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# Tamilarasu

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# DONATE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES!



Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami**,  
on the occasion of National Voluntary Blood Donation Day - 30.09.2018  
*(English Translation).*

To create awareness about blood donation, an expression of the height of humanitarian feeling, October 1<sup>st</sup> is observed every year as 'National Voluntary Blood Donation Day'. This year's theme is that Blood Donation is an Enjoyable Act.

Blood donation is a sacred act done for saving the life of a person. To stress the importance of blood donation, the Tamil Nadu AIDS Control Council, in co-ordination with the Tamil Nadu State Transfusion Council has been conducting numerous blood donation camps in the State, besides organizing functions to create awareness among people about voluntary blood donation.

Moreover, to encourage blood donation, the Tamil Nadu Government has been honouring with appreciation certificates and medals to men who donate blood 4 times a year, women, who donate 3 times a year, organizers of blood donation camps who perform excellently and employees of the Government Blood Bank.

Last year, the Tamil Nadu Government and private blood banks collected 9,05,489 units of blood. Ninety-nine per cent of this collection was received through voluntary blood donors. The collected blood is being given to patients undergoing treatment in Government Hospitals free of cost.

As blood donation is the best among all kinds of donation, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been creating awareness among the people for voluntary blood donation. Thanks to this awareness, Tamil Nadu is the pioneer in voluntary blood donation. The Hon'ble Chief Minister kindly appealed to people to co-operate with the Government in achieving the 100 per cent target of the State in the current year.

'Let us save precious lives by  
Donating Blood.'



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## Editor and Publisher

Dr. P. Sankar I.A.S.,  
Director of Information &  
Public Relations and Ex-officio  
Joint Secretary to Government

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## Senior Artist

R. Samundeeswari

## Junior Proof Reader

D. Priya

## Designed by

P.A. Louis  
G. Murali Krishnan  
R.Uma Maheswari

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Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Kanagam, Taramani,  
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Tel : 044-2254 2221 / 2254 2224

E-mail : tamilarasujournal@gmail.com

Website : www.tndipr.gov.in



“Our Police Department is a Department that protects law and order at all times and enforces public order well, especially during emergency situations.”

**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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## First Wrapper

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

**Thiru.Edappadi K. Palaniswami** released a collection of photographs of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. at the Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Centenary Valedictory and ‘Tamil Nadu’ Golden Jubilee function on 30.09.2018. Hon’ble Minister for Information and Public Relations Thiru. Kadambur Raju received the volume.



**Chief Minister asserts party will rule for a hundred years as Puratchi Thalaivar lives**

**Dr. M.G.R. centenary functions culminate in Chennai, multifarious schemes implemented for 31 Districts**



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the function held on 30.09.2018 to mark the valedictory of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR's centenary celebrations and the Golden Jubilee of the naming of the State as Tamil Nadu  
*(English Translation).*

Our Hon'ble Amma was a rare combination of wit and beauty, soft and strict in governance, soothing literature full of art and poetry, a living history recording the time and period, an universe that knows no beginning and end, personification of striving without sleep or rest, the propelling force of Tamil Nadu and a leader par excellence of world Tamils. Bowing to that Goddess Hon'ble Amma who fills our hearts every inch,

I am extremely happy to meet you all in this splendid and historic function organized to celebrate the conclusion of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's Centenary and the Golden Jubilee of the naming of the State as Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam who shared his excellent ideas in this function, Hon'be Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha Dr. Thambidurai who delivered a special address in this great function, Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Thiru. D.Jayakumar, Hon'ble Ministers, Respected Members of Parliament, Respected Members of Legislative Assembly, Chief Secretary to Government Dr. Girija Vaidyanathan who delivered the welcome address, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru. Pollachi Jayaraman, Government Chief Whip Thiru. S. Rajendran, Tamil Nadu Government's



Special Representative 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, Secretary, Department of Tamil Development and Information Thiru. R. Venkatesan who is to propose a vote of thanks, former Ministers, former MPs, MLAs, Executives of Party Headquarters, Executives of Co-operative societies, former representatives of Local Bodies, artistes fraternity gracing the dais, party cadres, high officers of Government, Government employees, newspaper and media friends, respected elders, ladies, youth, students and welfare assistance beneficiaries – at the outset, I offer my grateful respects to all of you.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's centenary function would be celebrated throughout Tamil Nadu. To implement that announcement, I am proud to say our Amma's Government celebrated Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's centenary in all the 31 Districts, starting with Madurai City on 30.06.2017.

In these functions, lakhs and lakhs of people emotionally participated to show their affection for Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and honoured him. Through these functions, several thousand crore of rupees worth of schemes were announced,

Government orders were issued and are being implemented.

I feel proud that we are celebrating superbly today at Chennai, the completion of Puratchi Thalaivar's centenary as if he were amidst us even though he passed away 30 years ago. This is in tune with Valluvar's saying: *"Vaiyattthul vaazhvaangu vaazhbavan vaan uraiyum Dheivatthul vaikkappadum"* ('One who leads a perfect life in this world shines like God in the Heavens'). Another specialty of this function is that it coincides with the completion of 50 years since Puratchi Thalaivar's mentor, Perarignar Anna changed the name of the State as "Tamil Nadu" in 1968, while in power. I announced in the Legislative Assembly that through this golden jubilee function of the name change, various competitions would be held throughout Tamil Nadu – arts, games, essay and poetry writing and oratory – to bring out the glory of Tamils. Accordingly, the competitions were held District-wise and prizes were awarded by Ministers and respective District Collectors. Competitions were held at the state-level also and prizes are to be given today, in this meeting, to 36 persons who captured the first three ranks. I am happy to say that cash prize and citations are to be given to 50 persons who have been selected as young Tamil researchers.



As a part of the centenary, competitions and pattimandrams were held in every District to bring out the historic achievements of Puratchi Thalaivar for the knowledge of students and prizes were given. Cultural programmes and folk dances were also held to focus on Puratchi Thalaivar's greatness. Exhibitions were also held with the participation of all Departments for people to understand the Government's schemes and benefit from them.

The 380-year-old city of Chennai is today celebrating its favourite son Puratchi Thalaivar's centenary function along with the golden jubilee function of the State's name change as Tamil Nadu. Chennai city's growth and history are as colourful as that of Puratchi Thalaivar's life.

Three-hundred-and-eighty years ago, Madaraspatinam, comprising small coastal villages along the Bay of Bengal like Mylapore, Triplicane, Thiruvanmiyur and Thiruvottiyur changed into Chennai Pattinam and now it has become Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu. The Chennai Pattinam of 1653, became Chennai Presidency; Chennai Town became Chennai City, then Chennai Corporation and today it has become Greater Chennai Corporation, encompassing an area of 426 sq.k.m. In the year 1688, Chennai became the first Municipal Corporation. The first railway

track in India was laid only in Royapuram, Chennai in the year 1856.

"Madras Mail", bearing the name of Chennai was the first newspaper published in 1823; the first radio station in India was set up in Chennai; the tallest flag mast - 150 feet high – is in our Fort St. George; the 13 k.m. long Marina beach in Chennai is the second longest beach in the world; as Kodambakkam remains the centre of film shootings for the Southern States, it is called "Kollywood"; Chennai harbour, a very big commercial port, handles 5.2 crore tonnes of goods annually; Presidency College, started in the British period and honoured as the first college in South India and the Madras University, set up in 1857 are considered as very old educational institutions; besides being an excellent centre for higher education, Chennai is one of the important industrial centres in India.

I am happy to mention that the Global Investors Meet, conducted by Hon'ble Amma at Chennai in 2015, attracted huge investments. This was mainly due to the transformation of Tamil Nadu into a power surplus State, brought about by Hon'ble Amma and following her Hon'ble Amma's Government, through extensive schemes in the last 7 years. Taking into account the future needs, preliminary works are under way for plans for the generation of 11,400 MW electricity.



Hon'ble Amma's Government has decided to hold the 'Global Investors Meet-2019' at Chennai and various arrangements for it are being made speedily. I firmly believe that these efforts will certainly result in many Multi-National institutions investing in industrial ventures in Chennai. It is certain this will promote industrial growth in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Chennai.

As Chennai has become an important centre for information technology-related institutions and for service sectors like food, health and BPOs, youth not only from Tamil Nadu but from the rest of India are pouring into Chennai by the day. Chennai provides them all with jobs and livelihood. Chennai has captured the premier place among the Metros in India in safety of women. Global investors' first choice to start industries is Chennai as it offers safety not merely to women but to industries also, an environment for industrial growth, Government assistance for industrial development, two harbours, international and domestic airports and a favourable climate.

By way of honouring our two great leaders, I am happy to state that works are being speedily carried out in the erection of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Centenary Memorial Arch at a cost of Rs.2.52 crore and Hon'ble Amma's Memorial at a cost of Rs.50 crore.

I am happy to mention that Hon'ble Amma's Government has recommended to the Central Government to name the Central Railway Station at Chennai as 'Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.Ramachandran Central Railway Station'. I am also happy to state that Hon'ble Amma's Government has requested the Central Government to confer the country's highest award 'Bharat Ratna' on Arignar Anna, the beloved of Tamil Nadu people and on Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

As Tamil Nadu's capital city, Chennai has seen many leaders, intellectuals, artists and many political events; it is also the field of achievement for many persons. Though Chennai has many identities, I am happy to say that the identity given by Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. alone, has brought

about a unique importance not only to Chennai but to Tamil Nadu itself. Among the leaders who brought pride to Tamils, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. remains as the most important of them all. Tamil Nadu accepted as Chief Minister only politicians but it accepted, for the first time, an actor from the field of arts as Chief Minister only in the case of our Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. That was due to the great love the people of Tamil Nadu had for Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and the hope they had in him. He was a hero, both on screen and in public life.

M.G. Ramachandran became M.G.R., he then became a drama actor, he rose as Puratchi Thalaivar by attracting people through his revolutionary action in films and his qualities of philanthropy, he grew up into a Makkal Thilagam, by distributing his wealth, earned through his acting, he changed into the very 'Thilagam' itself on the face of Mother Tamil and altered the fate of Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. ruled Tamil Nadu as Chief Minister from the Fort from 1977 to 1987. As Chennai's history and development is intertwined with the history of Mother Tamil's adopted son and 'Thava Puthalvan' of the people of Tamil Nadu M.G.R., it is most appropriate that the concluding function of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's centenary is held in Chennai. I am duty-bound to mention some of the schemes implemented by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. in his rule.

He gave the nutritious meals scheme to school students as he had known the hardships of poverty and hunger in his younger days. At present 51 lakh students are benefited daily through this great scheme. Following Tamil Nadu, the Central Government is also implementing this scheme throughout India. The whole country is hailing the scheme as a historic scheme. He brought in a new scheme for performance of pooja at least one time in a day in small temples with no adequate income. To quench Chennai people's thirst, Ponmana Chermal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. demonstrated the feasibility of *Krishna Water Scheme*. He conducted World Tamil Conference in 1981 and



established Tamil University at Thanjavur and set up a World Tamil Sangam.

He went beyond singing the song that farmer was a worker found by God and waived agricultural loans to the tune of Rs.330 crore when he assumed office as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for the first time. He gave electricity connections to 3.30 lakh pumpsets and brought in the crop insurance scheme. He gave power connection to all hut dwellings. One who had conquered death by remaining in the hearts of crores of people, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. donated his residence in Ramavaram Garden to the mute, deaf and blind differently abled persons. In life and in death, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar proved to be a philanthropist; donated his assets for education and the differently abled persons. He was an example how a leader should be a true leader, a selfless leader.

By way of honouring Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's centenary, a facsimile postage stamp has been released; a coin with his embossed figure is to be released.

Tamil Nadu would have been orphaned but for the appearance of a mighty personality known as 'Puratchi Thalaivar'. Thiru. MGR's fans valued him as their life when he was a Puratchi Nadigar (revolutionary actor) and they changed into his cadres when he took the avatar of Puratchi Thalaivar and became his

devotees when Puratchi Thalaivar became the Chief Minister. Since, Puratchi Thalaivar is a great leader of the people who shared the cadres' joy and sorrow, AIADMK stands firmly as an impregnable iron fort till date.

If Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. had fans all over the world, not merely in India, it was because he was able to satisfy all of them. On some occasions, he made his fans feel happy at the cost of his own sufferings. The sacrifice and labour of countless partymen have been applied as the manure for the banyan tree of AIADMK.

Till AIADMK captured power in 1977, there was no guarantee for the life of party-men. Only such persons have fostered this great Movement. We have to recall and pay them respect at this hour. Those heroic youth who had made a success of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar's ideas have not disappeared altogether. They are serving the people, generation after generation. All the people seated on the dais, including me, have come up like that.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar's influence over people was such that the opposition parties could not even think of taking over the administration till he faded away at the physical level on December 24, 1987. Those who mocked at Puratchi Thalaivar and fixed a deadline of 100 days for his party to run as his films ran in theatres, could not even cast



a glance at the Fort as long as Puratchi Thalaivar was alive.

After the demise of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar, they once again cackled that the AIADMK party was finished. The Opposition parties never expected that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma would don insults as garlands, make the AIADMK fly in the sky of success as a phoenix bird, and assume a gigantic stature in politics. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took over the party's leadership and made it grow more vigorously. I wish to mention a few of Hon'ble Amma's accomplishments after she took over the administration:

Hon'ble Amma started 65 new Government Arts and Science Colleges in the field of higher education; after that, Hon'ble Amma's Government started 11 Government Arts and Science Colleges last year. As a result of this, the 21 per cent enrollment rate in higher education in 2011 when Hon'ble Amma took over the administration, has gone up to 48.6 per cent and Tamil Nadu has progressed as the premier State in India.

Just as Puratchi Thalaivar brought the Krishna Water Scheme to quench the thirst of Chennai people, Hon'ble Amma brought in the New Veeranam scheme. To bring a permanent solution to Chennai City's drinking water problem, tenders for the Rs.1,259 crore Nemmeli de-salination scheme, announced by Hon'ble Amma, for converting 150 million litres of sea water into potable

water, are at the stage of opening. Preliminary works for floating tenders for the Rs.6,078 crore de-salination plant at Perur for converting 400 million litres of sea water into drinking water per day, are being carried out speedily. The Rs.330 crore project to set up a new reservoir by linking the *Kannankottai Issa Rajaneri* and *Thervoy Kandigai* lakes at Kannankottai Village, Tiruvallur District, is in progress. There is no doubt these 3 projects will largely solve the drinking water problem of Chennai.

In the current year, 28 precautionary works have been taken up in the lakes, canals and water bodies in the Districts of Chennai, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur at a cost of Rs.6 crore and the works are in progress. Rs.100 crore has been allotted and works on flood prevention on a permanent basis are to be taken up in Chennai. A detailed project report has been prepared at a cost of Rs.2,790 crore for taking up permanent flood prevention works in Adyar, Kosasthalaiyaru, Cooum, Araniyaru, Kovalam basin and in Buckingham canal in the integrated Chennai and suburban Districts and it is under examination.

Schemes have been prepared for setting up an integrated storm water drainage system in the basin of Kovalam for a distance of 326 k.m. at a cost of Rs.1,243 crore and in the Kosasthalaiyar basin for a distance of 765 k.m. at a cost of Rs.2,518 crore and works are at various stages of execution.



Different modern devices, worth Rs.24 crore, have been purchased from foreign countries like Switzerland and Finland and dredging of canals is under way for totally averting stagnation of rain water in Chennai Corporation areas. When these works are completed flooding of low-lying areas in Chennai and suburbs will be prevented.

Hon'ble Amma announced Chennai Metro Development Scheme-2011 and handed over to Chennai Corporation Rs.1,488 crore for creating infrastructure and basic facilities in the extended areas on par with those available in Chennai. Through this, works on laying inner roads, storm water drainage, foot paths and fixing LED street lights were taken up. In the current year, 3,823 road works, running to a length of 624 km are to be taken up at a cost of Rs.298 crore. To find a permanent solution to the garbage issue at the garbage dumping yard at Perungudi, a committee comprising Anna University, IIT and the Pollution Control Board of Tamil Nadu has been formed to examine the setting up of a scientific garbage disposal complex and generation of 30 MW electricity from the muck and the scheme is proposed to be executed. Under the Smart City programme, 37 scheme works like footpath complex, multi-tier vehicle parking, management of vehicle parking, bicycle sharing service, setting up flyovers, linking rain water drainage, lake rejuvenation and fixing LED street lights have been taken up for execution in Chennai at a cost of Rs.953 crore; of these, 5 works have been completed at a cost of Rs.15.60 crore, 18 are under execution at an estimate of Rs.345 crore and the remaining 14 are under various stages of implementation. Under the Amrut scheme, 51 parks are proposed to be set up in the Greater Chennai Corporation at a cost of Rs.35 crore and 30 works have been completed; the remaining 21 are under execution.

#### **In the last 7 years, through the Department of Highways**

Six river bridges, 5 road bridges, 3 railway over bridges and foot overbridges with escalators at 5 places have been constructed at a cost of Rs.470 crore and they are in use;

At present, construction of road over bridges at 6 places, a railway over bridge and a high rise bridge in Buckingham canal has been taken up at a cost of Rs.745 crore.

Road and drainage works to a length of 27 k.m. are being executed at an estimate of Rs.154 crore under the Integrated Road Infrastructure Development Scheme;

Preparation of the revised project report for an elevated road from Chennai harbour to Maduravoyal is in the final stages of completion. Works will commence soon.

Laying of 134 k.m. long ring road to link Chennai Ennore Harbor with Mamallapuram via Thachur, Tiruvallur, Thiruperumbudur and Singaperumal Kovil is to be taken;

Land acquisition for road works is to be taken up at a cost of Rs.3,554 crore;

A link road for a length of 650 metres will be laid at a cost of Rs.30 crore to connect Greenways Road and Durgabhai Deshmukh road via the Tamil Nadu Music college.

The above schemes will greatly reduce traffic congestion in Chennai city and smooth and speedy traffic will be facilitated.

At the Chennai Fishing Harbour, a Tuna fishing harbor with standard infrastructure facilities is being set up at a cost of Rs.200 crore to handle deep sea fishes. The Kasimedu fishing harbor was renovated at a cost of more than Rs.100 crore and was declared open by Hon'ble Amma.

Hon'ble Amma's Government implemented a new scheme to regulate unapproved house sites, formed after 2016 and other sites to benefit the poor residing in urban areas including Chennai that come under the Town Planning Department. About 1.40 lakh families have benefited from this.

A bus terminus has been constructed at Madhavaram at a cost of Rs.95 crore for de-congesting traffic at the Koyambedu bus terminus point and to cater to the needs of buses proceeding north from Chennai. It will be opened shortly. This is the first two-level bus terminus constructed in Tamil Nadu. Apart from this,



tenders have been floated for setting up a bus stand at Kelambakkam for south-bound buses at a cost of Rs.417 crore; the bus stand can accommodate 250 buses at a time and will have all facilities inclusive of a power sub-station. Construction will start shortly.

Second phase work of Chennai Metro Rail Service will commence shortly. Under this phase, it is proposed to set up 3 corridors covering a total distance of 107.55 k.m. at a cost of Rs.79,961 crore. The proposed corridors are from Madhavaram to Siruseri, Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (Koyambedu) to Light House and Madhavaram to Sholinganallur.

The Central Government's approval has been obtained for the expansion of Chennai airport. This will strengthen infrastructure that is needed to keep pace with growing industrial development. I wish to state that first stage works are being executed speedily. Tamil Nadu is the first State that has set up an appellate tribunal for regulating the sale-purchase procedures between purchasers and developers in residential and commercial projects.

In the last 7 years, a total of 6,135 apartments have been constructed by the Tamil Nadu Housing board in Greater Chennai Corporation areas at a cost of Rs.2,018 crore. They are in use. Besides, 5,998 dwelling units are being constructed under various schemes in Greater Chennai Corporation area at a cost of Rs.1,591 crore; also, schemes for construction of 12,308 houses at a cost of Rs.3,408 crore are in different stages of progress.

To create a slum-free Chennai, multi-storeyed buildings with 46,641 apartments have been constructed in the last 7 years. In the current year, 934 apartments have been constructed and are ready for occupation; work on 18,067 apartments is in progress.

To help members of the general public receive different services of the Government without inconvenience, some Revenue Villages in the Districts of Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur were included and an extended Chennai Revenue District was created with borders co-terminus with those of Chennai Municipal

Corporation. I inaugurated the new District on 04.01.2018.

