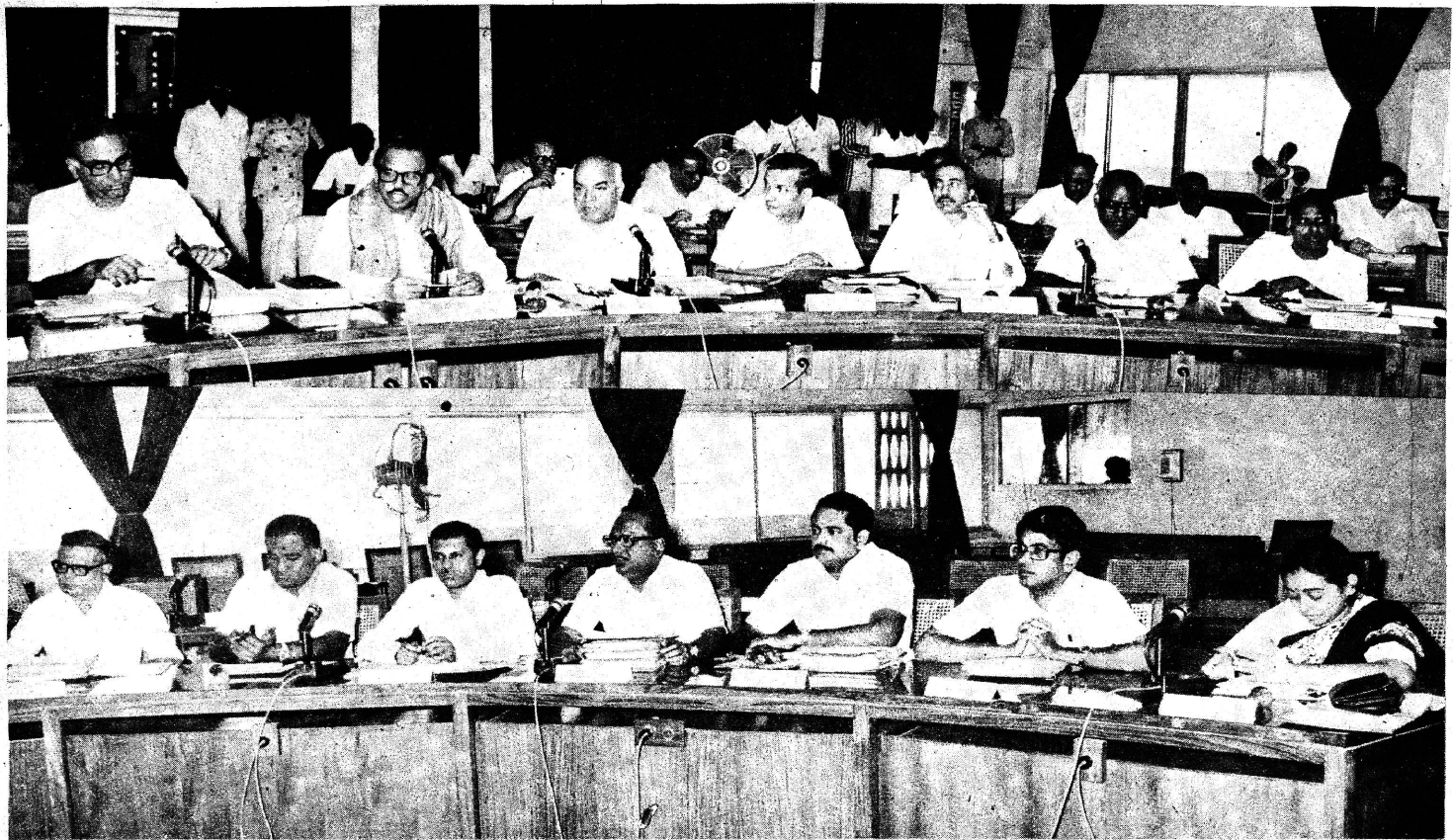


Tamil Arasu

February 1985 75 P.





The District Collectors' Conference to discuss the Plan of action on the 20 Point Programme was held on 17-1-1985 at the Secretariat. Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Dr. V. R. Nedunchezian presided.



THE GOOD NEWS COLUMN

Beginning this month, this column will devote to the policies, programmes and the good news in Tamil Nadu. We begin with the CM's health. 2



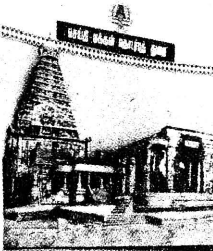
THE BURDEN AND THE ECSTASY

Assuming office with a magnificent mandate, the Prime Minister calls to share the burden and ecstasy of building a new India. 3



THIRUVALLUVAR'S UNIVERSALISM

Dr. Appadurai deals with the universalism of Thirukkural. And the Finance Minister of Tamil Nadu announces efforts to spread Thiruvalluvar's message at a meeting at Valluvar Kottam. 12



12th ALL INDIA TOURIST AND INDUSTRIAL FAIR, MADRAS.

