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Peace should prevail in every Country. If peace is to prevail in every Country, there should be peace and joy in the minds of the people. It is education that gives that peace and joy together.

## **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**

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## **First Wrapper**

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** unveiled a portrait of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. on 30.09.2017 at the Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. centenary celebrations at Salem.





# Donate blood, Save lives

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**  
on National Voluntary Blood Donation Day (*English Translation*).

**A**s blood is life, the blood donation day is being observed every year on October 1 to create awareness about blood donation among people.

In Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Aids Control Society in co-ordination with the Tamil Nadu State Transfusion Council is conducting blood donation camps throughout the State to collect sufficient blood from voluntary blood donors. To make students and members of the public participate in large numbers in these blood donation camps, awareness camps are being conducted in various parts of the State.

Voluntary blood donors and employees of the Government blood banks are honoured with commendation certificates and medals by the Government for collecting blood.

Each unit of blood donated by people is divided into four components and used to save four lives. I am proud to say that only in

Tamil Nadu the collected blood is given free of cost to patients undergoing treatment in Government Hospitals.

Last year, Government and private banks in the State collected 8,89,849 units of blood. The Government blood banks conducted 4,090 blood donation banks last year and collected 3,49,566 units of blood. Of this 99 per cent of units of the blood were collected from voluntary blood donors.

Tamil Nadu is the pioneer in the Country in collecting blood from voluntary blood donors. I appeal to people to co-operate with the State Government by participating in large numbers in blood donation camps and donating blood voluntarily to help the State achieve the 100 per cent target.

Blood donation saves lives; It adds honour to your life. ●

# Thirty-two works at Rs.382.93 crore opened for industrious and innovative Namakkal



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**  
at the M.G.R. centenary celebration function held at Namakkal on 17.09.2017

*(English Translation).*

**I** pay my obeisance to all pervading Idaya  
Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Namakkal District is known for its  
Kollimalai honey and Kongu Thamizh, the  
former is famed for its sweet taste and the latter  
for the sweetness it brings about in the mind  
even when one thinks about it. I am proud and  
happy to participate in the Hon'ble Puratchi  
Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R.'s centenary function,  
meet my beloved people and distribute welfare  
assistance to you.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha  
Dr. Thambidurai, who has delivered a special  
address, Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu  
Legislative Assembly Thiru. Dhanapal who  
has delivered the Presidential address, Hon'ble  
Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O. Panneerselvam,  
Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition  
and Excise Thiru. P. Thangamani who has  
delivered the 'Munnilai' address, Hon'ble  
Minister for Social Welfare and Nutritious  
Meals scheme Dr. V. Saroja, Chief Secretary  
to Government Dr. Girija Vaithiyathan  
who has welcomed the gathering, Namakkal





MP Thiru. P.R.Sundaram who has delivered the felicitation address, Erode MP Thiru. S.Selvakumara Chinnayan, Namakkal MLA Thiru. K.P.P. Baskar, Senthamangalam MLA Thiru. C.Chandrasekaran, Tiruchengode MLA Tmt. Pon.Saraswathi, Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the Assembly Thiru. Pollachi Jayaraman, Government Chief Whip Thiru. Rajendran, Special Representative of Tamil Nadu Government at New Delhi Thiru. N.Thalavai Sundaram, Chairperson of Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation Tmt. B.Valarmathi, Tamil Nadu Housing Board Chairman Thiru.P.K.Vairamuthu, Namakkal District Collector Tmt. M. Asia Mariam, who is to propose a vote of thanks, MPs and MLAs, former Ministers, former MPs, Representatives of Co-operative institutions, former representatives of Local Bodies, Party cadre, the aerial roots of the party, Government staff, media friends, respected elders and ladies, youths and students, beneficiaries of welfare schemes –at the outset, I offer my respects to all of you.

This Namakkal District has many facets of greatness and shines as a noble District that has risen by dint of hard work. The footprints

for the greatness of Namakkal are the high Namagiri hillock, the fort on at its peak, the cave temple and the Anjaneyar in front of the temple in a cosmic form and the pithy poems of Ramalingam Pillai.

The name Namakkal has come from the very big monolithic rock called 'Namagiri'. The fort on it was built by Ramachandra Naicker. The beauty of Kollimalai is enhanced by the 12<sup>th</sup> century Arappaleeswarar temple and the Aakasa Gangai falls.

'Ori', one of the seven 'vallals' hailed in Tamil literature had ruled this Kollimalai. The Ardhanareeswarar temple in Tiruchengode in Namakkal District that is surrounded by Siddhas and devotees, is one of the 7 Saivite centres in Kongu Nadu. The senior Tamil scholar K.V.Jaganathan who enthralled everyone with his wit and humour was born in Mohanur in this Namakkal District. As Kollimalai is an emblem of Namakkal, egg production too is another emblem for it. Namakkal is in second place in egg production in the whole Country. Namakkal District contributes 90 per cent in the total production of egg in the State. That is why Namakkal is called 'Egg City'.



Not depending on agriculture alone, poultry farms have been set as industries in Namakkal District contributing to the economic growth of the Country. Likewise rigs for drilling deep bore wells are in greater numbers in this District.

Next, the name Namakkal brings to our mind, lorries. There is no house without a lorry here. Lorry transport is the primary occupation. Nearly 60,000 lorries are there in Namakkal. I wish to state that in this way Namakkal is an industrial District.

There is no comparison to the people of this District in taking the Country in the path of progress through hard work with the available natural resources and innovative initiatives from industrial entrepreneurs. I am very happy to meet you people with such great qualities.

When addressing you here in Namakkal, I am reminded of an event said to have taken place in Namakkal in 1985. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was to perform the marriage of an MLA. At the threshold of the marriage hall was a party cadre standing with a 'thaali' in hand with the determination that the party leader should perform his marriage too.

When Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. arrived at the marriage house with his wife Tmt. Janaki Ammal, the then Minister Thiru. Muthusamy told the leader about the party volunteer's adamant attitude. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. summoned the volunteer and performed his marriage also on the same dais. He handed over to the volunteer couple, one of the two presents he had brought for the MLA couple. The party cadre refused to receive it. "No sir, That you have touched the Thaali and handed it to me to solemnise the marriage itself is an invaluable present to me. That is enough". Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. replied him: "To me, you and this MLA are the same". So saying he gave the marriage present. Party cadres have great affection towards Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Through this large assembly, I sense they have the same affection even today.

I recollect an event that took place at a public meeting in which Perarignar Anna participated. A small desk on which Anna could lean his hands while speaking had been set up, but it hid Anna's face and party volunteers complained





about it. A volunteer rushed out, brought a small wooden box for Anna to stand on and deliver his speech. Standing on that box, Perarignar asked the audience: “Have I become taller now?”. When a chorus ‘Yes’ greeted him, Perarignar started his speech with the remark “I am one who has grown tall by party volunteers” to a rapturous applause from the audience.

AIADMK volunteers have proved on several occasions that they are ever vigilant on the party’s development. That is why I say no force can approach this fort.

The howling of foxes will not displace the Namakkal hill. Cunning people cannot shake this Government. Let our strength and your strength defeat those who work against the interests of Tamil Nadu. Those who decry this Government that goes round the State to distribute welfare schemes with the motto ‘service to people is service to God’, will be run over by the Wheel of Time and be destroyed. Selfishness... selfishness... After such

selfishness has become their life principle, it is wrong to expect that they will consider people’s welfare.

This party is a steel fortress built up with the iron will of one-and-a-half crore party volunteers. Not even an inimical ant can gain entry. Evil forces can do nothing to this fortress. AIADMK is a movement built on the principles of ‘dharma’. Paavendar Bharathidasan sang of Thanthai Periyar as ‘a fruit ripened by service’. Like that, AIADMK is a Movement reared by Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who has earned the name ‘Vallal’ through his philanthropy (Dharmam). That is why Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. extolled the effects of dharmam: ‘Seitha dharmam thalaikaakkum; thakka samayathil uyir kaakkum; kooda irunthe kuzhi parithaalum kodutthathu kaatthu nirkum” (the charity that you have done will save you from danger; it will protect your life at the appropriate time/the philanthropy you have done will protect you from the betrayal of those near you).



People have a deep conviction that the other name for dharmam is only Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. You will understand this well if I cite an instance.

Comedian Thiru. Nagesh and Thiru. Balaji felt thirsty while going in a car to Salem for a film shooting. To quench their thirst, they sought water from an old lady in a roadside hut. After quenching their thirst, Thiru. Balaji gave Rs.100/- to that old lady as a present. In those days, Rs.100/- was a big amount. Surprised, the old lady eyed the currency note, turning it over and over and do you know what she told Thiru. Balaji? "Maharajan, Our M.G.R. Vaazhga" said the old lady bowing to Thiru. Balaji with hands raised over the head. A deep indelible impression got embedded in the minds of people that only M.G.R. would give money to poor unknown people. So much so they all saw Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. in all charitable persons, whoever they are.

The world has realized that we who are the followers of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and you are good people. Our leaders Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma felt that Government schemes should benefit the poor fully. That is why this Government that functions in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, implements its schemes on the basis of justice, honesty and dharmam. In this function also, I am happy in presenting such excellent schemes.

I have declared open 32 works, executed at a cost of Rs.382.93 crore; I have laid the foundation today for 8 works of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation, costing Rs.103.04 crore and to 36 other works costing Rs.332.24 crore including drinking water supply to Namakkal Municipality and newly annexed areas from Cauvery river



costing Rs.185.24 crore. I propose to distribute Rs.188.01 crore to 29,039 beneficiaries in this District on behalf of different Departments.

Due to time constraint, I propose to list only a few of the schemes implemented in Namakkal District. Agricultural loans to the tune of Rs.231.69 crore to be paid by small and micro farmers to the co-operative banks have been waived, benefiting 46,628 farmers; crop loan to an extent of Rs.1,346.59 crore has been given to 2,40,521 farmers; drought relief of Rs.57.16 crore has been given to 6,759 farmers whose crops have been affected; different works of Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation costing Rs.151.37 crore are under implementation; laptops, valued at Rs.64.74 crore have been distributed on behalf of school education Department to 44,229 students at no cost; under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Maternity Financial Assistance scheme, Rs.79.19 crore has been given to 89,177 pregnant women; various works, costing Rs.594.36 crore are being executed in the Municipalities of Namakkal, Tiruchengode, Pallipalayam and Rasipuram; the Highways Department is executing road works to a length of 1,502 kms at a cost of Rs.673.18 crore; 6,903 green houses have been constructed under the Department of rural development at a cost of Rs.115 crore; 11,371 houses have been constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana scheme at a cost of Rs.136.45 crore; of the 6,351 works taken up for execution under the THAI scheme at a cost of Rs.114.08 crore, 6,147 works have been completed and the rest are in progress; 13 works

are being executed under the kudimaramathu scheme at a cost of Rs. 1.15 crore; and works are being implemented under the Prime Ministers 'House for All' scheme at a cost of Rs.236.60 crore .

From the date this Government assumed responsibility of administration till date, I have inaugurated 33,501 works completed at a cost of Rs.7,820.23 crore and laid the foundation for 6,510 works costing Rs.2,798.72 crore. Totally 40,020 works to the value of Rs. 10,618.95 crore are getting implemented.

It is difficult to see a person like Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., hero of this centenary, either in the cine field or in politics. The services he rendered and the charities he gave will be in our mind, now and for ever. Many may try to erase the memories of those services but they will never succeed. This Movement will also go on growing, generation after generation.

In this party alone, ordinary party cadres too can become leaders. What is needed for that, is sincerity, work and self confidence. A story comes to my mind when I say this.

There was a king who ruled his Country excellently. By his munificence towards the poor, he made his Country bereft of poverty. However, he had a worry. As he had no heirs, he was concerned about choosing a nominee after him to rule the Country. After pondering over it for many days, he hit upon a plan and announced it the very next day.

He invited those who desired to rule the Country after him, to register their names in the palace. The king said the registered person would be crowned as the king and he could rule the Country for five years. Exactly after the completion of that period, he would be deported to a solitary island outside the Country that was inhabited by dangerous animals, poisonous snakes and springs that spelt death. It was quite possible the person might die in the island.

After hearing the rider for becoming a king, many who had initial temptations withdrew out of fear. One or two persons who were hopeful of changing the king's mind during their tenure of rule and get the conditions relaxed, did not succeed in their plans. For some time it became a routine for rulers to fall a prey to the wild animals in the island after the five year term. Thereafter, none came forward to try the king's test.

But a youth came forward cheerfully and became the king of the Country; ruled for 5 years; earned a name as a good king and good administrator; never met the king once who gave him the opportunity to rule the kingdom nor begged for being spared from deportation to the island.

As the five year term of rule was drawing to a close, people became sad. After the term ended, the new king was made to board a boat. While the people shed tears over his impending fate, the erstwhile king was seen remaining happy and there was no anxiety in him. He was laughing all the while. The King became suspicious. Quite in contrast to the earlier temporary kings, this person was cheerful even

after boarding the boat and the King asked him: 'Are you not afraid? Are you not sad that you are going to fall a prey to animals after enjoying the facilities of the palace and ruling the Country with thousands of staff?'

That person replied: "No Maharaja. In my five year rule, I have not only mended the Country but even that island; I have converted the lands there as agricultural lands; constructed forts there; settled workers, annexed the island with our Country and made it as a habitable satellite town with buildings. I will continue my work after going there" he said. Overwhelmed, the King rushed to him, hugged him and blessed him. "I have been waiting for an intelligent and service-minded person like you to hand over this kingdom. My wait has ended. My wish has been fulfilled", he said, shedding tears of joy.

We need not fear anything or anyone if the purpose of service is pure and based on wise judgement. Evils wrought by others with the notion of punishing us, can be converted into opportunities. I am happy to inform from this land of workers that the stones hurled at us can be changed into stepping stones for our progress.

"Let us see God in the smile of poor people" – so said elders. Two persons who realized this are Ponmana Chemmal M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. stuck on to Perarignar Anna's dream. After him Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma continued to implement it. But Nature snatched away Amma from us. Still, I wish to state that this Government will realize the dreams of these two great leaders one after another.



The achievements recorded by these two great leaders are immense. Many Chief Ministers might have ruled the State. But the regimes of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, saw countless schemes for the people of this state. Due to their many achievements, Tamil Nadu stands high today.

Think about the earlier rulers. A family was ruling the State. They did not have time to think about people. Their thought revolved only around their family. Even when they got a berth in the Central Cabinet, their thought was only on who should get the post and what post they should get. Members of their families alone could become ministers. None else. Not only did he adopt this course. Their party members also are like that. Dynastic politics alone is practiced there. But when Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma ruled, even an ordinary party member could become a Minister. Those who worked for the party, those who remained loyal were accommodated in the power structure. Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam referred to this in his speech earlier. A few have departed and they dream that this Government can be brought down and the party can be captured. It will end up as a day-dream. As long as these party cadres who are here, remain with us, no one can even think of touching this Movement. Partymen will guard this Government and party. Like a few others, they are not Ettappas. The party blood is running in their veins. Till the last drop of blood in their body, they will safeguard this Government and party. We rely on the party volunteers and the general public. But some people have placed their faith in the DMK. They have joined hands with those who are

unfit for friendship. They have done so on the wrong calculation that this Government can be dismissed and the party can be split. They have joined with those whom Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. had identified as the evil force. They are not bothered about this party and this Government because they had been expelled by Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma herself. There is no possibility that they will develop affection and attachment to the party. God will punish them. By God, I mean Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Some people are going on setting up a time limit for this Government. First, they wondered whether the Government would last till the Budget; then they raised the doubt whether Budget demands would be passed. Their expectations were belied. Now they make the accusation that the Government is giving the worst rule. What mistakes have you found in this Government? Tell us. People's programmes are all going on. We are implementing schemes which you have not touched.

Kudimaramathu is farmers' dream scheme. This Namakkal District is both agricultural and industrial District; is endowed with a hard work force. For efficient cultivation and to realize Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's dream, the wonderful Kudimaramathu scheme is being implemented with farmers' participation. In the first phase, Amma's Government planned to dredge 1,519 lakes on an allocation of Rs.100 crore for farmers to remove at no cost the dredged sediments and apply them in their fields for improving their crop yields. These works are about to be completed. The dredging increases the storage capacities of water bodies and more rain water, during the monsoons,

can be stored in lakes, tanks and ponds. As the ground water table rises on account of this higher storage, farmers get water for irrigation. Drinking water problem also gets solved. What defect can you find in this wonderful scheme? They tried to fault the scheme but could not do so. They want to hinder the functioning of this Government and create confusion by launching agitations. Their desire will never fructify.

Namakkal District is also rich in education. No other District has so many colleges or schools as this District does. To make this District rich in education, Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave schemes abundantly. Today, even a poor student can get high class education. This Government is providing a scientific education by giving laptops worth Rs.14,000/- at no cost to poor students. No other State can claim this; not even at the global level. Super powers have also not ventured into this. With a visionary outlook, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma distributed laptops to provide science education to students and make Tamil Nadu a knowledge-based State. This scheme, I wish to point out, will be remembered even in the next century.

