for the Kangeyam station in Tiruppur District.

To protect fire service personnel, safety vests are being distributed in stages. The once-a-year full-body scan scheme at Government hospitals free of cost, introduced by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for fire service personnel also who have completed 40 years of age is implemented even now.

As in the case of Police personnel, residential quarters under the 'Own Your House' scheme, facility to purchase goods at reduced prices from Police canteen and food allowances are given to fire services personnel also.

Financial sanction has been accorded for procurement of essential technical tools for

upgrading the functioning of the Department.

I wish to inform that the Fire and Rescue Services Department, already working efficiently as to receive the appreciation of the general public, will continue to work with greater vigour to meet the expectations of the people.

"Peace is the sine qua non for a Country's economic growth and an individual's development. The Police force plays an important role in creating such a peaceful environment", said Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The Tamil Nadu Police will carry out that dictum.

Hon'ble Speaker,

The Leader of the Opposition placed a request yesterday for detaching some villages including Mullipalayam, Senpakkam and Konavattam in Vellore District from the jurisdiction of the Vellore Rural Police Station and including them in the jurisdiction of Vellore North Police Station. I am happy to inform that a G.O. for that has been issued yesterday.

As per the request of the Hon'ble member from Arakkonam Thiru. S. Ravi and in consideration of the convenience of the people, a new Police station building will be constructed for the Arakkonam Taluk Police station at its present premises of the Taluk office complex itself, instead of shifting it to Vedal village.

Thiru. J.G. Prince, Colachal MLA placed several demands and expressed many views. Appropriate action will be taken on all his demands after examination.

Hon'ble Tiruttani member Thiru. P. M. Narasimhan wanted a new building for the fire service station functioning from a rented

building in Tiruttani town. After examining the demand, a new building will be constructed.

Also, the various demands of Hon'ble Members Thiru.J. Anbazhagan, Thiru. K.P.P. Baskar and Leader of the Congress party Thiru. K.R.Ramasamy will be examined and appropriate action will be taken.

Acceding to the request of the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, Thiru. Pollachi V.Jayaraman, a traffic Police station in Pollachi town and a fire service station in Kinathukadavu town will be set up.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition Thiru. M.K.Stalin had stated that the integrated transport management scheme for the Chennai Metro had got stuck up. He also placed several demands.

The Government issued an order on 28.02.2012, allotting Rs. 117 crore for the integrated transport management scheme for Chennai Metro and work order was issued to Purple Ippo tech Ltd.Chennai. The work order was terminated on 15.03.2013 as the company did not complete the first phase of the work as per the agreement and did not give any explanation for the same. Against this, the company filed a case in Madras High Court. The case is now pending at a Tribunal. I wish to State that the Government will make all efforts to implement the scheme fully. Hon'ble Amma's Government will also examine kindly his demands and take action on them.

It has been mentioned that the present daily wages of the Home Guard Constables are low. A hike in their wages will be examined. Likewise Thiru. Thamimun Ansari's request

for fixing loud speakers at places of worship will also be examined.

Hon'ble Speaker,

Our unparalleled Leader is our heart-beat; endowed with a pleasing countenance, you are the noblest soul; in showing kindness, you are the Tamil language; you are the immortal flame; years may roll by but your fame will remain for ever, Amma! My lips utter words but my heart weeps for your separation; our Idaya Deivam Amma, you protected our party like an iron fortress; in future, we can win over anyone because of the prowess you gave us; in the present, you guide us following us as a shadow, Amma ! Grace us with strength and energy to take all who sit here and know you well, along with us.

Hon'ble Speaker,

I submit my heartfelt gratitude at the golden feet of Hon'ble Amma for getting this good opportunity of presenting, with Amma's blessings, this demands for grants for the Departments of Police and fire and rescue services.

Hon'ble Speaker,

At this moment, I thank the Home Secretary, the Director General of Police , Director of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services and officials.

Hon'ble Speaker,

I am happy to make, with the blessings of Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, new announcements in respect of the Departments of Police and fire and rescue services now.



Chief Minister draws Prime Minister's attention to abduction of fishermen

D.O. letter dated 24.06.2017 addressed by **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Shri Narendra Modi**,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"I wish to draw your attention to yet another outrageous incident of illegal abduction and detention of 8 innocent Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu. It is reported that 8 fishermen from Akkaraipettai Fishing base of Nagapattinam District ventured out in a mechanised fishing boat on 21.06.2017 for eking out their livelihood in their traditional waters of the Palk Bay. While engaged in fishing, they were apprehended by the Sri Lankan Navy in the late hours of 23.06.2017 and taken to Kangesanthurai, Sri Lanka. It is pertinent to note that 17 Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu along with their 3 fishing boats have been apprehended since our Tamil Nadu fishermen started their fishing operations after a 61 days long fishing ban.

The travails of innocent Tamil Nadu fishermen, who face harassment, abduction and detention at the hands of the Sri Lankan Navy, which continues in the traditional waters, has been brought to your attention repeatedly by our revered leader Late Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and subsequently by me. Things have come to such a pass that fishermen from Tamil Nadu are unable to access their traditional fishing waters for fear of being abducted or attacked by the Sri Lankan Navy. The entire fishermen community in Tamil Nadu is

agitated by the repeated provocative actions of the Sri Lankan Navy through continued apprehensions.

Despite the issue having been taken up repeatedly by the Government of Tamil Nadu, we are yet to see an end to the problem of harassment and arrests of innocent fishermen from Tamil Nadu. These continuing illegal abductions in the high seas, have the potential to harm the joint initiatives of the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Government of India to bring about a permanent solution to this sensitive vexatious livelihood issue of our fishermen.

I request you to instruct the Ministry of External Affairs to register a strong protest with the Sri Lankan authorities about the continuing abductions in the Palk Bay and the prolonged detention of our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy.

I also request you to direct the Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter immediately with the Government of Sri Lanka and secure the immediate release of the 28 fishermen and 138 fishing boats from the Sri Lankan custody including the 8 fishermen and their boat which was taken into custody on 23.06.2017 by the Sri Lankan Navy".



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 13.06.2017 switched on the hearing aid to the 200th child who underwent the Cochlear implant surgery at the General Hospital, Chennai. Hon'ble Ministers and High Government officials were present.

DMK Government gave permission for methane extraction

Explanation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 19.07.2017 on the agitations in the Delta Districts against the methane extraction scheme (*English Translation*)

Hon'ble Speaker,

The Central Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas allocated to the Great Eastern Energy Corporation Ltd (GEECL), in auction, extraction of underground methane through wells in the Taluks of Kumbakonam, Orathanad, Papanasam, Thirupanandhal and Thiruvidaimarudur in Thanjavur District and in the Taluks of Mannargudi, Kodavasal, Needamangalam and Valangaiman in Tiruvarur District and entered into an agreement on 'production and sharing'. Following this, the company applied to Tamil Nadu Government on 28.10.2010 for a licence for a petroleum survey for commencing a survey on coal belt

methane and start production. The earlier DMK Government issued orders dated 01.01.2011 granting permission as per the letters of Thanjavur Geological and Mining Department (letter no.767/2010 dated 22.11.2010) and Tiruvarur District Mining Department (letter no. 866/2010 dated 16.12.2010). Through you, I wish to inform the Leader of the Opposition that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the then Principal Secretary of the Industries Department on behalf of Tamil Nadu Government and Thiru. Yogendra Kumar Modi of M/s. Great Eastern Energy Corporation Ltd. on 4.1.2011 for the implementation of the project.

Chief Minister visualises new Housing and Residential policy



Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 05.07.2017 under Rule 110 (*English Translation*).

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker,

The Vision 2023 Programme of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma envisages the provision of high class infrastructure across the State and making Tamil Nadu, before that year, a slum free State by implementing enough housing schemes. In the last 6 years Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has given many housing schemes to the people of the State. This Government, following her path, I wish to state, will implement the following new schemes:

1. The Tamil Nadu Government will frame a new Housing and Residential policy. The salient features of this policy will include reducing the cost of construction, house for all including the economically backward and low income group, allotment of environmentally suitable land that will suit the purse of the purchaser, ensuring availability of houses to all with the basic amenities of power, drinking water and road, improving construction facilities in urban

areas in tune with the changing economic status of urban citizens, ensuring a long and stable environment- depended life style in urban areas, encouraging stable urbanization, implementing appropriate changes in the law and order institutions, amending Master Plan and Development Control Rules, adopting single window method, fixing time limit for granting of approval to building plan and sanctioning of construction, construction of houses keeping in mind the safety of senior citizens and working women and creating the needed infrastructure for that and formulating a hassle free tenancy procedure for letting out houses on rent.

2. The Tamil Nadu Housing Board will construct 6,874 houses at Ernavoor for slum dwellers at a cost of Rs.676.61 crore by utilizing funds from the Prime Minister Awaz Yojana Fund, funds mobilized through issue of Transferrable Development Rights certificates, beneficiaries' share and the Gap Fund provided by the State Government.

3. Under the Beneficiary-led Construction category of the Prime Minister Awaz Yojana (Urban) scheme, the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board will construct 1,86,308 individual houses at a cost of Rs.5,589.24 crore. Also, under the Affordable Housing in Partnership Component category, 14,828 apartments will be constructed in the current year at a cost of Rs.1,482.80 crore. The State Government's subsidy for these two schemes will be Rs.2,007.53 crore.

4. For planned, stable and lasting town development, it has become necessary to involve qualified urban planners with a speciality of their own for making recommendations on planning land use, framing environment-friendly schemes, creating residential areas with safety features and on tackling job, infrastructure and transport needs. The town planning specialists should have a knowledge of the zonal and local rules, examine the inter-zonal development features and find solutions for them. For this, it has been planned to create, at State level, a job for town planning specialists and frame a separate set of rules of employment. The experts in the pool will be appointed in deputation in Town Planning Department, Chennai Metro Development Authority, Local Planning Authority and in Local Bodies. The Commissioner, Town and Country Planning Directorate will act as the posting authority.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker,

I am happy to announce in this House a few new schemes to be implemented by the Department of Public Health of this Government which is treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

1. To provide high level treatment to cancer patients, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced the upgradation of the Chennai Adyar Cancer Institute at a cost of Rs.120 crore into a Super Speciality Centre. Construction works for this, are going on in full swing. Besides, works on setting up four zonal cancer centres at Madurai, Coimbatore, Thanjavur and Tirunelveli at a cost of Rs.60 crore, are about to be completed. To give modern treatment to cancer patients, modern linear accelerator equipment will be installed at a cost of Rs.64 crore in Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai, Royapettah Government Hospital, Chennai, Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai and in Thanjavur Government Medical College Hospital.

2. Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented for the last six years many welfare schemes for fostering mother-child care. In that way, I am happy to inform that Centres of Excellence will be set up at the District Headquarters Hospitals at Mayiladuthurai, Dindigul, Krishnagiri and Tiruvallur at a cost of Rs.20 crore each (total Rs.80 crore). This will greatly reduce mother and infant mortality.