Amma Unavagam, born out of the lofty ideal of Hon'ble Amma that the poor in Chennai should not go hungry, are functioning all over Chennai. In the last 7 years, under the Marriage Assistance scheme, financial assistance and gold for 'thaali' amounting to Rs.4,704 crore was distributed to 10,21,499 beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu; in Chennai alone, the assistance came to Rs.149 crore and the number of beneficiaries was 28,664. Under the scheme for distribution of laptops at no cost, laptops worth Rs.5,532 crore were distributed to 37,72,000 students in Tamil Nadu; in Chennai alone the number of beneficiaries came to 1.53 lakh. Under the Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance scheme, Rs.4,401 crore was distributed to 47,82,000 mothers in Tamil Nadu; in Chennai alone Rs.278 crore was distributed to 2,97,000 mothers. Under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme, medical assistance costing Rs.4,757 crore was given to 25,08,000 beneficiaries; in Chennai alone 1,96,000 persons benefited to the tune of Rs.328 crore.

The two great leaders of our Movement did wear the Chief Minister's post as a crown; they took the post as a command from people and toiled hard. The AIADMK seed, sown in this Tamil soil by Puratchi Thalaivar in the name of Perarignar Anna has grown into a force that cannot be shaken by anybody even after a hundred years. The AIADMK is a party created for the people; a party that will sacrifice for the people. The reason behind the AIADMK's strength is Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who stressed unity with the song "Oru Thaa Makkal Naam enbom; Ondre engal kulam enbom" ('We are children of the same mother; We are of the same ancestry').

The way in which Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. narrowed the gap between an actor and a fan was repeated by him to shrink the space between a political leader and a volunteer and between a ruler and the general public. That is why, he spoke once movingly: "If I had wanted to, I would have



amassed wealth in crores. I did not amass wealth; I am gathering crores of hearts”.

Even before the thought arose in his mind that he should make a mark in politics, Ponmana Chemmal rushed to help the poor and the working class without any expectations. That is why the people decided that only M.G.R. and the Movement he started could do good to the people and made him the Chief Minister. Tamil Nadu people will enjoy for several centuries the benefits of Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar MGR’s visionary schemes. The name M.G.R. is a mantra to us. I firmly say that with the help of this mantra, the AIADMK will rule Tamil Nadu for many more centuries.

Due to the blessings and grace of the three great leaders who ruled Tamil Nadu, an ordinary volunteer of the party like me got the opportunity to preside over the year-long centenary of such a great people’s leader and celebrate it. It is no exaggeration if I say that this opportunity came to me due to God’s grace and blessings, the blessings of Goddess Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who elevated me to this level and your support. I wish to state on this occasion that I will ever be loyal to the people and party volunteers. The sea-shore along the Bay of Bengal where the three great leaders of the party have come together, is the place where the temples of my worship are located.

After the British, it is the AIADMK party that has ruled for more years from Fort St. George in Independent India. I firmly say that for many more centuries, it is the AIADMK which is going to rule. My optimism stems from the enthusiasm and cheerfulness displayed by people in all the 31 Districts during the celebrations of Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR’s centenary to which I was an eye-witness.

We are not the ones to conduct functions for publicity. Every function we organize is people-centric. Through these centenary functions, Hon’ble Amma’s Government announced and implemented schemes suitable to the people’s livelihood in every one of the 31 Districts and met their needs.

Every District has its own specialties and identities. I became the son of the soil of every

District that I went and spoke during the centenary celebrations. I spoke with statistics on the greatness of that District, the great personages who were born there and accomplished great things, the schemes implemented for that District by Hon’ble Amma and Hon’ble Amma’s Government. Those who could not tolerate all these things spread canards and tried to stop the centenary celebrations. They failed in that also. I am extremely happy that the centenary conclusion function is being held in Chennai in a grand scale in by thwarting all such antagonism. I am proud to share the happiness I felt in each District, I am proud to share what I saw and learnt, the announcement of schemes, the inauguration of the completed schemes. Do you know the value of the schemes announced through the M.G.R. centenary functions in the 31 Districts - starting from Madurai and concluding at Kanniyakumari? I am happy to state that the total number of schemes announced was 5,571 and their cost is Rs.10,884.42 crore. Of the 547 announcements made, Government Orders were issued in a short duration on 434 announcements. Of these, schemes were completed fully in respect of 43 announcements and works are in progress for 391 announcements. Of the remaining announcements, preparatory works are afoot for 84 announcements and 29 are under the scrutiny of the Central Government.

I am mentioning this because the Leader of the Opposition Thiru. M.K.Stalin dubs these functions as extravagant ones. In each District we announce many schemes. Amma’s Government implements all those schemes. This is a people’s Government; it is a Government that toils for people. I wish to tell the Leader of the Opposition that we are implementing all those schemes. This is not an extravagant event but a centenary function that benefits people.

Thiru. Stalin who is the President of the DMK and Leader of the Opposition has made it a habit to blame our Movement and our Government. It is alright if he talks the truth. Whenever he opens his mouth, lies come out. He often says that this Government is a non-performing Government. We detailed the schemes implemented by Idaya



Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma; we listed the measures taken by Amma's Government in the last one year and 7 months since it took over administration, after Amma's demise and the schemes implemented, with statistics. What more have we to say? What does he expect? What schemes did he bring forth during his rule? What are the benefits that the people derived out of them? Nothing. They reaped only sorrow. Earlier in his speech, the Fisheries Minister beautifully explained how they tortured the people even while remaining, as they are, in the opposition. The whole country knows how a hotel owner was assaulted after his partymen took food in the hotel and would not pay the bill. Media exposed how a former member of a Panchayat committee, belonging to the DMK went to a beauty parlour and kicked and trampled upon the parlour lady. He spoke as if he is a champion of women and got the item published in many newspapers. You know what it is. Did he condemn when a member of his party indulged in an improper act in a beauty parlour? Did he take any steps? People know that this is the character of the DMK party. As for Tamil Nadu, law and order is well maintained. Law and order in Amma's Government continues to be as good as it was during the rule of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. In today's function Hon'ble Amma's Government has announced schemes worth Rs.18.79 crore for the development of Chennai city alone. Through these centenary functions, it is not schemes alone that are made available; this generation comes to understood well Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar's hard work and growth. This generation wants to come up in life, taking Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar's life as a lesson.

When Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. started the party, he designed the party flag with the figure of Perarignar Anna, his leader and guide and paved the way for establishing Anna's glory eternally in this Tamil soil.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is responsible for the memory of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. remaining green in the minds of people even 30 years after his demise. All the works left behind by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar

for people's welfare were implemented by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. People of Tamil Nadu know Hon'ble Amma Government's implementation of many schemes to the extent of perpetuating Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's fame till eternity.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar was very much concerned about Anna which he conveyed through a song in the film 'Netru Indru Naalai'. The song went like this: *"Naattukkaaga uzhaipatharke Anna pirandhar; podhu nalathil thaane naal muzhukka kannaayirundhaar. Yetrukonda padavikellam perumaiyai thanthaar; than iniya kudumbam ondrukkuthaan varumaiyai thanthaar."* ('Anna was born to work for the country; got intent on public good all through the day; he brought glory to every post that he held; it was only to his family that he left poverty').

If there is one democratic party that gives leadership to a party cadre at the lowest level, it is only the AIADMK. I myself am an example of this and stand before you as Chief Minister though I was born in a farmer's family.

Hon'ble Amma's Government's vigorous activities have fetched 5 National Awards for agricultural production in the last 7 years, 19 to Family Welfare and Health Department, 6 to Rural Development and Panchayat Department, 3 each to the Departments of Water Supply and Energy and International and National awards to Departments like Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries, Differently Abled Welfare besides electricity and transport. I wish to inform the Leader of the Opposition that a Bengaluru-based organization which has evaluated the performance of Governments on the basis of 10 important factors inclusive of socio-economic and law and order ones, has ranked Tamil Nadu, in its report, as the second best State in governance. How will the opposition parties that find fault in this Government's performance, reply to this? If it is a non-performing Government, can it win awards? They should ponder over this.

The present generation should educate the succeeding ones about Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar



MGR's lofty ideals and high thinking. In tune with the song 'the parent who imparts knowledge is the leader who shows the correct path' (*arivoottum thanthai, nalvazhi kaattum thalaivan*), people will accept as leader only those leaders who follow the path of Puratchi Thalaivar. One of Puratchi Thalaivar's songs has these lines: "*maaperum sabaithanil nee nadanthaal, unakku maalaigal vizhavendum. Oru maatru kuraiyadha mannavan ivan endru potri pugazha vendum*" ('You should be honoured with garlands when you walk in great assemblies; you should be praised as the perfect king'). If these lines are taken to the youth, Tamil Nadu will get good leaders in future.

Vadalur Vallalar lit an oven for distributing food to the poor and flame was never extinguished. If there was a second such oven, it was the one in Ramavaram Garden, set up for the sake of the poor and party volunteers. After seeing the philanthropic nature of Puratchi Thalaivar, many followed his example. When I say this, I am reminded of a story.

A rich man in a town was highly conceited on account of his wealth. He had enormous wealth but no peace of mind. Learning that a sanyasi had come to the town and was giving advice to those who called on him, the rich man quickly entered the house where the sanyasi was staying. The sanyasi was immersed in his work. After a time, he looked at the rich man and to his surprise, narrated all the details of his life.

"How do you know all these things about me, who told you," asked the rich man. The sanyasi said: "Let the past be past; the wealth given to you is to help hundreds of thousands of poor people. So cultivate the habit of charity." The rich man angrily left the house, thinking "who is this man to advise me."

A week later, the rich man turned up before the sanyasi, showed documents of his donation for a public cause and asked: "Are you satisfied? You can thank me now."

The sanyasi calmly replied: "I need not thank you; you should thank me." The rich man was perplexed. But he thought over the sanyasi's words.

He then realized how the blessings offered by the poor when he made the donations gave him peace of mind. That changed him. From that day, he distributed his wealth munificently to all those suffering in life. The sanyasi who changed the rich man into a great philanthropist was Swami Vivekananda. The convert to philanthropy was the American industrialist John D. Rockefeller.

Even at the age of 33, Rockefeller was regarded as a great industrialist. He knew only business, competition, success and money. There was no one to share his joys and sorrows - relatives or friends. The net result: his health was severely affected because of mental stress, anxiety and fear. This was his condition when he met Swami Vivekananda at Chicago at the age of 53.

Making donations was not an easy thing for him, though. Many turned down his donations! Still, he tirelessly continued to give donations. Out of his donations, many works were taken up for the good of the people all over the world - scientific research, medical services and invention of medicines for many illnesses. What did Rockefeller get in return? Peace, happiness and health.

So, let the rich give to the poor; let the educated share their knowledge with those who need it. The kind-hearted should always serve others to the extent possible like Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. It is with this view that Hon'ble Amma's Government continues to function.

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CHENNAI

### North Chennai Development scheme

Hon'ble Amma's Government commissioned an institution to examine and submit a report for the preparation of a special plan for fulfilling the needs of North Chennai people in Zones 1 to 5 of the Greater Chennai Corporation on the basis of their demands. That institution has submitted a project report to Tamil Nadu Government.

The schemes recommended in the report include manufacture of fishing boats, repairing yard for fishing boats, development of boat landing places, works connected with educational development, creation of basic structures, structural development for welfare schemes, improving



livelihood, industrial training, developing dwelling units and development of sports. Hon'ble Amma's Government will examine the report quickly and take up appropriate follow-up action.

### **Housing and Urban Development Department**

Following the continued rise in house prices in urban areas, Hon'ble Amma's Government acceded to the requests of people in towns, particularly Chennai and has increased the FSI index from 1.5 to 2.0 for all categories. Likewise the premium FSI index will also be raised. Building rules will be accordingly changed and they will come into effect from 01.10.2018. Through this, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Vision-2023 target of Houses for All will be achieved.

### **New International Airport for Chennai**

The handling capacity of the present Chennai airport – passengers and goods – will reach a saturation point by 2024 on account of Chennai's industrial development, greater tourist flow and improvement in the standard of living of people. Realizing the need for a new airport, Hon'ble Amma's Government will set up a new International airport with global standards near Chennai.

### **Public Works Department**

An organization – Tamil Nadu Water Resources Protection and Restoration of Rivers Corporation – will be set up on the lines of the Tamil Nadu Road Development Corporation for developing water resources in Tamil Nadu and for preparing and implementing irrigation and drinking water schemes with the assistance of multi-national financial institutions. A Chairman and a Managing Director will be immediately appointed for the Corporation to get it going.

### **Agriculture Department**

Hon'ble Chief Minister's Rural Home Grown Vegetable Production Scheme:

By way of encouraging the practice of growing vegetables in the house or in a part of their land by rural people and farmers, a new pioneering scheme – “Hon'ble Chief Minister's Rural Home Grown Vegetable Production Scheme” – will be

implemented in Villages in the current financial year.

### **Energy Department**

A 230 KV electricity sub-station will be set up at Mambakkam at a cost of Rs.137.37 crore for reducing the power load in the 230 KV sub-stations at Singaperumalkoil and at Veerapuram and to meet the increasing electricity needs at Mambakkam and surrounding places.

The 33 KV power sub-stations at Maduravoyal, Egmore, B & C Mills and I.C.F. will be upgraded in their own locations into 110 KV gas insulated switchgear sub-stations at a cost of Rs.203.48 crore for reducing the load in the sub-stations at Cooks road, Vyasarpadi and at the Kilpauk Pumping Station.

### **Public Health and Family Welfare Department**

A 100-bed suburban hospital will be set up at Pallikaranai at a cost of Rs.31 crore to cater to the medical needs of the poor in South Chennai suburban areas. It will be funded by the National Health Mission.

A Six storeyed new building will be built for the Kilpauk Government Medical College Hospital at a cost of Rs.141.42 crore. The basement will have 12 operation theatres and facility for 260 beds. The floors will have a unit with renal surgery ward, maternity ward, nephrology ward, blood purification ward, general medicine, emergency treatment and an imaging section.

This hospital will also be supplied medical equipment like MRI scan, CT Scan, C.R.M. radiography unit, ventilators, ultrasound equipment at a cost of Rs.134.18 crore.

### **Highways & Minor Ports Department**

Works worth Rs.216 crore have been taken up under the Important Road Infrastructure Scheme for de-congesting traffic in the suburban areas of Chennai and they are under implementation. In continuation of this, widening and developing of important roads to a length of 45.15 k.m. will be taken up at a cost of Rs.344 crore.



Widening of roads taken up in the Greater Chennai Corporation areas in two stages, at a cost of Rs.400 crore is about to be completed. In the third stage, road construction works worth Rs.125.87 crore will be taken up in the extended areas of Greater Chennai.

Tambaram East bypass road (State - II) will be set up at a cost of Rs.33.35 crore.

The railway over bridge on the Mount-Poonamallee-Avadi road will be widened at a cost of Rs.12 crore near Avadi.

A detailed project report is being prepared at a cost of Rs.50.59 lakh for constructing a road overbridge over the subway at Thillai Ganga Nagar.

A detailed project report will be prepared at a cost of Rs.37.50 lakh for construction of a flyover at the Madhya Kailash area of Sardar Patel Road for reducing traffic congestion in Adyar area, Chennai.

A detailed project report will be prepared at a cost of Rs.48 lakh for construction of a railway over bridge on the Chennai-Tiruttani-Renigunta road at the point 75/6 k.m.

A detailed project report is being prepared at a cost of Rs.10.30 lakh for setting up a foot overbridge near Kendriya Vidyalaya school on the Chennai Inner Ring Road.

#### **Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department**

As the girls' hostel building for the students of Industrial Institute, Royapuram is in a damaged condition, it will be demolished and in its place, two hostels for girl students will be constructed at a cost of Rs.3.72 crore.

I am happy to announce in connection with this centenary function that a 20.8 k.m. long stretch of Mount-Poonamallee-Avadi road where Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's residence of Ramavaram Garden is located, will be named 'Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Highway' by way of commemorating his memory.

The Koyambedu bus terminus, the biggest in Asia, was constructed at a cost of Rs.102 crore and was inaugurated in 2002 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The bus terminus serves as a transit point for 2 lakh people every day. Hence, I am happy to state that this bus terminus is being named as "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R. Bus Stand".

If this function that started in Madurai on 30.06.2017 has come to a successful completion today, it is because of those who played a part in its success. I should thank them. They are Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Brother O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Brother Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Hon'ble Ministers, Respected MPs, MLAs, former MPs, MLAs, former Ministers, the regular participants in the events, party headquarters executives, party executives, volunteers, Government Secretaries in my office, high officials of the Government, the Information and Public Relations Department, Police Personnel who ensured that not one small untoward incident took place, newspaper and media friends who publicized the steps taken in the centenary function and above all, the large turn-out of elders, ladies and youth in every District. We conducted the function in all the 31 Districts. Ministers, respective District Ministers, respective District Collectors and Government officials who joined hands with them in the work, party volunteers and executives and the general public who are responsible for the excellent conduct of these functions. I convey my heart-felt gratitude to them.

Stating Vaazhga Anna Naamam! Vaazhga Puratchi Thalaivarin Pugazh! Thodarga Puratchi Thalaivi Ammaavin Aatchi! I affectionately request all the party volunteers and executives who have come from all over Tamil Nadu to return home safely in your vehicles.

Nandri; Vanakkam.



## Gandhi Jayanthi celebrated with reverence



The Tamil Nadu Government celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at Chennai on 02.10.2018. Gandhiji's statue on the Marina and his portrait placed below were tastefully decorated with flowers.

Around 10.00 a.m., Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, 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 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. on behalf of Sarvodaya Sangh a mass spinning

was performed and prayers were offered near Gandhiji's Statue.

At 8.00 a.m., a bicycle rally stressing untouchability eradication, national integration, world peace and communal harmony, took off from Gandhiji's statue on the Marina and reached Gandhi Mandapam at Guindy. The rally made up of hundreds of school children in the city and National Cadet Corps and Members of the Brahma Kumaris Society was flagged off by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju.

Bhajan was performed at Guindy Gandhi Mandapam also between 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m.



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

The 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary celebrations, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, commenced at Gandhi Mandapam on 02.10.2018 in the evening around 5.00 p.m.

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit delivered the keynote Address and distributed prizes to winners in the competitions held earlier for school and college students. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. O. Panneerselvam delivered the Presidential Address, Hon'ble Minister for School Education Thiru. K.A. Sengottaiyan

and Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju delivered the Special Address. Thiru. R. Venkatesan I.A.S., Secretary, Tamil development and Information Department, earlier welcomed the gathering. Dr. P. Sankar I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations proposed a vote of thanks. Cultural events stressing 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 the Nation.

A film on Gandhiji was screened through LED Vans in the evening on all three days of the celebrations from 02.10.2018 to 04.10.2018.





# ‘Wear Khadi clothes, improve standard of living of weavers’

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami**’s appeal to people in Tamil Nadu to purchase khadi clothes to enhance the standard of living of weavers (*English Translation*)

**O**n the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi’s 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary being celebrated throughout the Country, as advised by him, all people should wear khadi clothes which reflect the culture of the Country and also encourage their use so that the standard of living of weavers improves.

All the 88 Khadi Kraft outlets in Tamil Nadu are selling khadi clothes designed by the khadi weavers in rural areas in tune with the latest fashion and handicraft items created by rural artisans with new ideas. To improve the sale of khadi clothes, the Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board has been offering 30 per cent discount for all khadi varieties throughout the year.

To improve the standard of living of the poor and the downtrodden, the Khadi weavers and the handicraft artisans, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of the Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been

implementing various welfare schemes through the Khadi and Village Industries Board.

These include educational assistance, marriage assistance and financial help to the family of weavers who die either naturally or in accidents. During the financial year 2017-2018, under special component development scheme, 587 spinners and 50 weavers were given free charkhas, looms and also training with an allotment of Rs.2.45 crore. The Government also allotted Rs.4 crore as discount subsidy for Khadi and Village Industries Board and Rs.30 crore for Sarvodaya Sangams.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister appealed to school and college students, youth, Government employees and the public to support poor and downtrodden rural weavers and artisans by purchasing khadi fabrics and handicraft products respectively.



# “Remove bottlenecks to TANGEDCO's power exchange mechanisms”

*Speech of the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. O. Panneerselvam  
in the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Southern Zonal Council at Bengaluru on 18.09.2018.*

Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri  
Rajnath Singhji,

Hon'ble Chief Ministers from various  
States,

Senior Officers of the Union Government,  
Chief Secretaries and Senior Officers  
from States and Union Territories,

Vanakkam.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi  
Thalaivi Amma championed the rights of States  
in the Indian federal system. While we miss the  
physical presence of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi  
Amma, the Government of Tamil Nadu  
continues to work to fulfill the Amma's vision.

2. I wish to briefly touch upon, some key  
points in the agenda for the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the  
Southern Zonal Council.