Only in Amma's rule, 39,412 teachers and 4,362 laboratory assistants were appointed in the last six years and 15,169 part time teachers under the scheme 'Education for All'.

For the higher education of poor and marginalised students, Amma set up 65 colleges in the last six years. No other State has this record of starting of colleges. Only in Tamil Nadu a situation prevails where higher education can be studied at low cost.

In a like manner, Amma's Government that functions on the lines of Amma, has started 11 arts and science colleges in this year and created facilities for students from the oppressed, depressed and economically weaker sections of the society, to get higher education at low cost.

When Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister in 2011, the percentage of students who went in for higher education was 21; this has increased to 44.32 per cent, the highest in higher education in the whole of India.

After the introduction of second green revolution in the State in 2011-2012, Tamil Nadu established a record of producing more than 100 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for 4 years between 2011 and 2016 and got the central Government's 'Krishi Karman' award four times in the last 5 years.

When Amma ascended the throne in 2011, there was severe power shortage. She took a pledge to turn the State into one without any power cut in three years and redeemed it. This will raise industrial growth. I wish to point out that the steps taken by Amma were responsible for the economic development.

The Prime Minister has announced that an Industrial City will be set up in Tamil Nadu with assistance from Japan. There is a talk that we have become slaves of the Central Government and that we are pampering it. Neither do we pamper nor become slaves to the Centre. We are friendly with the Centre. We have to be cohesive with the Central Government if we have to get the needed schemes, get sanction for our projects and financial assistance. This



has helped joint action by the Central and State Governments for construction of houses to the poor and the marginalized. When the Hon'ble Prime Minister came to Rameswaram to declare open late Abdul Kalam's memorial, he said that he would sanction to Tamil Nadu Government any number of houses in lakhs for the poor.

We have given an assurance to create job opportunities to the educated youth by changing Tamil Nadu into an industrial city. We placed a demand in this regard to the Prime Minister. Acceding to that demand, he has announced that an industrial city will be set up in Tamil Nadu.

Are these not achievements? What have you done? For 14 years, you were in power at Delhi. First you were in the coalition headed by the Bharathiya Janata Party. You demanded and got all plum portfolios. What did you do for Tamil Nadu. Nothing. You thought your grandson, your son should become Ministers. Then, another party captured power there. You joined that coalition also. Did you raise the issues of Cauvery river water sharing, setting up of Cauvery Management Board and those that pertained to Mullai Periyar and Palar? Did you put in any effort or take steps? You did nothing. Your concern was the prosperity of their families. We are not like that. I wish to remind that Amma's Government, with the goal of taking Tamil Nadu on the path of growth, informed the needs of the State to the Central Government and got things done. If only we had shared power at the Centre like you, we would have changed Tamil Nadu into a prosperous land; started ever new industries.

Our Movement did not have that chance. Still, whatever opportunities are available now, I wish to say, we will utilize them and make efforts to implement schemes needed for the people of Tamil Nadu.

We have implemented a large number schemes during Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule. Tiruchengode will kindle the memory of rigs as it is full of the rigs industry; Namakkal will bring to mind eggs and lorry transport; Rasipuram-sago industry; and Senthamangalam – Kollimalai. These are all fertile areas.

While alive Hon'ble Amma announced many schemes for Namakkal District. Four lane traffic on Namakkal-Tiruchi road. Amma's Government is taking steps to upgrade the road into a National highway. Land will be acquired and it will be turned into a four-lane traffic road. After completion of land acquisition Tiruchengode by-pass road will be laid; steps will be taken to lay a ring road also for Tiruchengode; works are afoot to convert Vellakoil-Pallipalayam road into a four lane traffic road; locating a bus stand at Namakkal, announced by Hon'ble Amma will be taken up shortly; through TNRS scheme, Tiruchengode-Sankagiri-Omalur road will be converted into a multi-lane traffic road; works to widen Tiruchengode-Paramathi road will be implemented very shortly; widening of the Tiruchengode-Rasipuram-Mallikarai road will be completed shortly; Namakkal-Tiruchengode and Mohanur-Namakkal roads have been widened into four lane roads and declared open by me; bridge works across Cauvery river,

taken up at Pallipalayam at a cost of Rs.30 crore are about to be completed by this month end; the high rise railway fly over near Pallipalayam paper mills (Rs.44 crore ) will be declared open once the highways works are completed; a project report is being prepared for construction of a high rise bridge across Cauvery river to connect Pilikalpalayam in Namakkal District and Kodimanai in Erode District at a cost of Rs.65 crore.

I wish to state that Amma's Government, despite the severe drought, kept the price line and the drinking water problem under control and gave food subsidy in a larger scale. All commodities are issued through the ration shops under the public distribution system.

Ministers from your District Hon'ble Thangamani and Tmt.Saroja as also MLAs from the District have placed requests for implementation of more schemes to the District. I wish to state that Government will examine those demands and implement them.

### **NAMAKKAL DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. A new combined water supply scheme has been prepared with Cauvery river water as source to benefit 3.57 lakh people in Alampalayam, Padaveedu Town Panchayats, 669 rural dwellings in Tiruchengode and Pallipalayam Panchayat Unions in Namakkal District and Sankagiri Town Panchayat in Salem District. It will be implemented in the next financial year and protected Cauvery river water will be supplied to people without any interruption.

2. The water supply scheme for the Tiruchengode Municipality in Namakkal District, currently in operation, will be improved and implemented in the coming financial year to benefit about 1.06 lakh people.

3. Government will examine the formation, within the framework of rules, of a new Mohanur Revenue Circle with Mohanur as headquarters by separating revenue villages from the revenue circles of Namakkal, Paramathivelur and Senthamangalam.

4. A by-pass road will be laid to relieve traffic congestion in Rasipuram Municipal area in Namakkal District. The road will be laid in two stages – in the first stage for 6 kms and in the second stage for a 5 km distance.

5. I am happy to inform that a subway will be constructed near the Pallipalayam railway station on the Kumarapalayam-Pallipalayam-Jedarpalayam-Pandamangalam-Vellore road for people to cross the road.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government is implementing many such schemes.

This meeting has assumed the proportions of a State conference. I convey my heartfelt thanks to Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. Thangamani and Tmt. Saroja for making such grand arrangements, to MPs, MLAs, Party Executives and Government high officials who have jointly worked with the Ministers.

Nandri! Vanakkam!.



# Erode, 'fortress of M.G.R., Amma supporters' gets many schemes



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**  
in the M.G.R. centenary function at Erode on 06.09.2017

*(English Translation).*

**M**y salutations to Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I am happy and proud to come to Erode District, the starting point of the Dravidian Movement, to participate in the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R.'s centenary celebrations and meet you all.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Dr. Thambidurai who delivered a special address in this pleasant function, Hon'ble Speaker of

the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Thiru. Dhanapal who presided, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Minister for School Education Thiru. K.A.Sengottaiyan who delivered the 'Munnalai' speech, Hon'ble Minister for Environment Thiru. K.C.Karuppanan, Chief Secretary to Government Dr. Girija Vaithianathan who welcomed the gathering,



Erode MP Thiru. S.Selvakumara Chinnayan who delivered the felicitation address, Tiruppur MP Tmt. V.Sathyabama, Nilgiris MP Thiru. C.Gopalakrishnan, Erode(West) MLA Thiru. K.V.Ramalingam, Perundurai MLA Thiru. Thoppu N.T.Venkatachalam, Erode(East) MLA Thiru. S.Thennarasu, Modakurichi MLA Thiru. V.P.Sivasubramani, Anthiyur MLA Thiru K.R.Rajakrishnan, Bhavanisagar MLA Thiru. S.Eswaran, Kangeyam MLA Thiru. U. Thaniyarasu, Hon'ble Ministers Thiruvallur C.Sreenivasan, Sellur K.Raju, P.Thangamani, S.P.Velumani, D. Jayakumar, C.Ve.Shanmugam, K.P.Anbalagan, Dr. V. Saroja, M.C.Sampath, R.Kamaraj, O.S.Manian, Udumalai K. Radhakrishnan, Dr.C.Vijayabaskar, R. Doraikkannu, Kadambur Raju, R.P.Uhdya Kumar, Vellamandi N. Natarajan, K.C.Veeramani, K.T.Rajenthirabhalaji, P. Benjamin, Dr. Nilofer Kafeel, M.R.Vijayabhaskar, Dr. M. Manikandan, Tmt. V.M.Rajalakshmi, Thiruvallur K. Pandiarajan, G. Baskaran, Sevvoor S. Ramachandran, Tmt. S. Valarmathi Thiru. P. Balakrishna Reddy, Government Chief Whip Thiru. Rajendran, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the Assembly Thiru. Pollachi V. Jayaraman, the Tamil Nadu Government's Special Representative in New Delhi Thiru. N. Thalavai Sundaram, the Chairperson of the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation Tmt. B.Valarmathi, the Tamil Nadu Housing Board Chairman Thiru. P.K.Vairamuthu, the Erode District Collector Dr. S.Prabhakar who is to propose a vote of thanks, MPs and MLAs, Party Headquarters Executives, former Ministers, former MPs, MLAs, Representatives of Co-operative

Institutions, former representatives of Local Bodies, party cadres, the aerial roots of the party, Government staff, media friends, respected Elders, Ladies, Youth, Students, Beneficiaries of welfare schemes – I convey my respects to all of you at the outset.

This Erode soil gave birth to Thanthai Periyar, the Sun who lighted up Tamil Nadu that was steeped in darkness due to ignorance and lack of rational thinking. That is why this Erode which shines as the central point of Kongu Mandalam till date, remains as the root of the Dravidian Movement. I wish to recall a historic event that will bring out the relevance of holding the centenary celebrations of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. in Erode that remains as chapter number one of the history of Dravidian Movement.

It can be learned that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s ancestors hailed from this Kongu Seemai. It is history that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s ancestors migrated to Marudur from Kangeyam. Family circumstances forced Thiru. Gopalan to migrate to Kandy, Sri Lanka where he had worked as a Deputy Judicial Officer. Our Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was born there only on January 17, 1917 to Thiru. Gopalan and Annai Sathyabama as the fifth son. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s father died at Kandy due to the cruel play of fate and the family had to migrate to Kumbakonam. Since the ancestors of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. belonged to Kongu Seemai, it is extremely fitting that this centenary is celebrated in this Erode.

Perarignar Anna, the sweet Tamil Epic with a vibrant command of the language, stayed with Thanthai Periyar in Erode for some years,





contributing to the Viduthalai newspaper. It was the pen which Perarignar Anna wielded then at Erode that changed the history of Tamil Nadu topsy - turvy.

Hence, this Erode has connections with the lives of the first three stalwarts of the Dravidian Movement – Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

This District has other distinctions too. Erode was the birth place of the historic hero Dheeran Chinnamalai who revolted against the British and was hanged by them. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma erected a Government Manimandapam for Dheeran Chinnamalai at his birth place, Odanilai and a memorial at Salem Sankagiri where he ascended the gallows, so that people could recall his exploits now and forever.

Tiruppur Kumaran kept aloft the National Flag even when he was severely beaten up by the British in his fight against them and died on the streets. His birthplace, Chennimalai is in this Erode District. Amma's Government, heir to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I wish to point out, has issued orders to celebrate Tiruppur Kumaran's birth anniversary as a Government

function every year at his birthplace from 04.10.2017 by way of honouring his heroism and courage.

Kalingarayan, the forerunner for the linking of rivers was this Erode District's son of the soil. The canals he dug are a standing testimony for his technical acumen and vision centuries ago. In honour of his memory, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma issued orders in 2016 for construction of a Manimandapam and installation of a six feet life-size statue for him in Erode. I wish to state that the statue will be declared open before the end of this year. I wish to point out that the Public Works Department has set up a guest house in Kalingarayan's name.

The mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan who turned the world's gaze towards him in wonder, belonged to this District; The re-incarnation of Avvaiyar Tmt. K.B. Sundarambal who rendered devotional songs in stages in a stentorian voice was born in Kodumudi in Erode District.

Erode is an industrial District. As powerlooms and handlooms abound here, Erode District shines as the Textile City. Cotton is a native crop for Erode District. This District



is also called Turmeric District because it is an important centre in turmeric production.

Erode District's forest division is the largest among those in Tamil Nadu. A third of sandalwood production in Tamil Nadu comes from this District.

This District is famous for Oothukuli butter and Kangeyam and Bargur bulls.

As this region is situated between Perumpallam Odai and Pichaikaran Odai, it was called 'Eerodai' and this changed into Erode by passage of Time.

This District exudes the fragrance of spirituality with several temples like the Bannari Ammal temple, Bhavani Sangameswarar temple, Chinnamalai Murugan temple, Kodumudi Veeranarayana Perumal temple, Pariyur Amman temple, Sivanmalai temple, Periya Mariamman temple and Thindalmalai Murugan temple.

The credit of making known to the world the policies of Thanthai Periyar, whose hometown is this historic Erode, and those of his principal disciple Perarignar Anna goes to the hero of contemporary history and of the centenary celebrations, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

For example, it was Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who propagated Thanthai Periyar's caste eradication policy more than anyone else, through film songs and dialogues. Periyar's caste eradication policy was given in a new format as 'one caste; one God' by his principal disciple Perarignar Anna. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. reflected that idea through a song 'Ondre kulam endru paaduvome; oruvanae Devan endru potruvom' (let us sing

that there is only one caste; let us adore only one God) in his film.

In another song Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. portrayed the lifetime toil of Thanthai Periyar to bring about a great change in Tamil society and his concern over it by saying 'Manushanai Manushan Saapidaraandaa thambi payalae; idhu maruvadhu eppo, theeruvadhu eppo namba kavala' (Youngster! Man has started eating his fellow man/ when will this situation change, that is our concern).

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. has inherited naturally Thanthai Periyar's traits of frank and courageous exposition of revolutionary ideas that benefited the people. He celebrated the centenary of Periyar in 1979 throughout Tamil Nadu when he was Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. By implementing Thanthai Periyar's Tamil script reforms, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. captured an important place in the history of Tamil Nadu. He installed memorial pillars for Periyar in all District headquarters. It was in M.G.R.'s times that the book 'Revolutionary Languages' that contained Thanthai Periyar's view points, were published, both in Tamil and English. He established a Periyar Centenary Women's Polytechnic College at Thanjavur.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma symbolized the fourth generation of the Dravidian Movement and she had great respect for Thanthai Periyar, the first generation leader of the Movement.

On September 8, 1994, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma instituted a 'Periyar Virudhu' and it is presented every year to those who labour for social justice.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. enjoyed abundant affection of the high and mighty as well as of the poor since he mingled with people as their servant and served them. I wish to cite an instance for this.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. had great love and affection for the narikuravas. They too reciprocated that love and affection in equal measure. They could not bear even a minor distress caused to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. This mutual affection made Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma sing, donning the roles of a male and female gypsy in the film 'Olivilakku', extolling the high traits of gypsies. "Ellorukkum nallavara iruppomunga; enga kolkayile ennalum maaramaattom. Narikombu vitthaalum vippomunga; aanaa, nari pola vajanaigal seyyamattom" ('we will be good to all; will never change our policies. We will even sell the horn of a fox but will never be cunning as the fox'). This has made the gypsies consider Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. as their community's 'Oli Vilakku', the lighted lamp.

In a film, the villain Thiru. Nambiar would be wandering with a gun in hand to kill Thiru. M.G.R. At the point when Thiru. Nambiar was about to shoot Thiru M.G.R., there was a loud gun shot sound in the theatre. The audience was shocked because a gypsy who was seeing the film shot at Thiru. Nambiar in the screen with the rifle he carried to shoot sparrows. His blind affection for Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. made him forget that it was only a screen and that Thiru. Nambiar and Thiru. M.G.R. were only acting and the sequence impelled him to shoot at the image of Thiru.

Nambiar in the screen. To that extent the poor, the marginalized and the common people had attachment to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

On his visit to the Andamans in 1965, the then Prime Minister of India Thiru. Lal Bahadur Sastri declared open a Panathottam M.G.R. Fans' Association in deference to the local people's request. The extent of popularity enjoyed by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. can be gauged from the fact that a Prime Minister declared open a fans' association for an actor in those days.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was the only people's leader who was fielded as the Chief Ministerial Candidate, even while undergoing treatment in a hospital in the US and who won the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections for himself and his party. Today, we realize how truthful the autobiographical song he sang, is: 'Moondrezhuthil en moochirukkum / adhu mudintha pinnaalum paechirukkum' ('my life breath runs on three alphabets; even after its expiry people will talk about me').

If a person is talked about 30 years after shedding his mortal coil, it should be considered as a rare blessing, not available to any other in this world. This has happened because of the confidence reposed by people like the ones in Erode on Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and on his political heir Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

That confidence got us, as the son of the soil Hon'ble Minister Sengottaiyan said, 100 per cent victory in Erode District in the 2016 Assembly elections. Erode District is the fortress of Amma and Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar.



Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had special interest in the development of Erode District. She had given special schemes for this District. This Government that continues Amma's legacy has also implemented many rare schemes for Erode District.

A sum of Rs.319.17 crore has been waived through the agriculture credit co-operative societies for 52,994 farmers in Erode District; Rs. 59.40 crore has been issued as input subsidy to 1,33,880 farmers; 63 'kudimaramathu' works costing Rs.4.26 crore have been undertaken; 13, 94,711 cubic metres of sediment have been made over to 18,733 farmers in this District; an additional building costing Rs.52.96 crore will be constructed in the Erode District collectorate in deference to the requests of many Ministers, MPs and MLAs to do away with space constraint, felt in the present building; foundation has been laid on 11.6.2017 for the Erode Municipal Corporation's scheme to augment drinking water supply at a cost of Rs.508.15 crore – the scheme will be implemented speedily; a new

detailed comprehensive combined water supply scheme with Kodiveri dam on the Bhavani river as the water source, costing Rs.257 crore has been prepared to benefit 8 Town Panchayats in Erode and Tiruppur Districts – Perundurai, Karumandi Chellipalayam, Pallapalayam, Kanchikovil, Nallampatti, Pethampalayam, Kunathur and Oothukuli and 993 rural dwellings belonging to the Panchayat Unions of Perundurai, Chennimalai and Oothukuli.

Your dream project – Athikadavu-Avinasi project – was announced by Puratchi Thalaivi Amma herself. Following representations for a long time from farmers from the Districts of Coimbatore, Tiruppur and Erode, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma issued orders for the implementation of the project. Obeying the orders of Amma, this Government proposes to implement the project. This will benefit 30 PWD lakes, 41 Union lakes and 630 tanks and ponds in 9 taluks of Erode, Tiruppur and Coimbatore Districts; in Erode District ground water will be re-charged in 54 villages by



filling up 6 PWD lakes, 12 Panchayat Union lakes and 246 tanks and ponds and irrigation facilitated.

Foundation was laid on 11.06.2017 for flyover works costing Rs.58.54 crore at the Government General Hospital junction on the Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam road in Erode city limits and works are underway.

I wish to inform that Amma's Government will also implement a 5.40 km long flyover from Kalingarayan Illam to Thindal Medu on the Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam road in deference to the requests from the Ministers of the District, MPs and MLAs for reducing traffic congestion in Erode city.

Laying an approach road to the bridge across Cauvery river to link Pallipalayam in Namakkal District with Erode city, taken up at a cost of Rs.29.90 crore, will be completed very shortly.

A new District Environment Laboratory and a Monitoring Station to assess the quality of air in Erode District will be set up at a cost of Rs.3 crore at Perundurai SIPCOT complex for environmental protection.

To monitor continuously the quality of water in Kalingarayan canal, water quality monitoring equipments have been installed at 2 places at a cost of Rs.75 lakh. Steps for setting up monitoring equipments likewise at three places will be taken for monitoring the quality of Cauvery river water continuously.

Works to restore lakes and tanks in Erode District in consonance with environment are being undertaken.

Today, I have inaugurated 66 completed works of 12 Departments executed at a cost of Rs.65.37 crore.

I have laid foundation for works of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation, estimated to cost Rs.334.27 crore inclusive of electricity sub-stations (Rs.129.16 crore) and for 55 new scheme works, costing Rs.584.24 crore including underground sewerage work in Perundurai Town Panchayat areas (Rs.54.74 crore).

Welfare assistance to the tune of Rs.102,29,97,426/- are to be distributed to 12,342 beneficiaries in Erode District on behalf of 13 Departments.

The general public has realized the greatness of these schemes. But some are blabbering, with no mind to appreciate them. People will never listen to them. Their talk will recoil on them and humiliate them one day. When I say this, I am reminded of a story.

A fantastic desire seized the horse that a musician used in his cart to go to various places to give performances. 'Like this vidwan, I should also sing and get the appreciation of all and receive ponnadais, garlands etc'. was its desire. Hence, it went to a nearby forest on days the vidwan had no performance to give, let out neighs repeatedly to acquire a musical voice.

A fox that gave ear to this different voice, approached the horse and said: 'I have not heard such a melodious voice all my life. Many animals in this forest are haughty thinking that theirs is the sweetest voice. If you come into the forest and show the sweetness of your voice, all the animals will run away, afraid to compete with you. From that, you can assess how sweet your voice is'.

Elated by the praise, the horse went into the forest and neighed in various ways. The forest animals that had not heard till then such a hoarse and revolting voice, started to leave the place in fear. The fox that had expected this development, killed the animals one after another and ate them. At one stage, it asked the horse to stop singing.

When the horse came to see the fox, it was shocked to see so many dead animals scattered all over the place. The fox managed the situation by saying that the dead animals had committed suicide, afraid to challenge the horse. The horse believed the fox and was proud. “Show the sweetness of your voice like this whenever I ask you to do so”, the fox told the horse. The horse agreed to this and set out to its place with the dream that it could also give performances hereafter.

Never is the horse going to realize the cunningness of the fox to devour it on a lean day when no prey is available. Like this, without realizing the danger that may befall them on account of their speeches, many people are speaking in a loose way. Through this audience, I wish to state that such speeches are not going to benefit the people in any way.

Hon’ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma treated agriculture and industry as her two eyes. Where industries abound, economy will improve. To turn Tamil Nadu into an industrial State, Hon’ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma conducted a Global Investors Meet and attracted an investment of Rs.2,42,160 crore through 98 memoranda of understanding. Like that, I wish to point out that many schemes were successfully implemented during the rule of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Hon’ble Thiru. K.C. Karuppanan, Minister from your District referred to kudimaramathu scheme in his speech. It is the farmers from Erode District who have requested the implementation of this scheme first. They gave this wonderful idea of de-silting the lakes, tanks and ponds in different places, deepening thereby those water bodies and increasing their capacity to store more rain water and utilizing the sediments as fertilizers for improving foodgrain production. I am proud to say that Erode District is responsible for shaping the ‘kudimaramathu’ scheme.

To farmers, ground water is most essential; it is like life to a person. To raise the ground water table, Amma’s Government has taken steps to implement in three years a Rs.1,000 crore scheme for construction of check dams in Odais and rivers and store rain water.

For farmers, Amma’s rule was the golden era. After launching the second green revolution in 2011-2012, Tamil Nadu set up a high record of producing more than 100 lakh tonnes of food grains, four times, between 2011 and 2016. For this record, it received the Krishi Karman award from the Central Government four times in the last five years.

Amma’s Government has also permitted production of ‘Neera’ to benefit coconut farmers. This will help the farmers with additional income.

A severe drought, not seen in the last 140 years, prevails in the state on account of monsoon failure. Lakes, dams and tanks have dried up. In some places, water is not available even at 1,000 ft. depth. This District is canal irrigated District. Coconut trees have wilted.





I wish to state that Amma's Government has distributed Rs.2,247 crore to drought affected farmers. The continuous efforts put in by Amma's Government have resulted in the distribution of Rs.1,882 crore to farmers who have insured their crops under the New Crop Insurance Scheme, towards crop loss.

Under the 'Uzhavar Padhukappu Thittam', the solatium given in the event of death of a farmer due to natural causes, has been doubled to Rs.20,000/- from Rs.10,000/-

A Country's growth is determined by the quality of education given. Such a growth could be seen in Amma's rule. Giving priority to school education, Amma's Government has allocated Rs.26,932.31 crore for the year 2017-2018. Amma's Government is taking steps to set up Hi-Tech Computer Labs in High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools at a cost of Rs.438 crore so that Government school students too can get computer knowledge on par with those in private schools, smart

class rooms in middle schools at a cost of Rs.60 crore and take up infrastructure facilities in educational institutions in the current year at a cost of Rs.391 crore. By appointing in the last six years, 39,412 teachers, 4,362 lab assistants in school education sector and 15,169 part-time teachers under the 'Education for All' Movement, Amma's Government has enhanced the standard of education.

To avert long distance commuting to reach schools, 227 new Primary Schools have been started; 116 Primary Schools have been upgraded into Middle Schools; 829 Middle Schools into High Schools and 402 High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools. These incentives have increased the student enrollment percentage to 99.85 per cent in primary level education and to 99.20 per cent in middle level education. Likewise student enrollment has increased in higher education. Giving importance to higher education in Hon'ble Amma's rule, 65 colleges were opened in the



last six years. When Amma assumed office as Chief Minister in 2011, 21 per cent of students went in for higher education. Today, this has increased to 44.3 per cent. At the national level, Tamil Nadu has the honour of enrolling more number of students in higher education. Likewise, Amma's Government too has set up this year, 11 arts and science colleges. I am happy to mention that one such a college has been opened at Gobichettipalayam this year.

To realize the goal of 'Houses for All', 3,27,717 houses are being constructed from 2015-2016 till the current year for the weaker sections of people in Town Panchayat, Municipal and Municipal Corporation areas at a cost of Rs.11,457 crore.

Erode District was born by dividing the Coimbatore District during the rule of Ponmana Chermal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. People in this District are good workers. The main occupation is agriculture and textiles. Hence, Amma's Government will take steps for these two sectors to prosper. This Erode District is Amma's Fort. Reiterating this, I wish to state that Government will examine the establishment of a mofussil bus stand at the Chozhanaadu area belonging to Erode Municipal Corporation.

Amma's rule should continue. Some people try to thwart this Government. Amma's soul will haunt them. Their desire will never fructify. The All India Anna DMK has a cadre strength of one and a half crore. All of them are soldiers. With this volunteer force, this Movement remains as one that goes on from strength to strength. I wish to point out that no one can shake or destroy this iron fort and that Amma's Government will be a Government that fulfills

all the needs of the people. I take leave of you, expressing my heart-felt thanks to Hon'ble Minister Thiru. K.A.Sengottayan, Hon'ble Minister Thiru. K.C.Karuppanan, respected former Minister Thiru. K.V.Ramalingam, respected former Minister Thiru. Thoppu N.T. Venkatachalam, Modakuruchi MLA respected Thiru. V.P. Sivasubramani, Anthiyur MLA Thiru. K.R.Raja, Bhavanisagar MLA Thiru. K.Eswaran, Erode (East) MLA Thiru.S.Thennarasu and other partymen and Government staff who had worked for the success of this function.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

#### ERODE District- M.G.R. CENTENARY FUNCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. At present, electricity is supplied to Poonachi Village and surrounding areas from the 110 KV sub-stations in Anthiyur, Koneripatti and Chennampatti. To improve the supply and the increasing power load, a new 110/22 KV sub-station will be installed on 1.22 acre plot in Poonachi Village.

2. Steps will be taken by the Government to take over the Chikkaiah Naicker college, the first college to be started in this Erode District.

3. A stretch of the ring road from Erode railway station to Aanaikalpalayam – from KM 4/6 to KM 8/2 – will be widened into a 4-way traffic with median.

4. Under the 'House for All' programme, apartments and individual houses are being constructed and handed over from 2015-2016 in Municipal Corporation, 4 Municipalities and 42 Town Panchayat areas. Orders will be issued for the construction of 7,500 houses in the current year.

5. A water supply scheme for 58 rural dwellings in Patlur and Mathur Panchayats in the Ammapettai Panchayat union by upgrading the combined water supply scheme in operation now in Ullandhiyur and Ammapettai Panchayat Unions, will be taken up for examination in the current year.

6. A water supply scheme for 54 dwellings in Mylambadi Panchayat of the Bhavani Panchayat Union by upgrading the combined water supply scheme, already in operation for Varadhanallur and 53 Panchayat dwellings, will be taken up for examination in the current year.

7. Preliminary assessment works will be taken up for funnel conveyance of water from Maniyachi Pallam in Bargur mountain to Anthiyur Varattupallam dam.

8. Median wall will be erected on the Anthiyur Main road in the interest of traffic in Anthiyur Town, for the safety of the general public and to regulate the vehicles.

9. A super speciality section will be set up with JICA financial assistance in the Government Headquarters Hospital in Erode to help people get super speciality treatment at the appropriate time.

10. Government take over of the Road Transport Corporation's Medical College at Perundurai, Erode District will be examined.

11. A unit of the National Highways is preparing a detailed project report to widen the Thoppur-Mettur-Bhavani road inclusive of the Erode-Agraharam Bhavani road into a four lane traffic road. Necessary steps will be taken to widen this road into a four lane road.

12. Administrative sanction for Rs.7.16 crore has been sanctioned for the

preparation of a detailed project report for laying a 8.184 km long by-pass road for Bhavani town and for land acquisition. Land acquisition work is going fast at present. Once it is completed, the by-pass road will be laid.

13. Under the Central Road Fund scheme, widening a 11 km stretch of Anthiyur-Ammappettai road will be undertaken at a cost of Rs.10 crore.

14. Widening and upgradation of the road from Gobi to Chithode will be taken up through the Tamil Nadu Road Development Project.

15. The road from Mettupalayam to Sathy and from Sathy to Bhavani via Athani will be upgraded to the level of a National Highway.

16. Speedy action will be taken to upgrade and develop the Bhavani-Erode-Karur road into a National Highway.

17. Turmeric, the important cash crop of Erode District is sold now through indirect auction at four places – Karumandi Sellipalayam, Semmampalayam, Erode and Gobichettipalayam. By way of modernising this indirect auction process, a software for e-commerce is being tested under a pilot project at the Perundurai Regulated Market from 08.03.2017. Government will examine the feasibility of promoting a unified market platform by integrating in one software all the auction centres in the District and conduct e-auction at the same time, between 9 and 11.30 a.m.



## Mahatma remembered with fervour through a panoply of events



The Tamil Nadu Government celebrated the 149<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at Chennai on 02.10.2017. Gandhiji's statue on the Marina and his portrait placed below were tastefully decorated with flowers.

Around 10 a.m., Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu (i/c) Thiru. Ch.Vidyasagar Rao, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. O. Panneerselvam and Hon'ble Ministers offered floral tributes to the portrait.

Earlier, between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., spinning was performed and prayers were offered near Gandhiji's Statue.

At 8.15 a.m. a bicycle rally stressing untouchability eradication, National integration, world peace and communal harmony, took off from Gandhiji's statue point on the Marina and reached Gandhi Mandapam at Guindy. The rally made up of thousands of school children in the city and National Cadet Corps and Members of the Bhrama Kumari Society was flagged off by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju.





Bajan was performed at Guindy Gandhi Mandapam also between 9 a.m. and 11 noon.

A 3-day photo exhibition on the life of Gandhiji was got up at the Gandhi Mandapam by the Department of Information and Public Relations.

The 149<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, commenced at Gandhi Mandapam on 02.10.2017 in the evening around 5 p.m.

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu (i/c), Thiru. Ch.Vidyasagar Rao delivered the Presidential Address and distributed prizes to winners in the competitions held earlier for school and college students. Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports and Youth Welfare Thiru. K.A. Sengottaiyan, and Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju spoke. Thiru. R. Venkatesan I.A.S., Secretary, Tamil development and Information Department, earlier

welcomed the gathering. Thiru. P. Sankar I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations Department proposed a vote of thanks. Cultural events stressing untouchability eradication, national integration world peace and communal harmony were performed by students. A large number of people turned up at the celebrations and paid their respects to the Father of Nation.

A film on Gandhiji was screened through LED Vans in the evening on all three days of the celebrations from 02.10.2017 to 04.10.2017. ■





# Thanking PM for various grants, Chief Minister seeks permanent solution to fishermen's woes



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 27.07.2017 at the inaugural function of **Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam** Manimandapam, Rameswaram-Ayodhya Express Train service and the scheme for deep sea fishing (*English Translation*)

**H**on'ble Prime Minister Thiru. Modiji,

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu,

Hon'ble Thiru. Venkaiah Naidu,

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industries Tmt. Nirmala Seetharaman,

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Highways and Shipping Thiru. Pon. Radhakrishnan,

Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Minister for Finance and Fisheries Thiru. Jayakumar,

Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Minister for Information Technology Dr. Manikandan,

Members of Parliament and Legislature, Government staff, Elders, Ladies, Media friends – my respects to all of you.

“For Ramanathapuram District people and to their kings, Tamil and Spirituality are their two eyes” – so praised Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.



The Siva pilgrim centre of Rameswaram in the southern most tip of India became famous due to the epic Ramayanam; it again gained fame on account of Dr. Abdul Kalam.

Dr. Abdul Kalam and Hon'ble Prime Minister are examples to illustrate that a person can rise to the top positions of a Country – President and Prime Minister - with the assets of truth, work, love, intelligence and self confidence despite handicaps of a poor socio-economic background and a lineage that cannot boast of great learned people. That is why it is most fitting for the Hon'ble Prime Minister to declare open Dr. Abdul Kalam's Manimandapam.

Hon'ble Prime Minister participated in the funeral of Dr. Abdul Kalam. Now, he has come to open Dr. Kalam's Manimandapam. On behalf of people of Tamil Nadu, I heartily thank him.

The land for the Manimandapam was made available on the orders of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The Mandapam has been beautifully designed after the Missile Man's 'Agni' missile.