3. Accident and Emergency Medicine Centres will be set up in the Government Hospitals at Tiruppur, Ramanathapuram, Perambalur, Cheyyar, Ulundurpet, Rajapalayam, Tiruttani, Athur and Karaikudi at a cost of Rs.57 crore. Funds will be mobilized from Tamil Nadu Accident and Emergency Treatment Service and Casualty, National Welfare Funds and Road Safety Fund. Besides, Emergency Stabilisation Centres will be set up at 10 Taluk cum Primary Health Centres. Mobile Emergency Treatment Service with all first aid facilities, will also be started in 5 National Highways.

4. The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation has installed and is maintaining

18 numbers of M.R.I. scan equipment in 17 Government Medical College Hospitals and District Headquarters Hospitals. In the current year MRI scan equipment will be installed in 9 District Headquarters Hospitals – Kancheepuram, Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Nagapattinam, Tiruvallur, Namakkal, Tiruppur and Kallakurichi – at a cost of Rs.45 crore.

5. The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation is procuring, storing and supplying needed medicines for the Government Medical institutions. In 22 Districts where there is not enough godown space, additional buildings will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 33 crore. These Districts are Cuddalore, Pudukottai, Tiruvarur, Vellore, Virudhunagar, Coimbatore, Kancheepuram, Madurai, Nagarcoil, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruchirappalli, Namakkal, Krishnagiri, Tiruvallur, Tiruppur, Salem, Villupuram and Nilgiris.

6. In the current year, CT scans will be installed at 7 Government Hospitals at Manapparai, Mettur Dam, Mannargudi, Pennagaram, Hosur, Paramakudi and Kulithalai at a cost of Rs.12.25 crore.

7. I am happy to inform that handheld computers, costing Rs.9.99 crore will be distributed to 9,994 nurses who have carried out efficiently the mother-child care works.

HANDLOOMS, HANDICRAFT, TEXTILES AND KHADI DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker,

I am happy to make the following announcement on behalf of the Department of Handlooms, Handicraft, Textiles and Khadi:

Considering the hardships faced by potters and other clay article artisans during the rainy

season, the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had announced in the Election Manifesto for the 2016 Assembly election that the present rainy season maintenance allowance of Rs.4,000/- would be increased to Rs.5,000/- for them. By way of implementing the promise, I am happy to inform that the Amma Government that follows the footsteps of Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, will increase the rainy season maintenance allowance to potters and other clay article artisans to Rs.5,000/- from the present Rs.4,000/-. This will benefit 12,236 families; Government will incur an additional expenditure of Rs.1,22,36,000/- annually.

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker,

For the development of study of law, I am happy to announce the following schemes:

1. In the interest of the law students of Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, an additional building with ground and two floors will be constructed for the University at a cost of Rs.13 crore. The new building will have air-condition facility, electronic podiums, digital amplifiers, 20 lecture halls with a seating capacity of 1,040 with CCTV cameras, room for the Director, office rooms, rooms for teachers and guest teachers, seminar hall, model court room, record rooms and a common rest room for women students.

2. Enough space is not there at the present auditorium at the Madurai Government Law College for holding seminars, special classes, cultural programmes, different festivities as also for the convocation. Taking this into consideration, I am happy to inform that a new building, housing a new auditorium in the first floor and a new library in the ground floor, will be constructed at a cost of Rs.8.37 crore. ■

TAB machines to keep tabs on Amma Cement



To improve the implementation of the 'Amma Cement' scheme, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami inaugurated at the Secretariat on 24.06.2017, a high quality integrated computer software, developed at a cost of Rs.1 crore and distributed 65 TAB instruments, purchased at a cost of Rs.25 lakh to officials.

Started as a subsidiary of Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation, the Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation (TANCEM) is functioning, from 1994, as a Government Corporation. TANCEM's current annual production capacity is Rs. 7 lakh tonnes and average annual turnover Rs.750 crore. At present, it is setting up a new ultra-modern cement factory with a production capacity of Rs. 10 lakh tonnes at Ariyalur. Through this, the total production will raise to Rs. 17 lakh tonnes.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma started the 'Amma Cement' scheme in 2015 for reducing the cost when the poor and middle class people construct their own houses. TANCEM is the

co-ordinator for this scheme. A special feature of this scheme is that 'Amma Cement' is supplied at a concessional rate of Rs.190/- per bag when the open market price of cement is ruling between Rs.350/- and Rs. 360/-.

To streamline this scheme, the software is designed to effect direct registration, sale and monitoring of operation. Through this software, officials can get details of cement stocks in the godowns all over the State, demand for cement, sales particulars, information on the beneficiaries, those wait-listed and the like, enabling transparent distribution of cement under this scheme.

To effectively monitor the scheme, TANCEM has purchased 65 TAB instruments at a cost of Rs.25 lakh for distribution to Assistant Directors (audit) of the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat and to zonal managers of the civil supplies corporation. To mark the distribution, Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed the machines to 10 Government officers.

Chief Minister, Union Power Minister confabulate State makes pitch for steps to improve power sector performance in Tamil Nadu



Meeting of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami with Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines on 10.07.2017.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami met the Union Minister of State for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines (Independent Charge) Shri Piyush Goyal in the Secretariat, Chennai on 10.07.2017.

During the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted that after Puratchi Thalaivi took over as Chief Minister in 2011, Tamil Nadu has added 10,492 Megawatt to the State Grid, transforming Tamil Nadu from a State of acute power deficit to a State of power surplus.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister stated the following points:-

A. Tamil Nadu had reached an all time high peak demand of 15,343 Megawatt and an all time high energy consumption of 34.56 crore units on 29.04.2016.

B. Tamil Nadu is a leader in renewable energy and its present installed capacity is around 10,465 Megawatt.

C. The present installed capacity of wind energy is 7,849 Megawatt, which is the highest in the Country. Further it is proposed to add 4,500 Megawatt capacity of wind energy in the next five years. This year, an all-time high generation of 9.95 crore units of wind energy on 30.05.2017 and 4,957 Megawatt of wind power was achieved on 05.06.2017.

D. Tamil Nadu is also first in solar power with an installed capacity of 1,702 Megawatt and it is proposed to increase by another 4,500 Megawatt in the years to come in a phased manner.

E. Tamil Nadu is a pioneer in implementing welfare programmes like free power to agriculture consumers, domestic consumers, power loom and handloom consumers.

F. After Tamil Nadu joined UDAY scheme, Rs. 22,815 crore loans of TANGEDCO has been taken over by the State Government and a Guarantee for Rs. 7,605 crore has been provided to TANGEDCO for mobilization of funds through issue of bonds. This has given substantial relief in interest payments/cash flow management to TANGEDCO for its quicker recovery.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister put forth the following important requests to the Union Minister of State for the improvement of power sector in Tamil Nadu:-

- Expedite bidding process and allocate a separate coal block for **Cheyyur Ultra Mega Power Project**.
- Provide a **Dedicated Inter-State Green Energy Corridor** at the earliest for sale of surplus wind power.
- Allocate the entire power generation of 2,000 Megawatt from **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Units 3 and 4** to Tamil Nadu and to provide evacuation lines upto nearby TANTRANSCO sub-station.
- Abolition of Frequency Linked Penalty for Renewable Energy Rich State.
- Waive the compensation charges while surrendering CGS power due to high renewables.

Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise Thiru. P. Thangamani, Thiru. Vikram Kapur, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Energy Department, Dr.M.Saikumar, I.A.S., Chairman and Managing Director, TANGEDCO and other officials were present. The Union Minister of State for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines (Independent Charge) was accompanied by Dr. B. P. Acharya, Chairman and Managing Director, Neyveli Lignite Corporation and others were present. ■

Rural roads of 3,500 kilometres to be upgraded at Rs. 800 crore



Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 on 03.07.2017 (*English Translation*).

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Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Hon'ble Speaker,

It is no exaggeration to say that villages are the life-breath of a State. In the interest of the rural people, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took several steps like creating basic and infrastructure facilities available in urban areas in villages also, developing rural roads, providing housing facilities, maintaining a clean environment and hygiene and creating livelihood opportunities to rural people. Also,

after assuming office as Chief Minister in 2011, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma introduced the Green House scheme with solar power. It received overwhelming support from the people.

I am extremely happy to make the following announcements which will benefit rural people in the current year.

1. A Rs.800 crore Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Development Scheme was introduced in 2015-2016 to develop different kinds of roads under one scheme. In the last 2 years,

8,875 km long roads were developed under this scheme at a cost of Rs.1,600 crore. I am happy to inform that in the year 2017-2018, 3,500 km long rural roads will be upgraded at a cost of Rs.800 crore.

2. Following the excellent implementation of the Prime Minister Rural Road Scheme, the Central Government has given the go ahead signal for the implementation of the second phase of this scheme. Through this, 2,659 km long rural roads and 25 high rise bridges will be upgraded in 2017-2018 at a cost of Rs. 1,254 crore.
3. One thousand buildings will be constructed at a cost of Rs.600 crore at the rate of Rs.60 lakh each, for the Federations of Self Help Groups for strengthening them, facilitating them to exchange their views and offer training and for marketing their products through holding exhibitions.
4. To achieve the goal of 'Totally Hygienic Tamil Nadu' free of open defecation, 26.49 lakh individual house toilets will be constructed under the 'Swach Bharat' Movement and National Employment guarantee scheme, at a total cost of Rs.3,178 crore with an incentive component of Rs.12,000/- a toilet.
5. To further enhance the successful implementation of the solid waste management scheme in all Village Panchayats, to modernize the procedures for the removal of the wastes and by way of providing additional infrastructure facility, street litter bins at an estimate of Rs. 200 crore, tri-cycles/push carts (Rs.100 crore) and battery operated push carts (Rs. 200 crore) will be given to Village Panchayats adjoining Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town

Panchayats, those in hill regions and to large Village Panchayats with big population. Totally, Rs.500 crore will be spent on this scheme.

6. Through arranging timely bank credit at low interest rates for the Self Help Groups, means are provided for the economic development of women and for relieving them from their debt burden. In the last six years, during the regime of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, banks have given a loan of Rs.32,848 crore for the economic development of the members of women Self Help Groups. I wish to inform that in the current year, Rs.7,000 crore bank loan will be given to women Self Help Groups.

Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply

Hon'ble Speaker,

On behalf of this Government that works in the direction shown by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I am very happy to make the following announcements in regard to the Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply.

The following works will be taken up under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation Scheme (AMRUT) with Central, State Government and local bodies participation:

1. Underground sewerage system will be implemented in the areas included in Vellore Municipal Corporation – Sathuvacheri, Alamelumangapuram and Konavattam – at a cost of Rs. 343.69 crore, benefiting 2.62 lakh people.

2. Underground sewerage system will be implemented in the annexed areas of Coimbatore Municipal Corporation – Kurichi

and Kuniyamuthur – at a cost of Rs.442 crore benefiting 2,58,734 persons.