3. Tamil Nadu fishermen are exceptionally  
skilled in their profession. While engaged  
in fishing, they sometimes face the charge of  
trespassing into the fishing waters of other  
States. As we know fishing activity is not  
prohibited for any fishing vessel with Indian  
crew in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India  
as per Government of India orders. Instead of

booking the fishing related violations under  
Marine Fishing Regulation Act, the fishermen  
are booked under criminal laws by the Police  
which is unwarranted. Allowing artisanal deep  
sea fishing vessels operated by traditional  
fishermen to berth and re-coup basic needs  
such as fuel, food, water and ice should be  
encouraged by all coastal States for the mutual  
benefit of fishermen.

4. Tamil Nadu has been a fore runner  
in renewable energy in terms of wind and  
solar energy. We propose to further increase  
the production of clean energy. TANGEDCO  
has entered into commercially viable Power  
Banking Agreements with other utilities. Under  
these agreements, TANGEDCO will transfer  
power during power surplus periods to other  
utilities and will get power when required. The  
efforts towards developing renewable energy  
should be encouraged by the Government of  
India by removing bottlenecks in the exchange  
mechanism. Particularly, in the commercial  
terms, such as frequency linked penalty and  
compensation charges for power from central  
generation stations.

5. Thermal Power Generation continues to be of tremendous importance as base power. Ministry of Coal must ensure coal supply at the required rate of 72,000 metric tonnes per day and the Ministry of Railways must fulfill its commitment to transport the required quantity.

6. Government of Tamil Nadu is taking efforts to wean tribals away from being lured by organized timber smugglers. The people of Javadhu hills and adjacent areas are provided with Housing, Education and permanent employment opportunities in sandalwood regeneration and eco-tourism activities.

7. Hosur is an important industrial hub in Krishnagiri District which was selected under the UDAN Scheme in the first phase and flight operations are yet to start for want of “No Objection Certificate” from Bengaluru International Airport. It is qualified for the No Objection Certificate from Bengaluru International Airport to commence this programme. Through this august Forum, we request the Civil Aviation Authorities to make Hosur Airport operational immediately.

8. There are shortfalls in settlement of amounts due to Tamil Nadu in G.S.T. Government of Tamil Nadu is yet to receive over Rs.4,000 crore of revenue to be apportioned out of IGST credit. This may be expedited for benefit of all the States as the IGST collected is meant for both the Centre and State under the scheme.

9. Tamil Nadu is committed to the promotion of Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme. The enforcement protocol for ethanol production and usage has been suitably reframed, in consonance with the Amendments

of 2016 to the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act 1951.

10. Government of Tamil Nadu constantly endeavours to maintain peace and tranquility. Subversive activities are dealt with through constant vigil along with development programmes for the local people. Maoist activity in the tri-junction area, that is Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka has been effectively contained. We reiterate our request to include the Nilgiris District in the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) list and under the Integrated Action Plan.

11. Government of Tamil Nadu has always been committed to the Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes. The revised guidelines of the Government of India, on Post matric scholarships including the Non-recognition of Management Quota, non-adherence to committed liability, do not augur well for the successful implementation of the programme. Tamil Nadu has highest gross enrolment ratio in the Higher education, of more than 45%. The State is yet to receive an amount of Rs.1,224.72 crore as arrears of post matric scholarships. The sharing pattern of 60:40 and the committed liability of Government of India, must be maintained for successful continuation of the programme.

12. Many of the participant States would agree that the terms of land exchange between Ministries of Central Government and State Governments are inequitable and unfair. While the Defence Ministry insists on land to equal value land exchange, the Railways provide their land on long term lease basis for a period of 35 years extendable for another 35 years. Inspite

of payment of 99% cost of the land value, the surface rights are retained by Railways and they seek payment of lease rent on the land even when tunnels pass under the land. Variable policies of different Ministries of Government of India appear to be unjustified. Therefore, I request that in the case of joint venture projects land brought in by the State Government and Government of India Ministries should be treated as the equity contribution by respective Governments.

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13. I have touched upon some of the items elaborated in the written speech, to draw your special attention to the requirements of the States, particularly Tamil Nadu. I request this Forum, to work towards these crucial issues and further strengthen the regional co-operation of the Southern States.

Thank you.

## **Gandhi Adigal Medal for 5 Police Officers**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami has ordered the award of Gandhi Adigal Police Medal to (1) Thiru. R.Vetharethinam, Additional Superintendent of Police, Prohibition Enforcement Wing, Cuddalore District, (2) Thiru. A.Prakash, Inspector of Police, Prohibition Enforcement Wing, Hosur, Krishnagiri District, (3) Thiru. G.Rajendran, Sub-Inspector of Police, Vikkiramangalam Police Station, Ariyalur District,

(4) Thiru. R.Thirukumar, Head Constable 2420, Gandhi Market Police Station, Trichy City OD at Central Investigation Unit, Trichy and (5) Thiru. P.Gopi, Head Constable 320, Sendamangalam Police Station, Namakkal District for their outstanding work in curbing illicit liquor. The Medals will be given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion of Republic Day on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 along with a cash award of Rs.40,000 to each of the awardees.

# “Protected drinking water supply, top priority of Amma’s Government”



Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at a Government function at Edappadi, Salem District on 30.08.2018 (*English Translation*).

**P**aying obeisance to Goddess Hon’ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

Respected District Collector who has delivered the presidential address and is presiding over this excellent and inspiring function for laying the foundation to the extended Combined Water Supply Scheme to areas in the Panchayat Unions of Edappadi, Konganapuram and Magudanchavadi and to other scheme works, for declaring open the completed scheme works and for distributing welfare assistance, Thiru. Panneerselvam, Member of Parliament, Thiru. Semmalai, MLA and former Minister, Thiru. G.Venkatachalam, Tmt. Manonmani, Thiru. S.Raja, Thiru. S.Vetrivel and Thiru. Kamaraj, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Technical Director of the Tamil Nadu

Water and Drainage Board, Superintending Engineer of the Highways Department, Director (Schemes) of the District Rural Development Agency, High Officials of the Government, Government staff from different Departments, Thiru. Madesh, former Chairman, newspaper and media friends – my respects to all of you.

The essential necessities in a man’s life are food, clothing and dwelling place. To lead a healthy life, drinking water is essential. I am extremely happy to participate in the function, being held at the Edappadi Panchayat Union Office, to extend water supply to more Villages under the Edappadi-Konganapuram Combined Water Supply Scheme and to lay the foundation stone for new scheme works. I am also happy to inaugurate the completed scheme works and to distribute welfare assistance.

Hon'ble Amma's Government gives top priority and importance to supply enough protected drinking water to all families in urban local bodies. To improve water supply, the Tamil Nadu Government is mobilizing funds through the Integrated Urban Development Scheme, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and the Rural Transformation Project and implementing the Water Supply Schemes. In 2011, local bodies were supplied a total of 1,567.10 million litres water, calculated on the basis of an average of 93 litres per person per day. On account of the Water Supply Schemes implemented by Hon'ble Amma and Amma's Government, the supply was increased to 1,873.29 million litres in 2017-2018 which works out to 113 litres per head per day on an average. To this extent, the supply has been improved.

The Tamil Nadu Water and Drainage Board is executing the water supply and underground drainage schemes to all local bodies barring Chennai city. With a view to providing protected drinking water to people on a long-term and stable basis, this establishment is implementing Combined Water Supply Schemes with a common water source -- rivers, anaicuts and reservoirs -- to a cluster of local bodies in the coastal areas of the State where the quality of water has been affected and to other areas that need water, benefiting both rural and urban residential quarters.

So far, 2,073 million litres water has been supplied to 4.21 crore people through 554 Combined Water Supply Schemes. As for Salem District, Amma had implemented all the demands that I had placed on behalf of the people. As for Edappadi Constituency,

Combined Water Supply Schemes, costing Rs.257.21 crore have been implemented so far. I wish to state that scheme works for Panamarathupatti and Aattayampatti Town Panchayats on the Salem District border and to 195 rural habitations in the three Panchayat Unions of Veerapandi, Panamarathupatti and Salem are to be taken up for scrutiny.

I wish to mention a few of the works implemented in Edappadi Assembly Constituency in the last 8 years:

About 276 works, valued at Rs.12.67 crore have been executed under the constituency development fund of MLA; about 39,225 works have been carried out at a cost of Rs.241,92,16,000 under various schemes of the Rural Development Department; 637 road works and bridge works have been taken up by the Highways Department in this Division at a cost of Rs.611.54 crore; 126 different scheme works, costing Rs.55.60 crore have been completed in Edappadi Town under various funds; I have today inaugurated Highway Department works costing Rs.2.48 crore, including the Edappadi-Nedunkulam-Koneripatti-Anandhampalayam road work, completed at a cost of Rs.1.50 crore.

The existing Combined Water Supply Scheme for the 327 rural habitations in the Panchayat Unions of Edappadi, Konganapuram and Magudanchavadi will be extended further at a cost of Rs.9.50 crore; inclusive of the new Combined Water Supply Scheme, I have today laid foundation for 46 new works worth Rs.25.66 crore.

I will be distributing today welfare assistance of various Departments worth Rs.1,20,09,900 to 229 beneficiaries.



By way of giving a concrete shape to Hon'ble Amma's desire to provide protected drinking water to all people in Tamil Nadu, Amma's Government has been implementing 65 water supply schemes, costing Rs.4,466 crore, in 2 Municipal Corporations, 17 Municipalities, 41 Town Panchayats, benefiting 101.67 lakh people.

I wish to state that this year's budget allocation for water supply works is Rs.1,853.38 crore. Induced by Hon'ble Amma's lofty ideal that no one should suffer in Tamil Nadu for paucity of drinking water, Hon'ble Amma's Government, it is no exaggeration to say, is implementing Combined Water Supply Schemes and people are getting protected drinking water.

After 85 years, Mettur dam was de-silted for the first time last year. As if to teach a lesson to Karnataka State that refused to release water that is due to Tamil Nadu, the south west

monsoon turned out to be a bounteous one by God's grace, forcing them to release lakhs of cubic feet of water to Tamil Nadu. As a result, all the dams in Tamil Nadu got filled up. Hence, there is every possibility for a higher foodgrain production this year. This in turn, will boost the livelihood of farmers. Hon'ble Amma stated that Amma Government's goal was to take Tamil Nadu in the path of growth and make Tamil Nadu the premier State in India. Hon'ble Amma's Government that treads the path of Hon'ble Amma is taking many steps to make Tamil Nadu the premier State. A statement released recently by the Centre for Public Affairs based in Bengaluru, noted that Tamil Nadu is the second best State in governance. This, I wish to proudly state, is a certificate of appreciation for this Government's administrative efficiency, to its welfare schemes and to the effective manner of their implementation.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is functioning on the principles of 'Peace, Prosperity, Progress'. In line with this, I have inaugurated till date, from the day Hon'ble Amma's Government took over the administration, 41,887 completed works worth Rs.22,640.29 crore and laid foundation for 7,597 works worth Rs.19,101.84 crore. Totally, 49,484 works worth Rs.41,742.13 crore have been executed till date. I wish to state that Hon'ble Amma's Government will execute schemes beneficial to the people in a way as to reflect Hon'ble Amma's assertion - 'I am by the people, I am for the people'.

Government employees from different Departments have come here. As I have already mentioned, it is the Government's duty to provide food, clothing, dwelling place and very importantly, drinking water. In this regard, Government employees belonging to Salem District should work to fulfill all the basic needs of the people. Supply of drinking water is very, very important. For rural habitations in the District and for people in Town Panchayat, Municipality and Municipal Corporation areas, drinking water should be supplied to the needed level. Water supply should be regulated so that all people get protected drinking water without any interruption. As for street lights, the Government is vigilant.

Nearly, 12 District Collectors were summoned to Chennai and a review of the works done in their Districts was undertaken. The review covered the issues of drinking water problem, village roads, street light

issues, the extent of completion of green house construction, meeting the basic needs of rural and urban people and maintenance of sanitary complexes. Other issues covered were details of patta transfer and the number of applicants for new pattas, applicants for new house sites and details on the action taken on those applications and the way 'kudimaramathu' scheme, a magnificent plan for farmers, is working. Officials have been instructed to take necessary action on the basis of the report submitted to Government after the review.

Likewise, the District Administration and Officials of the Agriculture Department have been instructed to create conditions for farmers to get the dredged sand from lakes and tanks in full measure and to take steps to store rain water in lakes and tanks in their respective areas. They have been told to create conditions for farmers to take up cultivation of seasonal crops by utilizing the rain water in a proper way and enrolling farmers fully in the crop insurance scheme and getting them the insured amount.

As the monsoon was good and dams are full, we expect higher production this year. I wish to know from the officers who have come to the function, the field realities in their respective areas. Thanking the District Collector and all other Government employees who have worked with her for organizing this function in an excellent way, I take leave of you.

Nandri! Vanakkam!



# 'Amma's Government will stand by hill tribes just like Puratchi Thalaivar and Amma'



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
**Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at a function at Karumanthurai,  
 Kalvarayan Hills, Salem on 01.09.2018 (English Translation).

**B**owing to Goddess Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

Respected District Collector who delivered the welcome address at this pleasant function organized to lay the foundation for giving electricity connection to 10 mountain villages in the Assembly constituencies of Yercaud and Athur, for the first time and to other new scheme works, inaugurate the Karumanthurai Fire and Rescue Services station, declare open completed project works and distribute Government welfare assistance, Kallakurichi MP Thiru. K. Kamaraj, Athur MLA Thiru. Chinnathambi, Yercaud MLA sister Chitra, Mettur MLA and former Minister Thiru. Semmalai, Veerapandi MLA Thiru. P. Manonmani, Sankagiri MLA Thiru. S.Raja, Omalur MLA Thiru. S. Vetrivel, Ulundurpet MLA

Thiru. Kumaraguru, former President of Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Bank Thiru.R.Elangovan, Western Zone Joint Director of Fire and Rescue Services Department, Joint Director (Training) of the Coimbatore Regional Employment and Training Department, Superintending Engineer of the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, high officials of the Government, Executives of the AIADMK party, Elders, Ladies, Farmers, Workers, Hill Tribes, Students, newsmen and media friends, welfare assistance beneficiaries, Salem District Rural Development Director who is to propose a vote of thanks - I offer my humble regards to all of you.

During her golden rule, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave innumerable schemes to the people in the hill regions. Ponmana

Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. had a special affection towards the people of the hill regions. These two great leaders designed schemes to uplift the living standards of the hill tribes. In their footsteps, Amma's Government continues to implement all those schemes they have given to the hill region people, the farmers and the general public.

I am extremely happy to participate in this function for handing over welfare assistance of the different Government Departments to the scheduled tribes residing in the Kalvarayan hills and distribute the same.

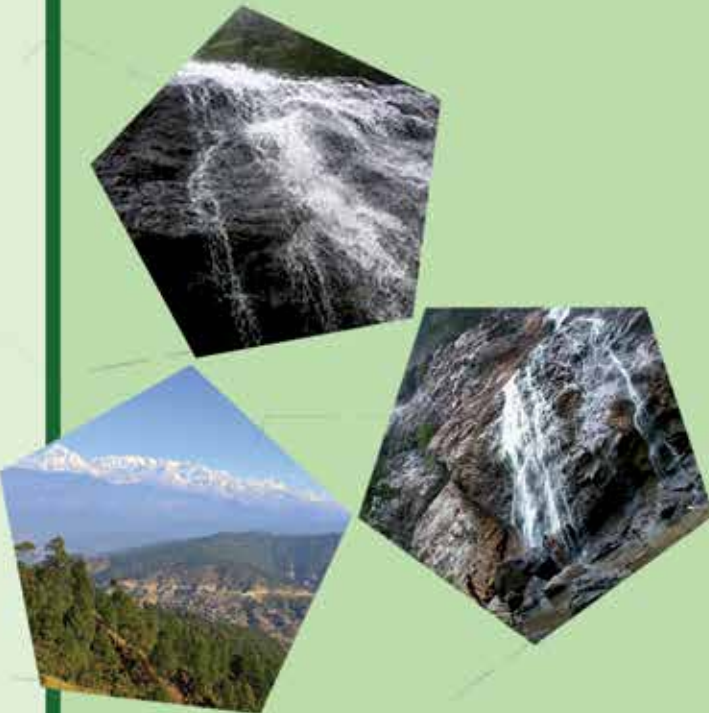
Kalvarayan hills form part of the Eastern ghats and along with Pachai Malai, Javadhu hills, Servarayan hills, it forms the boundary separating the Cauvery river basin from the Palar river basin. These hills, spread over an area of 1,095 sq.k.m. rise to a height of 2,000 to 3,000 ft. The northern part of this hill is called Chinna Kalvarayan and the southern part

Periya Kalvarayan. On an average, the Chinna Kalvarayan hills are 2,700 ft. high and Peria Kalvarayan hills 4,000 ft. high.

The Kalvarayan hill range is at a distance of 40 k.m. from the southern tip of the Javadhu hills. This was the ancestral place of the Kaaralan people. The south west part of this hill touches Athur in Salem District, western part Sankagiri in Villupuram District and on the north extends to Chengam in Tiruvannamalai District. The region is fertile with Sathanur dam on the northern side of Kalvarayan hills, Athur ravine on the south, Manimutharu dam and Chitheri hill on the east. The Gomuki river originates in this hill and a dam has also been constructed across this river.

Many steps have been taken to attract tourists to this hill. Gomukhi dam and a park laid out on 15 acres are here. Waterfalls - Megam, Periyar, Punniyampadi and the like - are here for tourists to bathe. Separate buildings are there for tourists to rest, for toilet facilities and for bathing. A Boat Club has come about following construction of check dams in the mountain *Odais*. Like these, many steps are being taken to attract tourists. In the Government reserve forest areas and in the villages along the mountain where afforestation programmes have been implemented, tasty wood apple is grown and sent to other places. I am happy to state on this occasion that this hill with such naturally endowed resources will be developed to enable different types of people to reside in future.

"If I happen to rule, if that happens, the poor here will not suffer; till death no harm



will come to them and they will not fall into a sea of tears,” said Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. (*‘Naan aanai ittaal adhu nadanthuvittal, ingu ezhaigal vedhanai padamaattaar; uyir ullavarai oru thunbamillai, avar kanneer kadalile vizhamaattaar’*). Amma who followed his path and Amma’s Government have been implementing many schemes for the development of tribals. I wish to mention a few of them here.

1. To get power connection soon, 100 tribal farmers were given Rs.75,000 each;

2. Two residential model schools with quarters for teachers have been set up in Javadhu hills at a cost of Rs.24 crore;

3. Orders have been issued for designing a website under the Integrated Tribal Development Scheme so that all the tribals can benefit through the Internet.

4. For the benefit of tribal students, 42 tribal welfare hostels and 314 Government residential schools are functioning in the State.

5. New buildings are proposed to be constructed for 19 hostels in the current year at a cost of Rs.46 crore .

6. The boarding fee for school hostellers has been increased to Rs.900 and for college students to Rs.1,000.

7. Under the integrated tribals development scheme, Rs.50 crore has been allotted for providing infrastructure facilities in the tribal areas and works are being carried out.

8. For the development of traditional tribals on the verge of extinction, a special assistance of Rs.104.75 crore has been allotted and the scheme is under execution.

Many such schemes are being implemented by the Government for the development of tribals.

In Salem District, more than 16 Panchayats in the Unions of Yercaud, Peddanaickenpalayam, Gangavalli, Ayodhyapattinam and Kolathur are in hilly regions. To develop the basic facilities for the people there, to improve the standard of living of people in the hills and their livelihood, Hon’ble Amma’s Government is implementing many schemes. I will mention a few of them here.

1. For the people in the hills, 628 green houses have been constructed at a cost of Rs.10.81 crore;

2. Under the Indira Gandhi Awaraz Yojana scheme 1,192 apartments have been constructed at an estimate of Rs.13.83 crore for hill dwellers.

3. 883 houses have been constructed under the Prime Minister Housing scheme at a cost of Rs.15.20 crore for people in the hills;

4. 68 road works have been taken up at a cost of Rs.21.15 crore under the Rural Roads Development scheme for the hill dwellers.

5. Through the Swach Bharat Movement, 7,939 toilets in individual houses have been constructed at an estimate of Rs.16.14 crore.

Scheduled Tribe caste certificates have been issued to 22,239 tribals through the Revenue Department. Under the Forest Rights Act 2006, individual pattas have been issued to 631 hill dwellers. Under the same Act, community rights pattas have been issued to 20 hill dwellers.

In the Villages of Kunnur and Soolankurichi in the Kalvarayan hill range and in Yercaud Manjakuttai Village Primary Health Centres have been newly started for the medical treatment of the traditional hill dwellers.

In this way, Hon'ble Amma's Government has executed 12,267 works at an estimate of Rs.167.02 crore in the last 8 years in these 16 Panchayats.