By way of honouring Dr. Abdul Kalam, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced that an award, carrying a cash of Rs. 5 lakh and a gold medallion weighing eight grams, would be instituted and given to a person belonging to Tamil Nadu who had worked for the growth of science and development of youth and human resources. She exhibited her regard for Dr. Abdul Kalam by implementing the announcement in her lifetime itself.

On this rare occasion, I wish to make certain important points in the presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister. Rameswaram has many honours like the Ramanathaswamy Temple and that of being the birthplace of Dr. Abdul Kalam. We cannot refute that the gentle waves of the sea and the fishermen's nets beautify this island. Though the waves lash Rameswaram coast peacefully, we fully know that the lives of fishermen who cast their nests in that peaceful sea, are anything but peaceful.

More than 3 lakh fishermen in 305 fishing villages in 5 coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu





along the Palk Straits have fishing as their livelihood.

To find a permanent solution to the troubles faced by Tamil Nadu fishermen in the Palk Straits, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 03.06.2014 and requested the retrieval of Katchatheevu, diversification of bottom trawling fishing into tuna long liner cum crill netter fishing and a grant of a special assistance of Rs.1,520 crore to implement the same. I also stressed on the demand when I met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 27.02.2017. Acceding to this demand, Hon'ble Prime Minister gave a special assistance of Rs.100 crore on 11.05.2017 for the conversion of 750 bottom trawling boats into tuna long liner boats and Rs.100 crore under the Blue Revolution scheme – totally Rs.200 crore – as Central Government's share of 50 per cent.

Tamil Nadu, on its part, gave Rs.86 crore as its 20 per cent share and livelihood assistance, for the conversion, in the first phase, of 500 bottom trawling boats and issued orders for the implementation of the scheme at a total cost of Rs.286 crore.

Under this scheme, 2,000 bottom trawling boats in the Palk Straits will be changed into tuna long liners in three stages at a cost of Rs.1,621 crore.

I wish to thank Hon'ble Prime Minister for extending financial assistance of Rs.200 crore this year for conversion of 'Bottom Trawling boats' to 'Deep Sea Long Liners', besides other projects and for launching this scheme today. There is no doubt that due to this scheme, the sufferings and troubles faced by Tamil Nadu fishermen in Palk Straits will be largely reduced and their livelihood will flourish.

The fish landing platform, proposed to be set up at Kunthukal will be implemented from the funds to be sanctioned by the Central Government Finance Ministry on direct instructions from the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

I once again thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for creating necessary infrastructure facilities in these ways for Palk Strait fishermen to carry on their avocation.

I also request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the Ministry concerned to quickly release the Central Government's share for the on-going construction of a harbour at Mookaiyur in Ramanathapuram District.

The 2,664 fishermen, imprisoned by the Sri Lankan Government have been brought back to Tamil Nadu due to the untiring efforts of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and the consistent steps taken by the Indian Government. Three hundred and fifty-seven

boats have also been released. I heartily thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for this on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu and the fishermen community.

From 2015 onwards, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had been stressing upon the Union Government for the release of Tamil Nadu fishermen and their boats from the custody of the Sri Lankan Government and for the protection of Tamil Nadu fishermen's livelihood. Amma's Government, following the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has also been emphasizing this. At present, 75 fishermen and 149 boats are in the custody of Sri Lankan Government, affecting their livelihood. On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu in general and the fishermen in particular, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly use his good offices to persuade the Sri Lankan Government to release all the 75 Tamil Nadu fishermen and 149 fishing boats, apprehended by them.

I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for the allotment of Rs.99.91 crore by the Union Government Ministry of Tourism for beautification and upgradation of important tourists centres in Tamil Nadu under the 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme. Of this, I wish to convey, Rs.15.86 crore has been set apart for Rameswaram alone and works like provision of drinking water facility to tourists, streamlining of the beach, road facilities and parks, are under execution.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took efforts to renovate the Mukundarayar Chathram-Arichal Munai link road for drawing the tourists and pilgrims to enjoy Nature's beauty

at Dhanushkoti, located near Rameswaram. The road has been renovated at a cost of Rs.65.68 crore under the National Highways Annual Programme and is to be thrown open to the public by the Hon'ble Prime Minister today. I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister once again for realizing, through this scheme, Rameswaram people's 50 year dream.

Also, the Central Government has allotted to Rameswaram Municipality Rs.7.91 crore under its 'Swach Bharath' scheme and Rs.41.83 crore under the 'Amrut' scheme and works on them are afoot. I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for introducing such excellent schemes and implementing them speedily.

On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I heartily thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for flagging off the 'Rameswaram-Ayodhya-express train service today to link Rameswaram and Ayodhya of Ramayanam fame and to benefit the tourists greatly.

A Rs.78.17 crore Town Development Scheme has been prepared for Rameswaram for providing basic facilities like street lights, drinking water, underground sewerage and drainage for the residents and tourists who visit the town to see the Manimandapam of our former President who brought laurels to the Country in many ways. I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to provide a special allotment for the scheme. The Hon'ble Prime Minister honours National Leaders and I hope he will accede to this request. I once again thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for participating in this historic function and honouring us.

Nandri! Vanakkam!



## Give a hand to handlooms, weave new hope into lives of weavers

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of  
Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on  
National Handloom Day (*English Translation*).

Every year August 7 is celebrated as National Handloom Day in memory of the Swadeshi Movement, launched on that day in 1905 and to create awareness among people on the role played by the Handloom Industry in Country's socio-economic development and to develop that industry.

For the development of such an important Industry, Perarignar Anna carried on his head and shoulders handloom clothes, marketed them and lit up weavers' lives. Our Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma too executed many schemes for the welfare of handloom weavers like implementing a 30 per cent rebate on handloom clothes for 139 days from Anna's birthday of September 15 to January 31, distribution of dhotis and sarees free of cost to benefit 164 crore families, distribution of free school uniforms every year to 54 lakh students, old age pension and family pension for Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers, Green Houses to weavers, free electricity

to handloom and powerloom weavers, life insurance and welfare insurance schemes for handloom weavers, scholarship to children of weavers, award for the best weaver at State Level and prizes for skilled handloom weavers.

The Handloom Industry provides employment to 1.90 lakh weaver families and 3.20 lakh weavers and others engaged in auxiliary industries connected with weaving, in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu Government, following the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is implementing in an effective way all the announcements made by Amma.

I appeal to all sections of the people to patronize handloom clothes and silk fabrics sold in the outlets of Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies and Loom World sale points, wear them at least once a week, either on Fridays or Mondays and help in improving the standard of living of handloom weavers.





## Chief Minister thanks Centre for M.G.R. birth centenary coins

D.O. letter dated 13.09.2017 addressed by Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to Shri Narendra Modi,  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

“On the occasion of late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.Ramachandran’s birth centenary which is being celebrated this year, we had requested the Government of India, to release a Commemorative coin as a fitting tribute to the great leader. Based on our request, the Government of India have now issued a Gazette Notification for the issue of

Commemorative coins of Rs.100/- and Rs.5/- denomination.

I express my whole hearted gratitude on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu and on my personal behalf, for having issued orders to release commemorative coins in the memory of our great leader Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.Ramachandran”.

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Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 05.09.2017, a central market for vegetables, fruits and flowers at Kalligudi in Tiruchirappalli District constructed at a cost of Rs. 65 crore. The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Thiru. R. Doraikkannu, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Thiru. Vellamandi N. Natarajan, Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Tmt. S.Valarmathi, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Agriculture Thiru. Gagandeep Singh Bedi I.A.S., Director of Agriculture Thiru. V.Dhakshinamoorthi I.A.S., Director of Agriculture Marketing and Agri Business Thiru. S.J.Chiru I.A.S., and other High Government Officials were present.

# Quarters for Constables, 6 new Police Stations



Two hundred and twenty-eight dwelling units for Police Constables, six Police Stations and an administrative office building for the Joint Commissioner of Police (south), Chennai, all costing Rs.32,16,20,000/- were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 07.08.2017.

The Police Department is engaged in many important works like maintaining and safeguarding peace in the State, maintaining law and order prevention of crimes and tracing the culprits and getting them appropriate punishment. To improve the efficiency of such an important Department, the Tamil Nadu Government, functioning in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is implementing many schemes like construction of Police Stations and quarters for Constables, improving infrastructure facilities in Police offices and distributing new vans for patrolling.

The dwelling units constructed for Police Constables are: 80 at Dharapuram in Tiruppur District (Rs.7,70,12,000/-), 15 at Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District, 25 at Thiruparankundram, Madurai District, 30 at Uthamapalayam, Theni District, 45 at Valliyur, Tirunelveli District and 33 at Virudhunagar (West), Virudhunagar District (all costing Rs.18,65,53,000/-).

The six Police Stations declared open are located at T-15, S.R.M.C. Iyappanthangal and Avadi, Greater Chennai (all women Police Stations), at Vallam and Sengipatti, Thanjavur District (All Women Police stations), at Anakkavur, Tiruvannamalai District and at BHEL, Tiruchirappalli District (all costing Rs.4,10,55,000/-).

The administrative office building of the Joint Commissioner of Police (South) has been constructed at St.Thomas Mount, Greater Chennai (Rs. 1.70 crore).





## All embracing humanism hallmark of Gandhiji

Gandhi's supreme quality, however, was his all embracing humanism which did not recognize the usual categories of the high and the low, the rich and the poor or the religious or political labels which men and women wore, or the caste names under which they paraded themselves or suffered their 'fated' ignominy. He called himself a socialist and defined socialism as a social order in which "the prince and the peasant, the wealthy and the poor, the employer and the employee are all on the same level. Looking at society all the world over, there is nothing but duality or plurality. Unity is conspicuous by its absence. But, in the Unity of my conception, there is perfect, unity in the plurality of designs. Let us ask ourselves how much we have done to identify ourselves with the masses? Have we bridged the gulf between the surging millions and us? To what extent do you share the life of the masses? I confess that with me it is still an aspiration".

Gandhiji had not favourites except those who strove with him in the service of truth; no favourites except those who labored to banish injustice, exploitation and religious and racial fanaticism, and fought against them under the banner of Ahimsa; no favourites except the weak, the downtrodden, the Harijans whom

society had been treating as its accursed step sons, who had neither self-respect, nor work of significance to do, more even the basic minimum of one full meal a day. So, in a sense, the whole world was his favourite except the group of killers, exploiters and clever 'Manipulators' in different fields of life who gambled with the happiness and welfare of individuals and groups for their own petty and mean purposes. But – and this is a significant but – while they were not his favourites, like men and women to whom life is more than political manipulation, more than economic aggression, more than the satisfaction of material wants, he was deeply concerned about them also and anxious to redeem them. He sincerely believed that there was some spark of goodness, some hidden flash of the divine light in every human being, however depraved. In his deep compassion he could see the tiny spark of divinity even in the worst criminal. And he considered it his business to awaken it at any cost. In fact, one may almost say that he regarded this class of persons also as under privileged spiritually under privileged – for, an unshared, selfish privilege is really a grindstone round a person's neck. They only flattened, and, in the process morally killed, their egos. Selfishness calcified them.

- Dr. K.G.Saiyidain



# Eighteen-day campaign for 'Cleanliness is Service'



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami formally inaugurated at the Secretariat in Chennai on 15.09.2017, an 18-day long (15.09.2017 to 02.10.2017) 'Cleanliness is Service' campaign in the State by administering cleanliness pledge.

The main aim of the 'Clean India Campaign' is to make all people participate in the campaign and to stress the point that 'Health is everyone's duty'.

Steps will be taken to achieve the goal of eradication of defecation in open places,

construction of toilets in houses where there is none, and keeping clean all public places, mainly Schools, Colleges, Government Buildings, Hospitals, Tourist Spots and places of worship with the active participation of the public.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., High Government Officials and Secretariat employees took the cleanliness pledge on the occasion.



# Chief Minister recalls valiant Vellore's greatness while unfurling new schemes



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**  
at the M.G.R. Centenary celebration function held at Vellore on 09.09.2017

*(English Translation).*

**M**y respects to Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Thiru. Dhanapal who is presiding over the Centenary celebration function of Dr. M.G.R. and has delivered his Presidential Address, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam who has delivered an inspiring speech, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha Dr. Thambidurai who has delivered a special address, Hon'ble Minister for Commercial Taxes Thiru.K.C.Veeramani who has organized this function excellently,

Hon'ble Minister for Labour Welfare Dr. Nilofer Kafeel, Secretary to the Department of Tamil Development and Information Thiru. R.Venkatesan who has delivered the welcome address, Arakkonam MP Thiru. K.Hari, Tiruvannamalai MP Tmt. R.Vanaroja, Arakonam MLA Thiru. S.Ravi, Keezh Vaithinan Kuppam MLA Thiru. G.Loganathan, Hon'ble Ministers, Chairperson of Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation Tmt. B.Valarmathi, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board Thiru.P.K. Vairamuthu, Vellore District Collector Thiru.S.A.Raman who is to

propose a vote of thanks, former ministers, former MPs and MLAs, representatives of Co-operative bodies, former representatives of Local Bodies, party cadre who are the aerial roots of the party, Government staff, media friends, respected Elders and Ladies, Youth, Students and Welfare Beneficiaries – at the outset, I offer my respects to all of you.

In appreciation of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s public life, many leaders have conferred excellent titles on him on different occasions. Former Minister Thiru. C.Subramanian conferred the title 'Nadiga Mannar' in 1958, Justice Rajamannar, 'Kalai Mannar' in 1964, writer Thiru.Thamizhvanan, 'Makkal Thilagam', Tirunelveli District Municipal Council, 'Vaathiar' in 1960, Villupuram Mutthamizh Mandram 'Kalai Arasar' and several others gave several other titles. But the titles 'Puratchi Thalaivar' and 'Ponmana Chemmal' suited him most appropriately.

Thiru. Muruga Kripananda Variar who conferred that historic title 'Ponmana Chemmal' was born in Vellore District. One is driven to think that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s donation of the Meenakshi Sundareswarar statue, presented to him by the Madurai Thamizh Sangam in 1981, to the Jalakandeswarar temple in Vellore was perhaps an expression of gratitude to this District, the birth place of Variar.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. spoke many dialogues in his cine life as also in his public life; and many of those dialogues could have touched the people deeply. But, his one-

liner that enthused party volunteers and leaders alike was delivered in Vellore. Speaking at a public meeting on September 14, 1979 – a day before Anna's birth anniversary – while he was Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. thundered: "AIADMK's flag will fly aloft for a thousand more years". That was a historic declaration. By way of substantiating that declaration, I request all the cadres of the party who are siblings of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to remain united and act in a way as to safeguard this movement and Government.

Only this Vellore soil rich in the traits of courage and discrimination could have brought out such a declaration from the heart of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Hence, I am proud to say that this Vellore is the birthplace of AIADMK's sacred scripture ('Vedam').

To India's independence, this Vellore was the substratum; the city has yielded heroic sons and world is aware of the sacrifices it has made. I consider it befitting to celebrate the centenary of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. in this city as the late leader had a golden heart to honour those who had toiled for the Country.

'Vel' in Tamil language denotes the weapon of the Hindu God Murugan. As God Muruga appeared with 'vel' in a lotus pond in this town as a tribal hunter to destroy the evil forces, people started calling this place as Vellore ('Velur').

The first thing that comes to mind when we hear the name Vellore, is the fort here. It was built by a Chieftain Chinna Bommu Naicker, a representative of the Vijayanagar



Emperor in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Later, the Arcot Nawabs, Bijapur Sultans, Marathas, Delhi Sultans and the British ruled from this fort at different times. This historic Vellore had been ruled by the medieval Cholas, latter day Cholas, Vijayanagara emperors, Rashtrakootas, Pallavas, Mohammedans and the British. India's first independence war started from this Vellore as Sepoy Mutiny in 1806. Only later, the fire of freedom started to engulf all of India. The South Indian sepoys in the Vellore Fort rebelled against British oppression and massacred hundreds of British officers. The British took revenge and shot dead hundreds of Indian soldiers. The first seed of the Freedom Struggle was sown in this Vellore. The Indian Government issued a stamp in 2006 to commemorate the event and honour the soldiers who laid down their lives and this heroic soil of Vellore. The sepoy mutiny took place on July 10 and every year on that day a wreath is placed at the Memorial Pillar erected here by way of paying respect to the rebels. It is this Vellore District which wove the tricolour flag that was hoisted at the Red Fort on the first Independence Day of August 15, 1947.

Walajah Municipality, created on November 12, 1866 was the first municipality in Tamil Nadu.

After coming to Vellore, one cannot but recall the history of sacrifice that went into the setting up of the Christian Medical College here. Twenty-year old Ida Scudder who came from America in 1870 to see her father, engaged in medical service in Tindivanam, was distressed over the sufferings of women here without adequate medical facilities. She returned to

America, studied medicine, collected huge funds, returned to India and started a medical college on a small scale. That college has now developed into a very big hospital in Asia as CMC. In 1952, Ida Scudder was selected as one of the best Doctors in the world and honoured. Each and every one who enters the medical profession must know the history of this Vellore Medical College, the heart-beat of 'Thyaga Semmal' Ida Scudder who had come here from America and dedicated her entire life for the welfare of our people, and the sacrifices she made.