3. Underground sewerage system will be implemented in Golden Rock and Abhishekapuram areas, which have been attached with the Tiruchirappalli Municipal Corporation, at a cost of Rs.325 crore. This will benefit 77,454 persons.

4. In the extended areas of Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation, underground sewerage

system will be implemented at a cost of Rs.326 crore benefiting 2,14,857 persons.

5. The rectification works in the Adyar backwaters and river mouth areas, measuring to 358 acres have been fully completed. As a follow up of this, rectification work of the entire stretch of 42 kms – from the point of Adyar river's origination to the river mouth – will be taken up at a cost of Rs.555.46 crore. With this happy information, I resume my seat.



Appointment orders to Assistant Doctors



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami presented appointment orders on 29.06.2017 to 24 persons to mark the direct recruitment of 340 assistant doctors and 165 speciality assistant doctors by the Medical Services Recruitment Board and their absorption in Government service. The event of presenting the orders took place at the auditorium of the Tamil Nadu Multi Super Speciality Hospital in the Omandurar Government Estates complex.

To swiftly fill up the vacancies in Government hospitals and in the new posts created, a Medical Services Recruitment Board was set up exclusively for the Health Department, a first of its kind in India. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in January 2012. Till now, 20,862 personnel including 8,692 doctors and speciality doctors and 9,190 nurses have been selected. Now 340 more assistant doctors and 165 speciality assistant doctors have been recruited.



Rs. 430 crore bio-tech centre to give boost to agriculture



Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
in the Legislative Assembly under rule 110 (*English translation*).

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker,

Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented many vigorous measures to make Tamil Nadu the premier State in the Country in the development of agriculture, the substratum of a Country's economy,

by increasing foodgrain production and improving the livelihood of farmers who feed the humanity.

Due to these efforts, the food grain production in 2014-2015 increased to 1,27,95,000 tonnes. During the period 2011-2016, the State produced more than 100 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for 4 years, a record

and got for this achievement, the Central Government's Krishi Karman Awards four times. The credit goes to Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

On behalf of this Government, that functions in the path shown by Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I make the following announcements:

❖ Considering the present drought, cultivation of horticulture crops which need little water and ensure an income to farmers, will be encouraged. Towards this end, cultivation of hybrid varieties in vegetables like tomato, brinjal and lady's finger and high yielding varieties will be taken up in 11,250 acres in 22 Districts. For this scheme, Rs. 9 crore will be allotted. Some 2,250 farmers will benefit. For this, hybrid seeds and vegetable saplings will be distributed on a 50 per cent subsidy – up to Rs.8,000/- per acre.

❖ Taking into account the importance of the environment, Amma's Government formulated a 'Solar Energy Policy' in 2012 and encouraged its use in several ways. In the last 4 years, 2,826 solar power driven pump sets have been set up at a subsidy of Rs.102 crore. As there is great demand for these pump sets, the Tamil Nadu Government will give this type of pump sets to 1,000 farmers in the current year at a 90 per cent subsidized rate. A sum of Rs.15 crore will be allotted to Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation for providing 30 per cent subsidy and Rs. 29.94 crore to the Agriculture Engineering Department towards the balance of 60 per cent subsidy.

❖ I am happy to inform that a Centre of Excellence for Bio-technology will be set up at a cost of Rs.430 crore, as a 10-year project, at the campus of the Agriculture University

Coimbatore. In the current year, preliminary works for this Centre will be taken up at an estimate of Rs.51 crore. At this Centre, bio-agriculture inputs like fast-acting enzymes, bio-hormones that aid in ripening and enzymes that regulate the growth of plants, biological materials applied in agriculture and bio-activation procedures will be developed with public-private co-operation for Tamil Nadu farmers to use them commercially.

❖ To reduce produce wastage after harvest, to effect value added sale at farm level and to improve the management of the distribution chain of horticulture products through collection, grading and packaging, 597 pack houses will be set up at farm level in the current year. At the rate of Rs.2 lakh for a pack house, Rs.11.94 crore will be allotted.

❖ For farmers to get the services of all Departments connected with agriculture, under one roof, 146 integrated agri-extension centres are being set up at Taluk level. At the 550 sub agri-extension centres, functioning at village level, many buildings are damaged. To modernize them, 160 sub-centres will be renovated in the first phase, in the current year, at a cost of Rs.48 crore.

❖ During the regime of Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, a women's horticulture college at Tiruchirappalli and three agriculture colleges at Kudimiyanmalai, Eechankottai and Vazhavacchanur were newly started. To improve the learning skill of students in these three colleges and in the other centres of the Agriculture University – Killikulam agriculture colleges in Coimbatore and Thoothukudi Districts, Periyakulam Horticulture college, Mettupalayam Forest College and Research Institute and in various other institutes including National Pulses Research Centre, Vamban, Cuddalore

Sugarcane Research Institute and Ooty Horticulture Research Station, basic facilities and infrastructure facilities including seed hubs will be created. In the current year Rs. 108 crore will be allotted for this. The facilities include library, additional class rooms, research halls, hostels, auditorium and pure drinking water.

❖ Government is taking appropriate steps to improve the services of the agriculture extension centres so that quality inputs and technologies reach farmers in time. As part of these efforts, I am happy to inform that 430 posts of Agriculture Assistant will be filled up through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission.

REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government that follows the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I am very happy to make the following announcements:

❖ Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made it her Government's policy that people should get the services of Government easily and speedily and implemented it. In Erode District, Government offices in many places including the offices of District Panchayat, District Rural Development Agency, Aids Control Centre, Dairy Co-operative Society, Handlooms and Textiles Department Office, Industrial Security and Directorate of Health, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Water Supply and Drainage Board, and Social Welfare Department Office, are functioning from rented buildings. To enable these offices to function at the Erode District Collectorate Masterplan Complex itself, additional buildings will be constructed at an estimate of Rs.52.96 crore.

I am extremely happy to announced that this building will be named as 'Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary Celebration Building', to mark the centenary celebration of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

❖ In Madurai District, the offices of Information and Public Relations, Audit, District Treasury, Adi Dravidar Welfare, Revenue Divisional Officer, District Supply Office, Zonal Excise Office and of other Departments are functioning from rented buildings in different places. To shift these offices to the Madurai District Collectorate Master Complex, additional buildings will be constructed in that complex at an estimate of Rs.26.62 crore. I am very happy to inform that this building will be named as 'Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary Celebration Building' to commemorate the centenary celebration of late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

❖ In Namakkal District, Government offices for the Departments of Hindu Religious and Endowments, Handloom and Textiles, Silk Development, the branch office of the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investments Corporation, Animal Husbandry and the office of the Assistant Director, Panchayat Audit are functioning at different places from rented buildings. For these offices to function from the Namakkal District Collectorate Master Complex, additional buildings will be constructed at a cost of Rs.14.60 crore.

❖ When disasters strike, the State Government undertakes rescue and rectification works by co-ordinating different Departments. When the scale of damage is high, the National Disaster Rescue Force is also engaged in rescue works besides State Government Departments. A separate unit,

well versed in local topography is necessary for reducing the hardships during the occurrence of disasters, to dispatch rescue assistance to the affected areas immediately without loss of time and to reach the affected areas and people easily. On the lines of the National Disaster Rescue Force, there is already a State Disaster Rescue Force. To strengthen this State Force and to take up all kinds of action during times of major disasters, a separate battalion will be created in the Police Department under the name “Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force”. For its skill development and for purchase of communication and rescue equipment, Rs.15 crore will be given from the State Disaster Relief Fund.

❖ Of late, Tamil Nadu is continuously facing unprecedented disasters due to climate

change. For the skill development of the various Departments that engage in rescue works and to improve rescue and communication works, the Tamil Nadu Government is supplying modern equipment from the State Disaster Management Fund. In continuation of this, a sum of Rs.52.40 crore will be disbursed from this Fund this year to Chennai Municipal Corporation, Department of Fire and Rescue Services, Water Supply and Drainage Board, Coastal Police Force, Forest Department, PWD, Home Guards, Highways Department and the like and to District Collectors for purchase of modern equipment inclusive of Search and Rescue equipment. With this, I resume my seat.

NEWS IN PICTURE



On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. D.Jayakumar, (Fisheries, Finance, Personnel and Administrative Reforms), Thiru. Kadambur Raju, (Information and Publicity), Thiru. P. Benjamin (Rural Industries), Tmt. P. Valarmathi, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, Thiru. R. Venkatesan IAS, Secretary, (in charge), Department of Tamil Development and Information, Thiru. J. Kumaragurubaran I.A.S., Director, Department of Information and Public Relations offered floral tributes to portraits of Tyagis Shenbagaraman, Sankaralinganar, Arya @ Bashyam, placed near their statues in Gandhi Mandapam, Chennai in connection with Martyr's Day on 17.07.2017.

Chief Minister announces 150 new vet dispensaries

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker,

In the last six years, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave great importance to Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and framed and implemented many pioneering schemes.

On behalf of Amma's Government that follows the path shown by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I am happy to make the following announcements connected with the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries:

- ❖ In the current year, 150 new veterinary dispensaries will be constructed at a cost of Rs.49.09 crore with NABARD's financial assistance.
- ❖ In the current year, 93.86 lakh livestock will be vaccinated at a cost of Rs.18.70 crore to prevent infectious diseases.
- ❖ In the interest of the students of the College of Food and Dairy Technology, functioning under the Tamil Nadu Veterinary

Sciences University at Koduveli, classroom buildings and laboratories will be upgraded at a cost of Rs.14 crore with NABARD's assistance for improving the infrastructure facilities to global level.

- ❖ Infrastructure facilities will be created in 9 District milk producers' co-operative unions for handling the surplus milk received from the producers. The beneficiary unions are those of Dindigul, Sivagangai, Pudukkottai,

Thanjavur, Vellore, Kancheepuram-Tiruvallur, Virudhunagar, Dharmapuri and Tirunelveli. The facilities to be provided are refrigeration, setting up milk parlour, installing milk processing machineries, upgrading effluent treatment plant, fodder godowns, ghee filling machinery, quality control laboratory, milk filling machinery and other equipment.

- ❖ There are about 12,000 primary milk producers' co-operative societies. Salary for about 20,000 workers engaged in procuring milk from producers at village level, checking the quality of milk and distributing fodder, is

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of
Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
in the Legislative Assembly on 14.07.2017
under Rule 110 (English Translation)

fixed on the basis of the milk produced in the respective societies and the profit they earn. There is a demand for effecting a hike in their salaries. While the Government is examining an alternative proposal for giving monetary benefit, as an immediate measure, Rs.200/- will be added on to the monthly salary of these 20,000 workers. The expenditure of Rs.5 crore on account of this hike, will be met from the Society Fund.