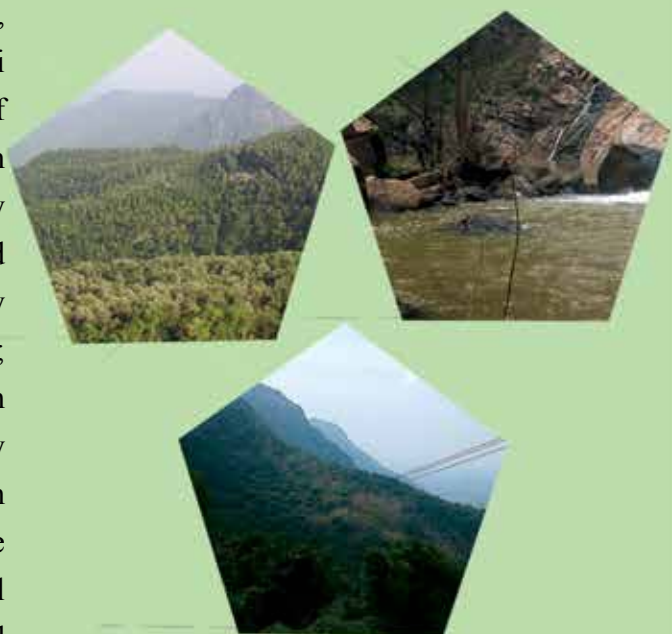
I am happy to inform that I have today laid the foundation for 3 new scheme works costing Rs.2,99,34,000. They are: laying transmission lines and fixing transformers to give electricity connection to 599 houses in the 10 hill villages of Pallikadu, Pelapatti, Kottamedu, Valatthu, Thaalur, Mannur, Aavaarai, Elandhavari, Aalankadai and Chettur in the 3 Panchayat Unions of Ayodhiyapattinam, Peddhnaickenpalayam and Thalaivasal coming under the Assembly Constituencies of Yercaud, Athur and Gangavalli in Kallakurichi Parliamentary Constituency, at a cost of Rs.2,59,71,000; construction of a compound wall, footpath and a drainage for the Karumanthurai shandy in the Peddanaickenalayam Panchayat Union at a cost of Rs.25.35 lakh on behalf of the District Development Agency of the Rural Development and Panchayat Department; and

setting up a paver block at the Karumantharai weekly shandy in Vadakku Nadu Panchayat, Chinna Kalvarayan Hill at an estimate of Rs.14.28 lakh.

I have today declared open 15 scheme works completed at a cost of Rs.12.78 crore which include 5 workshop buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.2.68 crore at Karumanthurai Government Industrial Institute for the Employment and Training Department.

Further, I have also inaugurated today a fire and rescue service station with a fire fighting vehicle at Karumanthurai hill area, set up at a cost of Rs.1.25 crore. Last time when I came to Karumanthurai area, you wanted a fire service station and this has been carried out by Amma's Government.

The Sub-Inspector Level Police Station at Karumanthurai has been upgraded into a Inspector Level Police Station. I am also



happy to inform that a Police Station in Athur Town and a new All Women Police Station at Vazhapadi have been commissioned this year. This will help early detection of crimes in these areas and in quick action to prevent crimes. A new office building has been constructed for the Taluk Office in Vazhapadi.

For the welfare of the traditional hill dwellers, I will be distributing welfare assistance worth Rs.11.04 crore to 2,760 beneficiaries. In deference to the long standing demand of the people in this region, a detailed project report is being prepared at a cost of Rs.10 lakh for the setting up of a 14.6 k.m. long new bypass road in Athur Town. I wish to inform that the work of extending, widening and strengthening the Athur-Perambalur road will be executed shortly. I am happy to state that road in Karumanthurai will be rectified shortly and bus service will be started. Mini bus service will also be given to this area. I am duty-bound to state that innumerable schemes like these will be executed in the coming years for the development of areas where tribals and traditional forest dwellers reside and for the improvement of their lives.

As I reached this place, farmers and the members of the general public placed demands. As there is heavy lorry traffic here and the bridge to Pappanaickenpatti from Karumanthurai is narrow, I wish to inform that a new broad and strong bridge will be constructed by the side of the existing bridge.

Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government is a people's Government. During Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule, many schemes

for forest dwellers were implemented. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma served as Chief Minister for fifteen-and-a-half years in 4 spells and Amma's Government provided many basic facilities for tribals. It was Amma who provided an I.T.I. college at Karumanthurai for the people there to get good education. Amma worked for the development of tribals. On my way to this function, I stopped my car at a hut and interacted with the inmates. They said they were growing different crops and marketed the grains after keeping stocks for their needs. I saw them rearing goats. They wanted houses to be constructed for them as they were living in huts. Amma's Government will bestow special attention on hill dwellers and it proposes to issue a special order to permit them to build houses as per their needs and funds will be allotted under the Green House Programme. At present, construction of Green Houses is on stipulated dimensions. This will be changed and I wish to inform that Amma's Government will create conditions for them to construct houses as they like.

Areas that did not have electricity since the Country's independence till date, were given power supply only by Amma's Government. On the orders of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma when she was Chief Minister, I personally visited all the Assembly Constituencies in Salem District and the tribal villages in Yercaud and Athur Constituencies and distributed mixies, grinders and fans at no cost. You placed many demands then. We have implemented them. Concrete houses will be constructed for hill dwellers; drinking water, road, medical and educational facilities will be provided; Amma's

Government will give the tribals the basic needs of education, health, employment, different measures to boost agriculture and other needed facilities.

I will never forget the excellent reception you gave me. There are 32 Districts in Tamil Nadu. Of them, one hailing from Salem District is the Chief Minister now. I have personally visited all the regions. I know well the problems, difficulties and deficiencies in those areas. I wish to state that Amma's Government will continue to work for solving those problems and take all steps to resolve their issues.

It is more than one-and-a-half years since I took over the administration after the demise of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I have faced many problems in these one-and-a-half years; met many agitations. I have met the organizers of those agitations and resolved their problems after talks. Every one has the right in this democratic Country to get his/her basic rights. On that basis, Hon'ble Amma's Government will carefully examine your demands and take steps to fulfill them. As far as our District is concerned, Amma's Government will continue to take steps to solve the problems of the traditional hill dwellers. After I came, milch cows have been distributed here to 110 persons. Likewise, chicks have been distributed through the Forest Department. Hill dwellers can improve their economy through multiplying the chicks. During Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule, milch cows and goats were distributed at no cost for the betterment of the rural economy. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma

carefully looked into each and every scheme and implemented them for you. Now, Amma's Government is your Government, the people's Government, the poor man's Government.

Opposition parties are asking today what projects have been brought about by this regime. It is well known how many years the DMK had ruled Tamil Nadu. They were in Governments both at the Centre and in the State. What projects had they brought about when they were in the Centre? Did they bring new industries? Did they do anything for the progress of Tamil Nadu people? Did they do anything or work for solving the Cauvery river water dispute or Mullai Periyar issue? They did nothing. Selfishness guides them uppermost. They want to come to power; if that happens, they forget the people. As far as the AIADMK is concerned, the Government, created by two great leaders, will continue to work for the people. Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. formed this party for the sake of the poor people. In Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's 11 year rule, villages progressed. After his demise, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma ruled the State for fifteen-and-a-half years. Both these great leaders ruled for nearly 27 years. After the demise of these two great leaders, the AIADMK Government is providing an excellent rule, on the lines of these two great leaders, for one-and-a-half years. Amma's Government, today is implementing all the schemes needed by the people.

Amma brought about a revolution, a renaissance in education for giving the best education to our children. Treating all children



as her own, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave to school children footwear, school uniform, text books, note books, school bag, bicycle to go to school and laptops, all at no cost. By giving laptops, she gave science education to all children. After 10 years, it will be seen that it was Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who had laid the foundation for turning Tamil Nadu into a science State in the whole of India. A State should be excellent in education if it wants to shine as the best State. As a result of the revolutions brought about by Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in education, the number of learners has gone up; the number of literates has gone up and the number of persons taking up higher education has gone up. I wish to point out that in India, Tamil Nadu occupies the premier position in the enrollment of students in higher education. In the golden rule of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, she opened 65 Arts and Science Colleges. Amma's Government that follows her path has established 11 Government Arts and Science Colleges. By providing totally 76, Government Arts and Science Colleges, it is Amma's Government that has created conditions for students born in the families of poor, downtrodden, oppressed and marginalized sections of the society to take to higher education at a low fee. A plethora of colleges

like Government Engineering Colleges, Government Polytechnic Colleges and Medical Colleges has been set up only in Tamil Nadu in Amma's rule. It is Amma's Government that has nourished the poor; it has opened in large numbers Primary Health Centres in every village.

Similarly, the Jarugumalai road has been laid at a cost of Rs.9 crore through NABARD. I wish to state that works are to be taken up for the Kottamedu road at a cost of Rs.5 crore .

I wish to state that Amma's Government will act in the same way as Amma did for the development of tribals and hill dwellers by treading her path and fulfilling all the basic needs of the people here. Conveying my grateful respects to the District Collector for conducting this function excellently, to high officials of the Government who were supportive of her, AIADMK party Union Secretary Thiru. Ramesh who organized receptions at different places, party Union Secretary Thiru. Murugesan, executives of the party, tribals and hill dwellers and all others, I take leave of you.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

# Hon'ble Chief Minister opens FEFSI studio named after M.G.R., grants Rs. 5 crore for Amma auditorium



**Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami  
after declaring open the M.G.R. Centenary Film Shooting Floor  
on 26.08.2018 (English Translation).**

**B**owing before Goddess Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

I am extremely happy to declare open the M.G.R. Centenary Film Shooting Floor, set up on behalf of the Film Employees Federation of South India (FEFSI) at Payyanur by film artistes and workers.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam who delivered a special address at this pleasant function, Hon'ble Minister for Forest Thiru.Dindigul C. Sreenivasan, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Thiru. P.Benjamin, Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture Thiru.K.Pandiarajan, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. Kadambur Raju, Respected Thiru. R.K.Selvamani, Film Director who presides over this function, Film

Director Thiru. Bharathiraja who has shared many good ideas in this function, President of the Film Producers Association, actor Thiru. Vishal, President of the Nadigar Sangam Thiru. Nasser, Thiru. Suresh, Film actors Thiruvalargal Karthik, Vijay Sethupathi, Sivakarthekeyan, Thanu, Thiruvalargal Dheena, P.Vasu, Vikraman, Kathiresan and Panneerselvam, General Secretary of the Federation Thiru. Angamuthu Shanmugam, Film Producers, Directors, Music Directors Cinematographers, theatre owners who have delivered felicitation addresses, Thiru. P.N.Swaminathan, Treasurer of the Federation who is to propose a vote of thanks, small screen and cine workers, Sister Maragatham Kumaravel, MP, Thiru. Palani MLA, former MPs and MLAs, Executives of AIADMK party, present and past

representatives of Local Bodies, Executives of Co-operative Societies, Media friends, Elders, Ladies, Executives and Members of the various organizations in the Film Sector, I convey my respects to all of you.

Cinema is one of the most important inventions of man. It brings distant wonders to one's own place. Lumiere Brothers of France were the inventors of cinema. The credit of producing and releasing the first silent picture in India goes to the 'Father of Indian Cinema' Dadasaheb Phalke. His film, Raja Harichandra was released in 1913. The first talkie film in Tamil was released in 1931. From silent pictures, films progressed to talkies, colour films and today have reached a level that astonishes many. Though movies with sound tracks started hitting the screen in the 1930s, the period 1950 to 1960 provided the great turning point for Indian cinema. This period came to be known as its golden period.

During this period, more of Makkal Thilagam Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's films were released and he became a great star and found a permanent place in people's hearts. At a time when 'puranic' and epic stories dominated the silver screen, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. was responsible for the release of social films. The credit for shaping the film story and songs to bring about a social renaissance through films, goes to Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. The basic factor that elevated M.G.R. as a Puratchi Thalaivar was that he was a Puratchi Nadigar. He advised students like a teacher through songs like '*Nalla perai vanga vendum pillaigale; nam naadu ennum thottathilae naalai malarum mullaigalae*' ('Children! You should strive to get a good name as you are the flowers that will blossom tomorrow in the garden of our Country').

He made the country realize the importance of farmers through the song '*Kadavul ennum mudhalaali kandedutha*

*thozhilali vivasayee*' ('The toiling farmer is employer God's find').

He described the condition of workers by singing that they know the art of living within their means - ('*Iruppathai kondu sirappudan vaazhum ilakkanam padithavan thozhilaali*').

He underscored the rights of workers as well as their greatness through the song '*Naalai ulagai aalavendum uzhaikkum karangale; indha naadu muzhudhum malara vendum puratchi malargale*' (Labouring hands should rule the world to be; revolutionary flowers should bloom throughout the Country).

Puratchi Thalaivar sang of the good leaders the Country had got in - '*Buddhan, Yesu, Gandhi Pirandhadhu bhoomiyil edharkaaga, thozhaa - Ezhai namakkaaga*' (Why were Buddha, Jesus and Gandhi born on this earth, friend? For us, the poor!)

He focussed on the living conditions of fishermen in the song - '*Tharaimel pirakka vaithaan - engalai thanneeril pizhaikka vaithaan*' (God made us take birth on this earth, he made us survive on waters!)

None has declared his policy of secularism as Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. did, either before or after him till date - '*Ondre kulam endru paaduvom; oruvane devan endru potruvom*' (Let us sing that there is only one clan; let us praise God as being One).

Through such songs full of social themes, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. changed the cinema field from being a mere entertainment medium and proved that changes could be effected in society through films. His films played an important role in taking social ideologies to the people.

It is no exaggeration to say that only Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma established the film world's dominance in politics.

Film Directors who direct films to cater to people's tastes, cinematographers who bring alive before the eyes of the people the scenic spots in foreign countries and inland locations, poets and dialogue writers who show the way to society by creating awareness among people, art directors who convert barren landscapes into bungalows, make-up artists who have the great talent of transforming looks in a variety of ways, costume artists, stunt masters endowed with the skills of historic heroes, stunt personnel, dance directors and dancers who make people spellbound – these artists and the workers who work with them shoulder to shoulder formed an union in each sector for the protection of their rights. Twenty-two such unions were formed and FEFSI is the federation of these unions. This was started in 1967 for the welfare of cine workers. I am extremely happy to know that it was Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., for whom film world and politics were his two eyes, who was supportive of the formation of this set up. One of Puratchi Thalaivar's songs is: 'Let us discharge our duty without confusion; demand our rights unhesitatingly; come comrades - let us unite' (*Kadamai seivom kalangamale, urimai kaetpom thayangamale; varungal thozhargale; ondraai serungal thozhargale!*).

In consonance with this song, I am very happy to learn that this organization takes up with the authorities concerned the daily problems faced by the employees of the different sections of the film industry, about the salary and rights they should be given and achieves them; and that it also gets them welfare measures like educational, medical and housing facilities from the Central and State Governments.

In the initial days of the film industry, there were many studios and film shooting floors in Tamil Nadu. All films, including Hindi films were shot in Chennai. It is praiseworthy

that members of this organization contribute and also accomplish in the production of films in all the Indian languages – Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi, Bengali, Bhojpuri, Thulu and Punjabi. Times have changed and the number of studios in Tamil Nadu has also come down greatly. The film shooting floors are turning into apartments and commercial complexes. In this situation, it is commendable that a film shooting studio is being set up in the name of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. who proved that film artists and workers could jointly sow the seeds of community-oriented welfare ideas amongst the people and create awareness through cinema.

I wish to point out that naming their first film shooting floor as M.G.R. Centenary Film Shooting Floor, is an expression of FEFSI's gratitude for his support in establishing this organization. I am proud to know that this is the largest film shooting floor in India, being 110 ft. long, 100 ft. wide and 56 ft. high. Another noteworthy feature is that FEFSI has created this beautiful floor without raising loans from anyone but out of the proceeds of its own cultural programmes and from the donations given by its constituent unions.

All the members of the Federation deserve to be praised for this. I request FEFSI to construct such film shooting floors in other places in Chennai and across Tamil Nadu. By setting up more such floors, film producers can shoot their films locally without going to other places and cut down production costs. Producers of other language pictures also will make use of these floors our Tamil film industry workers will be assured of continuous employment. While referring to her connection with the film industry, Hon'ble Amma said: "Whenever I take over the administration as Chief Minister, I have been giving all the encouragement, assistance and support to the Tamil Film Industry." Amma's Government

that follows Hon'ble Amma's footsteps, also encourages and guides the Tamil film industry. Hon'ble Amma, implemented many schemes for the film sector. Due to time constraint, I cannot mention them all but I am duty bound to list at least a few of them.

1. For FEFSI office, Hon'ble Amma allotted space in the 100 ft. road. It is a proud matter that FEFSI office is functioning from that place.

2. I wish to point out that Hon'ble Amma, to encourage small budget film producers, increased the quantum of subsidy for such films and the ceiling on the number of films eligible for subsidy.

3. Hon'ble Amma introduced the single window system for granting permission for film shooting.

4. During Amma's rule, a scheme to grant financial assistance was implemented for film industry workers who met with accidents resulting in loss of life or disability.

5. Hon'ble Amma instituted awards in the name of late Nadigar Thilagam Sivaji Ganesan, for the picture that portrays women in an excellent manner and new awards for make-up artist, costumer, dubbing artistes, comedy actors (male and female) and character actor (male and female).

6. To stop video piracy, a separate wing has been created in Police Department. It was Hon'ble Amma who facilitated arrest of culprits engaged in video piracy under Goondas Act. Hon'ble brother mentioned here that pirated videos were circulating in a big way. To prevent this menace, the need for a rigorous law was felt even during Hon'ble Amma's days and the Goondas Act was brought in during her rule.

7. For the annual International Film Festival held in Chennai, Hon'ble Amma gave

a subsidy of Rs.50 lakh. Hon'ble Amma's Government continues to provide that subsidy.

Hon'ble Amma gave many such concessions to the film industry. A majority of the demands placed before Hon'ble Amma by the film industry have been implemented. Amma's Government is similarly implementing different welfare schemes for the film industry. Still, the industry, by way of exhibiting its unity, is implementing many schemes on its own as through these film shooting floors. Their unity and perseverance will certainly fetch them victory. Swami Vivekananda said: "What is needed for victory is endless perseverance and extraordinary confidence." Your Federation's perseverance has brought about such a large film shooting floor.

"Unity is the key to Life; Unity brings achievement," are the sayings of the Wise. (*Ondru pattal undu vazhvu; Ottrumaiye uyavru tharum*). This body is the result of many unions joining together in a spirit of unity. Your organization is an example of the sense of unity. I am extremely happy to know that the unity exhibited and the joint efforts put in by the unions in your organization has brought about this M.G.R. Centenary Film Shooting Floor, the largest in India without taking any external aid. This excellent film shooting floor has been created as a result of the co-ordinated efforts put in by all of you. I am reminded of a story on the point of the excellence of unity.

There was a small village with a small population and with no adequate internal supply of wood. Even for cooking it had to procure firewood from other towns at high cost. Once, because of heavy rains no merchant turned up at the village to sell firewood and cooking became a difficult task.

At the bidding of their mother, two young boys in a house in that village, went to their garden to fetch dry branches of trees.



On account of the rains, heavy tree branches had fallen off and they could not lift them. At that time, they saw a big, dead worm being dragged by a cluster of ants. “How are such tiny ants able to drag the worm,” asked the younger boy. “If there are enough ants, they can drag away even a snake,” replied the elder brother. As the worm was being dragged away, it often slipped and rolled down. At times, some ants got trapped beneath the worm. But other ants jerked the worm and saved the ants. The ants never exhibited any tiredness at all. Even as the boys were looking, the ants dragged away the worm to a long distance.

The boys became spirited. “Elder Brother, are we inferior to these ants? Go and fetch your friends. Let us all together pull this tree branch to our house”, said the younger boy. In this way, they took the tree branch to their house. They narrated to their mother what had happened. The mother stressed the importance of unity. “There is great strength in unity. If you are united, even the hardest work can be accomplished. If there is unity amongst you, you will be happy and your work can be completed easily. So, understand that strength is in unity. Unity is the key to Life”, said the mother. She also distributed portions of the tree branch to the households of the children who

had helped to bring it to the house and thus also helped other families to cook.

So my hearty congratulations to you all in the realization that you, the members of the FEFSI federation have succeeded due to your perseverance.

On this auspicious day, I heartily greet the Tamil film industry and want it to reach greater and greater heights. I want film workers to get all the good things of life and lead a happy life. On this occasion, I share the happy news that the film awards distribution function will be held soon.

Speakers at the function placed many demands to Government. Today many workers do not own a house. Hon’ble Amma prepared a scheme for a slum-free State. Amma’s Government is implementing that scheme. This Government is taking steps to construct several lakhs of houses. Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister has also spoken to me about this. After examining what sort of houses should be constructed for film industry workers and in what way assistance can be extended to them, Amma’s Government will help you soon as per law and as per your wishes.