Vellore is not merely a land of heroism; spirituality and philanthropy have also mingled in this soil.

The Paalaaru blessed Vellore is rich in agriculture and tanning industry. Thirty-seven percent of our Country's leather exports is produced in Vellore.

The Former President of India, Dr. Radhakrishnan studied in Voorhees College in Vellore in 1898. Dr. A. Padmanabhan, former Governor of Mizoram also studied in this college. Dr. Mu. Varadarasanar, world renowned Tamil scholar was born in Velam in Vellore District. P. Nataraja Mudaliar, the father of Tamil cinema, Vani Jayaram, famous playback singer and V.L.Ethiraj, founder of Ethiraj College were all born in this District. The gold medallist in the weight lifting competition in the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Sathish Sivalingam was from Vellore. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma presented Rs.50 lakh to him and blessed him. The greatness of Vellore District can be enumerated like this without end. But what



stands out is the history of heroism of Vellore District. I am proud to share a few instances in memory of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who had a great regard for Tyagis.

Only a leader who loves his Country instinctively can honour other leaders who work selflessly for the Country. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. is an example.

While acting in stage dramas, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was totally unaware that he would become a people's leader in future. It was Makkal Thilagam who first made use of the present Tamil invocation song 'Neeraarum kadaluduttha nilamandanthakkezhil ozhugum' of Manonmaniam Sundaranar in his drama. This happened in 1957 at Tiruchi Thevar Hall at the inaugural of M.G.R. Nadaga Mandram's 'Inba Kanavu' drama.

I wish to recall another incident. On hearing that the freedom fighter Thyagi Jeevanandam was suffering from poverty, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. went to his house in Tambaram without informing anyone in

advance. Crossing the kutchra roads immersed in rain waters, he entered Jeevanandam's hut, asked him how long he would suffer like this and suggested that he could have a small house. Thyagi Jeeva replied: "When everyone gets a house, I will also get one". Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. forced Thyagi Jeeva and got his consent to have a house for himself. Thyagi Jeeva then said emotionally: "The white bones of the feet have got emaciated through walking. Life has been spent either in jail or in rail. Has anyone thought that I should have a house of my own? Only M.G.R. has this thought". He continued: "I don't need a house; a house to safeguard the books that I had read, is enough". Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. constructed a house for Thyagi Jeevanandam in Tambaram.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. never thought that Jeevanandam was in the opposite camp in politics. Jeevanandam was a Thyagi who worked for the Country throughout his life. With this identity of Jeeva in mind, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. helped him. The house constructed for Jeeva is still in Tambaram, reminding us of these two great



leaders.

Another instance. When Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Government provided Thyagi Kakkan a house free of cost, free bus pass, free medical treatment and a monthly pension of Rs.500/-. When Thyagi Kakkan was undergoing treatment in Madurai Government hospital in 1980, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. issued orders for the provision of a separate room and high class treatment for him. Like these instances, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., as an actor or as a Chief Minister, hastened to help great people who had toiled for the Country.

The purpose of fighting for and winning independence is to remove inequality and remain as a sovereign citizen. It was Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who announced and organized 'samabandhi' feasts in temples on Independence Day of August 15 where all participated without any distinction.

Each and every party worker should feel deeply that the party flag, designed by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., one of the unparalleled leaders of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, will fly for thousand more years as he himself had stated in this soil, and work towards it. What you have to do for that, is to carry all the schemes implemented by Hon'ble Amma's Government to the extremely marginalized sections of the people. I consider that as your thankfulness shown to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

From the date of assuming office of this Government till date, 33,440 scheme works

costing Rs.7,754.16 crore have been completed. I have inaugurated these works and have laid foundation for 6,511 works costing Rs.2,786.12 crore. 39,951 works are getting implemented at a cost of Rs.10,540.28 crore.

This Government treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is to give welfare schemes in this function that will gladden your hearts.

I have declared open today 61 buildings costing Rs.66.07 crore. For the development of the youth of this District, a new industrial training institute has also been declared open at Vaniambadi.

I have laid the foundation for 8 buildings of the Adi Dravidar Housing Development Corporation to be constructed at a cost of Rs.12.60 crore. I have distributed welfare assistance to the tune of Rs.275.43 crore to 34,170 beneficiaries of this District on behalf of various Departments.

Due to time constraint, I will mention only a few of the achievements this Government has recorded in the last six years.

Farm loans of 79,318 small and micro farmers of this District, to an extent of Rs.333.95 crore to be paid to co-operative banks have been waived; drought relief to the tune of Rs.4.28 crore has been disbursed to 12,809 farmers whose crop yield has been affected; works costing Rs.56.08 crore of the Police Department are under implementation; bridges and roads are being constructed at a cost of Rs.12 crore; 34 lakes in the District have been rejuvenated under the 'kudimaramathu' scheme at a cost of Rs.3 crore; in the second phase, 63 lakes are to be

taken up at a cost of Rs.12 crore; 5,179 farmers have benefited by excavating 4.48 lakh cubic metre sediments from 401 lakes in the District; 75 lakes, 3 dams and 107.24 km long inlet channels of the PWD Department have been restored at a cost of Rs.37.15 crore.; 8 power sub-stations are getting installed by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation at a cost of Rs.51.23 crore; works on 7 electricity expansion schemes with an installed capacity of 156 MW costing Rs.45.37 crore of the Electricity Distribution Corporation have been started; 12,295 works costing Rs.217.50 crore have been taken up in 6,109 hamlets in 743 village panchayats under the Tamil Nadu Habitation Infrastructure Development scheme; 20,544 green houses with solar panels have been constructed at a cost of Rs.351 crore under the Green House Programme and handed over to poor and marginalized families; under the Indira Awas Yojana scheme 29,577 houses have been constructed at a cost of Rs.324 crore; drinking water development scheme works for Vellore Municipal Corporation are being carried out at a cost of Rs.235 crore with central/state Governments' participation. The works will be completed by December 2019 and brought to the use of people; similar works for the Ambur municipality are being carried out at a cost of about Rs.51 crore with Central/State Governments' participation. These works will be completed by June 2019; underground sewerage scheme works in Ambur Municipality have been started; two new university-constituent colleges have been opened in Vellore District at a cost of Rs.14.50 crore at Gajalnaickenpatti and Aattupakkam.

This Government that follows the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has given many welfare schemes for Vellore District. A whole day is not enough to enumerate them. A comparative study will reveal to the people whether the parties that had earlier ruled had implemented such schemes. No benefit will accrue by harbouring desires that can never be fulfilled. Society will dismiss empty rhetoric. Let them take us as an example, minimize talk and engage in action. When I say this, I am reminded of a story.

A tortoise that could not even walk correctly, used to always wail out of jealousy at seeing other animals running fast on the ground and at the birds flying freely in the sky. One day, as it was resting on the banks of a lake, it beckoned an eagle hovering in the sky, expressed its desire to fly and wailed at its inability. "Stop this wailing; I will fulfill your desire now," said the eagle. It picked up a bamboo stick from a nearby place and told the tortoise: "Tortoise, take hold of the stick at one end with your mouth; I will hold it at the other end. Let us fly and you can circle the sky." The tortoise was immensely pleased. As told, it gripped one end of the stick and started flying in the sky with the eagle. It wanted to fly higher and higher in the sky and at one stage, it wanted to reach the moon. Forgetting that it was holding the stick with its mouth, it opened the mouth to convey its desire to the eagle. That's all. As it was hurtling down to the ground, it cried to the eagle to save it. "Tortoise, you desired beyond your limits. This will be the result if you don't remain content with what you have and want to fly. Convey this truth to other animals if you



survive the fall” – so saying, the eagle flew off. Those who are avaricious and want high posts beyond their merit will meet the tortoise’s fate.

Two great leaders of All India Anna DMK ruled Tamil Nadu for 27 years -- Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for 16 years and Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. for 11 years – and implemented many schemes for the oppressed, depressed and marginalized sections of people. Amma’s Government is now continuing the tasks left behind by these two leaders. Some people could not tolerate

the most desired destination for industrial investors. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave priority to industries and set up many industries and raised Tamil Nadu in 2016 to the third position in the Country. The economic growth of a State centres round industrial growth. Tamil Nadu witnessed such a growth and the credit goes to Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

In post-Independence India, the first global investors meet took place in Tamil Nadu during Hon’ble Amma’s rule on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and 1,200 foreign delegates



this and are indulging in loose talk. Countless schemes have been implemented in Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma’s rule. If a green revolution is sweeping villages, it is due to the steps taken by Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. It is Amma’s Government which solved farmers’ problems.

Tamil Nadu is the premier State in attracting foreign direct investment and in exports in the whole of the Country. It continues to be

and 5,000 Indian delegates participated. Nine Countries worked as co-sponsors. Ninety-eight Memoranda Of Understanding (MoUs) for an investment of Rs.2,42,160 crore were signed in the presence of Hon’ble Amma. Of these 98 MoUs, 61 projects with an investment of Rs.62,838 crore are under implementation. Till date, more than 76,000 persons got direct and indirect employment opportunities. Steps are being taken to expedite the remaining

agreements. It is Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, who as Chief Minister showed how a Country should progress industrially.

For the benefit of farmers, Amma's Government has initiated a wonderful scheme, the Kudimaramathu scheme and it is implemented with the participation of farmers. The scheme aims at de-silting of lakes, tanks and ponds and the farmers applying the sediments to their fields at no cost and improving their crop yield. The scheme to desilt 1,519 lakes is under implementation and the works are about to be completed. The dredging of water bodies will increase their storage capacity and more rain water can be stored. This will improve underground aquifer and help farmers meet their irrigational needs and solve at the same time the drinking water scarcity. Following requests for the expansion of the scheme, I am happy to announce that 2,065 lakes will be taken up for kudimaramathu works at a cost of Rs.300 crore.

To re-charge ground water and convey water from rivers and lakes, a scheme of constructing new check dams, underground check dams and anaicuts is to be implemented at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore in three years. I am happy to state that in the current year, such dams will be constructed at a cost of Rs.350 crore.

After launching the second green revolution in 2011-2012, Tamil Nadu recorded an achievement of producing more than 100 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in 4 years between 2011 and 2016 and bagged the central Government's

"Krishi Karman" award four times in the last five years.

As in Vellore District, a severe drought prevails all over Tamil Nadu due to monsoon failure. Ground water has receded to more than 1,000 feet depth; agricultural operations could not be taken up on account of the drought not seen in the last 140 years. Where cultivation had been taken up, the crop has withered. Identifying the affected farmers, Amma's Government gave them a relief of Rs.2,247 crore by way of input subsidy.

Under the 'Uzhavar Paadhugaappu Thittam', the solatium given to the family in the event of the death of a farmer under natural conditions has been doubled by Amma's Government to Rs.20,000/- from Rs.10,000/-

To bring about a renaissance in education, Amma's Government has allocated an unprecedented Rs.26,932 crore for education for the year 2017-2018. By allocating more funds for education than to other Departments, Tamil Nadu, I am proud to state, remains a model State in pushing up the standards of education.

Steps will be taken to start hi-tech computer laboratories in High and Higher Secondary Schools at a cost of Rs.438 crore to provide computer knowledge to Government school students on par with those in the private institutions, to start smart class rooms in middle level schools at a cost of Rs.60 crore and to take up infrastructure facilities in educational institutions at a cost of Rs.391 crore. In the



School Education Department, 39,412 teachers and 4,362 laboratory assistants have been appointed; under the “Education for All” scheme, 15,169 part time teachers have been appointed.

Primary Schools to 99.85 and in middle level education to 99.20.

Hon’ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma started 65 colleges in six years so that students from poor and downtrodden families



To avert long distance commuting by students to reach their schools, 227 new Primary Schools have been started in the state till now; 116 Primary Schools have been upgraded as Middle Level Schools, 829 Middle Level Schools into High Schools and 402 High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools. By distributing Rs. 14,000/- worth of laptops free of cost to students in Government Schools, this Government is offering an knowledge-based education. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma hit upon this scheme with a visionary outlook to make Tamil Nadu a Science State.

Such welfare schemes for school students have increased the enrollment percentage in

can go for higher education. Likewise, this Amma’s Government has started 11 arts and science colleges this year and accorded facilities for prosecution of higher education at low cost.

Besides, this Government has taken steps to get Central Government’s approval for implementing the Rs.660 crore. Thenpennai - Palar link scheme in this region. This Government will try to implement the scheme in a short time and supply water to people. Likewise, Government will take efforts for the preparation of a scheme to link Godavari-Krishna-Palar rivers to convert the dry Vellore District into a greenery District.

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR VELLORE DISTRICT

1. A project cost report is being prepared for a Tiruvannamalai-Vellore combined water supply scheme with the waters of Cauvery river near Mettur as the water source for meeting the drinking water needs of 11 Town Panchayats and 4,917 rural dwellings in Vellore District. The scheme will benefit 21.47 lakh people in Vellore District, 25.91 lakh people in Tiruvannamalai District and 2,70,458 people in Kancheepuram District.

2. Andiappanur Odai Dam in Vaniyambadi Taluk, Vellore District will be upgraded as a tourist centre. The connected works will be completed in two stages.

3. The new Government Arts and Science College at Palur in Madhanur Union will be named Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R. Government Arts and Science College.

4. Arakkonam MLA Thiru. S.Ravi has requested the Government to create a new revenue division with Arakkonam as headquarters by linking Arakkonam and Nemili Taluks. Government will carefully examine this request.

Conceding the demands of the workers of the Tamil Nadu Industrial Explosives Limited here, Hon'ble Amma's Government announced certain concessions. Salary arrears from January 2017 to August 2017 will be settled soon subject to the rules and conditions.

At present 60 workers have been placed in Government-public sector establishments.

Those desirous of seeking transfers to other jobs will continue to be absorbed in Government-public sector units. For the rest of the workers, full gratuity, cash for the unspent leave and provident fund will be given under the Gratuity Act.

This centenary event is a thanksgiving function to Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., the founder of AIADMK. The huge crowd that has turned up for the function makes it look like a party conference, not just a public meeting.

I heartily thank Hon'ble Minister for Commercial Taxes Thiru. K.C.Veeramani, Hon'ble Labour Welfare Minister Dr. Nilofer Kafeel, MPs Thiru. Hari and Tmt. Vanaroja, MLAs Thiru. Ravi and Loganathan and all other good hearts who have made excellent arrangements for the success of this function.

I urge those going by vehicles to return to their places safely.

I take leave of you saying that this Government will serve you as your servant.

I thank the District Collector, Government staff and all others who have contributed for the success of this function.

Yesterday was ours! Today is ours! Tomorrow also will be Ours!

Vaazhga Anna Namam!, Valarga Puratchi Thalaivar Pugazh! Thodarga Manbumigu Amma's Rule!

Nandri! Vanakkam!.



# Government is swift in providing all facilities to Judiciary: Chief Minister



Address by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Madras High Court's traditional building in Chennai on 16.09.2017 (*English Translation*).

I bow to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma before beginning my address,

Hon'ble Chief Justice of Supreme Court, Justice Thiru. Dipak Misra,

Hon'ble Union Minister of Law and Justice Thiru. Ravi Shankar Prasad,

Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court Justice Thiru. R.K. Agrawal,

Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court Justice Tmt. R. Banumathi,

Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court Justice Thiru. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul,

Chief Justice of the Madras High Court Justice Kum. Indira Banerjee,

Hon'ble Judge of the Madras High Court Justice S. Manikumar,

Hon'ble Judge of the Madras High Court Justice Thiru. Huluvadi G. Ramesh,

Hon'ble Judge of the Madras High Court Justice G. Selvam,

Hon'ble Attorney General of the Central Government Thiru. K.K. Venugopal,

Hon'ble Minister for Law, Courts and Prisons Thiru. C. Ve. Shanmugam,

Tamil Nadu Advocate General Thiru. Vijay Narayan,

Chairmen of all Advocate Associations, Lawyers, High Court employees, Chief Justices of other States, who have come for the meeting,

First of all I offer my greetings to you all

I am extremely happy to participate in the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Madras High Court's traditional building,



Justice is the right provided by the Constitution to the people and it is the hope of the people.

Our judicial system is one of the oldest in the world and it was not developed by one person on a single day. It has been developed generation after generation by people's patience, careful planning and great efforts of many people.

The system has been reforming itself after taking in all the good aspects prevailing in the legal systems throughout the world over the years.

The Madras High Court was set up in the year 1862 based on Victoria Queen's order after the British Parliament passed the Indian High Courts Act 1861.

Since, the High Court had jurisdiction over Andhra and Kerala, it was called High Court of Judicature at Madras. The Madras High Court was then functioning in George Town just opposite to the present High Court building. Later the present High Court building was constructed with the consent of the Queen Victoria.