❖ The first Fisheries University in India was set up by Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma at Nagapattinam in 2012. To meet the human resources requirements in the fisheries section, a new Fisheries College and Research Institute will be started

in the current year at Oradiampulam village, Thalaigayiru town panchayat, Vedaranyam Taluk, Nagapattinam District. Twenty students will be enrolled in this college for under graduate course. Infrastructure facilities for this college will be laid in 15 acres of land and fresh water and brackish water fish farms will be set up in 50 acres of land. To set up this fisheries college and research institute, Rs.28.82 crore will be given in the first phase.

❖ A fisheries coaching centre at Royapuram, Chennai and another centre to give different kinds of training in fish rearing technology at the Fisheries University complex at Muttukadu

in Kancheepuram District will be set up at a cost of Rs.13.80 crore.

❖ At post graduate level an MBA course in Fisheries Enterprises Management will be introduced, in the Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, Vanianchavadi complex in Chennai in the current year. The University will be the first in the whole Country to offer this course. Forty students will be enrolled every year. Also a Marine Bio-technology post graduate



course will be started with the assistance of the Central Government Department of Bio-technology. The student in-take will be 12. Besides, a Fisheries Pharmacology post graduate course will be started, the first of its kind in the Country. In this complex, a modern library, ultra-

modern laboratories and other laboratories for doing research on different disciplines like heredity controlling genes, biological basic structure, DNA chain, enzymes, microbiology and biochemistry, will be set up. Additional educational facilities, costing Rs.6.35 crore will be created for these post graduate courses in this University.

❖ An Environmental Safety Park, will be set up at a cost of Rs.10 crore in the current year at Manakudi fishermen village in Kanniyakumari District. The park will come up in the 10 acre wide fish farm at the confluence of Pazhayaaru river and the sea. It will have fish-rearing tank, pleasure boating facilities, track for walking

exercise, pastures, aquarium with colourful fishes, children's corner and food courts.

❖ A multi-storey car park set up by the Fisheries Department to cater to the needs of visitors to the Recreational Line fishing and Green Park in the Chetpet Lake, is designed for 9 floors but functions now with 5 floors only. Taking into account the needs of the metro rail commuters of the Kilpauk Metro Station, additional floors will be constructed in this car park in consultation with the Chennai Metro Rail company on a revenue sharing basis after undertaking detailed survey.

❖ A national ornamental fish rainbow super market will be set up by the Fisheries University at Madhavaram, Chennai at a cost of Rs.3.50 crore. The aim is to develop commerce in ornamental fish at global level by bringing together traders in this field. All articles connected with the rearing of ornamental fish will be available in the proposed super market. It will also have recreational facilities to attract the traders and the general public.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker,

I am extremely happy to make the announcements in this House for the Information Technology Department of this Government which follows the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

❖ The Tamil Nadu Wide Area Network is a sharing scheme of Centre-State Governments, created under the National e-Governance

Programme. The Electronic Corporation of Tamil Nadu is implementing the scheme. The network was established in two stages. In the first state, all the District headquarters were connected with the State capital; in the second stage, all the revenue divisional offices, Taluk offices and Taluk development offices were connected with District headquarters.

❖ With the completion of the two-stage connectivity, the third stage of connectivity, I am happy to inform, will be implemented in the five year period 2017-2022 at a cost of Rs.437.96 crore. This will greatly benefit the Government Departments and the general public.

❖ In every District in the State, a village will be selected as 'Amma e-village' and services like WiFi Hotspot, smart street lighting, tele-education and tele-medicine will be made available.

❖ This scheme will be implemented through the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency with funds from the Corporate Social Responsibility Fund and the respective Department's scheme allocations. Through this, modern technology based services, not available till now at the panchayat level, can be taken to villages. Through e-class rooms, lessons taken by a talented teacher in a place can be made to reach the village schools through video conferencing and internet. Likewise, in the medical field, the advice of a specialist doctor can be obtained, remaining in the village, through tele medicine

❖ A Memorandum of Understanding between State and Central Governments was signed in my presence at the Secretariat on 25.04.2017 for connecting the 12,524 village panchayats in Tamil Nadu through optical fibre for taking the different services of the Government to people.

❖ The State Government has decided to implement the above Optical Fibre Network scheme to benefit the urban areas also by establishing connectivity among municipal corporations, municipalities and town panchayats so that all people in Tamil Nadu can enjoy the benefits of the digital revolution and get the various services of the Government near their houses through internet. This scheme will be named Tamil Net. Funds for this scheme will be raised from the Tamil Nadu



Government Cable TV and from companies like Electronic Corporation of Tamil Nadu. It will be implemented through public-private participation.

BACKWARD, MOST BACKWARD AND MINORITY COMMUNITIES WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker,

I am happy to make the announcements of the Department of Backward, Most Backward and Minority Communities Welfare..

❖ Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma launched a scheme to distribute house sites, sewing machines and laundry iron boxes at no cost to persons belonging to backward, most backward and de-notified communities whose annual income does not exceed Rs.40,000/- in rural areas and Rs.60,000/- in urban areas. To extend this benefit to a larger section of people in these communities, the Tamil Nadu Government which works in the path shown by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, will increase the ceiling for eligibility to benefit under this scheme, to Rs.72,000/- per year.

❖ I am happy to inform that the annual income ceiling of parents of girl students belonging to most backward and de-notified communities for eligibility to receive benefits under the Rural Women Education Incentive Scheme, will be increased from Rs.25,000/- to Rs.72,000/-.



‘Adequate treatment provided in time to victims of Kodungaiyur bakery fire’



Explanation of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 18.07.2017 on the fire accident at Kodungaiyur on 15.07.2017 (English Translation).

.....

Hon’ble Speaker,

Immediately after the receipt of an alert to the fire control room that a fire had broken out in a closed bakery shop at Kodungaiyur in Kannadasan Nagar around 11.17 p.m. on the night of 15.07.2017, a water tender from Korukkupet and fire fighters with their safety vests rushed to the spot. The Esplanade Fire Station also sent a water lorry and Fire Service Personnel.

On reaching the spot, the water tender from Korukkupet started cooling the building where the fire broke out. On seeing smoke billowing out from the bakery, fire fighters Ekaraj, Lakshmanan and Rajadurai and driver mechanic Jayabalan tried to pull out the shop’s shutter.

As it went up half a feet, the gas cylinder in the shop exploded and the shutter was blown out. A great fire ball formed and hit the fire fighters, Constables on duty and the assembled people. As the torn shutter was thrown out to a distance of 30 feet with great velocity, the fire fighters received the major impact.

All the affected persons were rushed to Stanley Government Hospital and Kilpauk Medical College Hospital through the ‘108’ ambulance and private ambulance vehicles.

Fire fighter Thiru. Ekaraj died due to head injuries and burns. The deceased is survived by his wife Pandiselvi, two sons and a daughter. Orders have been issued to provide employment to his heir on compassionate grounds. Orders



have also been issued to give a compensation of Rs.13 lakh to the bereaved family – Rs. 3 lakh from the Chief Minister Relief Fund and Rs.10 lakh as ex-gratia payment.

As per the requests of the relatives of the severely injured fire fighters Rajadorai and Lakshmanan, they have been shifted to private hospitals and are under treatment. Their medical expenses will be met through the Contingency medical Fund which I had announced during the Police Department's demands for grants. Rs. 50 lakh have been allotted for this.

Also, the Hon'ble Amma's Government has ordered a hike in the payment of ex-gratia to the Personnel of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services, on par with Police Personnel, from this financial year. Accordingly, the ex-gratia will be Rs.10 lakh instead of Rs.5 lakh for the families of those who lay down their lives while on duty in gallant acts, from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.4 lakh for those who are permanently disabled, from Rs.20,000/- to Rs. 2 lakh for those who sustain severe burns and from Rs.20,000/- to Rs. 1 lakh for those who sustain burns in lesser degrees.

Driver Mechanic Jayabalan who sustained external injuries was treated at the Kilpauk

Medical College Hospital and returned home on 17.07.2017.

Following an alert from the manager of the '108' emergency ambulance service at midnight 12.10 hours on 16.07.2017 on the Kodungaiyur fire accident, the Resident Medical Officer of the Kilpauk Medical College Hospital sent a message to the Principal of the college, Emergency Ward Doctors and the Chief Doctor of the Burns ward to remain ready to attend on patients. Five doctors in other wards were deputed to the emergency ward. Likewise, 3 senior surgeons of the Burns ward, a plastic surgery professor, 8 additional nurses and 30 trainee-nurses were summoned to come to hospital for emergency work and they too reached the hospital. Thirty persons affected in the fire accident were admitted to the emergency and burns wards. Four more were also admitted. Eleven affected persons were admitted as in-patients in Stanley Medical College Hospital and two were being treated as out-patients. Inclusive of the one admitted to the Government General Hospital, the total number injured in this accident is 48. Of them, 5 are from the Police Department, 4 are fire fighters, one belongs to the Home Guard and 38 are members of the general public.

Among these persons, fire fighter Thiru. Ekaraj was admitted with 23 per cent burns and head injuries and died at 3.15 a.m. on 16.07.2017 despite intensive treatment by Doctors.

The face and wind pipes of all those admitted were affected by heat and smoke. Of the 32 persons treated at the Kilpauk Hospital, 12 persons, on the request of their relatives, went to private hospitals without doctor's permission. The remaining 20 persons are getting intensive treatment in the hospital. So too, 10 persons in the Stanley Hospital. Thiru. Jayabalan of the Fire Services Department was cured and discharged yesterday (17.07.2017). Of the remaining 39 persons, five have suffered burns 60 to 82 per cent, 16 persons from 40 to 60 per cent, 12 persons 20 to 40 per cent and the rest -6 persons- less than 20 per cent.

Two Police Personnel were treated as out-patients; three Police Personnel and one belonging to Home Guards are being treated as in-patients in a private hospital.

Five members of the general public are undergoing treatment in a private hospital on the request of relatives two more with minor burns injuries returned home without Doctor's permission.

All the in-patients are given high class treatment. At the Kilpauk Medical College Hospital, Professors, Assistant Professors of Plastic Surgery and in-house Doctors keep vigil over the patients round-the-clock. Also, a special medical team consisting of Professor of plastic surgery, Assistant Professor, General Doctor, Surgeons, Orthopaedist, Anaesthetist, Neurologist, Nephrologist, Paediatrician, Psychiatrists and 35 Nurses was formed and it is attending on the patients, continuously from 7 a.m. on 16.07.2017.

When the Leader of the Opposition visited the patients on the night of 16.07.2017, duty doctors there explained in detail to him the treatment being given to them.

A Burns Ward with 10 beds under the Plastic Surgery Department was started by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar in June 1981. On request, the bed strength was increased to 50 in 1985.

To strengthen the ward into a Centre of Excellence for Burns, an announcement was made in the Budget for 2012-2013 and Hon'ble Amma's Government issued orders on 31.10.2012, sanctioning Rs.4.87 crore for the first phase of the project.