The State Government celebrated the centenary of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi

Thalaivar M.G.R. in all District headquarters. We had announced it would be held in 30 Districts and as per the announcement the celebrations have been held, we have met the people of those Districts, understood their basic needs and announced schemes to meet those needs at the centenary functions held in those places. We are implementing those schemes one by one.

One of those announcements is the release of prisoners who have spent 10 years in prison, subject to court rules and regulations. I am happy to state that about 600 persons have been released so far. It is estimated that some 1,000 more persons are awaiting release. Amma's Government is taking steps to release them gradually after examining their cases.

Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Amma were the kingpins of our Movement. We will ever keep it in mind that they belonged to the film world. Both these great leaders ruled Tamil Nadu for about 26 years and implemented many schemes for the general public and for the film industry. Though they are no more, I wish to state that Amma's Government continues to implement all their schemes.

In his speech, Thiru.R.K.Selvamani had detailed the problems faced by the executives of the 23 Unions of the Federation. The film industry is a family and it is a family function. Producers, Directors, Actors and workers are here. The entire film industry family is here. This is the first function the industry has got up and I have participated in the function. Federation President Thiru. Selvamani suddenly sought permission one day to present an invitation and gave me this invitation at my house.

I was born in a farmer's family. Respected Deputy Chief Minister also hails from a farmer's family. So, we know very well what hardship is. We also know very well how much difficulty the working class is undergoing.

There are so many ways to enter politics. But we have come up to this position through hard work, like you. The pain, the difficulty can be known only when you engage in work. Your Federation President has beautifully hinted at the difficulties undergone by the 23 unions and the pain being experienced by them. We know all these things. We have moved with you; we have come up through hard work. I wish to point out that Amma's Government always gives priority to work.

There was a request for an auditorium by the side of this Floor. I came here to declare open Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary Film Studio but many demands are awaiting me here. Only now, I have come to know that the film industry has so many demands. But, as this is the first film industry function that I am participating, I concede to your request and declare happily that Amma's Government will grant the demanded Rs.5 crore for the construction of the auditorium to be named after Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Whenever film actors, directors and executives of this Federation meet me, they place many demands. After consulting the Minister concerned, Amma's Government will gradually fulfill those demands. In the context of two great leaders, Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma hailing from the film world and giving an excellent rule for 26 years, Amma's Government will compassionately examine your requests and implement them. I take leave of you thanking the Federation President respected Thiru. Selvamani, executives of all the constituent unions of the federation for organizing this function in an excellent and inspiring manner and the people who have turned up for the function.

Nandri! Vanakkam!



# Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Rs. 2 crore elevated bridge in Karimangalam Union



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open an elevated bridge on the Natesankottai-Savulukottai Road in Karimangalam Union in Dharmapuri District, built at a cost of Rs.2 crore, from the Secretariat on 16.08.2018, through video conferencing on behalf of the Rural Development and Panchayat Department. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open 2 high-level bridges and a bridge, constructed at a cost of Rs.3.70 crore in Kancheepuram and Krishnagiri Districts.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, with a view to improving the living standards of people living in rural areas and local bodies, has developed infrastructure facilities, such as protected drinking water supply, health

facilities, road facilities and bridges, and built new buildings for damaged panchayat and panchayat unions through various schemes.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, inaugurated the high-level bridge that will benefit people in Natesankottai, Savulukottai, Naganampatti, Sanganampatti and Kottumaranhalli.

In addition, he opened another high-level bridge on the Perumbakkam-Nookampalayam Road in the St.Thomas Mount Union; a bridge on the Padappai-Needamangalam Road in Kundrathur Union in Kancheepuram District, built at a cost of Rs.80 lakh; and a high-level bridge on the Podur-Azhiyalam road in Shoolagiri Union in Krishnagiri District, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.80 crore. ■

# A thousand crore for manifold facilities for Greater Salem



*Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami in Salem on 31.08.2018 (English Translation).*

**P**aying obeisance to Goddess Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

The standard of education in Tamil Nadu, at present, is seen to be the highest in the whole of India as a result of the many schemes for students implemented by Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government. The number of students getting education has gone up. Amma's Government is translating Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's dream into reality. Conditions created by Amma's Government for students to get education in their own areas by opening more primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools, is the reason for the number of learners to go up. For students to get the best education, Amma's Government has provided various basic facilities at no cost like footwear, school uniform, notebooks, bicycle, laptops for intellectual learning and incentives for studying in S.S.L.C, Plus 1 and Plus 2 classes. By encouraging students in this manner, Tamil Nadu shines as the best State in education. I am proud to say that all these schemes that

were implemented during Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule are available to students today.

Likewise, Amma's Government has given all facilities in all schools to students like necessary school buildings, additional buildings, playgrounds, toilets and drinking water facilities. All facilities have been provided in Government schools on par with private schools. It is Amma's Government that has changed the notion that higher education and technical education are out of bounds for Government school students and created conditions for them to take up higher education and technical streams of education. Today, a situation has been brought about where, even students from ordinary families can take up higher education.

During Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's time, 65 Government Arts and Science Colleges were started. After Amma's demise, Amma's Government started 11 Government Arts and Science Colleges last year and provided an atmosphere where students

from poor families could prosecute their higher education. The AIADMK Government has given to students of Tamil Nadu, 76 Government Arts and Science Colleges and helped thousands of students to pursue higher education. In this year also, enrollment of students in colleges has gone up by 20 per cent. A Country's upward growth depends on education. Where educational growth is higher, whether it be a State or a Country, there, the economy will grow and peace and culture flourish. Amma's Government continues to provide such an education to students. It is said the learned person commands respect wherever he or she goes. Education alone is the wealth that remains with us throughout life. Among all types of wealth, education is the best. I affectionately appeal to students to acquire this wealth of education in their younger days itself. They should realize the condition of their parents as well as their duty to them and rise up in life.

Education can be pursued exclusively only in one's student days. The only wealth one accumulates in youth is education. On the Government's part, I wish to state that it is providing abundant facilities for education to students. In the times of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma many schemes were offered to students for improving their standard of life and the quality of their education. In the present Amma's Government more such facilities continue.

Plastic goods have already been banned in Salem city. Amma's Government has issued orders that 'use and throw' plastic goods should not be utilized. The ban comes into force from January 2019. Our Municipal Corporation Commissioners have already created a situation that is conducive for banning 'use and throw' plastic articles in Salem city. I congratulate them for this.

Salem Municipality was born in 1886. The first meeting of the Municipality was held under the presidency of the then British Collector Arbuthnott. He was the first Chairman of the Municipality. Salem Municipality had only 9 wards then. Now, there are 60 wards. Salem Municipality expanded gradually and became a large Municipality. In 1972, it was upgraded into Special Grade Municipality and was divided into 44 wards. In June 1994, it was upgraded into a Municipal Corporation. Accordingly, the number of wards rose to 60. Under Salem Municipal Corporation, 7 higher secondary, 3 high, 9 middle, 41 primary schools are functioning besides 60 nutritious meal centres.

To meet the drinking water needs of Salem Municipal Corporation, 1.20 crore litres of water through the Salem-Mettur old water supply scheme and 8 crore litres of water through the Mettur-Aathur scheme are distributed. The Salem Municipal Corporation is implementing many welfare schemes for the welfare of the people and many other schemes to make Salem city the premier city. I wish to share the happy news that I have today commissioned Green Parks set up at 9 places at a cost of Rs.4.11 crore for the use of people. They are located at Dharma Nagar, Keezhmempalam Nagar, Abirami Garden in Suramangalam region, Prakasam Nagar, Paraman Nagar, Kurinji Nagar, Kambar Street in Hasthampatti region, Ayyasamy Park in Ammapettai region and Abirami Garden in Kondalampatti region. With great satisfaction, I wish to state that footpaths for senior citizens and the general public to talk, walking practice platforms in the form of numeral eight (8), dhyana mandapam, herbal fields, courts for shuttle cock and basket ball games, gyms, paintings that will attract children, play tools for children, colour lights and other basic facilities including drinking water have been made available in these parks.



I am happy to state that Salem Corporation, in tune with the ban to be effected on plastic articles throughout Tamil Nadu from next January 1<sup>st</sup>, has banned the sale and use of 'use and throw' plastic articles in the shops in Bharata Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Central Bus stand and other old bus stands in its Municipal limits from 01.08.2018.

Municipal Corporation employees are the taproot of its growth and activity. The Corporation has been conducting medical camps for them to ensure their health so that they can execute their works in an effective way.

In many fields, Salem District remains as a model District. I wish to mention a few of the schemes implemented in Salem District in the last 8 years:

1. Under the Integrated Child Development Scheme, works valued at Rs.45.64 crore have been carried out;

2. Dwelling units, costing Rs.525.57 crore have been constructed through the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, benefiting 18,021 persons;

3. Local Bodies took up for execution 1,494 works valued at Rs.468.85 crore and completed 1,235 works;

4. The Public Works Department has executed 344 works costing Rs.251.25 crore;

5. 398 new buses have been put on road by the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation;

6. 3,14,417 works taken up by the Rural Development Agency under different schemes, have been executed at a cost of Rs.1,388.58 crore;

7. 333 scheme works worth Rs.111 crore have been implemented through the Tamil Nadu Rural Road Development Scheme;

8. The Highways Department has executed 944 works at a cost of Rs.1,088.59 crore through the Integrated Infrastructure schemes;

9. Through the Bank Link scheme, Rs.1,874 crore bank credit has been made available to 73,796 self-help groups.

The Tamil Nadu Government is taking various steps to protect the environment and make Tamil Nadu a plastic free State. As a follow up of this, I announced in the Legislative Assembly the proposal to ban 'use and throw' plastic goods in the State from 01.01.2019. To implement the ban, a guidance bureau has been formed under the leadership of the Chief Secretary to Government. At the District level, committees have been set up under the leadership of the respective District Collectors. As per the Government order, production, storage, transport, distribution, sale and use of banned plastic goods has been prohibited.

The ill-effects of plastic goods are many. It is found that use of plastic goods creates environment pollution. The 'use and throw' plastic goods are un-degradable and remain in the soil for a long time without undergoing any change. The use of plastic articles tends to affect the genes, pollutes water bodies and prevents percolation of the ground water. The following 'use and throw' plastic articles are banned: plastic paper, plastic table spreads, plastic plates, tumbler coated with plastic, plastic tea tumbler, plastic hand-bags, plastic coated hand bags and plastic water pouches. The alternatives that can be used in their place, are banana leaf, lotus leaf, plates made of areca palm leaf, glass, metal ware, cloth, paper, jute bags, paper and cloth bags, ceramic vessels, clay ladles and mud pots. The exhibition, got up in connection with this function, displays the health hazards of plastic articles. The articles that are to be used as alternatives for plastic goods are also displayed. I affectionately request the students who have come here, to convey these things to their parents.

The categories of plastic goods exempted from the ban are plastic bottles, plastic banners, plastic pouches for sale of milk, curd and oil, envelopes for medical goods and plastic container.

All Government offices are instructed to ban with immediate effect the 'use and throw' plastic articles and install display boards in their premises for people to know about the ban.

I wish to explain the road safety measures to be taken up by the Salem City Police Commissionerate. Road safety patrolling work is to be done by a separate set up altogether. As many schools in Salem District are located in congested roads, it is practically impossible to regulate the traffic with the constables on duty in such places. School students in such areas should be enrolled for the patrolling work, trained and deployed to regulate the traffic in those areas. Involving students in this work

was started in 1957 and following its success, many states adopted this scheme. This work was taken up in Chennai in 1982. Only a few private schools in Salem city have these road safety patrolling squads. By way of extending the scheme to all schools, 419 students from 33 Government schools, 19 Government-aided schools and 44 schools under the public, private participation mode in Salem city have been selected and are issued uniforms. In 2017, 214 persons had died in road accidents in Salem city; this year, 81 have died so far. The number of deaths in road accidents has come down this year. A sum of Rs.1,15,30,030 has been allotted as road safety fund in Salem city and various tools have been distributed out of this fund for reducing road accidents in Salem District. Accidents in Salem city have come down by half this year, compared to last year as 30 accident prone spots were identified and appropriate action was taken by implementing transport technology in those places. Students engaged in road safety patrolling should be trained in road regulatory rules for taking up road safety regulation work and they should create awareness about road safety. Besides becoming responsible citizens even when they are school students, they will imbibe the habit of respecting road rules. On this occasion, I wish to state that there will be upgraded works in future to avert road accidents.

I am happy to state that through this function, various welfare assistance through the Departments of Rural Development, Revenue, Agriculture, Horticulture, Backward and Minorities Welfare, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, Co-operation, Welfare of the Differently Abled and Public Health and Preventive Medicine, worth Rs.4,81,00,056 has been distributed today to 861 beneficiaries. Uniform to 1,500 students from 100 schools who are at present in road safety patrolling teams, will also be distributed today.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

**Hon'ble Chief Minister lists achievements  
at M.G.R. centenary function in Kanniyakumari**

# **Amma's Government 'has created many records, Opposition criticism baseless'**



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**  
at the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. centenary function held at Nagercoil,  
Kanniyakumari District on 22.09.2018 (*English Translation*).

**P**aying obeisance to Goddess Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Thiru. Dhanapal who delivered the Presidential Address at the centenary celebrations of Ponmana Chemma Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam who delivered an inspiring speech at the function, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha Dr. Thambidurai who delivered a special address, Hon'ble Central Minister of State for Finance and Shipping Thiru. Pon.Radhakrishnan who outlined the tasks to be carried out in this District, Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Assembly Thiru. Pollachi Jayaraman, Government

Chief Whip Thiru. Rajendran, Tamil Nadu Government's Special Representative at New Delhi Thiru. N. Thalavai Sundaram who proved that Kanniyakumari District is Amma's fort and was the sheet anchor for organizing this function with such excellence, Rajya Sabha Member Thiru. A. Vijayakumar, Chairperson of Tamil Nadu Text Books and Educational Services Corporation Tmt. B. Valarmathi, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board Thiru. P.K. Vairamuthu, Kanniyakumari MLA Thiru. S. Austin, Nagercoil MLA Thiru. N. Suresh Rajan, Colachel MLA Thiru. J.G. Prince, Padmanabapuram MLA Thiru. T. Mano Thangaraj, Vilavancode MLA Tmt. S. Vijayadharani, Killiyur MLA



Thiru.S.Rajesh Kumar, Secretary, Department of Tamil Development and Information Thiru. Venkatesan who delivered the welcome address, Kanniyakumari District Collector Thiru. Prashant Wadhere who is to propose a vote of thanks, MPs, MLAs, Executives of party headquarters, former Ministers, former MPs, MLAs, Representatives of Co-operative organizations, former representatives of Local Bodies, former Chairman of Tamil Nadu Wakf Board Thiru. A.Tamilmagan Hussain, party cadres who are the aerial roots of the party, Government officials, respected elders, ladies, youth, beneficiaries of welfare schemes, newspaper and media friends – at the outset I offer my respects to all of you.

Kanniyakumari is the sacred land where the three seas unite. Researchers say that Kumari Kandam which fostered Tamil language by establishing Sangam, was submerged by the sea. To indicate Mother Kumari was doing penance, Mahakavi Bharathiar sang beautifully: ‘Neela thirai kadal orathile, nittham thavam seiyyum kumari’ (‘On the verge of the blue sea, kumari is doing penance daily’). The District, named after that Mother, is Kanniyakumari District. It is said this place came to be called Kanniyakumari as Parvathi Devi, in one of her incarnations, could not marry Lord Siva and did penance here as a maiden.

I am extremely happy to participate in the Hon’ble Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. centenary function being held at the Kanniyakumari District.

People of Nanjil Naadu and Eda Naadu who lived as Tamils in language and culture wanted to integrate with Mother Tamil Nadu. Kunjan Nadar, Chidambaram Pillai, Sivathanu Pillai, Nathaniel, Abdul Razak, Chidambaranadhan Nadar, Thanulinga Nadar, Ponnappa Nadar, Ramasamy Pillai and many others stood by Marshal Nesamony in this agitation for merger with Tamil Nadu. Kanniyakumari District was born on account of this agitation by these Thyaga Chemmels on November 1, 1956. By way of commemorating Father of Kumari, Marshal Nesamony, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., set up Nesamani Transport Corporation with Nagercoil as headquarters in the year 1983.

Not merely the three seas but three religions also unite here. Ancient places of worship belonging to the three religions are here.

Kumari District shines as a land of spirituality due to innumerable holy places like Kanniyakumari Bhagavathi Amman Kovil, Mandaikadu Bhagavathi Amman Kovil, Kollengode Bhagavathi Amman Kovil, Suchindhram Thaannumaalaya Perumal Kovil, Keralapuram Adhisiya Vinayagar temple,



Parakkai Madhusoodhana Perumal Kovil, Padmanabapuram Ramaswami Kumara Kovil, Vellimalai Murugan Kovil and Chitharal Jain Malai Kovil.

The old Christian places of worship like Kottaru Xavier church, raised in commemoration of the arrival of St. Xavier, Kanniyakumari Alankara Upakara Annai church, Rajavur Athidhoothar St. Michael church, Muttom All Saints church add glory to this District. Islamic centres of worship – the most ancient Eid prayer spot at Ilankadai, the Dargah at Thuckalay where Peer Mohammed, considered to be one of the Siddhas, attained Samadhi, Thiruvithancode Mohammed Saheb Dargah are all famous. A number of tourist centres like Mathur Aqueduct, Maruthuvamalai, Mukkoodal, Murugan Kundram, Muttom beach, Sanguthurai beach, Thengaipattinam beach, Padmanabapuram palace, Suchindram, Thirparappu falls, Thiruvattaru, Ulakkai falls and Udhayagiri Fort lend a speciality to Kumari District.

The Ayya Vazhi alias Vaikundasamy Movement, a 19<sup>th</sup> century religion, originated in Kanniyakumari District. The Ayya Vazhi Vaikunda Samy Temple that sowed the seed of social reform, is in Sami Thoppu. Tourists from all over India come to Kanniyakumari, the southern-most tip of India, to see the sun rise in the morning and set in the evening.

A commemoration mandapam has been constructed here to recall Swami Vivekananda's

visit in 1892 and getting enlightenment on Sripada rock. A mandapam has been constructed here to commemorate the immersion of Mahatma's ashes. The mandapam has been designed in a way as to get sun's rays on October 2.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s centenary function should have been conducted in Kanniyakumari District last year itself but that could not happen as the District was affected unexpectedly by the Ockhi cyclone. Now, the function is conducted in an excellent way with the great support of the people of Kanniyakumari District.

When we are celebrating the centenary function of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., the tap root of this Movement, it will be appropriate to recall the connection between the son of the soil of this District Kalaivanar and Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

Already, our Speaker of the Assembly has mentioned about it. On my part, I wish to mention a few things.

Kalaivanar N.S. Krishnan was a great philanthropist who profusely distributed his earnings from the films he had acted to the poor, those who sought his help and to voluntary organizations; he used films to spread ideas of social reform. I wish to particularly mention what is proudly said about this philanthropist by another philanthropist Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. in his book 'Naan yen piranthen' (Why I was born).

Puratchi Thalaivar proudly mentions in the book that 14.04.1972 was a particularly happy day in his life as he had the good fortune of declaring open a statue of the late Kalaivanar N.S. Krishnan, a genius among artistes, on that day.

“Perarignar Anna had declared open Kalaivanar’s statue in earlier times; the stature of Kalaivanar went up because Arignar Anna declared open his statue. My stature has gone up because I have declared open Kalaivanar’s statue today”. Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. said that this description is an index of each other’s stature, adding that it was the first time he was seeing such a large concourse of people.

In his book, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. mentions that Kalaivanar changed the very definition of a comedian from a long-held notion of buffoonery to one weighed with the responsibility of inducing people to think even while making them laugh.

“Can you mention an event in your life which makes you happy and laugh while recalling it?” was the question asked of Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. during an interview to a newspaper. Puratchi Thalaivar replied: “Some of Kalaivanar’s actions would strike wonder. Once, the Nadhawara maestro Thiruvaduthurai Rajarathinam Pillai was setting out for a performance. Generally, music vidwans rehearse for some time in the house before leaving for the performance. Kalaivanar was there at that time and urged Pillai to start. Rajarathinam Pillai retorted: “Is rendering nadhaswaram a plaything for you. Do you know how difficult it is? It is better to rehearse and start.” Kalaivanar chuckled and said: “A difficult instrument.” “You seem to think it is easy; can you play the nadhaswaram,” asked Rajarathinam Pillai sternly. Kalaivanar received the nadhaswaram and played the

‘Sujana jeevana’ song mellifluously. We were astonished and stunned.