The building was constructed in 1892 in Indo Saracenic style at a cost of Rs. 12,96,163/- under the guidance of Henry Irwin.

The building was inaugurated on July 12, 1892. It is an accepted fact that the Madras High Court building was the best among all buildings in the Country and it is a shining example of architecture. The building was constructed in an artistic manner consisting of beautifully painted domes and doors fitted with coloured glass. The Chennai lighthouse was once functioning from the top of the High Court dome and was later shifted to the present place on the Marina.

It is a matter of pride that till date the Madras High Court has been delivering justice impartially. It is no exaggeration of fact to say that the High Court has three distinctions, a great legal history, beautiful architecture and a traditional legal system.

Under the Constitution of India, the judicial system, the Government and the legislature should function independently within their limits. Then only people can live peacefully and happily. I am happy to state that these three limbs



of governance are functioning independently in Tamil Nadu.

I am happy to state that the present Amma's Government functioning under the guidance of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is in a position to provide necessary infrastructure, employees and other facilities to the Courts without delay so that the litigant public gets early justice.

During the golden rule of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Rs. 56.34 crore was sanctioned for the construction of Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court. Rs. 10 crore was sanctioned for setting up a museum and an auditorium. The National Law College was started in Srirangam at a cost of Rs.100 crore. Funds have been sanctioned for alternative settlement centre also.

I am happy to point out that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government during six years from 2011-2012 to 2016-2017 gave concurrence for setting up 419 Courts of 33 wings which included District Sessions Courts, Additional District Courts, District Magistrate Courts, Metropolitan Courts, City Magistrate Courts, Women's Courts and Sub-Courts.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, with a view to change the name of Madras High Court as Chennai High Court had a resolution passed in the Tamil Legislature and the same has been sent to the Central Government .

To provide quality legal education to all students, new law colleges have been opened in Villupuram, Dharmapuri and Ramanathapuram. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma increased the assistance given to advocates under Welfare Fund to Rs. 5.25 lakh from Rs. 2 lakh. I am

happy to announce that the assistance will be increased to Rs. 7 lakh and there will be no service bar for availing the fund.

Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government has been implementing projects to provide buildings for Courts in various Districts, quarters for judges and improving infrastructure of the Courts.

Out of the construction of 185 Courts in 47 buildings, 75 Courts have been completed in 21 buildings. Work is in progress for 83 Courts in 20 buildings. Work is to start soon for 27 court halls in 6 buildings.

Work is in progress for construction of 32 buildings to accommodate 107 quarters for judges at an estimate of Rs. 75.63 crore. Of this, 11 quarters in 5 buildings have been completed. Work is in progress for 67 quarters in 22 buildings and the same is to start soon for 29 quarters in 5 buildings. Between 2011-2012 and 2016-2017 the Government has sanctioned Rs. 863.61 crore for this purpose.

In the current financial year, work is to start for constructing 20 Courts in two buildings at a cost of Rs.51.28 crore. Work on construction of 26 quarters at a cost of Rs. 16.16 crore will begin soon.

This Government of Amma will continue to meet the requirements of the judiciary as and when they arise.

The Madras High Court has brought fame to the Country by delivering historic judgements. I take leave of you saying that I feel really blessed to participate in this historic function. Nandri, Vanakkam.





**October 4 : Subramania Sivam Birth Anniversary**

## **Subramania Sivam, synonym for selfless love for the Nation**

Subramania Sivam joined wholeheartedly in the war of Independence and laboured hard for destroying the poison-tree of British Imperialism. Justice Tinhay condemned him to 10 year's imprisonment. In the prison and outside it afterwards he wrote a number of works, composed dramas, and ran a magazine called "Gnanabanu". He took a share in the work of promoting his mother tongue, Tamil, by talking on political, literary and religious platforms and by writing poems.

Many degree-holding men of the time of Subramania Sivanar did not have either any love for their mother tongue, Tamil, or a desire to learn it and they lived as a burden to their land. Addressing such people Bharathiar sang: "You would study many other languages. But since you wouldn't learn your home language, get away, get away". Thiagi Sivanar expresses the same feeling a little strongly in the following passage:

"The life of a Country is to be found in its language. Those who give up their mother tongue can be said to be committing suicide because of foolishness or of madness. If committing suicide is a crime against the State, he who begins to kill himself and his society by neglecting his State language is a person who commits crimes a thousand fold. Though the law of the Country does not include these murderers in the list of criminals, they are culprits according to the laws of creation followed by that All-Powerful Deity who rules over the whole universe as the sole Empress" (Gnanabanu -September 1915).

Siva was a religious man. He composed the valuable religious work entitled "Sachithanandha Sivam" when he was in prison. It must have been his first work. The reason for his writing that work is to be found in a pathetic event. He mentions it himself in the introduction to that book.



In the days of Subramania Sivam, Tamil did not have the first place, not only in the religious sphere but also in the political. It was not a mistake on the part of Tamils when they showed no dislike for but willingly accepted such words as “Vandemadharam”, ‘Desiyam’, ‘Swadhantram’, ‘Swayarajyam’ and ‘Bharadha Madha. which had taken possession of all the hearts of the sons of India. However, Sanskrit words dominated, more than necessary, the

field of Tamil literature, especially in the study of Sangam literature. Only because of that Sivam notified that the pure Tamil articles he liked to get must deal with the greatness of the Tamil language and the history of Valluvar.

- M.P. Sivagnanam in *History of the growth of Tamil during the Indian war of independence ....*



## News in Pictures



In connection with the 109<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna on 15.09.2017, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** paid floral tributes to a portrait of Perarignar Anna placed near his statue on Anna Salai, Chennai. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. O. Panneerselvam**, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs Chief Secretary to Government Dr. Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., high officials of the Government and large section of public participated.

# Buildings for Vedasandur college at Rs. 7.25 crore



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat in Chennai on 05.09.2017, declared open through video conferencing, administrative and classroom buildings for the Constituent Arts and Science College of the Madurai-Kamaraj University at Vedasandur in Dindigul District constructed at a cost of Rs. 7.25 crore. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated college buildings and solar infrastructure constructed at a cost of Rs 30.08 crore.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalavi Amma with a lofty ideal of boys and girls in different parts of the State should get higher education to enable them to get employment and attain a glorious State in their lives declared open in the last six years, 4 Government Engineering Colleges,

56 Government /University Constituent Arts and Science Colleges, and 16 Government Polytechnic Colleges (totally 76 Colleges) in the State.

Besides, with a view to provide the necessary infrastructure permanent buildings are being constructed for these colleges. Due to these steps the State has attained 44.3 per cent in the enrollment of students and achieved the position of number one State in the Country.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open administrative and classroom buildings for the Constituent Arts and Science College of the Madurai-Kamaraj University at Vedasandur in Dindigul District.



Apart from this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated a multi-purpose seminar hall, constructed at a cost of Rs. 1.50 crore for the Research and Extension Centre of Annai Teresa Women's University in Madurai District, administrative and classroom buildings built at a cost of Rs 7.25 crore for the Nagercoil Government Arts and Science College in Kanniyakumari District, Solar power infrastructure on 10,117 sq.metres in the Bharathidasan University complex in Tiruchirappalli District at a cost of Rs. 4.85 crore, administrative and classroom buildings constructed at a cost of Rs. 7.25 crore for the constituent College of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in Kanniyakumari District, administrative and classroom buildings

constructed at a cost of Rs 7.25 crore for the constituent College of Alagappa University in Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram District, and an autonomous office building constructed at a cost of Rs 1.90 crore for the Alagappa College of Engineering and Technology at Karaikudi in Sivagangai District.

Hon'ble Minister for Forests Thiru. Dindigul C.Sreenivasan, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Thiru. K.P.Anbalagan, Thiru. V.P.B.Paramasivam, Vedachandur MLA, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Higher Education Thiru. Sunil Paliwal I.A.S., Director of College Education Dr.Manjula and High Government Officials were present on the occasion. ■



## Chief Minister greets Arjuna Award winner



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami has greeted Thiru. Arokia Rajiv, who has been awarded the Arjuna Award by the Central Government .

In a letter to the awardee on 29.08.2017, he said, "I extend my warm greetings to you for bringing laurels to India, especially to Tamil Nadu by winning the Bronze Medal in the Asian Games held in Incheon in 2014 and Gold Medal in the 4 by 400 metres relay

race and Silver Medal in 400 metres race in the Asian Championship competition held in Bhubaneswar in Odisha in 2017, and for the honour bestowed on you for these achievements by the Central Government by awarding you the Arjuna Award.

"On this occasion, I wish you create more records in the future by winning more and more awards in athletic championships". ■

# Deputy Chief Minister inaugurates Sivaji Manimandapam that Amma envisioned



Address of the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. O. Panneerselvam**  
at the inauguration of Nadigar Thilagam Chevalier Sivaji Ganesan memorial in  
Chennai on 01.10.2017 (*English Translation*).

I bow to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who combined in herself knowledge, courage, sympathy, valour, charity, compassion, truth, and integrity and who held the mantle of power in the State for six times;

Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries Thiru. D.Jayakumar, who presides over the function,

Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju, in whose presence the function is being held,

Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Thiru. Benjamin, Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development Thiru. Pandiarajan, sons of Nadigar Thilagam Thiru. Ramkumar and famous actor Thiru. Prabhu and other family members, Thiru. R.Nataraj, Mylapore MLA, Virugai V.N.Ravi, Virugambakkam MLA,

Hon'ble MPs and MLAs, former MP Thiru. Balaganga, Secretary of the Tamil Development and Information Department Thiru. R.Venkatesan I.A.S., who welcomed the



gathering, Director of Information and Publicity Thiru. P.Shankar I.A.S., who is to propose the vote of thanks, Super Star Rajinikanth, Actor and Padmasri Kamal Hassan, Nadigar Sangam President Thiru. Nassar and its secretary and President of the Producers Council, Thiru. Vishal, Nadigar Sangam treasurer Thiru. Karthi, former President of the Nadigar Sangam Thiru. Sarathkumar, Tmt. Radhika Sarathkumar, Actors Thiru. Sathyaraj, Thiru. Vijaykumar, Thiru. Surya and Tmt. Suhasini Maniratnam, and veteran actor Satchu, Cine and TV actors, who have assembled here in large numbers, fans of Nadigar Thilagam, who love him more than their lives, members of print and visual media, elders, Government employees and those who have come here to participate in the function, I am very happy to welcome you all for the function.

Nadigar Thilagam Sivaji Ganesan created many records in the cine field.

Sivaji Ganesan was originally known as Ganesan. It was Periyar EVR who was very much impressed by his performance in the play Sivaji Kanda Indhu Samrajyam, who gave

him the title Sivaji. Thereafter the name Sivaji Ganesan became permanent.

Nadigar Thilagam won the appreciation of Perarignar Anna and Perunthalaivar Kamaraj.

By his dialogue delivery, voice modulation, good voice control and superb acting, Nadigar Thilagam was called 'Nadippu Chakravarthi' and 'Nadippu Medhai' by people and those associated with him in the cine field.

Through his fine acting and excellent dialogue delivery in films like Parasakthi, Veerapandiya Kattabomman, Kappalottiya Tamizhan, and Tiruvilaiyadal, he earned a permanent name in the hearts of Tamils all over the world.

None in the present generation has seen Veerapandiya Kattabomman. But Nadigar Thilagam by his fine portrayal as Kattabomman in the film, has shown that Kattabomman would be like him in his real life. Similarly, many had not seen Kappalottiya Tamizhan. But Nadigar Thilgam has lived in the role in Kappalottiya Tamian. Similar is the case with Lord Sivaperuman. By his brilliant performance as



Siva Peruman, Nadigar Thilagam has won the hearts of people.

Apart from Tamil films, Nadigar Thilagam had earned great fame through his acting in Telugu, Hindi and Malayalam movies.

Though Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Nadigar Thilagam were poles apart in politics, in real life they were sons of the same mother.

Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was hailed as Makkal Thilagam while Sivaji Ganesan was hailed as Nadigar Thilagam by people. Both Makkal Thilagam and Nadigar Thilagam excelled in acting. Both loved and worshipped their mothers. Both Makkal Thilagam M.G.R. and Nadigar Thilagam are the standing examples that those who love their mother will attain glorious positions in their lives.

There is one memorable event in the life of Nadigar Thilagam. When Nadigar Thilagam went as a cultural ambassador of India to USA in 1962 the then President of the USA, John F.Kennedy honoured him by nominating him as the Mayor of Niagara for a day and handed over the key to Nadigar Thilagam. It shows that Nadigar Thilagam's acting was respected throughout the world.

Nadigar Thilagam was the only common man who was given permission by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to meet the President of Egypt Gamal Abdel Nasser during the latter's visit to India. Nadigar Thilagam was given the best actor award at the Afro-Asian film festival held at Cairo in 1960.

By winning many prestigious awards like the Kalaimamani Award of Tamil Nadu Government, Padma Sri and Padma Bhushan of the Indian Government, France Government's Chevalier Award, Indian Government's prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke, Nadigar Thilagam brought fame to the award themselves.

After Nadigar Thilagam, his son Ilaya Thilagam Prabhu, is considered as one of the best actors and like Nadigar Thilagam he is being loved by all. Nadigar Thilagam's grandson Vikram Prabhu is an upcoming actor liked by young generation.

The family of Nadigar Thilagam is doing great service to the film industry. To add to the glory of Nadigar Thilagam, Idaya Deivam Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced in the Assembly on 26.08.2015 that the State Government would construct a memorial for Nadigar Thilagam on the land given to the South Indian film Artistes Association at a cost of Rs. 2.80 crore. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also announced administrative approval and financial sanction for the memorial.

As per the directive of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the memorial was constructed at a cost of Rs.2.80 crore. As the Hon'ble Chief Minister felt that it would be appropriate to open the memorial on Nadigar Thilagam's birth anniversary on October 1, the Tamil Nadu Government decided to open the memorial.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, with a view to enable the younger generation and posterity to know the sacrifices made by



freedom fighters, and Tamil scholars who worked for development of Tamil language, and to add to their glory erected memorials and installed their statues in the last five years.

The present Government with the blessings of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma will continue to honour past leaders by erecting statues and constructing memorials for them.

The Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced many concessions for the development of the film industry. For the first time in the Country, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma sanctioned Rs. 10 crore as subsidy to the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce to conduct the centenary celebrations of Indian Cinema. In the last five years, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma sanctioned Rs. 2.25 crore for conducting international film festival in Tamil Nadu every year.

To encourage production of quality films and to foster new talent in the film industry, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma increased the subsidy for small budget films from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 3 lakh in 1993 and from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 7 lakh in 2004. The Tamil Nadu Government has instituted awards in the name of Perarignar Anna, Kalaivanar N.S.Krishnan, Raja Sandow, and Makkal Thilagam M.G.R. and the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi. Similarly, Amma instituted Nadigar Thilagam Sivaji Ganesan Award to add to the glory of Nadigar Thilagam and the award is being given since 1993. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma organised functions in 2004 and 2005 to distribute film awards, students awards and Kalaithurai Vithagar Awards to add fame to the film industry.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, who issued orders to provide subsidies to encourage people who produce socially conscious, films in small budget, and awards for students of M.G.R. Government Film and TV Training Institute who produce best small budget films also announced in the Assembly that a grand function would be organized to distribute the Tamil Nadu Government Film Awards and Small Screen Awards.

As per the directive of Hon'ble Amma, Government Orders have been issued for selecting Best film, Best Actor, Best actress and best technicians awards for years 2009 to 2014, selecting films for providing subsidies for years between 2007 and 2014, selecting artistes for small screen awards for best actor, actress, and technician awards for years 2009 to 2013 and awards for students of M.G.R. Government Film and TV Institute who produced best small films for the years 2008-2009 to 2013-2014.

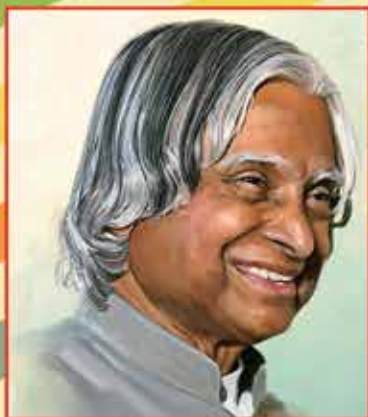
I am happy to announce in this Nadigar Thilagam Birth Anniversary function that soon a mega function will be organized in Chennai to distribute these awards.

To add further glory to the fame of Nadigar Thilagam throughout India, the memorial opening function is being held with the blessings of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I am happy to participate in this function with the feeling that I am a part of Nadigar Thilagam family.

I am happy to conclude by saying that Nadigar Thilagam's fame will last not only in Tamil Nadu but also throughout the world film industry.

Nandri,Vanakkam.

October 15: Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam birth anniversary



## Dr. Abdul Kalam's vision of an ideal student

Education transforms a human being into a wholesome whole, a noble soul and an asset to the universe. Real education enhances the dignity of a human being and increases his or her self-respect and promotes universal brotherhood.