It is to be noted that the ward which gave treatment to 149 patients in 1981, treated 3,746 persons in 2016. This year, till date, 1,476 persons have been treated. In South India, this is a very big Centre of Excellence with a bed strength of 70. It is functioning as a referral hospital for all Southern States for critical patients and has earned encomiums internationally.

In 2016, 587 patients from Government and private hospitals were referred to this Centre of Excellence for high-level treatment. In 2017, till date, 304 patients have been referred and treated. This ward functions round-the-clock.

As this Centre of Excellence is equipped well in all respects – medicine, instruments, trained doctors, nurses and non-medical staff – to give high level treatment on global standards, the news that adequate treatment has not been given to the affected persons, is contrary to facts.

I wish to state to this House that Government has taken all steps to provide adequate treatment to persons affected by the fire accident.

No info of any merger of Tamil research body

Explanation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami in the Legislative Assembly on 11.07.2017 over
the Institute's merger with Central University (English Translation)

Hon'ble Speaker,

The Central Institute of Classical Tamil Research is functioning from the campus of Tamil Nadu Government Road Transport Enterprise, Taramani, Chennai. The State Government has allotted 17 acres of land at Sholinganallur, Kancheepuram District to this Institute and the Central Government PWD has taken up construction works there.

By way of exhibiting to the world the classical dimensions of the Tamil language, senior Tamil scholars and researchers do higher research in this Institute and bring out the greatness of the language.

In this situation, there were reports that attempts were being made to merge this Institute with the Central University of Tamil Nadu at Tiruvarur. No information has been received from the Central Government either by me, as the Chairman of the Governing Council of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil Research or by the Tamil Nadu Government in this regard.

I wish to inform this House that Tamil Nadu Government will take necessary appropriate steps once the information is received from the Central Government. ■

Clarification on query about gutka ban



Clarification of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 29.06.2017 on the leader of the Opposition Thiru. M.K. Stalin's question regarding banned substances like gutka (*English Translation*).

Hon'ble Speaker,

In his letter dated 22.12.2016 to the Home Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, the Chennai Police Commissioner has informed that information has been received that anti-social elements, with the connivance of some Police officials are selling, producing and distributing intoxicating harmful substances like gutka and mava.

The Tamil Nadu Government forwarded that letter on 23.01.2017 to the Director of Vigilance and Anti-corruption with a directive to initiate preliminary investigations on it. The

matter is now under the investigation of the Department of Vigilance and Anti-corruption.

In this regard, Thiru. T. Vincent filed a writ petition (1846/2017) in the Madras High Court seeking a CBI inquiry. When the petition came up for hearing on 27.01.2017, a Bench of Chief Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice M.Sundar dismissed the petition stating that the Police Commissioner himself had sought an inquiry. "We see no reason why the Court should step into this issue when the authorities are themselves conscious of the gravity of the issue", the Bench said. I am conveying this to this House. ■

New slum tenements built at Nochikuppam



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 04.07.2017 Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board's 536 apartments constructed at a cost of Rs.48.06 crore at Nochikuppam scheme area, Chennai. Also declared open in the city were 140 apartments at B.S.Moorthy Nagar scheme area, 32 apartments in the Nagooran Garden scheme area (totally Rs.15.93 crore) and Tamil Nadu Housing Board's apartments and houses across the State, costing Rs.133.46 crore.

On 15.07.2014, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced in the Assembly under Rule 110 that 534 apartments would be constructed at Nochikuppam scheme area in response to a request from the families residing there, as their present dwellings, constructed in 1972, had become dilapidated. By way of implementing the announcement, 536 apartments were constructed and declared open.

The other two scheme area projects in B.S.Moorthy Nagar and Nagooran Garden, Chennai, declared open were implemented at a cost of Rs.13.37 crore and Rs.2.56 crore respectively.

The Housing Board's apartments/houses declared open are: 39 houses under self-financing scheme at Velichemmandalam, Cuddalore District (Rs.6.03 crore), 204 apartments under self-financing scheme at Indira Nagar, Chennai (Rs.111.06 crore), 74 apartments at Hosur, Krishnagiri District (Rs.13.09 crore), 20 houses in Maharajasamudram, Pattukottai Municipality, Thanjavur District (Rs.3.28 crore) – totally 397 apartments/houses costing Rs.133.46 crore.

In all, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open Slum Clearance Board and Housing Board's apartments/ houses costing totally Rs.197.45 crore.



Clarificatory statement on Kathiramangalam incident

Reply of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 03.07.2017 to a special call attention notice over the public protest against undertaking maintenance work in ONGC's deep bore well (*English Translation*).

Hon'ble Speaker,

The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has been extracting crude oil from some private lands in Kathiramangalam village, Thanjavur District, taken on lease by it. The Corporation has been issued a mining lease licence, effective from 01.06.2001. Till date, works have been going on at the place without any hassle. The ONGC moved some equipment to the site to undertake maintenance works in a deep bore well from 18.05.2017.

On 19.05.2017, villagers in that area launched a road roko near the ONGC office, construing the movement of equipments as preparatory works for extracting methane gas.

The Kumbakonam Sub-Collector held talks with the village people on 25.05.2017, 27.05.2017 and on 31.05.2017 on this issue. As the villagers refused to accept the explanations offered by the ONGC, the talks failed.

The ONGC started its maintenance works in the bore well on 02.06.2017 with Police protection after informing the District administration. Prof. Jayaraman, Chief Co-ordinator for the Anti-Methane Scheme Federation and 9 others were arrested when they tried to block the maintenance works.

Following this, 93 villagers who had assembled near the ONGC well were also arrested. While Jayaraman and the 9 others were remanded to judicial custody, the other arrested persons were release on bail at the Police Station itself. Jayaraman and 9 others came out on bail on 06.06.2017.

About 400 Kathiramangalam village people, again launched a road rook on 05.06.2017, stressing their demands. Revenue and Police Department officials held talks with them and they dispersed peacefully.

In the meanwhile, the ONGC took up the maintenance works in its well from 02.06.2017.

Following information that a leak had developed in an oil and gas pipe that ran across a private fallow land near Vana Durgai Amman temple on the Kathiramangalam-Pandanallur road on 30.06.2017, the ONGC, Revenue and Police Officials rushed to the spot.

Before they could reach the place, about 150 persons from Kathiramangalam village squatted on the road in that place, prevented the ONGC officials from accessing the place and also demanded that the District Collector should come there in person. Without heeding the advice of the District revenue and Police

Officials, they set fire to articles including a haystack spread out on the road near a gas well and some among them pelted stones at the Police Personnel.

In this attack, a Police Inspector, two Constables and a person from Kathiramangalam village were injured and a vehicle of the Police Department was damaged. As the agitators ignored Police advice to disperse peacefully and continued to indulge in violence by pelting

stones, the Police used minimum force and dispersed them. Later, the ONGC officials cut off the gas connection. A case has been registered in this connection and 10 persons were arrested and remanded to judicial custody.

I wish to State that necessary security arrangements have now been made in Kathiramangalam village and the situation is peaceful there.

News in Picture



In connection with the birth anniversary of Erattaimalai Srinivasan on 07.07.2017, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. D. Jayakumar (Fisheries, Finance and Personnel and Administrative Reforms), Thiru. Kadambur Raju (Information and Publicity), Thiru. P. Benjamin (Rural Industries), Tmt. P. Valarmathi, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Textbooks and Educational Services Corporation, MPs Thiru. P. Venugopal, and Dr. J. Jayavardhan, Thiru. R. Venkatesan I.A.S., Secretary (in charge), Department of Tamil Development and Information, Thiru. J. Kumaragurubaran I.A.S., Director, Information and Public Relations Department, Thiru. S. P. Ezhilazhagan, Additional Director, Information and Public Relations Department, sprinkled flower petals on a portrait of Erattaimalai Srinivasan placed near his statue and paid their respects on behalf of Tamil Nadu Government.



‘Avvai is Paatti, Puratchi Thalaivi is Amma for Tamils all over the world’

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at a function at Raj Bhavan on 14.07.2017 where a statue of Avvaiyar was unveiled (*English Translation*)

My respects to Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I am honoured and happy to participate in the unveiling ceremony of the statue of Avvaiyar, a great and erudite scholar who added glory to the entire women community.

At this hour, I thank the Hon’ble Governor, who, by his act of unveiling a statue of Deiva Pulavar Tiruvalluvar, the symbol of Tamils, at the Raj Bhavan on June 18 last, added glory to the entire Tamil community. Now, by installing and unveiling the statue of Avvaiyar in the same campus, Hon’ble Governor has demonstrated his involvement with the Tamil language

and Tamils. Hence, once again, I thank the Hon’ble Governor on behalf of Tamils everywhere.

Also, I extend my respects to the Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Justice Kumari Indira Banerjee who has delivered an excellent speech at this function.

At the outset, I offer my greetings to the Hon’ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Hon’ble Ministers who are gracing this function, Hon’ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon’ble Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, Hon’ble Whip in the Assembly,

MPs, MLAs, Chief Secretary to Government Dr. Girija Vaidyanathan who is participating in the function as a special guest, Principal Secretary to the Governor, Thiru. Ramesh Chand Meena, Government officials, Print and Media friends and to all others.

As Avvaiyar is foremost among women who brought glory to Tamil language and Tamils, I am honoured to participate in the function got up for unveiling her statue.

Through her songs, Avvaiyar spread the great principles that underlie human society. Hence, we Tamils revere her, till date, as a goddess of Wisdom. Avvaiyar gave immortal works like 'Aathichoodi', 'Kondrai vendhan', 'Moodhurai' and 'Gnana Kural'. Even in the Sangam period, as a individual woman, she astonished everyone through her songs which displayed her wisdom.

Like that, our Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also won victories in the male dominated political field of Tamil Nadu by marshalling her intelligence and courage. She became the unchallenged leader of Tamil Nadu and an unparalleled woman of achievements and captured power and implemented, as a democrat, many visionary welfare schemes which even kings could not. To the leader Amma also, Avvaiyar was the pioneer and guide. As Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma fulfilled all the norms Avvaiyar had delineated in her songs, Tamils all over the world fondly call her as 'Amma'. Tamils have struck a kinship with both and lovingly call

Avvaiyar as 'Grandmaa' and Puratchi Thalaivi as 'Amma'.

This honour has not been bestowed to any other scholar or leader on Tamil soil. To further enhance the glory of Avvaiyar, Hon'ble Amma instituted an Avvaiyar Award after she assumed office for the fifth time.

The Avvaiyar Award, given every year on 'International Women's Day', carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a gold medal and is given to honour a woman who has put in the best service in any of the fields like social reform, women's development, communal harmony, language, arts, science, culture and civilization.

Tmt. Y.G.Parthasarathy was the first to get this award in 2012 and she received it from Hon'ble Amma. She was followed, in the succeeding years, by Dr. Shantha, Dr. K. Mathangi, Tmt. Shanthi Ranganathan and Tmt. M.Sarada Menon. Hon'ble Amma is presenting this award to encourage women to participate in public life.