Who can question music maestro Thiruvaduthurai Rajarathinam Pillai with such courage? Is it not a wonder to completely play a song melodiously when confronted. There are many more such events”, said Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

Our Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was Puratchi Thalaivar’s political heir. On the path of her mentor, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma raised a new and magnificent Kalaivanar auditorium and declared it open with her own hands.

Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar had prophetically stated long back that Hon’ble Amma was his political heir through a line in one of his cinema songs ‘*Thiruvai Selviyo, Naan Thedia Thalaiviyo*’ (are you) the auspicious girl; the leader that I have been searching for). Acting on his hunch, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar made her the propaganda Secretary of the party at the Cuddalore conference. He also made her a Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1984.

In her maiden speech at Rajya Sabha, Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma spoke about the power position in Tamil Nadu and the need to devolve more powers to States. Perarignar Anna too, in his maiden speech at the Rajya Sabha spoke on the same subjects. Anna had been given seat 185 in the Rajya Sabha; Hon’ble Amma too got the same seat.

Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma toured the entire state and people’s participation in all her meetings was great. Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivar was very happy over this. He gained the hope that this Movement would continue for many more years after him.

In 1984, Puratchi Thalaivar went to the USA for treatment. At that time, election to the Legislative Assembly was declared. Hon’ble



Amma took up the election campaign as the heir of Puratchi Thalaivar and toured the entire Tamil Nadu to ensure that the AIADMK won and retained power. Her first meeting was in Andipatti, the constituency of Puratchi Thalaivar. Her campaign was received well by the people. It is history that later Hon'ble Amma too contested from this constituency and became the Chief Minister.

Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. quoted Perarignar Anna as saying – “The tax given by people should be used for their welfare. Be with the people, move with them, live with them, prepare plans for them and act on them. Go to the people and act.” “This is what I am doing. We are implementing Perarignar Anna’s policies in the way in which they should be implemented” said Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Hon'ble Amma and Hon'ble Amma’s Government also are functioning in the same way.

One of Puratchi Thalaivar’s song goes like this: “*Aadhi andhamum avaldhan; nammai aalum needhiyum avaldhan; agandhaiyai azhippaal; aatralai koduppaal – avalthaan Annai Maha Sakthi*” ‘She is the beginning and end; the code (needhi) that governs us is She; she destroys conceit, bestows capability. She is the Great Energy, Mother of all. In tune with this song, I am proud to say, our Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who shines as the ‘*Maha Sakthi*’ is guiding us and protecting us even today.

I wish to mention a few of the steps taken by Hon'ble Amma’s Government to restore normality in Kanniyakumari District after it was hit by the Ockhi cyclone.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, senior Ministers and officials rushed to Kanniyakumari and took up rescue operations on a war footing. I too undertook field inspection on 12.12.2017 and announced relief assistance.

- As livelihood assistance, Rs.15.37 crore was distributed to 30,756 affected fishermen families at the rate of Rs. 5,000 per family;
- The Tamil Nadu Government issued orders for distribution of wireless sets, costing Rs.62.14 crore for fishermen. In Kanniyakumari alone 2,150 fishermen have got the sets.
- Fishermen who went for deep sea fishing were hit hard and their boats were heavily damaged by the Ockhi cyclone. The Tamil Nadu Government undertook many rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures for removing the affected fishermen to safe places and for providing them necessary assistance .
- To bring the fishermen who had been washed ashore in distant States, back to Kanniyakumari District, senior I.A.S. officers were put in charge. For their safe return, diesel, up to a maximum of 1,000 litres was given to each power boat.
- Rs.4.80 crore was given as relief assistance to the bereaved families of

24 fishermen who had died in the cyclone at the rate of Rs.20 lakh per family.

- Taking into account the condition of the families of missing fishermen, rules were relaxed and Hon'ble Amma's Government distributed on 14.03.2018 Rs.27.60 crore to the heirs of 138 missing fishermen – Rs.10 lakh each by way of cheque and an equal amount by way of fixed deposit receipt, encashable in 6 months.

- As per the announcement made that jobs would be given to one in the families of fishermen who had died or were missing, I presented appointment orders to the heirs of 136 fishermen on 27.08.2018 and Amma's Government has thus protected them.

- Government has sanctioned Rs.8.44 crore as a relief measure towards the damaged boats of fishermen and other fishing tools.

- Rs. 1.50 crore was distributed to the families of 15 persons who were not fishermen but had died in different incidents caused by the Ockhi cyclone, at the rate of Rs.10 lakh each.

- For agriculturists affected by the Ockhi cyclone, Hon'ble Amma's Government issued orders for distribution of Rs.36.95 crore towards crop damage in respect of plantain, rubber, clove and other crops.

- Continuous work put in by Government employees of all Departments restored road traffic and drinking water distribution speedily.

- Realizing the importance of restoration of electricity, Hon'ble Amma's Government formed teams of chief engineers, officers and workers of the Electricity Board and sent them to particular areas; due to their tireless work, uninterrupted electricity supply was restored very quickly to all regions.

- Damaged 15,858 electric poles were replaced with new ones.

- New transmission lines to a length of 1,085 k.m. were installed.

- Nearly 100 damaged transformers were replaced with new ones. This helped in providing electricity connection to the Government Hospital and other important places in a single day. I am proud to say that it is Amma's Government which provided electricity connections to all Municipal areas in Kanniyakumari District on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day and to the rest of the District on the 5<sup>th</sup> day (after the cyclone havoc).

- As a result of this, other repair works were completed speedily and the District returned to normality in a short time.

- I have strongly urged the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to set up an Indian Coast Guard Station with a helicopter pad in Kanniyakumari District to rescue fishermen who go missing in the sea.

Through these measures, I hope, people will clearly understand that Amma's Government is always interested in people's welfare and that it is a Government that will approach the people directly. This Government adopts the policies of Perarignar Anna, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Hon'ble Amma and functions as per their guidelines.

Puratchi Thalaivar sang: "*Kalvikku saalai undu; noolukku aalaiyundu; naattukku thevai ellam naam thedalam. Tholukku veeram undu, thorkaadha gnanam undu, needhikku nenjam undu, naam vaazhalam. Sirikkum yezhai mugam paarkkalam, sindhum kanneerdhanai maatralam, vaarungal thozhargale, ondraai serungal thozhargalae*". ('There is an institution to impart education, a factory to produce yarn; let us fulfill the needs of the Country. Our shoulders symbolize valour; we have wisdom that can never be vanquished and a heart to do justice. We can live happily, see the poor smile and change the countenance that sheds tears.

Comrades come; let us unite'). As if to make these lines true, Hon'ble Amma and Hon'ble Amma's Government have accomplished many things in every Department in this District. I wish to mention a few of them.

Hon'ble Amma has left behind scientific education to Tamil Nadu. No State in India has reported about its efforts to provide scientific education, an intellectual education on par with global standards. But in Tamil Nadu, Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, distributed laptops at no cost to students so that they could get scientific education, comparable to that available in developed countries. Under this scheme, laptops worth Rs.118.29 crore have been distributed to students in this District.

A laptop costs Rs.14,000. There are many families which cannot afford this cost. Students born in those families may be intelligent but cannot purchase a laptop due to their family's economic condition. Amma has notched a new achievement by distributing laptops at no cost to such students so that they can get scientific education and develop their intelligence.

Under the scheme to distribute rice at no cost, 10,450 metric tonnes of rice is distributed every month to 5,27,164 family card holders. Under the Housing for All scheme, 24,987 houses are being constructed in Municipalities and Town Panchayats in this District at a cost of Rs.821.67 crore with the approval of the Central Government. So, Amma's Government is removing the non-availability of houses for people in Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporation areas in Tamil Nadu.

For the creation of safe fishing infrastructures for fishermen in Kanniyakumari District, a new fishing harbour was set up at Colachel at a cost of Rs.96.72 crore and the Chinnamuttam fishing harbour was developed at a cost of Rs.81.22 crore and were brought to use of by

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Also, a new fishing harbour at Thengaipattinam at a cost of Rs.97.04 crore is about to be completed. Amma's Government is providing relief to the tune of Rs.56.88 crore per year for Kanniyakumari District fisherfolk – Rs.14.32 crore as lean season relief, Rs.14.64 crore as ban period relief and Rs.27.94 crore under the fishermen and fisherwomen savings relief scheme. The Bharat Ratna Dr. M.G.R. Commercial Complex for flower, set up at cost of Rs.3 crore at Thovalai and the Integrated Agricultural Extension Centre (Rs.1.50 crore) were declared open by me. I can list many more things. Due to time constraint, I have stated only a few.

I am extremely happy to participate in this pleasant function held in Kanniyakumari District, meet you all, my affectionate brethren, share my views with you, lay the foundation for new schemes, declare open the completed schemes and distribute welfare assistance.

I have today declared open buildings costing Rs.13.07 crore inclusive of the integrated workers' office building at Nagercoil, constructed by the PWD at a cost of Rs.6 crore, providing basic facilities in Palukal Government High School which covers constructing class room and a veterinary dispensary at Variyoor. I have laid foundation for works worth Rs.31.34 crore inclusive of construction of fish landing platforms in the villages of Pozhikarai, Kesavanputhenthurai and Pallamthurai at a cost of Rs.12 crore on behalf of Fishing Harbour Division (Scheme), Nagercoil.

I will be distributing welfare assistance of various Departments worth Rs.67.26 crore to 14,911 beneficiaries in Kanniyakumari District.

Within a short period after taking over administration, Hon'ble Amma's Government has been implementing schemes worth several thousand crores. Also, innumerable welfare schemes like 'kudimaramathu' scheme to

improve the storage capacity in water bodies and distribution at no cost of enriched sediments to meet the fertilizer needs of farmers are also being implemented.

People have fully understood the achievements of this Government. But a few find fault with this Government and hurl unnecessary challenges. When I think of it, I am reminded of a story.

Bhagawan Buddha disseminated moral principles. Some accepted them and praised him; others did not accept them and abused him; they verbally lashed out at him.

One day, Buddha went to a town and a person abused him harshly there. With a smile on his face, the Buddha invited him to come and sit by his side. The man obliged.

“Friend, is it your habit to take some thing when you go to see a person?” Buddha asked. “Yes; I take fruits”, he replied. “If the person you went to meet, declined to accept your fruits what will you do with them?” Buddha asked. “I will return taking back the fruits,” he replied. Buddha immediately said: “That is what you are going to do now. To abuse is your freedom; it is my freedom to accept or decline it. I don’t accept your abusive words. As you take back the fruits, you take back these abuses also.” The person realized his mistake, fell at the feet of Buddha and sought pardon. In due course, he also became a disciple of Buddha.

The criticism against Hon’ble Amma’s Government is also like this – it has no basis. Hence, as Bhagawan Buddha stated, I too, wish to state that all the criticism will recoil on them. This applies to the Leader of the Opposition also.

I am very happy to make announcements that will benefit the people of Kanniyakumari District. Brother Radhakrishnan, our former Minister and now Government’s special

representative at Delhi Thiru. Thalavai Sundaram, our two State Secretaries, former MPs, MLAs and Executives of our party requested me to announce schemes for Kanniyakumari District when I visit the District. I told them that the AIADMK has representation from all Districts in the Assembly but not from Kanniyakumari. They replied when they extended the invitation for the centenary function in Kanniyakumari District: “Come and see; we will make you say that Kanniyakumari District is Amma’s fort.” They have demonstrated what they had stated. I thank them profusely. This District’s party executives, volunteers and the general public have proved that Kanniyakumari District is not lagging behind other Districts in any way.

In Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma’s rule alone many schemes have been implemented. He (Thiru. Stalin) has assumed office as the new President of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. He is the Leader of Opposition also. All his talk is full of lies. If a doctorate degree is to be given for speaking lies, it should be given to Stalin. If a mike is available, it has become his habit to hurl bags of lies against the AIADMK Government. Not a single thing he utters is true. Recently, he talked about various issues. During Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi’s rule and after her demise in Amma Government’s rule, many steps have been taken to make Tamil Nadu the premier State in India and we have been toiling for that day and night.

For 50 years, we have been fighting the Cauvery Water issue. It started in Ponmana Chermal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.’s rule; Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma waged a court battle; Amma’s Government brought an end to the 50 years battle through the Supreme Court. We have a got verdict from the Supreme Court. We have brought peace to delta farmers. I wish to point out that steps taken by Amma’s

Government have fetched us a good judgment from the Supreme Court in a legal way.

Likewise, we have implemented the National Food Safety Act. We are acting in collaboration with the Central Government for setting up airports in many places under the UDAN scheme.

To improve the livelihood of coconut farmers, production of 'Neera' has been permitted. This follows a representation from them, citing the present inadequate income. Production of Neera under licence has doubled their income now.

For agriculturists, many subsidy schemes have been implemented; 'kudimaramathu' scheme for the maintenance of water bodies and for protecting the soil fertility has been introduced. Farmers can dredge at no cost sediments from lakes and tanks in their places. This announcement was made only by Amma's Government. Earlier, not a tractor load of sediments could be excavated. That has been changed and today farmers remove the sediments from lakes and tanks and apply it as natural fertilizer in their fields. They benefit in two ways. One, by dredging the sediments, the lake is deepened. The monsoon rain water is stored fully. Secondly, the sediment is used as a fertilizer in the farmers' fields.

We are laying more roads all over Tamil Nadu. Wherever people demand road bridges, Amma's Government fulfils most of their demands. This has not been done at any point of time earlier and is making Tamil Nadu a traffic congestion-free state.

To protect the environment, an eco-tourism policy and a State tourism policy have been released.

Ban on plastic has been announced and is to be implemented. The ban has been necessitated as use of plastics promotes health hazards. People also requested the total ban of plastics. Acceding to the request, Amma's Government

issued orders that one-time use plastic goods should not be used in the State from January 2019.

I am happy to state that people feel consoled at the immediate disbursal of relief by this Government in the event of accidents and unexpected deaths.

I wish to state that 1,511 lakes have been identified for the 'kudimaramathu' works and the works have been started. Likewise Amma's Government has framed a 3-year scheme for preventing rain water – even a drop of it – from wastefully flowing into the sea. It has allotted Rs.1,000 crore for this scheme and proposes to spend Rs.350 crore this year for construction of 75 check dams and 7 anaicuts. Works on them have commenced today.

We have devised a very big scheme in the Public Works Department for developing water resources in the State. After some monsoons, farmers do not get the required water for irrigation; drinking water also is not available. Hence, Amma's Government has set up a committee of retired engineers for preparing a scheme to save the monsoon rains fully. This committee will visit every District and submit a report to the Government on the type of check dams to be constructed in Districts and how the lakes are to be deepened, strengthened and rectified. On the basis of this report, Amma's Government will take steps to construct check dams to prevent monsoon rains from going waste. Also, steps will be taken to deepen lakes and tanks that need to be deepened. The committee will also recommend to the Government the linking of rivers in the State. Hence, a Water Resources Development Section has been set up to create conditions, through this committee, for us to use the rain water without wasting it. Works have been started on this.

Delta District farmers complain every year that water has not reached the tail-end. To put an end to this, an I.A.S. officer in the rank of a Joint

Secretary has been appointed on a permanent basis. He will visit every delta District, assess the situation there and take appropriate action for tail-end farmers to get water.

This District is full of educated persons.

It has the highest percentage of educated persons in the whole of Tamil Nadu. I feel this is the place to say what I want to say. Well-to-do students join and study in private colleges. Economically deprived students are unable to do so. Hon'ble Amma started 65 Government Arts and Science Colleges for such students to complete their graduation. Amma's Government, following the path of Hon'ble Amma started 11 Government Arts and Science Colleges, taking the total to 76. Besides, 41 University Constituent Colleges also have been upgraded as Government colleges. Enrollment in higher education, at the National Level, is 25.8 per cent. But in Tamil Nadu, with an enrollment percentage of 48.60, I am proud to say, Amma's Government, got the honour of occupying the premier place in the whole of India in admissions to higher education. This is due to the revolution, renaissance brought about by Hon'ble Amma in the field of education, by starting new Government Arts and Science Colleges and many other colleges like Engineering, Polytechnic, Medical and Agriculture on behalf of the Government.

This year, Amma's Government has started 20 new primary schools in villages and hilly areas with a view that there should be no region without a school. Moreover, 100 middle schools have been upgraded into high schools and 100 High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools. Amma's Government has created conditions in those places for students for taking up higher studies. In the education Department, more funds have been allotted to the school education sector. Allotting an unprecedented amount of Rs.27,205.88 crore to the Education

Department this year, Amma's Government is making available high quality education to Tamil Nadu students.

Within two minutes of releasing the results of the Government public examination, marks obtained by students are sent to them through SMS. This is a historic achievement.

Fourteen types of welfare assistance were given by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to Government school students at no cost; she also added mixed rice in the nutritious meals menu for driving away fatigue in students while learning.

As for teachers' appointment, 4,362 lab assistants and 2,373 post graduate and special teachers have been appointed. In the last 6 years, 40,430 teachers and 15,169 part time teachers have been appointed.

So, the Leader of the Opposition M.K.Stalin should know all these things. He neither reads nor listens to what we say. He talks only what his partymen give him in writing. All the Ministers here, inclusive of Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister have received many awards in their respective fields of activity. We have received awards in the fields of agriculture, local bodies, electricity and health. The Leader of the Opposition should understand the level of administrative efficiency in Tamil Nadu if we get National Awards Department-wise. It is no easy task to get National Award. As we have worked more efficiently than other States, we have received awards today in every field. In the activities of every Department we are amassing awards. The opposition party alone is unable to see it. Not merely getting awards, I wish to point out the benefits people derived on account of our efficiency in these Departments.

❖ In the last 7 years, 254 primary health centres have been opened at a cost of Rs.221.30 crores as it is Government that should provide adequate treatment to rural people, to

the poor, oppressed and marginalized people. The Leader of the Opposition should know this.

❖ In the last 7 years, 165 primary health centres have been upgraded as 'upgraded primary health centres' at a cost of Rs.190.37 crore. I wish to point out that upgradation includes facility to perform minor surgeries. I also wish to inform that 23,882 persons, have so far been recruited through the Medical Services Recruitment Board as doctors, nurses and other staff and appointed.

❖ The maternity and infant mortality rates during delivery of babies, have been very greatly reduced due to the excellent work of the Department of Public Health of Tamil Nadu Government. Tamil Nadu has accomplished a Himalayan feat by realizing the 2030 goals of standard growth, 14 years earlier. Is it not an achievement?

❖ For 3 consecutive years, Tamil Nadu has received the Central Government's award for being the premier State in India in Cadaver Organ Transplant Surgery and established a record. I am duty-bound to congratulate the doctors for this.

❖ So far, 6,708 organs have been received by way of donation from 1,171 donors in Tamil Nadu.

Twenty-nine-year-old Thiru.Narayanasamy of Dindigul District lost both his hands in 2015 after he was electrocuted. Hands of a brain-dead person were received as donation and transplanted to Narayanasamy and today he is in good health. It is Amma Government's feat to have restored in a Government Hospital, both the hands of a person through cadaver surgery in the whole of India. Medical services have flourished and reached great heights in Tamil Nadu alone in the country. The Leader of the Opposition is accusing such a Government that has created manifold records as a non-

performing Government. Through this event, I wish, he should enquire and get to know about all these things.

Not only this; the 'Centre for Public Affairs' based in Bengaluru has ranked Tamil Nadu, in its report for 2018, as the second Best State in governance, on the basis of socio-economic development. Like this, Hon'ble Amma's Government continues to record many achievements in all Departments.

The Opposition parties, here, will neither accept or appreciate all these things. Still Amma's Government will never swerve from its duty by Tamil Nadu people. Political charges alone are levelled against the present Hon'ble Amma's Government; I am happy to say that scheme works are being executed speedily.

Some MLAs of this District presented petitions to me yesterday. The demands in them will be gradually implemented.

Expressing my gratitude again and again to all the good hearts who remained as the base for the conduct of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R's centenary function so excellently and inspiringly at Nagercoil in Kanniyakumari District and recalling proudly a line of Puratchi Thalaivar's song "*Engal aatchi endrum vazhum indha mannile*" ('Our rule will ever remain in this soil'),

Anna Naamam Vazhga! Valarga Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. avargalin pugazh! Thodarga Manbimigu Amma avargalin aatchi!

Nandri; Vanakkam.