Education in its real sense is the pursuit of truth with the teacher in the pivotal position who has to continuously replenish and update his knowledge so that his wards will always look up to him as a walking encyclopaedia, as a fountain of love and most of all, a caring human being.

If only the real sense of education could be realized by each individual with the guidance of the teacher, and carried forward in every field of human activity the world will be so much a better place to live in.

Today's young students want the education system to feed and challenge their innovative and creative minds. They are the creators of tomorrow and they want to think about it today. A good system of education should be able to satisfy their insatiable hunger for knowledge.

Educational institutions have to gear up to evolve a curriculum that is sensitive to the

social and technological needs of a developed India. Student activities towards development should be seamlessly integrated with the existing curriculum so that the future members of our society are fully developed in all aspects of social transformation.

The goal of education is to create an enlightened society.

Enlightened society has three components. One, education with value system, two, religion transforming into spiritual force and three, economic development. Going to school must empower the youth to become a part of the knowledge society and contribute to the national development apart from their own growth.

My vision of an ideal student is that: he is righteous; he adopts and follows the principle – let my winged days not be spent in vain; he excels in his studies; he is a good member of his family, school and society; he has the patience to persevere with his work till he achieves his goals; and is respectful to parents, elders and teachers.

*Spirit of Education*  
**APJ Abdul Kalam**



## 2 Railway overbridges, 4 bridges of Highways Department opened



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 24.08.2017, two railway overbridges and 4 bridges of the Department of Highways and Minor Ports, all constructed at a cost of Rs.141.11 crore.

Road infrastructure plays an important role among different kinds of infrastructures for the socio-economic development of a State. The Tamil Nadu Government, functioning in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

is therefore keen on implementing works like construction of new bridges as per need throughout the State, laying quality roads in required places and maintenance of roads and bridges.

A 760-metre long two-way railway overbridge has been constructed at Munnirpallam, Palayamkottai Taluk, Tirunelveli District on the road Tiruchendur-Palayamkottai-Ambasamudram-Tenkasi-Courtallam-Sengottai at a cost of Rs.32.70 crore. This new overbridge will



benefit tourists to Tenkasi, Courtallam, Ambasamudram and Sengottai and the people of those localities. The Hon'ble Chief Minister opened this bridge.

The other bridges declared open were: The four-lane left arm of the railway overbridge at Vyasarpadi, Chennai, constructed at a cost of Rs.80.68 crore to link the Erunkkancheri Highway (the right arm of the overbridge to benefit the people of Sathyamurthy Nagar was already declared open by Hon'ble Puratchi

Thalaivi Amma on 13.11.2015); the bridge across Vaigai river at Sakkimangalam, Madurai East Taluk, Madurai District (Rs.18.17 crore); one across Ayyanar Odai, Ottanagampatti, Vedasandur Taluk, Dindigul District (Rs.1.99 crore); the bridge across Pazhavaaru, Idayanallur, Tiruvidaimarudur Taluk, Thanjavur District (Rs.3.02 crore) and the bridge across Manimutharu, Vairavikulam, Ambasamudram Taluk, Tirunelveli District (Rs.4.55 crore). ■

## News in Pictures



On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Thiru.P.Benjamin, Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture Thiru. K. Pandiarajan, Secretary, Department of Tamil Development and Information Thiru. R Venkatesan IAS, Director, Information and Public Relations Thiru. P. Sankar IAS, and other high officials of the Government paid floral tribute to a portrait of Former Mayor Sivaraj placed near his statue at Mint, Chennai in connection with 126<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary on 29.09.2017.



# NCC training academy at Idayapatti declared open by Chief Minister



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat in Chennai on 01.09.2017 declared open through video conferencing, the NCC Training Academy set up at a cost of Rs. 13.62 crore at Idayapatti Village in Madurai East, Madurai District.

The aim of the National Cadet Corps is to inculcate good behavior, camaraderie,

character, leadership qualities, secular outlook, courage, and selfless service among youth. It seeks to encourage and train youth to develop leadership qualities and creates a congenial atmosphere for them to join the Army.

The Tamil Nadu Government working on the path laid down by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is implementing various



schemes to encourage NCC students by giving them scholarships and incentives for participating in Republic Day Parade and in allied camp activities.

The NCC Directorate in Tamil Nadu is the third biggest directorate in the Country with a strength 360 colleges, and 820 schools and an enrollment of about one lakh boys and girl students.

To develop the functioning of the NCC further in Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Chief Minister opened the NCC training academy in Idayapatti Village. For the first time in the Country the academy has training facilities such as weapon simulators, driving

simulators, English language research centre, and artificial rock climbing. The academy has a modern hostel, shooting range, parade ground and an indoor hall. In a year, about 21,000 students can be trained in the academy.

In the function, Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports development Thiru. P.Balakrishna Reddy, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan, I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Thiru.Dheeraj Kumar, I.A.S., Deputy Director General of NCC Directorate Commodore Vijesh Kumar Garg VSM and High Government Officials participated.



## Chief Minister greet Prime Minister on latter's birthday



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edapadi K.Palaniswami on 17.09.2017 greeted the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the of Prime Minister's Birthday by sending a bouquet and a letter of greetings.

"On, the joyous occasion of your birthday, I would like to convey my warm felicitations and wishes to you for a wonderful year ahead.

I pray that the Almighty grant you many more years of good health and strength to serve the Nation and the People".



## Rs. 5 crore building at Tiruchi for scheme to prevent sea water ingress in delta region



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open an office building for the Project Management Unit constructed at a cost of Rs. 5 crore at Tiruchirappalli with Asian Development Bank financial assistance, on 24.08.2017 at the Secretariat through video conferencing. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation for an underground reservoir, proposed to be constructed at the PWD complex at Taramani, Chennai with Japan International Co-operation Agency's (JICA) financial and technological assistance for conserving rain water.

During the 2012-2013 Budget session of the Assembly, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced that water regulators would be renovated and set up in tail end areas to prevent sea water ingress in Cauvery delta region at a cost of Rs.1,560 crore with Asian Development Bank's assistance and State Government's participation. Construction of office building for the project director and buildings for other connected offices of the Project Management

Unit of the Department of Water Resources, forms part of this Programme. The building at Tiruchirappalli is by way of implementing that announcement.

The six lakh litre capacity underground reservoir will be constructed in the 10 acre PWD complex at Taramani, Chennai. The scheme aims at reducing drinking water scarcity in the highly deficit areas through cheap and innovative Japanese rain water harvesting technology.

As an alternative to river sand, crushed stone sand is manufactured for construction purposes. The marketing name for this alternative, is CS-sand and M-sand. To create awareness among people about the M-sand, a hand book has been brought out. The Hon'ble Chief Minister released the hand book and the first copies were received by the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Thiru.Vellamandi N. Natarajan and Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Tmt. S. Valarmathi.

# Three warehouses opened at Nallampalli, two at Nanjikottai



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 07.08.2017, five warehouses of the Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation and the Ramanathapuram branch office building of the Coimbatore Urban Co-operative Bank, all constructed at a cost of Rs.24.01 crore.

The main activity of the Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation is to create scientifically built storage facilities and prevent storage loss of produce to farmers and traders. This Corporation also undertakes pest prevention/elimination activities in its own warehouses and on a commercial basis in Government and private buildings. The Food Corporation of India, the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, sugar factories, fertilizer manufacturing companies, traders and farmers make use of these godowns.

On 06.05.2013, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced in the Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that warehouses with a total capacity of 1.25 lakh tonnes would be constructed through the Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation.

By way of implementing that announcement, three warehouses were constructed with a capacity of 5,000 tonnes each (total 15,000 tonnes) at a cost of Rs. 17 crore at Nallampalli Village, Dharmapuri Taluk, Dharmapuri District and two additional warehouses with a capacity of 3,500 tonnes each (total 7,000 tonnes) at the Nanjikottai warehousing complex in Thanjavur District at a cost of Rs.6.40 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister declared them open. Also declared open was the Ramanathapuram branch office building of the Coimbatore Urban Co-operative Bank in Coimbatore District, constructed at a cost of Rs.61 lakh. ■



## MoU signed with Mahindra Ind Park for uninterrupted power supply



A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Tamil Nadu Power Generation and Distribution Corporation and the Mahindra Industrial Park under the 'Ease of Doing Business' scheme, in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 05.09.2017.

Due to the worthy and long-term plan of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the State has become a power surplus State. Thanks to

various power generation schemes in the last six years, the power cut imposed on industries has been completely lifted since June 2015.

For the convenience of power consumers, the Corporation has introduced services like power connection application through internet, connection in one day, connection in seven days for low tension industries of less than 112 kwh, power to farmers under Tatkai scheme, solar power pump sets, and remittance of power consumption bills through Mobile Apps.

So far 52,000 power connections (since 01.07.2017) have been given under 'One day service connection' scheme, power supply to 683 LT industries under seven day scheme, and 2,198 connections to farmers under Tatkal scheme.

Under the 'Ease of doing Business' scheme, the Corporation at its own expense sets up sub-station in the land of the entrepreneur. The Corporation provides feeder line from the sub-station to the unit at its cost to provide uninterrupted power supply to entrepreneurs/ industrial consumers. If the entrepreneur wishes, the Corporation will give permission to set up sub-station and other allied infrastructure by the entrepreneur himself. If the entrepreneur wants to have a second source of power supply, the Corporation will provide that facility also.

Digital meter with AMR facility attached feeder will be provided. This scheme is applicable to all industries which require uninterrupted power supply 24 by 7.

The first MoU for uninterrupted power supply under the 'Ease of doing business' scheme was signed between the Power Generation and Distribution Corporation and Mahindra Industrial Park was signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

Under the agreement, the Mahindra Industrial park in Gummudipoondi in North Chennai will provide land for a 110 kv sub-station to be set up by the Corporation to provide uninterrupted 24 x 7 power supply to the Industrial Park. A feeder will also be set up by the Corporation at its own expense.

As a follow up measure, steps will be taken to provide uninterrupted power supply within 15 days monitored by Director / Distribution. A facilitation centre will be set up by the Corporation to keep track of any issue, including complaints that the power consumers face.

The ceremony was attended by Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise Thiru. P.Thangamani, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., Principal Secretary, Energy Department Thiru.Vikram Kapur I.A.S., Chairman and Managing Director of the Tamil Nadu Power Generation and Distribution Corporation Thiru. M.Saikumar I.A.S., and High Government Officials participated.

On behalf of Mahindra Industrial Park, its CEO Tmt. Sangeetha Prasad, Business Head Thiru. Shyam Kalyanasundaram and Sales and Marketing Head Thiru. Doru Hanada participated.



# Chief Minister opens fish landing piers at Dhanushkodi, T.Mariyur



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 04.08.2017 fish landing piers, set up at a cost of Rs. 8 crore at Dhanushkodi and at T. Mariyur, (Rs.3.90 crore) both in Ramanathapuram District. He also declared open buildings of the Tamil Nadu Veterinary Science University and the Department of Dairy Development, costing Rs.13.03 crore.

The Tamil Nadu Government, working on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is implementing many schemes to achieve a total integrated growth in fisheries. They include increasing fish production, safeguarding

fisheries, ensuring fertile fishing grounds, upgrading aquatic rearing methods, setting up fishing harbours for anchoring fishing vessels safely, improving infrastructure facilities in fish landing piers, creating infrastructure facilities along coastline for hygienic landing and handling of the fish catches, strengthening inland marketing facilities and human resources development in fisheries and improving the welfare and standard of living of fishermen.

The new fish landing pier at Dhanushkodi can harbour about 30 motorised boats, enabling fishermen to load the fishes directly in vans and transport them to the newly constructed fish auction hall and effect sales in a hygienic

way. This will provide direct and indirect employment to about 2,000 persons. The new fish landing pier at T.Mariyur will facilitate about 1,700 fishing families to go into the sea easily and fish. The net weaving centre there, will be useful for fishermen to mend their nets and to keep them safe.

The other buildings declared open are: the Rs.85 lakh artificial insemination training centre that will benefit 29,000 milk producers belonging to 1,047 societies of the Madurai Dairy Farm, the Rs.2.07 crore automated

multi-layer milk powder godown with a capacity of 530 tonnes in that Farm, the Rs.1.13 crore milk powder godown with a capacity of 600 tonnes in Coimbatore Dairy Farm, an ultra-modern Aavin milk parlour with air-conditioned facility (Rs.56 lakh), at Indira Nagar, Adyar, Chennai, Rs.6.48 crore Stem cell research and reconstructive centre at the Veterinary College, Chennai and the Rs.1.94 crore building for fodder processing at the Veterinary College and Research Station at Orathanad, Thanjavur District.



## Hajj handbook distributed



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami distributed at the Secretariat on 10.08.2017 the 'Hajj and Umrah 2017' guide book for the benefit of Hajj pilgrims from Tamil Nadu. The book is brought out by the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee.

The Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee engages itself in works like collecting applications for Hajj pilgrimage from Muslims belonging to Tamil Nadu, selecting the pilgrims through lottery using computer software, advising on the air fare and other fares for Hajj travel, conducting training camps for the selected pilgrims on the practices and procedures to be followed in the pilgrimage and arranging lodging facilities for pilgrims in Mecca and Medina Cities. The committee also brings out every year a handbook on 'Hajj and

Umrah' in Tamil for the use of the pilgrims from Tamil Nadu.

The Hajj pilgrimage for 2017 is due to commence on 13.08.2017. Eleven planes are to be pressed into service from Chennai airport for transporting Hajj pilgrims. About 3,325 Muslims from Tamil Nadu are due to fly to Saudi Arabia to reach the holy city of Mecca. Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the guide book 'Hajj and Umrah 2017' to seven Hajj pilgrims as a token for the formal release of the hand book.

The guide book contains details of the procedures to be followed to perform Hajj and Umrah, for Mina, Araba, Musthalifa, Jamrath and those to be followed in Medina and important Arabic words for interaction and other useful information.





# Apex Co-op Bank Chiefs meet Chief Minister



Chairmen and Managing Directors of the Apex Co-operative Banks of all States paid a courtesy call on Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at his residence on 10.08.2017 (*English Translation*).

The top officials of the banks had come down to Chennai to participate in the General Council meeting of the Federation of State Apex Co-operative Banks and in the prize distribution function for the best co-operative institutions at the National Level, held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11.08.2017. The Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank played host to the events, held in Tamil Nadu after a lapse of 16 years.

The Federation was formed in 1964 with all the State Apex Co-operative Banks as its members. The main task of the federation is to prepare the ground for solving the problems faced by the State co-operative banks. It would also provide appropriate guidance to the State

co-operative banks in co-ordination with the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD.

The delegates met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and received his blessings. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, released on the occasion, a compendium of information on the activities of co-operatives in Tamil Nadu and the schemes implemented by them with State Government's financial assistance. Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation Thiru. Sellur K. Raju received the first copy.

The Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank and the Agricultural Co-operative Staff Training Centre run by it, were to be awarded National-Level prizes. ■

# Sub-Treasury office buildings at Srirangam, Thiruverumbur



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open at the Secretariat on 04.08.2017 the Finance Department's Sub-Treasury office buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.20 crore at Srirangam and Thiruverumbur in Tiruchirappalli District.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's announcement that own buildings would be constructed for sub-treasury offices, functioning from rented buildings is being implemented. This is done for administrative convenience, averting recurring rental expenditure to Government, for effective implementation of

e-Governance schemes like automated treasury bill passing system (ATBPS) and e-Pension, for safe-keeping of valuable stamp papers and treasury bills and for providing facilities to pensioners and the differently-abled persons. In the last six years, 50 such office buildings have been constructed. Work is in progress on 17 more buildings.

In that way, these two buildings at Srirangam and Thiruverumbur have come up. Each occupies an area of 3,148 sq.ft and has been constructed at a cost of Rs.60 lakh. ■



# Integrated HR & CE complex in Madurai at Rs. 1.93 crore



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 07.08.2017, HR & CE Department's buildings costing Rs.6.67 crore.

Spirituality rests on pilgrimages; pilgrim centres gain their importance due to the temples in those places, in their design and the ways of worship adopted. To maintain and safeguard their greatness, the Tamil Nadu Government, functioning on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's schemes, is executing many works like repairing temples, ensuring daily pooja in them without any hindrance, retrieving temple properties under encroachment and improving their revenue and arranging facilities for devotees.

An integrated complex on an area of 12,237 sq.ft has been raised with two floors at Ellis Nagar, Madurai City at a cost of Rs.1.93 crore for the Zonal Joint Commissioner of the HR & CE Department and the

District Assistant Commissioner of the Department. Besides the offices for the Zonal Joint Commissioner and District Assistant Commissioner, the building houses the offices of Executive Engineer, Zonal Audit, Deputy Commissioner (verification) and the District Revenue Officer/Special Officer (temple lands).