On this occasion, I wish to point out certain events that highlight Avvaiyar's greatness. 'Avvai' means Mother. Through her songs, Avvaiyar exhibited a mother's intelligence and care for the world. At a time when women did not dare to venture outside their homes, Avvaiyar went as a messenger and resolved the enmity between two kings. Similarly, her songs remain as the antidote to the differences between husband and wife. By way of expressing their gratitude, even today, family women observe 'Avvaiyar observance' on Tuesdays in the Tamil

month of Aadi. They pay their obeisance to her, presenting her favourite dishes.

King Vallal Adhiyamaan gave a special Country gooseberry ('nellikani'), capable of bestowing long life, that he got, to Avvaiyar with the view that she should live long to protect Tamil. His vein of thought was that while his son could take care of his Country after him, who would be there to protect Tamil language after Avvaiyar. Some intellectuals feel Avvaiyar could have lived long after taking that fruit.

It was Avvaiyar who, through her songs, gave the identities to Sera, Chozha, Pandiya and Thondai Mandala kingdoms. 'Vezha Mudaitthu Sera Naadu; Sorudaithu Methakka Chozha Vala Naadu; Muthudaithu Boomiyarkone Thennaadu; Saandrorudaithu Thenneer Vayal Thondai Nan Naadu'. (Chera Country has elephants, the great Chola Country is a grain bowl, the Pandiya's realm shines with pearls, and the blessed Thondai Nadu is famous for its savants). It is a fact that none has given a better identification to these kingdoms in literature.

Avvaiyar participated in the coronation of Kulothunga Chozhan, son of Rajendra Chozhan who ruled his kingdom from the capital Uraiyyur. When Avvaiyar rose to give her benediction to Kulothunga Chozhan she stopped with one word 'Varappuyara'. The assembled persons were confused and looked at Rajendra Chozhan who, in turn looked at Poet Ottakoothar, hailed severally as Varakavi, Veera Kavi and Deiva Kavi. Ottakoothar completed the song, starting with the word given by Avvaiyar thus: 'Varappu

uyara Neer Uyarum; Neer Uyara Nel Uyarum; Nel Uyara Kudi Uyarum; Kudi Uyara Kole Uyarum; Kole Uyara Kone Uyarvaan' ("When the height of the ridge rises, the extent of water rises. When the extent of water rises, the harvest of paddy rises. When the harvest of paddy rises, the prosperity of people rises. When people's prosperity rises, rule of law rises, and with that rises the Ruler'. All the people there felt happy at Avvaiyar's capacity to be eloquent in brevity.

One can dwell at length on many events and songs connected with them to highlight the scholarship and visionary outlook of Avvaiyar. The 109 'Aathichoodi' aphorisms starting with 'Aram Seyya Virumbu' and closing with 'Woram Sollel' teach us morals and the life style one should adopt. Likewise, her 'Kondrai Vendhan', with 91 aphorisms like 'Annaiyum Pithaavum Munneri Deivam' and 'Aalayam Thozhuvadhu Saalavum Nanru' teach us the best philosophy. With her one liners that are sweet, simple and make sense even to unlettered persons, Avvaiyar created a new awareness in the world.

As Avvaiyar sang for all humanity, she fully deserved installation of statues for her all over the world in her memory and for the guidance of future generation. I thank the Hon'ble Governor once again and conclude my speech with a call 'We will follow Avvai; We will create a new world'.

Nandri!! Vanakkam!!

Cinema, small screen awards announced

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** announced Tamil Nadu Government's film awards for the years 2009-2014, small screen awards for the years 2009-2013 and film subsidy for the years 2007- 2014.

By giving many concessions over which the world can take pride, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma paved the way for the Tamil film industry to become vibrant without getting destroyed. She gave a subsidy of Rs.10 crore to the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce and celebrated the centenary of Indian Cinema in 2013 at Chennai on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government and made the State a pioneer in the whole Country in this regard. A financial assistance of Rs.2.5 crore was given in the last 5 years for the holding of international film festival in Chennai every year.

To encourage production of quality films and help talented people join the film industry and exhibit their talents, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma increased the subsidy to quality low budget films to Rs.3 lakh from Rs.2 lakh in 1993 and again from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.7 lakh in 2004.

She continued the scheme to present prizes, medals and citation certificates to the best Tamil films, the best actor, actress and technician associated with those films. The selected awardees are given a cash prize, a gold medallion and a citation certificate. The first prize for the best Tamil films carries a cash award of Rs. 2 lakh, the second prize Rs. 1 lakh and the third Rs.75,000/- and a special prize of Rs.75,000/- is also given besides mementoes and certificates. Details of the other awards given are: a five

sovereign medallion, memento and certificate for the best actor, actress and technician; a special cash award of Rs.1.25 lakh, memento and certificate for the film that portrays women highly; a five sovereign medallion, memento and certificate each for experts in the field of arts who have won the awards instituted in the names of Perarignar Anna, Kalaivanar N.S.Krishnan, M.K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar, Raja Sandow, Makkal Thilagam M.G.R., Kavignar Kannadasan and Nadigar Thilakam Sivaji Ganesan; the first prize for the best mega serial in the small screen Rs.2 lakh, the second prize Rs. 1 lakh besides memento and certificate; a three sovereign medallion, a memento and a certificate for the best actor, actress and technician in the small screen; one sovereign gold medal, Rs.5,000/- cash and a shield to students who have produced the best documentaries and Rs. 7 lakh for the best Tamil films selected for the grant of Government subsidy.

In this way, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma honoured the film industry by organizing superb functions in the years 2004 and 2006 and presenting awards for films, students and experts in the field of arts.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also ordered that appropriate steps be taken to present these awards in future also and announced in the Legislative Assembly that a big function would be organized shortly to present the

Tamil Nadu Government's film awards and small screen awards.

In accordance with the orders of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, screening committees were formed headed by Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Thiru. A.Raman for selecting the awardees for film awards and student documentary awards, by Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Thiru. M. Thanikachalam for the small screen awards and by Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Thiru. T.V. Masilamani for the grant of film subsidy.

The selection committees forwarded their recommendations to the Government for the years

2009 to 2014 (both years included) for the 'film awards', for the years 2008 to 2013 (both years inclusive) for the 'documentary awards', for the years 2009 to 2013 (both years inclusive) for the 'small screen awards' and for the years 2007 to 2014 (both years included) for the grant of film subsidy.

After careful examination of the recommendations, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 13.07.2017 announced the names of the winners of these awards. The awards will be presented shortly at a grand function at Chennai.

Action taken in case of student's drowning



Explanation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 05.07.2017 on the drowning of a student in Villupuram District (English Translation).

Hon'ble Speaker,

I was deeply pained to learn that Aravindan, son of Thiru.Soundararajan of Naranapatti Kinathur Village and a sixth standard student of the Gomuki Dam Government Tribal Residential School, Chinna Salem Taluk, Villupuram District had accidentally drowned while bathing in the Gomuki river channel on 24.06.2017. I conveyed my deep sense of condolence and sympathy to his family and

sanctioned Rs. 1 lakh from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to the family. The Headmaster of the school and the hostel warden have been suspended in this connection. I have also ordered holding of an enquiry to find out whether there are any deficiencies in the basic facilities available in the hostel and directed the District administration to rectify them immediately if there are any.

Modern hostel for medical students at site that once had Central Jail



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open on 14.07.2017 the Rs.28.85 crore hostel for the undergraduate students of the Madras Medical College at the old central jail premises.

Infrastructure facilities in Government medical institutions are being strengthened with the lofty intention that high class medical facilities should be available to the poor and the downtrodden uninterruptedly. In the last six years, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had allotted Rs.1,573.23 crore for construction of buildings in super speciality hospitals and Rs. 401.97 crore for medical equipment. Also, 5,768 new posts at different levels have been created in these hospitals.

The present Men's hostel for the undergraduate students of Madras Medical

College was constructed in 1959. Enrollment of students in the first year in this college has been increased to 250. In various courses of study like medicine, dentistry and pharmacy, about 450 students join every academic year. It is necessary to provide them hostel facility. Realising this Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma sanctioned Rs.28.85 crore for construction of a men's hostel at the old central jail site which had been allotted to the Madras Medical College.

The hostel declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, has six floors including the ground floor, has a built up area of 1,28,076 sq. ft. and can accommodate 534 students in its 178 rooms. It has modern facilities like lift, modular kitchen, gym, multi-purpose auditorium, water purifier and solar geyser.

Prime Minister informed of 'deep concern' about new Sri Lanka Fisheries bill

D.O. letter dated 07.07.2017 addressed by **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**,

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**,

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

“I am writing with deep concern about the new Fisheries bill that is reportedly introduced and passed in the Sri Lankan Parliament, prohibiting certain fishing methods including bottom trawling. It is widely reported in a section of media that under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Bill, the fishing trawlers as well as fishing gear used for fishing in the Sri Lankan territorial waters will be confiscated, fishermen imprisoned for two years and huge fines upto 50,000 Lankan Rupees will be imposed. **It is further reported that the Bill is predominantly aimed at Indian fishermen who have been carrying out fishing for many centuries in their traditional waters of Palk Bay.**

As you are aware, Palk Bay is the historic and traditional fishing area of Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu. The historical rights of the Indian fishermen were simply signed away as part of the ill advised Indo-Sri Lankan agreements of 1974 and 1976 which also unilaterally ceded Katchatheevu to Sri Lanka

without having any foresight or concern for the plight of our innocent fishermen. Consequently the right to livelihood of our fishermen, who historically and traditionally fish in the Palk Bay, continues to be infringed upon by the Sri Lankan Authorities. The new Bill reportedly introduced and passed by the Parliament of Sri Lanka is another retrograde step taken by the Sri Lankan Government to destroy the already paralyzed livelihood of lakhs of our fishermen.

The passing of the ill-advised Bill at a time when the Ministers of India and Sri Lanka as well as Joint Working Group on Fisheries have met only recently to resolve the Indo-Sri Lankan Fishermen issues is shocking. The unilateral move by the Government of Sri Lanka will definitely hamper the joint initiatives taken by the Government of India as well as Government of Sri Lanka.

The legislation proposed is, in fact, a severe setback to the diplomatic efforts being taken to resolve the issue amicably.