### **Special Announcements for Kanniyakumari District**

1. The annual tourist flow to Kanniyakumari alone totals 75 lakh. Of these tourists, only 22 lakh visit the memorial at the Vivekananda rock through boat. To provide transport facility for the rest of the tourists also, it is proposed to

buy 2 boats at a cost of Rs.6 crore. I am happy to say that two more boat landing quays will be created in the Vivekananda rock at a cost of Rs.20 crore for all the 3 boats to reach the rock simultaneously. Additionally, a rope car facility between Kanniyakumari and Vivekananda rock and a marine bridge between the Vivekananda rock and the one where Tiruvalluvar statue has been erected will be provided at a cost of Rs.120 crore with the participation of the private sector. When this is done, tourists can move around as they wish. I am happy to state that this will meet the requests of the people of Kanniyakumari District, particularly those in Kanniyakumari.

#### **Revenue and Disaster Management Department**

2. A new Killiyur Revenue Taluk will be set up with Killiyur as headquarters by dividing Vilavancode Taluk;

3. A new Thiruvattar Revenue Taluk will be set up with Seruppalur as headquarters by dividing Kalkulam Taluk;

#### **Energy Department**

4. To provide uninterrupted electricity supply to the people of Kanniyakumari District and to reduce the power load on Chenbagaramanpudur sub-station, a new 230/110 KV gas insulated sub – station will be set up at Thuckalay at a cost of Rs.368.45 crore.

#### **Municipal Administration & Water Supply Department**

5. After the delimitation committee completes its task, Nagercoil Municipality will be declared as a Municipal Corporation. In deference to the requests made by the Central Minister from Kanniyakumari District Thiru. Pon. Radhakrishnan, the Government's

special representative at Delhi and former Minister Thiru. Thalavai Sundaram, former MPs and MLAs of Kanniyakumari District, all the executives of the party, the general public and the people of Nagercoil, Government will take steps to elevate the Nagercoil Municipality into a Municipal Corporation.

6. The Azhagiyapandipuram combined water supply scheme will be extended to Kanniyakumari at a cost of Rs.40 lakh;

7. A check dam will be constructed across Pazhaiyaru at Thamaraikulam, Agastheeswaram Taluk at a cost of Rs.5.23 crore;

8. Groynes will be set up at Kovalam village (Rs.12.75 crore), Azhikkal village (Rs.10.10 crore) and at Periyannayaki street (Rs.7.66 crore) in Agastheeswaram Taluk in 2019-2020;

9. A groyne will be set up at Melmidalam village, Vilavancode Taluk at a cost of Rs.10.31 crore in 2019-2020;

10. Yet another groyne will be set up in the church area, east of Enaiyam village in Enaiyamputhanthurai Panchayat, Killiyur Union at a cost of Rs.9 crore;

11. A retaining wall to protect houses from sea erosion on either side in the foreground of the church in Marthandam Thurai village, Vilavancode Taluk at a cost of Rs.80 lakh in 2019-2020;

#### **Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department**

12. A new high level bridge will be constructed across Keeriparai river at the point 0/2 k.m. on Keeriparai Labour Colony road, Thadikarankonam, Thovalai at a cost of Rs. 4 crore in 2019-2020;

13. A new high level bridge will be constructed across Kizhaviyur river at the point 0/2 k.m. on Kuttiyur Thatchamalai road, Pechiparai, Thiruvattar at a cost of Rs.4 crore in 2019-2020;

14. The present damaged narrow bridge across Kanjiyaru at the point 0/2 k.m. on Kadukarai-Eraivipudur road in Thidal Panchayat area, Thovalai will be replaced by a high level bridge at a cost of Rs.2.60 crore in 2019-2020;

15. A new high level bridge will be constructed across Valliyur river at the point 0/2 k.m. on Thallakulam road from Eraniyal-Muttam road, Thallakulam, Kurunthancode at a cost of Rs.2 crore in 2019-2020.

#### **Highways & Minor Ports Department**

Vilavancode MLA has requested the laying of several roads in his constituency. I wish to state that those roads are being taken up and implemented through CRF in stages.

16, 17, 18 – A culvert will be constructed on Perunchalvilai road at the point 1/6 k.m. at a cost of Rs.1 crore; another on Vattakottai-Amsi road at the point 6/6 k.m. at a cost of Rs.45 lakh and yet another on the Kunjiruppuvilai – Madhapuram road at the point 0/6 k.m. at a cost of Rs.35 lakh;

19. A flyover will be constructed on the National Highway No.47 at Kottar-Chettikulam area at a cost of Rs.340 crore; Amma's Government is to allot Rs.90 crore for land acquisition works for this project;

20. A detailed project report is being prepared at a cost of Rs.89 lakh for construction

of a high level bridge on National Highway no.47 B at Vadasery-Ozhiginaseri areas.

21. Eight minor bridges will be developed at a cost of Rs.159 lakh under the CRIDP plan for 2018-2019, coming under the Highways Construction and Maintenance Unit.

22. To replace the railway level crossing No.15B between the railway stations Kuzhithurai and Eraniel at the point 1/8 k.m. on Marthandam-Karungal road and railway point 259/500-600 k.m. a road over bridge will be constructed.

#### **Public Health and Family Welfare Department**

23. In deference to the requests made by many persons, I convey the happy news that the number of seats for the MBBS course in the Kanniyakumari Government Medical College will be increased to 150 from the present 100 seats.

24. For the Kanniyakumari Medical College Hospital ultra modern ancillary equipment costing Rs.8.82 crore will be supplied; a Cath Lab equipment costing Rs.3.50 crore and 5 ultra modern dialysis equipment costing Rs.42.50 crore will be installed.

25. Twenty hygiene and health centres will be set up at Thovalai Taluk of Kanniyakumari District at a cost of Rs.2.68 crore;

26. Vilavancode Government Hospital will be developed through supply of medical equipment like digital radiography instrument and ultra-sound testing equipment

# Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for Ramasami Padayachiyar Manimandapam



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palanisami at the Secretariat in Chennai on 14.09.2018, laid the foundation stone on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, for a manimandapam with a life-size bronze statue of freedom fighter and social justice veteran Ramasami Padayachiyar at Manjakuppam in Cuddalore District, to be built at a cost of Rs.2.15 crore.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been setting up and maintaining memorials, memorial houses, manimandapams

and monuments for those who made great sacrifices for the country.

The late leader Ramasami Padayachiyar, who lived for the people, was born on September 16, 1918 in the then South Arcot District, now known as Cuddalore District. Thiru. Ramasami Padayachiyar was elected to the Tamil Nadu Assembly from the Cuddalore Constituency in the year 1952 and to the Lok Sabha from Tindivanam in 1980 and 1984. He was the Minister for Local Administration from 1954 to 1957 when Perunthalaivar Kamaraj was the Chief Minister of the State. Apart from people's welfare, the late Ramasami Padayachiyar also worked for social justice.



He was the first to start Most Backward Classes wing and adopt a resolution demanding 20 per cent reservation for Vanniyars in the State and 2 per cent reservation in the Centre at the Toilers' Party conference.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami made a statement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly on 29.06.2018 that the Tamil Nadu Government, with a view to honouring the late Ramasami Padayachiyar, who was a freedom fighter and who worked for social justice, his Birth Anniversary

on September 16 will be celebrated as a Government function every year.

On 19.07.2018, while participating in the opening of the Mettur Reservoir for irrigation, Salem District, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami said the unparalleled leader Ramasami Padayachiyar, who lived and died for the people, would be honoured by the Tamil Nadu Government by erecting a manimandapam at his birth place in Cuddalore with a full-size bronze statue.

# Hon'ble Chief Minister declares open 838 tenements, costing Rs.139.63 crore



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing, at the Secretariat on 16.08.2018, 236 low income group tenements, constructed at a cost of Rs.69.57 crore for the C and D Employees under the self-financing scheme at Paadikuppam in Tiruvallur District, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open 602 multi-storied apartments of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, constructed at a total cost of Rs.70.06 crore.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a statement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly on 15.09.2015, that under 'Own your house scheme' for Government employees, multi-storied tenements would be constructed for the C and D employees at Paadikuppam in Chennai through Tamil Nadu Housing Board.

Following this announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open the 236 tenements that have a built-in area of 620 sq.ft. to 644 sq.ft. with each flat having two bedrooms, a hall, kitchen, attached toilet and bathroom, drinking water, sewerage and power supply.



In addition to these buildings, the following tenements were also opened: Under Tamil Nadu Housing Board, 35 low-income group multi-storied tenements, at a cost of Rs.10.41 crore at Korattur in Tiruvallur District;

Under Mogappair Lake scheme in Tiruvallur District, 20 multi-storied flats for the higher income group on self-finance scheme, built at a cost of Rs.10.44 crore; 11 individual houses, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.80 crore, for the middle income group at Sevvapet in Tiruvallur District;

At Velachery in Chennai 24 multi-storied flats under self-financing scheme for the middle income group, constructed at a cost of Rs.6.81 crore;

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board in Thanjavur City for a section of people who were living in slums, 256 multi-storied tenements, constructed on a 2.47 acre plot at Thanjavur Pillaiyarpatti – Scheme III, built at a cost of Rs.10.48 crore, with the built-in area of each flat being 371 sq.ft.;

In Ramanathapuram, 256 ground plus two-storied flats in Pattinamkathan Scheme area, built at a cost of Rs.21.12 crore, on a 3.07 acre site with built-in area of each flat being 400 sq.ft.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open totally 838 tenements, costing Rs. 139.63 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board.

## 140<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Thanthai Periyar



In connection with the 140<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Thanthai Periyar, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.O.Panneerselvam**, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs and high Government officials, paid floral tributes to a portrait of Periyar kept near his statue on Anna Salai, Chennai on 17.09.2018.

*Inaugurating PHC at Koneripatti, Hon'ble Chief Minister asserts...*

## **Amma's Government 'stands by farmers, makes medical facilities, education available for poor'**



*Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu*

*Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami after declaring open a Primary Health Centre at Koneripatti in Edappadi Assembly constituency on 30.08.2018 (English Translation).*

**B**owing to Goddess Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Amma,

Ever since Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Amma's Government took over the administration, it is paying full attention to Primary Health Centres (PHCs) with the lofty notion of providing necessary medical treatment to the rural population. Likewise, the existing PHCs are upgraded when more patients turn up. So much so, the Health Department has left its brilliant imprints throughout Tamil Nadu. At the All India level, the State remains the premier State in the field of medicine.

After the demise of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Amma's Government followed her path and opened PHCs at places which needed their services in each Panchayat

Union. In that way, a PHC has been opened at the central area of Koneripatti. This PHC will cater to about 50,000 people living in an 8 k.m. radius. Not only people from Salem District, but those from Erode District too can get treatment at this centre.

The PHCs set up during Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule in Salem District have all been upgraded as 'Upgraded PHCs' on account of the higher number of patients in the District. In Salem District alone, PHCs in 12 places like Nangavalli Union, Konganapuram, Chithoor, Vazhavandhi, Panaimarathupatti, Magundanchavadi, Ariyapalayam, Vallikarai, Vadugapatti, Thumbal and Belur, have been upgraded, adequate number of doctors posted and people get treated in them. Hon'ble Idaya

Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government has allotted Rs.9.42 crore for construction of buildings for the PHCs and these works have been completed.

Likewise, new PHCs are set up and new buildings are constructed for them. In Salem District, new PHCs have been set up at 11 places – Savariyur, Samudram, Koneripatti, Pakkanadu, Semmandapatti, Kootathupatti, Pachanampatti, Mattayampatti, Soolakurichi, Manjakuttai and Gundur – and new buildings have been constructed for them at a cost of Rs. 6 crore.

Also, Rs. 8.80 crore has been allotted for construction of the necessary additional buildings for PHCs. The buildings have been constructed at 5 places – Vazhavandhi, Nagalur, Soolankurichi, Karumanthurai and Thumbal.

On this occasion, I wish to state that Rs.178.64 crore has been disbursed under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme in the years 2011-2018, up to 29.08.2018 and 2,10,481 persons have benefited.

Amma's Government is shining as a Government protecting and nourishing the people. Tamil Nadu doctors have performed a feat in cadaver organ transplant by fixing two hands to a person from Dindigul District who had lost them. Today, he is fit enough to play basketball. No Government Hospital in India has performed such an operation.

I am happy to state that infant mortality and maternal mortality have come down during delivery of babies in Tamil Nadu. This is due to the steps taken by Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the assistance and treatment given to pregnant women, implementation of an excellent and wonderful medicare scheme and the excellent treatment given by doctors. With World Bank assistance, we have created a situation under which, with modern equipment and the best doctors, Government Hospitals offer excellent

treatment on par with private hospitals. Tamil Nadu is in the prime place at the National Level in offering medical services due to excellent treatment given by doctors.

Amma's Government is taking steps to provide adequate drinking water to people through combined water supply schemes in many places. During monsoon seasons, it seeks to divert the surplus water reaching the dam to different places in Salem District, fill up the lakes and tanks in those places, recharge the groundwater and meet the drinking water and irrigational needs. A permanent solution is found by pumping water from Mettur dam when the water level reaches the 120 ft. mark (full level) and conveys the surplus water to various areas like Mecheri, Nangavalli, Tharamangalam, Edappadi Union, Magudanchavadi Union, Konganapuram Union and Sankagiri Union in Mettur Assembly constituency. At Vellarivelli, with financial assistance from our MP Thiru. Panneerselvam and Rajya Sabha member Thiru. Arjunan of Nilgiris District, surplus water exiting from the East Bank Canal is pumped and conveyed to lakes; in the next 20 days they will be filled up. When the lake in Vellarivelli gets filled up, groundwater will be re-charged in all places up to Koneripatti and groundwater level will rise. We have framed such a scheme. A six-member committee of retired engineers has been set up to visit each District and assess the quantum of water wastefully draining in the sea during monsoon seasons and survey the places where check dams can be constructed across rivers, the places suitable for tapping water, the areas of distribution and the lakes that are to be filled up. This work is under way.

By saving rain water in lakes, tanks and Odais during the monsoon seasons, the groundwater level will rise. To do this work, Hon'ble Amma's Government allotted Rs.100 crore in the first phase and took up



1,519 lakes on an experimental basis. As it proved successful, 1,511 lakes have been taken up this year and Rs.328 crore has been allotted. These works are on. Amma's Government wants to do good to farmers; it wants to multiply water resources for them and to see that not a drop of rain water goes unused. To achieve these aims, it devised a wonderful scheme - 'kudimaramathu' - to save water in lakes, tanks and odais through check dams and supply it to people. Such is Amma's rule.

We have allotted Rs.1,000 crore for construction of check dams. This scheme will be implemented in 3 years. The idea is to raise the groundwater level by saving the water in odais and rivers which otherwise will go waste, by constructing check dams. In the first phase, Amma's Government has taken steps to construct this year 62 check dams at a cost of Rs.292 crore.

All required facilities have been made available for farmers today. Also, by dredging the sediments that have got deposited in lakes and tanks over several years, these water bodies are deepened, increasing the storage facility. The dredged fertile soil is also used by farmers as natural manure.

For 83 years, Mettur dam was not de-silted. Amma's Government took steps to de-silt the dam and every day 3,000 lorry loads

of dredged fertile soil are removed to be used as natural manure by farmers. We are creating historic achievements today. At this hour, I wish to point out that this Government is yours. It is the people's Government, it is the farmers' Government, it is a Government that will do all the good things needed for agriculture and a Government that toils for the prosperity of agriculture labour.

Wrong information is being spread that the usual Sunday shandy will be shifted from this place since a hospital (PHC) has been established here. A place will be earmarked for the operation of the Sunday shandy as usual. I wish to state that this shandy will not be shifted to some other place on any account.

Amma's Government has brought about a revolution, a renaissance in education. In the whole of India, only in Tamil Nadu, in Amma's rule, excellent schemes have been implemented in the field of education at a level not done by any other Government. Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma gave 65 Arts and Science Colleges; Hon'ble Amma's Government that functions on her lines opened 11 Government Arts and Science Colleges last year, taking the total to 76 Colleges and thereby created a condition where students from the poor and oppressed families can take up higher education in their own areas at a low fee.



At Edappadi too, a Government Arts and Science College has been constructed. About 1,350 poor students are studying there. Similarly, Amma's Government has opened a Polytechnic College at Vanavasi at a cost of about Rs.52 crore to cater to students who have no means to go to other places for study. Students from places around the college have scored high marks. As students can now go to the college straight away from their homes, all the seats have been filled up in this Government Polytechnic College. A B.Ed. College is to be opened at Ettikottai next year. Through this college, a situation will be brought about for students to get education at a low cost.

Steps are taken to set up a new industrial estate in Ettikottai region. This will create job opportunities and development will occur.

I wish to point out that a by-pass road for Edappadi Town was laid and the Town was made traffic congestion free due to the follow up action taken by Amma's Government on Amma's Assembly announcement on such a road.

In Edappadi, a divisional engineer's office of Highways Department and a similar office

of the Electricity Board have been opened. We have helped people in our region to meet High Officials directly. More than this, I consider it a happy augury to have declared open a Government Hospital in our region with Amma's blessings, with the District Collector presiding in the presence of Members of Parliament and the Legislative Assembly. The drudgery of travelling several miles to get medical treatment has been changed and Amma's Government has created facilities for being treated locally. If more patients turn up, Amma's Government will take steps to upgrade this PHC into an 'upgraded' PHC and a 30-bed hospital with facilities for performing surgeries.

I convey my thanks to the officials of the Health Department, to Hon'ble Minister for Health Dr Vijayabaskar, to party executives and volunteers for organizing this function excellently, to Government Officials, the District Collector, all the High Officials and to all the good hearts who have turned up here and take leave of you.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

# 13 Hostel Buildings and 9 Additional Classrooms for Adi Dravidar students



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 06.08.2018, declared open a girls hostel building for Adi Dravidar students at Sankarankovil in Tirunelveli District, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.11 crore, on behalf of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated on the occasion, 12 hostel buildings and 9 additional classrooms for Adi Dravidar school and college students, constructed at a total cost of Rs.19.22 crore.

To prevent Adi Dravidar and Tribal students from dropping out and helping them attain higher status in the society through education, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

has been offering free education, noon meal, bicycles at no cost, education kits at no cost, free uniforms, educational incentives and hostel accommodation to Adi Dravidar and Tribal Students.

In pursuance of such schemes, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the hostel building for Adi Dravidar girl students at Sankarankovil. The building, which has a 5,230 sq.ft. area with ground and first floor, can accommodate 50 girl students. It has a dining hall, kitchen, bathrooms and toilets, solar power facility and drinking water facilities.

In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister opened the following buildings: 8 hostel buildings for Adi Dravidar School students, one each in Gummudipoondi in Tiruvallur District, Vathirayiruppu in Virudhunagar

District, Serthanadu in Villupuram District, Thanthondrimalai in Karur District, Mayiladumparai in Theni District, Ettayapuram in Thoothukudi District, Nellikuppam in Kancheepuram District and Melaykudi in Ramanathapuram District, constructed at a cost of Rs.9.63 crore;

Four hostel buildings for Adi Dravidar College students at Kundavai Nachiyar College in Thanjavur District, Theni in Theni District, Krishnagiri in Krishnagiri District and Nannilam in Tiruvarur District, built at a cost of Rs.4.53 crore;

Nine additional school buildings for tribal residential schools, constructed at a cost of Rs.5.06 crore in Vachathi and Naripalli in Dharmapuri District and Moolakadu and Kottaputhur in Villupuram District and for Adi Dravidar Welfare schools in T.T.Mottur in Vellore District, Kadambankulam in Tirunelveli District, Melur in Tiruvallur District, Kaliyam in Tiruvannamalai District and Theevalur in Cuddalore District.

Totally, 13 hostel buildings and 9 additional school buildings costing Rs.20.33 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. ●

## 101<sup>st</sup> Birth Anniversary of Thiru. Ramasami Padayachiyar



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, paid homage to the respected Ramasami Padayachiyar on 16.09.2018, in connection with his 101<sup>st</sup> Birth Anniversary, by paying floral tributes to his portrait, placed near his statue in Halda, Guindy, Chennai. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister **Thiru.O.Panneerselvam**, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs and high Government officials were present on the occasion.

# Amma's announcement on foodgrain godowns fulfilled



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 06.08.2018 declared open a warehousing complex at Gobichettipalayam, constructed at a cost of Rs.5.58 crore on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also opened a workshed along with office building for the Namakkal District Co-operative Press, in Namakkal and a branch building of the Cuddalore District Central Co-operative Bank at Thittakudi, both constructed at a cost of Rs.1.48 crore, on behalf of the Co-operative Department.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a statement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly on 06.05.2013, that new warehouse godowns through the Tamil Nadu Warehousing

Corporation would be set up to store more foodgrains.

As per the announcement, on the warehousing complex with a 5,000 metric tonne capacity godown, office building, employees quarters and compound wall was opened at Gobichettipalayam in Pappireddipatti Division in Dharmapuri District.