The other buildings declared open are: a resting hall to accommodate 1,000 devotees at Arulmigu Adhi Mariamman temple, Samayapuram ( Rs.1.08 crore) and an eatery to accommodate 50 devotees at a time at Arulmigu Mariamman temple (Rs.83 lakh), both in Tiruchirappalli District; and safety vaults at Arulmigu Venkatachalapathi Temple, Krishnapuram, Palayamkottai Taluk, Tirunelveli District, at Arulmigu Srinivasa Perumal temple, Dindigul Town, Dindigul District and at Sivanmalai Arulmigu Subramaniaswami Temple, Kangeyam Taluk, Tiruppur District – all costing Rs.2.83 crore. ●

# Rs. 55 lakh new office for Rayakottai Sub-Registrar



The Rs.55 lakh Sub-Registrar office building at Rayakottai in Krishnagiri District was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 04.08.2017.

The Tamil Nadu Government, functioning in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is implementing the scheme of constructing own buildings for Sub-Registrar offices functioning from rented buildings. In the last 6 years, 19 integrated complexes of the Registration Department, comprising 33 Sub-Registrar offices and 153 Sub-Registrar office

buildings have been constructed and declared open.

The Rayakottai Sub-Registrar office building, constructed as part of that scheme, has come up on 300 sq.metre area with two floors – ground and first floor. The new building has rooms for officers, computer room, safe-keeping room for documents, waiting room, ramp for elderly people and differently-abled persons, wide footpath, protected drinking water and modern rest rooms.



## Handing over orders to new Assistant Surgeons, Chief Minister exhorts them to serve the poor



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edapadi K.Palaniswami at the Chief Minister's camp office on 13.09.2017 handed over appointment orders to 10 Assistant Surgeons as a token of issuing appointment orders to 1,013 Assistant Surgeons selected through the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Recruitment Board.

For the first time in the Country the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Board was constituted in the State in January 2012 by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to fill up vacancies in Government Hospitals in a speedy manner to ensure timely provision of health care services to the poor and needy patients. The Board has so far selected 9,777 Assistant Surgeons and Specialist Surgeons and 22,042 Medical Staff, including 9,190 Nurses.

The Board has now selected 1,013 Assistant Surgeons and the appointment orders for the selected Doctors have been issued. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over appointment orders to 10 Doctors at the Chief Minister's camp office.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Chief Minister thanked the Hon'ble Minister for Health & family welfare Dr.C.Vijayabaskar,

for the welcome address presented by him, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyathan I.A.S., Health Secretary, and high Officials of the Department, and the newly appointed Doctors. The Hon'ble Chief Minister claimed that Amma's Government has been providing the best health services and the State has been in the forefront in the Country in medical services thanks to the excellent work being done by the Doctors. The Hon'ble Chief Minister wanted Doctors to provide the best medical care to the poor people.

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr.C.Vijayabaskar, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyathan, I.A.S., Principal Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare dept. Dr.J.Radhakrishnan I.A.S., Medical Services Recruitment Board Chairman (i/c) Thiru. Mohan Pyare I.A.S., Commissioner of Civil Supplies Tmt. P. Amudha I.A.S., Director of Medical Education Dr.Edwin Joe, Director of General Health and Preventive Medicine Dr. K. Kolandaswamy, Director (in-charge) of Medical and Rural Health Services Dr.P.Banu, Director of Medical and Rural Health Services (ESI) Dr.M.R. Inbasekaran and other high Officials participated.



## Chief Minister gives a big hand to 'little' people who won awards

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 13.09.2017 (*English Translation*).

I am extremely happy to know that three sportsmen of Tamil Nadu have brought fame to India and the State by winning gold and silver medals in the shot put, discuss throw, and javelin throw, at the 7<sup>th</sup> World Dwarf Games held in Canada from 04.08.2017 to 13.08.2017.

At this 7<sup>th</sup> World Dwarf Games, held for the physically disabled, athletes belonging to the Country won 36 medals. Of this, Thiru. K.Ganesan, belonging to Tamil Nadu won one gold medal each in javelin throw, shot put and discus throw at the level three, Thiru. C.Manoj at level 2 won gold medal in javelin throw, one silver medal each in shot put and discus throw and Thiru. A.Selvaraj won the gold medal in the javelin throw at level one. Totally, Tamil Nadu athletes have set up a record by winning seven medals at the International event.

This Government following the path of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma always encourages sports persons in their sporting activities. As an incentive to these players to win

many such medals in future, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said that he had ordered to give Rs. 5 lakh to those who won gold medals, Rs. 3 lakh to the silver medallists and Rs. 2 lakh to bronze medallists. The trainers who trained these athletes, will separately get 15 per cent of the cash prize given to the athletes on behalf of the State Government.

Thiru. K.Ganesan will be given Rs. 15 lakh for winning three gold medals, Thiru. C.Manoj will be given Rs.11 lakh for winning one gold and two silver medals and gold medallist Thiru .A.Selvaraj will be given Rs.5lakh. Their trainers Thiru. Ranjithkumar and Thiru. Sunder will get Rs. 3.90 lakh and Rs. 75,000/- respectively as incentive.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister while extending his congratulations to the winners also wished them to win more such laurels in future and bring fame to India and Tamil Nadu. ●



# More hostels opened for BC, MBC boys and girls



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat in Chennai on 01.09.2017 declared open through video conferencing hostel buildings for the boy and girl students of Schools and Colleges belonging to Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes at Orathanadu, Edaiyathi and Papanasam in Thanjavur District constructed at a total cost of Rs 2.70 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated additional hostel building for the college students belonging to the Most Backward Classes constructed at a cost of Rs. 52 lakh at Melur in Madurai District.

The State Government following the path laid down by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been implementing various schemes for the students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities so that

they continue their education without dropping out. For their education, social development, growth and better living, new school and hostel buildings are being provided by this Government.

Towards this end, a women's hostel for 100 college students belonging to the Backward Classes community constructed at a cost of Rs. 1.59 crore, at Orathanadu in Thanjavur District, a hostel with an intake of 50 for Backward Classes school students constructed at a cost of Rs. 51 lakh at Edaiyathi and a hostel with a capacity of 50 for the Most Backward Classes school students constructed at a cost of Rs. 60 lakh at Papanasam, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also declared open an additional building for college students belonging to the Most

Backward Classes community constructed at a cost of Rs.52 lakh at Melur in Madurai District.

Totally four hostel buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.3.22 crore for the school and college students of the Backward Classes and the Most Backward Classes students were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

On the occasion, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Thiru. R.Doraikkannu, Hon'ble

Minister for Backward and Most Backward Classes Tmt. S.Valarmathi, Chief Secretary Dr.Girija Vaithiyanathan I.A.S., Thiru. A.Karthik I.A.S., Secretary for the Backward and Most Backward Classes Department, Director of Backward and Most Backward Classes Dept. Thiru. Atul Anand I.A.S., and high Officials were also present. ■

## Anna medals for 128 Police, uniformed services officers

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** Awards Anna Medals to 128 Officers/Men in Police & other Uniformed Services on the occasion of Dr. Anna's Birthday

In recognition of the Outstanding Devotion to Duty of the Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Prison Service, Home Guards and Finger Print Science personnel in the State and also to encourage them, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Medals are announced and awarded on the occasion of Dr. Anna's Birthday on 15<sup>th</sup> September, every year.

Accordingly, this year 100 Police Personnel from the rank of Superintendent of Police to the rank of Grade-I Police Constables, 10 Fire and Rescue Service Personnel from the rank of Deputy Director to Fireman, 10 Prison Service Personnel from the rank of Deputy Jailor to Grade I Warder, 6 Home Guards Personnel in the ranks of Assistant Commandant General to Section Leader, and one Superintendent of Police and one Deputy Superintendent of Police, from the Finger Print Science unit, have been awarded the "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Anna Medal" in recognition of their outstanding devotion to duty.

The 128 recipients of the above Medal are eligible for a bronze medal and a lumpsum grant according to their ranks as specified in the Medal Rules.

These Medals will be presented by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to the recipients at a Ceremonial Medal Parade to be held later.

Further, Thiru. P.Thirumalai Nambi, Special Sub-Inspector of Police, Gangaikondan Police Station, Tirunelveli City has been awarded the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Police Medal for Gallantry in recognition of his brave act on 06.11.2016 for securing absconding accused Ramesh @ Ramaiah who was involved in various murder, robbery, theft and snatching cases for a period of 10 years. In the melee, the Special Sub-Inspector sustained severe injuries on his left thigh due to the attack of the said accused with an iron rod. He is eligible for a Cash Prize of Rs.5 lakh. ■





## Chief Minister opens Intensive Care Unit for kids in Mettupalayam Government Hospital



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat in Chennai on 22.09.2017 declared open an intensive care unit attached maternity ward at Mettupalayam Government Hospital in Coimbatore District constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.75 crore through video conferencing. The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion inaugurated hospital buildings built at a cost of Rs. 5.65 crore in various parts of the State.

With a lofty ideal of providing high class medical treatment to the poor and needy, the Tamil Nadu Government following the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been strengthening infrastructure of Government Medical College Hospitals and District Headquarters Hospitals, setting up new Primary Health Centres near homes of people in unapproachable areas, and providing high class medical facilities through advanced technologies. Towards this end, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu declared open the maternity ward and intensive care unit for children at the Mettupalayam Government Hospital.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open a 30-bed in-patient ward constructed at a

cost of Rs.80 lakh at Kalasapakkam Government Hospital in Tiruvannamalai District, Primary Health Centres constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.40 crore in Doranalli in Nilgiris District, and Karivalamvandhanallur in Tirunelveli District on on behalf of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Department, new buildings for 5 Primary Health Centres, constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.65 crore in Kizhanatham in Tirunelveli District, K.N.Hulli and Chellamudi in Dharmapuri District, and Arampundi and Eraiyur in Villupuram District.

Totally, medical buildings all constructed at a total cost of Rs. 8.60 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

At this function, Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare Dr. C. Vijayabaskar, Chief Secretary Dr. Girija Vaidyanathan I.A.S., Principal Secretary for Health Dr.J.Radhakrishnan I.A.S., Director of State Health Mission Dr. Darez Ahamed I.A.S., Public Health and Health Services Director Dr.P.Banu and Public Health and Preventive Medicine Director Dr.Kolandaswamy and High Government Officials participated. ■



# 'Manifold schemes address needs of handloom weavers'



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the Third National Handloom Day function on 07.08.2017 (*English Translation*).

I offer my respects to Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

I am happy and honoured to participate and meet you all at this grand Third National Handloom Day function.

Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles Thiru. O.S. Manian who delivered the Presidential Address, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Thiru. Jayakumar, Chief Secretary to Government Dr. Girija Vaithiyanathan who welcomed the gathering,

Hon'ble Ministers, Former Ministers, Members of Parliament and Legislature, Principal Secretary to the Department of Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Thiru. K. Phanindra Reddy who is to propose a vote of thanks, praiseworthy weavers, Government staff, media friends, respected elders and ladies – at the outset I offer my respects to all of you.

Handloom is the one factor today that reminds us of Mahatma Gandhiji, the history of the freedom struggle and the freedom fighters. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. liked





handloom fabrics very much even at a young age and wore them. Handloom symbolizes simplicity, labour and patriotism.

As a phase of Freedom Struggle, foreign goods were boycotted fiercely throughout the Country under the leadership of the Mahatma. Drama artists of those days staged plays to strengthen the non-violent agitation of Gandhiji. 'Anti-Whites' songs were sung. Even at a young age, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was sensitive to the Freedom Struggle. He became a Congress volunteer, took to Khadi clothes and changed himself into a patriot. He acted as a

August 7 is being celebrated as the National Handloom Day from 2015. This function is a forerunner to the Independence Day, celebrated on August 15.

The declaration of National Handloom Day can encourage production of handloom goods in multi-national standards for the global market. Next to agriculture, handloom industry provides job opportunities to rural people in a great way in Tamil Nadu. To safeguard the interests of more than 3 lakh handloom weavers engaged in this trade, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took many steps. Likewise, this Government



Nationalist monk in the play 'Khadhar Bakthi' staged by the Boys' company at Ottrai Vaadai Theatre in Chennai in 1930. People became emotional and applauded when he delivered a lecture on patriotism. Some hailed Gandhiji.

Indians in love with their motherland will certainly patronize handloom, wear handloom fabrics and encourage handloom industry. Wearing handloom clothes rejuvenates the body and mind; a feeling that I am an Indian comes on its own. With the intention of supporting indigenous goods against British goods, a swadeshi agitation was launched in Kolkatta on August 7, 1905. By way of recalling that event,

, functioning on the lines of Amma, is taking different steps for the welfare of powerloom weavers.

This Amma's Government has initiated steps for the availability of cash loan and working capital to help weavers' co-operative societies to continue to function. The free dhoti-saree scheme for the poor in the rural and urban areas during the Pongal festival, implemented in an excellent way, is meant to ensure round-the-year employment for the handloom weavers. This provides employment to 11,000 handloom weavers and 54,000 powerloom workers in the co-operative fold. For the coming Pongal, we



propose to give dhoti and saree, free of cost, to 3.36 crore beneficiaries. Co-optex functions as the agency for the implementation of the Government schemes – distribution of free dhoti- saree , free uniforms and free dhoti-saree for old age pensioners. Today, the sale effected by Co-optex, not only to Government and private sectors but also to the general public at large is at an appreciable level, thanks to the visionary scheme of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

As per the announcement made by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in the last election manifesto, the bi-monthly free electricity of 100 units to handloom weavers has been increased to 200 units. If 964 handloom weavers' co-operative societies out of 1,156 societies are functioning on profit, it is due to the implementation of different pioneering schemes.

Textiles, particularly handlooms, play an important role in Tamil Nadu's economy and industrial production. Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing many schemes for the development of handloom sector and for ushering in prosperity in the lives of weavers.

Hon'ble Amma provided them 10,000 green houses, measuring 365 sq.ft each with solar

power and suitable to carry on their weaving activities on handlooms. To reduce handloom weavers' work load and increase their production and thereby their income, pedal looms fixed with half HP motors are distributed to them. Motorised prim winding machines are distributed to weavers. Motorised warping machines have been distributed to handloom weavers' co-operative societies. It has been announced that the rebate subsidy fund will be augmented to the level of Rs.100 crore in 2017-2018. This will benefit 867 weavers' co-operative societies.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has taken great care to protect the physical well being of weavers. Medical Insurance scheme is introduced to weavers and to those engaged in auxiliary trades of weaving in the year 2004. Under the Mudra scheme, credit cards have so far been issued to 18,340 weavers. This Government has taken steps to modernize the co-optex establishment at Tiruchi, Tiruvannamalai and Thoothukudi at a cost of Rs. 2 crore. Rs. 25 lakh has been allotted for bestowing special attention to textile technology section.

Co-optex will introduce customized ahimsa variety silk fabrics. Steps are being taken to produce varieties of cotton sarees coloured



with natural dyes at Dindigul, Vadambacheri in Coimbatore and in Manalmedu in Tiruchi. Through such schemes and many other schemes, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government and the Government functioning on her lines have been upgrading the lives of handloom weavers and powerloom workers.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma wished that "handloom weavers should make use of Government schemes and come up in life". I too urge all of you to utilize Government schemes fully and get all the benefits and prosper.

Workers were the beloved children of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Our two great leaders had particular interest especially on farmers who supply food and the weavers who provide clothes.

Books soothe the heart; cotton fabrics soothe the body; books beautify the intellect; cotton fabrics beautify the body.

Writers and weavers are creative people; writers line up words; weavers join the threads; weavers are as important as writers to this Country. That is why, this Government functioning in the footsteps of Amma, has been honouring the best handloom weaver at the State level who has set a record in production and sales, with a cash amount of Rs. 1 lakh and the skilled handloom weavers who have created the best designs in handlooms in cotton and silk fabrics with prizes and the best handloom exporters with shield and certificates.

For the year 2017-2018, the State level best weaver award goes to Thiru. M.R. Rajasekaran, member of the Thirubuvanam Silk Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society and the skilled

weavers' awards for best design and quality production of handloom fabrics to 60 weavers. I am proud to present Rs. 1 lakh, certificate and ponnadai to Thiru. Rajasekaran and awards to the 60 skilled weavers to the tune of Rs. 6 lakh and certificates to them.

I wish to State that a new integrated textile policy will be framed; that Hon'ble Amma's Government has implemented many schemes for the handloom industry and that we will follow the footsteps of Hon'ble Amma and improve the livelihood of weavers through many more schemes.

In the exhibition got up in connection with this function, 42 pavilions have been set up in an excellent manner. Eye-catching original silk sarees, soft silk sarees, cotton sarees, organic cotton sarees, white silk dhotis, kailies, bed spreads, curtains and the like, all available at reasonable prices, have been displayed for sale. It is to be appreciated.

I appreciate all those who have made arrangements for the success of this function. I once again convey my thanks for giving me this opportunity to meet you all through this function.

Let us wear handloom fabrics! Let us tread the Gandhian path! Let us help handloom workers! With these words I take leave of you.

At the same time I thank the Principal Secretary, Department of Handlooms, Director, Handlooms and Textiles and the Managing Director of Co-optex who have participated in this event and other good hearts who have graced the function.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