I had repeatedly brought to your kind attention, the Sri Lankan Government's

inhumane and cruel strategy of delaying the release of the boats and fishing gear of our fishermen which has caused great loss of livelihood to our fishermen and their families. As you aware that there are 50 Tamil Nadu fishermen and 143 fishing boats belonging to Tamil Nadu fishermen in Sri Lankan custody since 2015 and I had also repeatedly urged the Government of India to prevail upon the Government of Sri Lanka to release all the apprehended fishermen and boats. These boats are precariously berthed for many months in the custody of Sri Lankan authorities. The Government of Tamil Nadu has also raised the issue of release of fishing boats from Sri Lankan custody during the Joint Working Group Meetings and during the Ministerial level meeting held in Colombo on 02.02.2017. The current inhumane strategy of Government of Sri Lanka has already been inflicting huge pecuniary losses to the fishermen of Tamil Nadu. The new legislation will further aggravate the situation. **The move by the Government of Sri Lanka has caused great disquiet and anguish to the fishing community in Tamil Nadu.**

The new Legislation of Sri Lanka is aimed at preventing our fishermen from exercising their traditional fishing rights in the fishing waters in which they have continued to fish for several centuries

and will deny their fundamental rights conferred by the Constitution of India. The move by Sri Lankan Government to introduce the Bill at this crucial juncture of transition towards a permanent solution is nothing but a harsh step to undermine the diplomatic efforts being undertaken by the Government of India to sort out the sensitive issue. A livelihood issue of this nature is better resolved through promotional and developmental measures to introduce alternative modes and technologies and not through such abrupt bans and punitive measures. Thus, it would be fitting for the Government of India to register its strongest disapproval of such move and must organize an effective defense of the rights of our fishermen in the Palk Bay.

I once again earnestly urge you to direct the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Mission in Sri Lanka to immediately, appropriately and effectively respond to this latest move by the Sri Lankan side which would **permanently debilitate the livelihood of our fishermen in the Palk Bay**, both by registering our strong protest against the move and ensuring that necessary provisions are made in the new legislation to exempt the traditional waters of Palk Bay from its purview. I request for your immediate intervention". ■

Jobs to heirs on compassionate grounds



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami presented at the Secretariat on 03.07.2017 appointment orders to 5 persons as a token of distribution of appointment orders on compassionate grounds to heirs of 62 officials and workers in the Greater Chennai Municipal Corporation who had died in harness.

The Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board undertakes the supply of protected water and treatment of sewage all over the State barring the developed areas of Chennai Metro

and also the maintenance of combined water supply schemes. Posting of Assistant Engineers is important to carry out the works of the Board efficiently and supply protected water to people.

In that way, the Board had selected 75 Civil Engineers and 25 Mechanical Engineers for the post of Assistance Engineers. The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the appointment orders to 5 persons as a token of distributing the orders to these selected 100 engineers.

PWD posts on grounds of compassion



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami gave away appointment orders to 7 persons at the Secretariat on 12.07.2017, as a token for the distribution of such orders on compassionate grounds to the heirs of 75 workers in the Public Works Department who had died while in service and the heirs of 2 workers who had retired on account of debility, certified medically.

These 77 heirs are to be absorbed on compassionate grounds in the sanctioned vacant posts in the PWD on the basis of seniority and educational qualification in posts including that of Assistant Draftsman, Junior Assistant, Typist, Lab Assistant, Lab Helper, Irrigation Assistant, Security, Gardener and Sweeper. ■

Perumbakkam gets bus terminal, depot



A bus terminal with a depot, constructed at Perumbakkam, Kancheepuram District at a cost of Rs.14.25 crore for the Metro Transport Corporation and a bus depot for the State Transport Corporation at Sulur, Coimbatore District, costing Rs.1.25 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 04.07.2017.

In her announcement in the Assembly under Rule 110 on 10.05.2013, the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had stated that workshops (depots) were very essential for the State Transport Corporations to provide transport services without any slackening. Hence, by way of increasing the number of depots, new ones would be set up at Perumbakkam,

Kancheepuram District for the Metro Transport Corporation and another at Sulur, Coimbatore Division for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation.

By way of implementing the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the bus terminal with the depot at Perumbakkam and the depot at Sulur.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented handy free bus passes to 7 students as a token of distribution of such passes to 27,05,160 school and college students – boys and girls – for the academic year 2017-2018. The free distribution entails an expenditure of Rs.739 crore.

Tamil Nadu honours 'Kalam Sat' prodigies



A six-member student team led by Thiru. Rifath Sharukh of Pallapatti, Karur District developed the lightest satellite yet, weighing just 64 grams. This satellite won the first prize from among the 80,000 models submitted by 57 countries in the competition held by 'NASA', the American Space Research institution. On 22.06.2017 it was launched under the name 'Kalam Sat' from the NASA space station. The satellite is composed of 3-D printed re-inforced carbon fibre polymer and is capable of measuring radiation and heat in space.

By way of encouraging the student team, consisting of Thiru. Rifath Sharook, Thiru.

Yagna Sai, Thiru. Vinay Bharadwaj, Thiru. Tanishq Dwivedi, Thiru. Gobinath and Thiru. Mohammed Abdul Kashif which has brought honour to India, specially to Tamil Nadu, to score many more achievements like this, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced in the Assembly under Rule 110 on 24.06.2017 that the State Government will present the team Rs.10 lakh.

Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presented a cheque for Rs.10 lakh to the team and congratulated the team members. ■

Sri Lanka response to fishing issues 'high-handed, disappointing'



D.O. letter dated 10.7.2017 addressed by

**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
to Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.**

“I am constrained to once again bring to your notice yet another incident of apprehension of our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy in the traditional waters of Palk Bay. The continuing apprehensions of our fishermen and the attempts of the Sri Lankan Government to destroy the Indian fishing operations in the Palk Bay waters and the recent legislation enacted in the Sri Lankan Parliament regarding impounding and levying huge penalties is creating a sense of fear and unrest among the fishermen community of Tamil Nadu.

It was brought to my notice that in the recent incident which took place in the late hours of 08.07.2017, three fishermen in a mechanized fishing boat, who set out for fishing from Jegathapattinam fishing base of Pudukkottai District, were apprehended by the Sri Lankan Navy and taken to Kangesanthurai, Sri Lanka.

The deft strategy of the Sri Lankan Government of impounding the boats and gear of our fishermen for long periods of time, thereby causing an irreparable damage to them has already pushed our fishermen into despondency. The latest amendment bill moved by the Government of Sri Lanka is aimed at causing catastrophe to the livelihood propositions of our fishermen. These strategies of the Sri Lankan Government to put in place mechanisms aimed at disrupting normalcy at sea and destroying the primary means of livelihood of our fishermen, without having any

respect for the Indian diplomacy, are strongly condemned.

It is requested that the Government of India should take a firm diplomatic stand with the Sri Lankan Government on the above issues. You may be aware of the package of Rs.200 crore sanctioned by the Government of India for diversification of fishing in the Palk Bay, which meant for conversion of the trawling boats of the Palk Bay to long-liner boats. Government of Tamil Nadu is strongly assisting the fishermen in the conversion of their boats to long liners. The Government of Tamil Nadu is also building a harbour at Mookaiyur to enable relocation of trawlers from Palk Bay to Gulf of Mannar. In this scenario, when the Government of India as well as Government of Tamil Nadu are taking all possible efforts to bring an amicable solution to the fishing issues in the Palk Bay, the Sri Lankan Government's response is not only disappointing but also a showcase of its high-handedness.

I strongly reiterate that the stand taken by my revered leader Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma that the retrieval of Katchatheevu and the refixation of IMBL, which is already subjudice, would only bring a lasting solution to this vexatious issue.

I once again request for your immediate intervention to secure the release of the 53 fishermen and 144 fishing boats including 3 fishermen and their fishing boat apprehended on 08.07.2017.”

Squash champion Joshna Chinnappa gets TANGEDCO job to power more victories



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami gave at the Secretariat on 11.07.2017 the appointment order for the post of Senior Sports Officer in Tamil Nadu Generation of Electricity and Distribution Corporation(TANGEDCO), under sports quota, to Selvi Joshna Chinnappa, a champion in Squash games.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is implementing many excellent schemes to encourage sports personnel from Tamil Nadu who are victorious in sports events held at National and International levels. The schemes include awarding cash incentives, identifying

talented sports personnel and training them, setting up sports centres on global standards and providing financial assistance to best sports persons.

Selvi Joshna Chinnappa has won gold medals for India in the Commonwealth and Asian Games competitions held in 2014, won many medals in International and National Squash competitions and remains is the number one squash champion in India. To further encourage and utilize her sports talents and as she has made a personal request, Hon'ble Chief Minister directly appointed Selvi Joshna Chinnappa to the post of Senior Sports Officer in TANGEDCO. ■

Kodanad case 'investigated properly, culprits arrested'

Clarification of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami in the Legislative Assembly

on 06.07.2017 on the Kodanad Estate dacoity and murder (*English Translation*).

Hon'ble Speaker,

On receipt of information that a watchman of Kodanad estate, Krishna Thapa was admitted in Kothagiri Government Hospital with injuries on 24.04.2017, the Sub-Inspector of Sholurmattam Police Station went to the hospital and recorded a statement from Krishna Thapa. In that statement, Krishna Thapa had stated that he was assaulted by some people while on duty at gate no.8 of the estate on the night of 23.04.2017, his legs and hands were tied and he was pushed into a lorry. While two of the assailants stood guard over him, the rest went into the estate and returned nearly an hour later, snatched his mobile phone and escaped in the cars by which they had come. Later, Krishna Thapa untied himself, went to gate no.10 and found the watchman in that gate Om Bahadur had been murdered and his body was hanging from a tree; the glass doors of the bungalow's window were found broken and there were indications that some persons had gone inside and returned. He informed the other employees of the estate and they admitted him to the hospital. A case was registered in this regard in the Sholurmattam Police Station (crime no. 158/2017) under IPC sections 324,

342, 449 and 396 and investigation was taken up.

To trace and arrest the culprits immediately, 7 separate teams were formed and intensive investigation was mounted. On 24.04.2017 morning, Police detained, on suspicion, two cars that were approaching Gudalur, enquired about the inmates and allowed them to go. In the course of their investigation, the Police team examined the recordings in CCTV cameras from Kothagiri to Gudalur as also the calls recorded in mobile phone towers in those areas and found that the said two cars had gone to Kodanad and returned.

The four persons who had travelled by those cars, Santhosh Samy, Deepu, Satheesan and Udhayakumar of Thrissur, Kerala State were summoned to the Police Station on 29.04.2017 and during enquiry, they admitted their involvement in the incident. They were arrested and their confessional statements recorded.

From their confessional statement, it is found that a total of 11 persons and their three cars are involved in the crime. Kanakaraj of Edappadi who had worked as a car driver in the house of former late Chief Minister some years back and who knew about the Kodanad Estate bungalow

conspired to commit the dacoity. (Kanakaraj was living with his family in Vadapalani, Chennai). He informed about the plan to his acquaintance Sayan of Kerala who was working as Manager of Jaya Bakery, Coimbatore. Sayan, through his friends Santhosh and Manoj Samy, arranged five persons – Deepu, Satheesan, Udhayakumar, Manoj and Kutty; Jithin Joy of Malappuram and Zamsheer Ali of Wayanad provided their vehicles. All the seven came to Ooty on 22.04.2017 and stayed in Raja Lodge near the bus stand. On 23.04.2017, Kanakaraj, Sayan, Santhosh Samy and Manoj Samy, went to Ooty from Coimbatore in another car and met them. A few of them inspected Kodanad estate the same day. That night around 10.30, they again went to Kodanad in two cars. Seven of them, including Kanakaraj, entered the estate, attacked watchman Krishna Thapa, bound him and pushed him into a lorry, attacked another watchman Om Bahadur, tied his mouth, hands and legs and hanged him from a tree, entered the house smashing the window glass panes, searched three rooms, stole some ornamental articles and watches as they could not find any precious articles and escaped.