The workshed along with office building for Namakkal Co-operative Press at a cost of Rs.68 lakh and a bank branch building of the Cuddalore District Central Co-operative Bank at Thittakudi at a cost of Rs.90 lakh were also opened.

All these costing Rs.7.06 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on behalf of the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department. ■

# Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary Building for School Education Directorate



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, laid the foundation stone on 06.08.2018, for the Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R. Centenary Building, to be constructed at a cost of Rs.39.90 crore, at the Directorate of School Education Complex in Chennai, through video conferencing from the Secretariat.

On the same occasion, school buildings for the high schools, higher secondary schools and library buildings in different Districts, all constructed at a total cost of Rs.111.69 crore were also inaugurated.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami had announced under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly on 19.06.2018 that the Directorate of School Education building at the DPI Complex in Chennai was more than 100 years old and it was difficult and expensive to maintain the old building.

As more and more Government staff and officials from various Districts are visiting

the Directorate Office, in connection with the implementation of various Government schemes and as more office space is needed to meet the demands of the increasing volume of work, it was decided to construct the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary Building to commemorate the Centenary Celebrations of the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Centenary building, to be constructed at a cost of Rs.39.90 crore, on behalf of the School Education Department.

In addition to this, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open 219 classroom buildings, 30 laboratory buildings, drinking water facilities, bathroom and compound walls for schools in Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Kancheepuram, Krishnagiri, Kanniyakumari, Thanjavur, Theni,

Tiruvallur, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore and Villupuram Districts, all constructed at a total cost of Rs.61.26 crore under NABARD Loan Scheme;

Under the Integrated School Education Scheme, 41 school buildings were constructed at a cost of Rs.59.88 crore in Ariyalur, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Namakkal, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Theni, Tiruppur, Tiruvarur,

Tiruvallur, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram and Virudhunagar Districts;

Under the Directorate of Public Library, a library building, constructed at a cost of Rs.55 lakh, in Manavala Nagar in Tiruvallur District.

Totally, on behalf of the School Education Department, buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.111.69 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

## Table Tennis Champ, Coach congratulated for Central Award



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami greeted table tennis player Thiru. G. Sathiyam, who was awarded Arjuna Award by the Central Government and Thiru. A. Srinivasa Rao, who was given the Dronacharya Award also by the Central Government. Thiru. Sathiyam of Tamil Nadu has participated in table tennis events at the International Level and won many medals and brought laurels to the Country and especially to Tamil Nadu. Thiru. A. Srinivasa Rao, also of Tamil Nadu, has trained many Table Tennis players from Tamil Nadu, who participated in many International Tournaments and won medals and brought fame to the Country, especially to Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister greeted both of them and wished that they registered more victories and brought laurels to Tamil Nadu.

# Academic and Hostel Buildings for Government Arts and Science Colleges & Polytechnic Colleges



**H**on'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 06.08.2018 declared open administrative and academic buildings for the Government Arts and Science College in Thappukundu village in Veerapandi in Theni District, constructed at a cost of Rs.7.25 crore, on behalf of the Higher Education Department through video conferencing.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated additional academic and hostel buildings for the Government Polytechnic Colleges and Government Arts Colleges in Pudukkottai, Ariyalur, Nilgiris and Tiruppur Districts, built at a cost of Rs.22.68 crore.

With the aim of making Tamil Nadu an intellectually and technically advanced State and to open the portals of higher education to students from rural and backward areas and marginalized families, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, opened new colleges and Polytechnics in rural areas to avert the need of rural people to go to urban areas for higher education.

In the last 7 years, the Government has opened 56 Government / University Constituent and Science Colleges, 4 Government Engineering Colleges, 19 Polytechnics besides introducing many employment-oriented courses. Following these measures, the enrollment of students in

higher education has touched 48.6 per cent, the highest in the country.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, making a statement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly on 29.09.2015, announced that as there were no Government Arts and Science Colleges in Theni, Erode and Kanniyakumari Districts, new Government Arts and Science Colleges would be opened in these Districts to enable students have access to higher education.

As per the announcement, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, declared open an Arts and Science College in Thappukundu village in Veerapandi in Theni District, constructed at a cost of Rs.7.25 crore through video conferencing.

In addition, additional buildings in the Government Polytechnics in Pudupatti Village in Gandarvakottai Division in Pudukkottai District, at a cost of Rs.10.69 crore and in Keezha Pazhuvur village in Ariyalur Division in Ariyalur District, at a cost of Rs.10.69 crore, women's hostel buildings at the Government Arts College in Uthagamandalam in Nilgiris District at a cost of Rs.60 lakh and four classrooms in L.R.G. Government Arts College for Women in Tiruppur at a cost of Rs.70 lakh.

Totally, buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.29.93 crore, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on behalf of the Higher Education Department.

## News in Picture



Under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, a review meeting on various projects of the Energy Department was held at the Secretariat in Chennai on 17.09.2018. In the review meeting, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister **Thiru. O. Panneerselvam**, Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary Dr. Girija Vaidyanathan I.A.S., and Senior Officials of the Electricity Board participated.

# Two Project Implementation Offices of Cauvery sub-basin opened



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 16.08.2018 declared open the Project Implementation Office of the Cauvery Sub-basin at Tiruvarur, built at a cost of Rs.2 crore, through video conferencing.

The office, which comes under the Water Resources Department and functions under the Public Works Department, has been opened under the Climate Change Adaptation Programme, being implemented with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated another Project Implementation Office at Nagapattinam, constructed at a cost of Rs.2 crore. For implementing the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over one car and 16 jeeps to the Engineers of the Water Resources Department, totally costing Rs.1.12 crore and also gave away appointment

orders to 95 candidates in the PWD on compassionate grounds.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been successfully implementing various irrigation development schemes in the State for the development of agriculture, to provide drinking water to the public, to store available water in water bodies without wasting it and to find new water resources in the State.

With a view to upgrade the rivers and canals in Cauvery Delta region based on climate change, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open the Project Implementation Offices at Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam.

To supervise the works relating to infrastructure improvement, reconstruction and rehabilitation in Lower Vennar system in Cauvery Basin, Project Director and

Chief Engineer and Engineers of the Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Tiruthuraipoondi Divisions have been provided with the needed vehicles. As a mark of handing over the vehicles, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami handed over keys to 2 drivers.

Wards of 95 PWD employees, 93 of whom died while in service and two, who retired on Medical invalidation, were given appointment orders for the posts of Junior Assistant, Record Clerk, Irrigation Assistant, Assistant and Gardener on compassionate grounds.



## Hon'ble Chief Minister greet people on Vinayagar Chathurthi

Vinayagar Chathurthi greetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister  
of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**  
(English Translation).

**M**y reverential and hearty greetings to all the people who joyously celebrate Vinayaka Chathurthi Festival, the day of advent of Lord Ganesha, the Lord of Wisdom.

On the Avatara day of Lord Vinayaka, who has the form of the 'Pranava' Mantra Om, people worship His images made of clay and offer *Arugampul*, *Erukkam flowers*, *Sembaruthi flowers* and *Vilva Leaves*, as also His favourite

eatables of *Kozhukattai*, Beaten rice, *Sundal*, puffed rice, sugarcane, and fruits.

In accordance with the saying, "*Vezhamugathu Vinaayaganai Thozha, Vaazhvu Miguthu Varum*" (By offering prayers to Lord Ganesha, Life will prosper), I pray that with the grace of Lord Ganesha, people should enjoy prosperity and the blessings of life. I once again offer my sincere greetings on the occasion of Vinayagar Chathurthi.

## NEWS IN PICTURES



**Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, at the Secretariat on 18.08.2018, released a book on the Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Perspective Plan 2018-2030, prepared by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department.

## 127<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of former Mayor Sivaraj



In connection with the 127<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of former Mayor Sivaraj, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs and High Government officials paid tributes to him on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government by offering flower petals to his portrait, kept near his statue on Mint Road in Chennai on 29.09.2018.

# Anna's name proposed for Bharat Ratna

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

I am writing this letter strongly proposing the name of Perarignar C.N. Annadurai, who was the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from 1967–1969 for the highest civilian award, the “Bharat Ratna”.

He was known as Perarignar Anna for his outstanding intellectual capacity. He was a great social reformer, writer, orator, literature and a tall Dravidian leader. His literary and political works, both in Tamil and English, bear the stamp of his genius and rank among the best in these genres.

He was the ideological fountainhead of major Dravidian parties. He stood for a politics that foregrounded social equality, self-respect and linguistic pride. He condemned the backwardness and superstitious practices of the society and advocated science and education for eradicating them. He was for preserving the identity and antiquity of Tamil language and its culture. He fought for the upliftment of downtrodden and women's rights. He was an orator par excellence in Tamil, no less in English as well. He mesmerised the masses through his oratorical skills. He created a knowledge revolution among the poor and simple, by his sparkling speech. “*Kadamai, Kanniyam,*

*Kattuppaadu*”– (Duty, Decorum, Discipline) - the politico philosophical magical words coined by him. Perarignar Annadurai had the distinction of converting the Dravidian ideology into a political formation and was instrumental in a regional party forming a Government for the first time in India. He served as the Chief Minister of Madras from 1967 till 1969. During his tenure as Chief Minister, “the State of Madras” was renamed as “Tamil Nadu”.

He legalised self-respect marriages and introduced two language policy and “A rupee for a measure of rice scheme” in the Public Distribution System. He was the pioneer who championed the cause for State Autonomy.

Perarignar Annadurai was one of the Country's finest Parliamentarians and his speeches in the Parliament were well received and acclaimed by other Parliamentarians, cutting across party lines. Perarignar Annadurai is still remembered with fondness by a large number of people of Tamil Nadu, even now, 49 years after his demise. Several institutions and organisations in Tamil Nadu have been named after him.

Under his stewardship, people believed that the State was entering a new epoch. Abolition

of levy on dry lands, assignment of wastelands to the landless poor, free education for students upto pre-university class, implementation of prohibition policy, development of Tamil were among some of the far reaching initiatives undertaken by him.

The advent of the political party headed by Perarignar Annadurai as a party in power in the State of Tamil Nadu marks a watershed. He was a titan among the politicians living in his era and was well respected even by his worst critics. He was mild mannered, accommodative, upright and fought tirelessly for improving the socio-economic conditions of the people.

In view of his contributions to Tamil Nadu, in particular and India as a whole, the Tamil Nadu Cabinet unanimously resolved on 09.09.2018 that this Statesman needs to be honoured befittingly with the highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna and accordingly recommended to the Government of India to award “Bharat Ratna” to the Hon’ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Perarignar Annadurai posthumously.

I request you to kindly confer the “Bharat Ratna” award to Hon’ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. C.N. Annadurai, posthumously. ■



## **Asian Games win brings Players high cash incentives**



Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami announced a high cash incentive of Rs. 20 lakh each to Tamil Nadu players, Thiru. Sreejesh and Thiru. Rupinder Pal Singh, who were part of Indian Hockey team, which won the Bronze Medal in the Men’s Hockey Event, and to Thiru.Varun Thakkar and Thiru.K.C.Ganapathi, who represented India and won the Bronze Medal in the Men’s Sailing Event at the 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Indonesia recently. The Hon’ble Chief Minister also sent separate congratulatory letters to these players.



# Many reasons why Amma deserves to be conferred the 'Bharat Ratna'

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

I am writing this letter drawing attention to the request already made in the letter dated 18.12.2016, recommending the award of "Bharat Ratna" to Late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Selvi J Jayalithaa.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister is very fondly remembered by the people of Tamil Nadu as Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The highest civilian honour – Bharat Ratna would be the most fitting way to recognize the extraordinary public service, phenomenal achievements and the remarkable life of one of the most influential political leaders of independent India. Our revered leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame many obstacles in her life to reach the pinnacle of political achievement – of capturing the hearts, minds and imagination of the people of Tamil Nadu. She did so through formulating people-friendly and growth oriented policies founded on empathy and compassion, ensuring their effective implementation through administrative acumen and sound fiscal management and carrying out her political and administrative tasks by the dint of determination, dedication, perseverance and unstinted hard work. Vast sections of the Tamil population looked up to her as their leader, in whom they had implicit trust and in fact they deified her. Her initiatives won universal acclaim and were widely admired not only by other States in the Country, but also by other Countries.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, excelled in academics and extra-

curricular activities from her early days as a student. Through her days as an accomplished and popular film actor, apart from being a consummate professional, she used every free moment of her time to read extensively and gain knowledge. In her early days in politics, she distinguished herself as an effective Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, speaking on important issues including State Autonomy and Internal Security, which won acclaim from the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame political vicissitudes and took over the mantle of the leadership of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. She led the AIADMK Party to a memorable electoral victory in 1991 and repeated the feat in 2001, 2011 and 2016, assuming office as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, a record six times for a total period of 15 years. In between, she also led her party to strong performances in the elections to the Lok Sabha, in 1998, 1999, 2009 and most memorably in 2014. What is particularly remarkable is the manner in which in the last 3 elections – in 2011, 2014 (Lok Sabha) and 2016, she has strongly consolidated the popular mandate of the AIADMK party in the State. Today, the AIADMK has 50 Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and is the third largest political formation in the Country. This is entirely due to the massive public support built up by our

revered leader the late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, through sustained performance and political acumen. She was unarguably the most charismatic, dynamic and determined political leader that India has ever seen. She relentlessly challenged the male dominated politics of Tamil Nadu that worked to block her at every step of the way. She reached the top on her own, with no political background and became Chief Minister, not once, but six times.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was uncompromising in her insistence on the perfect maintenance of law and order in the State. The Police force has been adequately funded and provisioned and its morale maintained at a very high level as the Late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, gave the Police Force with a free hand to ensure that law and order is well maintained. Tamil Nadu has remained a haven of peace and tranquillity due to the efforts of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Firm action was taken against extremist elements and terrorists. The activities of the forest brigand Veerappan were curtailed and the threat was finally neutralized by the Tamil Nadu Police.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered All Women Police Stations and Women Commando Force in the State and ensured adequate recruitment of women in the State Police and thereby gave a very high sense of safety for women and the vulnerable. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered the path breaking Cradle Baby Scheme and the Girl Child Protection Scheme in the State which reversed the declining female sex ratio. The Cradle Baby Scheme was appreciated by Saint Mother Teresa as a great gift to children in Tamil Nadu and lauded the late Hon'ble Chief Minister's welfare projects for girls, destitute women and the aged.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's schemes to promote enhanced work participation by women included the distribution of essential equipment like

mixies, grinders and fans which eased the domestic drudgery of women, the increase in the maternity leave eligibility for women to 9 months, the enhanced financial benefits under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme. Enhanced financial assistance under the Marriage Assistance Schemes and provision of 8 gram gold coin, incentivized female education by postponing the age of marriage. Empowerment of women through Self Help Groups and enhancement of livelihood through provision of economic assets to women including milch animals, sheep and goats was ensured. All these innovative measures remarkably enhanced the status of women in Tamil Nadu and proved to be model schemes for other States in the Country.

Our revered leader, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma transcended caste, creed and religion in her concern to ensure social justice and to protect the interest of minorities, weaker sections and the vulnerable. Our revered leader the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was instrumental in securing the constitutional protection for Tamil Nadu's long standing policy of 69% reservation for Backward, Most Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The interests of the minorities were consistently protected and the State was kept free of communal strife.

When she assumed office as Chief Minister in 1991, Tamil Nadu's per capita income was still below the national average. Today it is nearly 75 per cent above the National average. Tamil Nadu's economy under the leadership of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma registered the strongest consistent growth and Tamil Nadu has become the second largest State economy in India.

It is not only strong economic growth in Tamil Nadu that has been a significant achievement, but also under the leadership of the Late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Tamil Nadu is one State that has sustained

its level of social sector expenditure. Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had in her first term in office itself formulated a "Social Safety Net" for which protected allocations were made in the Budget year after year in the areas of Health, Education, Nutrition, Welfare of Women and Children, Welfare of the Differently Abled, Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and Social Security. The allocations have consistently grown through her successive tenures. The scheme to distribute free bicycles to all students in Government and Aided Higher Secondary Schools ensured greater mobility, while the scheme to distribute laptops bridged the digital divide and a new generation was prepared for the challenge of modern information technology. The Amma Unavagams (Canteens) which supply affordable and hygienic cooked food to the poor with dignity, is an initiative which has been internationally acclaimed and is now sought to be replicated elsewhere in the Country. Such efforts have paid rich dividends in terms of human development achievements in the State.

Alongside the human development achievements recorded in the State, consistent investments in infrastructure were also championed by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. This sustained performance has won appreciation from development economists across the world and is now an established model of development. The Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 reflected the far sighted perspective of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to set Tamil Nadu on a high growth path trajectory by ensuring sustained investments in the infrastructure, education, health and other related sectors. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's singular efforts ensured that the State which had a huge power deficit in 2011 when she assumed office, became a power surplus State by 2016. Major investments were also made in the Roads, Urban Development, Transport and related sectors.

Desalination, as a permanent solution for the perennial drinking water shortage in various

parts of Tamil Nadu, was first initiated by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister. As early as 2001, late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made Rain Water Harvesting mandatory in all Government and residential buildings which became an example for many States to follow. The high quality of human resources and of infrastructure and the very well maintained law and order situation have made Tamil Nadu a very attractive investment destination. The State continues to maintain its position with the largest number of factories and factory employees in the Country. Even the President of the World Bank expressed his appreciation to the later Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the fact that usually Governments either follow a welfarist agenda or a business friendly agenda, but Tamil Nadu was a rare exception where the State continued to be business friendly even as it ensured that adequate attention and funding was provided for the welfare of the people. He had further stated that, "Tamil Nadu's record in implementing projects was really fantastic." The efforts of the later Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to encourage major automobile manufacturers like Ford and Hyundai to invest in Tamil Nadu was instrumental in the State becoming home to many large automobile manufacturers and Chennai has come to be known as the Detroit of India. In addition, investment was encouraged in a range of sectors and Tamil Nadu has one of the most diversified industrial bases in the Country. When the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister in 2011, the State was crippled with severe power shortage. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma ensured that utmost priority was given to the power sector by enabling power projects and also by stepping up solar energy production which paved the path to make Tamil Nadu a power surplus State.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma played a very big role in the development of the field of sports in the State

over the last two and half decades. High cash incentives to the sportspersons and their coaches were instituted to encourage them. The later Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also started reward schemes for promoting the not so popular disciplines like kabaddi, weightlifting, fencing, etc., which gave a boost for the sportsmen of Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi's foresight in implementing rain water harvesting to enrich the water table and to check global warming shows that she was a champion of environmental causes. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was a multifaceted leader who demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities.

Coupled with performance in all spheres of governance and administration, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a strong and persuasive case for ensuring that the autonomy of States was respected and State Governments were given the necessary legislative, administrative and fiscal space to function effectively to fulfil the aspirations of the people of the State. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma steadfastly and through legal avenues ensured that the rights of the State were protected – be it the Cauvery issue, Periyar issue or the rights of the Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu fishing in their traditional fishing waters of the Palk Bay.

The administrative responses to disasters that struck the State, in particular the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2005 received international acclaim. After the unprecedented floods in Chennai in December, 2015, Tamil Nadu disbursed flood relief to 14 lakh families by direct transfer to their bank accounts at one shot.

Above all, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma represented the hopes and aspirations of millions of people of Tamil Nadu and Tamil people wherever they resided across the globe. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was an inspirational figure. Her

commanding leadership, brave decision making capacity, shrewd understanding of politics and determination to fight for regional rights will be remembered forever. She gave voice to the voiceless and power to the powerless. She was responsible for the remarkable socio-economic transformation of Tamil Nadu. She brought peace, tranquility, discipline in all spheres of society and administration and enviable prosperity to Tamil Nadu. Her appeal extends beyond Tamil Nadu and won her admirers and followers across the Country. Such an inspirational figure who touched the lives of millions and whose life story will inspire millions more to strive for the greater public good through social and public service, richly deserves the Nation's highest civilian honour. It would be a fitting tribute to a great leader, an able administrator, an inspiring icon who overcame many obstacles and vicissitudes in public life to devote her life for the benefit of millions of people.

The Tamil Nadu Cabinet resolved on 09.09.2018 to reiterate to the Government of India, its original decision taken in the Cabinet meeting held on 10.12.2016 recommending the award of "Bharat Ratna" to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa, posthumously.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was astute, diplomatic and independent as a political leader. She had endeared herself to the people of Tamil Nadu by her words and deeds and her legacy lives on. People, particularly women adore her as their "AMMA". She was nationalistic in her outlook and progressive in her thinking. She tirelessly strove for the betterment of Tamil Nadu and Tamils. She rightly deserves the highest civilian award of our Country, the "Bharat Ratna".

I reiterate our request to confer the Bharat Ratna posthumously on Selvi J Jayalalithaa, late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and request you to take immediate steps for the same.

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