Following this, the Police team was intent on arresting Kanakaraj, Sayan and others involved in the case. In this situation, the wanted Kanakaraj died on the spot in an accident on 28.04.2017 when he was riding a two wheeler without a registered number plate and was approaching Athur, Salem District, a Ford car (KA 03 MN 6370), coming in the opposite direction, hit his vehicle. Athur Police registered a case in this regard (crime no. 269/2017 under sections 279 and 304(A) of IPC) and investigation is on.

Another culprit, Sayan, was grievously injured on 29.04.2017 when his Santro car (TN 07 AJ 5487) hit a lorry (AP 26 TC 4792) in the rear, that was going in front of him, near Palakkad, Kerala State. His wife and daughter died on the spot. Sayan was admitted to a private hospital in Coimbatore. A case has been registered in this regard in the traffic Police Station, Palakkad (South) (Crime No. 425/2017, Sec. 279, 304 (A) of IPC) and investigation is on. Investigation undertaken so far, has not cast any suspicion in regard to the accident in these two cases.

In the meanwhile, information was received that Jithin Joy and Zamsheer Ali, involved in this case, were arrested in a cheating case by the Arikode Police and were lodged in Manjeri sub jail in judicial custody. Getting arrest warrants from the Court, they were apprehended and interrogated.

The absconders in this case, Manoj, Kutty and Manoj Samy have also been arrested severally and are put in judicial custody. Sayan was arrested on 06.06.2017 after completion of his treatment in a private hospital in Coimbatore. All the persons charged in this case have been arrested. Case is still under investigation.

Hence, I wish to inform the Hon'ble Member through you that the Police have investigated the case properly and arrested these culprits. Also, through you, I wish to inform the Hon'ble member that those who attempted a dacoity at Kodanad have been arrested speedily due to the efficiency of the Police .



More nurses appointed



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami presented at the auditorium of the Tamil Nadu Multi-Super Speciality Hospital in the Omandurar Government Estates, Chennai on 13.07.2017, appointment orders to 16 persons as a token of distributing such orders to 516 nurses, selected by the Medical Services Recruitment Board.

On the advice of the late Chief Minister Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, a medical services recruitment board was set up exclusively for the Health Department in January 2012, the first of its kind in the Country, for immediate filling up of vacant and created

posts in Government Hospitals. This Board has selected doctors, Nurses and non-medical staff.

To provide equal opportunity to all, the Government led by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma issued orders on 18.01.2012, for selection of trained Nurses both from Government and Government-approved private institutions. The Board has so far selected 9,190 Nurses and they have been appointed.

In continuation of this recruitment, the Board has now selected 516 Nurses. By way of presenting appointment orders to them, the Hon'ble Chief Minister gave the orders to 16 nurses.

Chief Minister clarifies on Vishnu Priya case



Clarification of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in the Legislative Assembly on 06.07.2017 in respect of the case of the suicide of Selvi Vishnu Priya, Deputy Superintendent of Police , Tiruchengode, Namakkal District (English Translation).

Hon'ble Speaker,

Vishnu Priya (27) was working as the Deputy Superintendent of Police in Tiruchengode sub-division, Namakkal District from 02.02.2015. She was appointed in this sub division after being selected by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission in Group I Examinations and after completing her training. She hailed from Gondur village, Cuddalore District and belonged to Adi Dravidar Community. Vishnu Priya was investigating the murder case of Gokulraj (Adi Dravidar).

Vishnu Priya started her work on the morning of 18.09.2015 in her routine usual day, resolved a dispute between a Constable and a teacher smoothly at 2.45 p.m. at the Tiruchengode Town Police Station and went to her camp office, instructing her vehicle driver, Constable Krishnamurthy, to wait, after finishing meals, for her phone call. As the Deputy Superintendent's mobile phone was switched off, the driver sounded the calling bell at 5 p.m. There was no response and the driver peeped in through the window to see the body of Vishnu Priya hanging from

a hook in the concrete ceiling. On getting the information, Tiruchengode Town Police Inspector, Police Personnel along with the Tiruchengode Divisional Officer rushed to the spot, forced open the door in the presence of the Divisional Officer and saw the body hanging. Revenue and Police Department staff lowered the body of Vishnu Priya and sent it to the Salem Government Hospital around 8.30 p.m. for post mortem examination.

On a complaint lodged by driver Constable Krishnamurthy in this connection, a case was registered (crime no. 431/15 Section 174 of Cr.P.C) in the Tiruchengode Town Police Station. The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Rasipuram Sub-Division took up the investigation.

During the investigation, Police recovered a suicide note from a table in the house of the deceased DSP. In that note, she had mentioned that this was her third attempt to commit suicide, that she was hopeful of succeeding in this effort, that she was unfit for this job, that her body should be received without raising any issue and that no one should blame her mother. Further, she had expressed her regret to her mother, apologized for her decision, requested her not to trouble the Police Department, and mentioned that the suicide decision was her own, none had any hand in it, that there was no need to approach any political party, media or Government and that if any one incited the taking up of such a course, she should get away from them and not seek any compensation. Further, in a note addressed to media personnel, she had stated that it was her personal decision and no other story should be written in this connection and her role as an investigating

officer in an important case should not be connected with this.

An inquest was held over the body of Vishnu Priya and a post mortem was conducted by a medical team with video recordings at the Salem Government Hospital. The body was handed over to her relatives the same evening.

The case was transferred to CB CID for intensive investigation to find out the truth. The Gokulraj murder case, investigated by Vishnu Priya was also transferred to CB CID. In the investigation of both the cases, many witnesses were interrogated, articles used by Vishnu Priya like mobile phone, laptop and some other electronic gadgets were seized and sent for forensic examination. The suicide note was sent to the Forensic Science Department's document division and after examination, they opined that the suicide note was a genuine one, the handwriting matched with Vishnu Priya's handwriting and there was no addition or deletion in that letter.

In this situation, five writ petitions, requesting CBI enquiry in Vishnu Priya's suicide case were filed individually in Madras High Court including those by Traffic Ramaswamy, Vishnu Priya's father Ravi and Advocate Malaviya. All the petitions were dismissed. Ravi went in appeal to a Division Bench which also threw out the petition. On a further appeal, the Court ordered a CBI enquiry on 01.07.2016.

The CB CID's appeal in the Supreme Court against the Madras High Court's order was dismissed on 24.10.2016. The case was then handed over to the CBI on 12.11.2016. I inform the Deputy Leader of the Opposition through you that CBI is now handling the case.

Status of Ramajayam murder case

Explanation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami in the Legislative Assembly on 06.07.2017

on the investigation over the Ramajayam murder (English Translation)

Hon'ble Speaker,

On a complaint from Lata Ramajayam of Thillai Nagar, Tiruchi lodged at 11.45 a.m. on 29.03.2012 that Ramajayam, her husband and brother of former Minister Thiru. K.N.Nehru, who had gone for his morning walk at 5 a.m. on that day did not return home, a case was registered (crime no. 128/12) under Sec. 365 of I.P.C., and investigation was taken up.

On the same day, around 11.30, Ramajayam's body with hands and legs bound and with injuries was found near Ponnurangapuram on the Tiruchi-Grand Anaicut road. On a complaint filed by the Village Administrative Officer of Thimmarayapuram, a case was registered (crime no. 228/12) under Sec.302 I.P.C., at the Srirangam Police Station and investigation was taken up. Later, this case was combined with the one filed in the Thillai Nagar Police Station and action was taken up. The case was transferred to the State CB CID on 27.06.2012.

The State CB CID formed 12 teams to investigate the case from different angles like professional competition or political enmity or family problems.

The Additional Director of CB CID went to Tiruchi, scrutinized the course of investigation and gave advice. Investigation is on under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of CB CID Police .

On the information given by the relatives of the deceased, his servants, acquaintances known professionally and those with political connections, further investigation has been

taken up. So far, more than 1,100 witnesses have been interrogated.

Clues have been collected after intensive search with the help of forensic experts, at the place of occurrence. One from the dog squad was also used. Incidents that could be connected to the case, collected from CCTV footages, were also examined. Investigations were undertaken at check posts around Tiruchi on the doubt that the deceased might have been kidnapped. Owners of suspected 294 vehicles were interrogated after vehicle inspections. A list of persons connected with such kidnap and murder was prepared and investigation is on to conclude whether any of them is connected in this case. Two thousand nine hundred and ten telephone numbers have been collected and their owners are being subject to inquiry.

Three persons closely associated with the deceased gave contradictory information in their statements. Two of them were subjected to polygraph test at the Department of Forensic Science and psychiatry at Shastri Bhavan, Chennai. The third person refused to take the test.

As for as this case is concerned, there is no direct evidence for the kidnap and murder. The deceased had many enemies professionally and in private life. Investigations have been done on the information given by Ramajayam's close associates. If they co-operate further and give information, they will all be investigated.

In DMK rule, in 2007, the burnt bodies of two persons belonging to Tiruchi were found

in a car near Vaiyampatti. The case could not be solved for 4 years in the DMK rule. When the CB CID got appropriate clues in 2013, they traced the accused and brought out the truth. Likewise, the Police will succeed in this case also once they got proper evidence.

Tmt. Ramajayam filed a case in the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, seeking a transfer of this case to CBI. When the case was heard for several days, the Court directed the Additional Government Pleader to file a report on the present status of the case. Accordingly,

the State CB CID is filing the status report at every hearing of the case. When the case came up on 19.01.2017, the Court, after examining the report, gave three more months for the Police to complete the investigation.

When the case again came up for hearing on 27.04.2017, the State CB CID Police filed the status report. After examining the report, the Court heard the arguments of both the sides and adjourned the case for judgment. The case is still under investigation.



News in Picture



Tmt. Shobana Kamineni, Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry, Thiru. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Thiru. Vikram Kirloskar, South Zone President, Thiru. Satish Raman, South Zone Director, Thiru. Ravichandran Purushothaman, Tamil Nadu President and Thiru. K. Ramesh, Tamil Nadu Director cum President paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the Secretariat on 17.07.2017. Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. P. Thangamani (Electricity, Prohibition, and Excise) and Thiru. M.C. Sampath (Industries), Dr. Girija Vaidyanathan I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Thiru. K. Shanmugam I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Thiru. Atulya Misra I.A.S., Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Thiru. M.S. Shanmugam I.A.S., Additional Secretary, Industries Department, Tmt. Shilpa Prabhakar Satish I.A.S., Industrial Guidance and Export Development Corporation and other high officials were present at the meeting.