A permanent fair to project Tamil Nadu is announced by the Information Minister. Chairman of Legislative Assembly inaugurated the fair. A special report on the fair's exclusive features. 18



BE BOLD! BE STRONG! BE HEROES!

1985 is the International year for youth. The Prime Minister presided over a formal inauguration in Delhi while in Tamil Nadu, the Governor inaugurated it. A special write-up deals. 25

Tamil Arasu

The Informative Monthly of Tamilnadu Government

FEBRUARY 1985

Thiruvalluvar Year - 2016

Rakthatchi - Thai - Masi

THE GOOD

NEWS

COLUMN



The good news came first. The absolute mandate the Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R.'s leadership received in the elections, just concluded. The better news followed suit. That Thiru M.G.R. has become healthy again and that he will be leading Tamilnadu, as before.

The spokesman of the Brooklyn state hospital has told newsmen that the Chief Minister is healthy and his kidney is functioning normal. Now, his arrival in the city to continue to hold the reigns of power is being excitingly awaited. His arrival will definitely witness one of the finest spectacles of festivity this land of festivals has ever known.

It is deeply believed by the common man, that the Chief Minister has the ability to excel himself after every crisis or unpleasant accident he undergoes. People of the State do believe that after the recent ordeal he went through, he'll be back as the Chief Minister to become, the finest Chief Minister, this nation has seen.

To somebody the recovery of the Chief Minister may seem a miracle. But it might also simply look like the ability of the man to endure challenges with courage & determination. But one is deeply satisfied that good things do continue to happen in this world.



PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS

The **BURDEN**
and
THE ECSTASY

Fellow citizens,

You have given my party and me your confidence in over-flowing measure. Who could ask for more? And how can we prove worthy of it? Only by working for you with unremitting faith and humility, summoning all our reserves of strength and energy, being as unsparing with ourselves as you have been generous with your trust.

I do not regard it as my victory, or even the victory of my party, which commences its hundredth year of service, it is the victory of the Indian people.

You have spoken clearly and unmistakably. You have given a mandate for unity, for strength, for harmony.

The whole world sees once again the vitality of India's democratic tradition. The political system built up by our great leaders, Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji, has marched to new strength. The election has been a great celebration of democracy. India's ancient heritage going back to the dawn of mankind, stands renewed in freedom.

The dust and din of the elections are behind us. The passions they generated must now make way for reconciliation. Great tasks await us and we should approach them in a spirit of togetherness. United, there is no challenge that we cannot meet.

Secularism is the basis of our unity. Communalism and all other narrow loyalties are incompatible with unity. These elections have shown that our people always rise above these artificial barriers. We have to fight communalism and the suspicion and insecurity it breeds. It is my first duty to safeguard the life, property and legitimate rights of citizens belonging to every faith.

We must go beyond the prevention and suppression of violence. We must cure the minds where hatred and prejudice arise and grow. We must take the campaign for unity to every village and every street of every town an ideological battle against communal fanaticism must be waged in our schools and universities, in our work places and in our media.

My Government will give top priority to the problem of Punjab. A Cabinet Committee has been formed to study various aspects of the problem and to look at alternatives for a peaceful settlement within a specified time-frame. In ending the said chapter of discord, all should co-operate. The sikhs are as much a part of India as any other community. They have played a heroic role in winning and defending our freedom. I wish to assure them their life and property will be protected in every part of the country. In Punjab and elsewhere, all patriotic forces must repudiate those who preach separatism and practise violence. There cannot, and will not, be any

concession to separatist ideologies and to the cult of violence. India's unity in paramount, everything else comes after that.

Earnest efforts will be made to settle the foreigners' issue in Assam. The give-and-take of the Conference Table can yield victories which confrontation cannot.

In a few months we shall begin the Seventh Plan the war against our old enemies-poverty, unemployment, disease, ignorance-continues. In the weeks ahead, we shall review our existing policies and programmes to ensure that our basic objectives of growth with justice are realised within the stipulated time-table.

The public sector will continue to be a major tool of development, deficiencies in performance, wherever they exist, will be quickly overcome. Far-reaching proposals for change have been formulated and are under consideration.

Improvement in productivity, absorption of modern technology and fuller utilisation of capacity must acquire the status of a national campaign. I have asked the Ministries of Science and Technology and industries to prepare specific proposals to achieve these objectives.

I have reviewed the foreign trade policies and directed that concrete steps should be taken in the next few weeks to give a fresh impetus to our exports.

The 20-Point Programme for the weaker sections is being restructured to be more effective.

Continuing deforestation has brought us face to face with a major ecological and socio-economic crisis. The trend must be halted. I propose immediately to set up a National Wastelands Development Board with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations. We shall develop a people's movement for afforestation.

The Ganga is the symbol of India's culture, the source of our legend and poetry, the sustainer of millions. Today it is one of the most polluted rivers. We will restore the pristine purity of the Ganga. A Central Ganga Authority will be set up to implement an action plan to prevent the pollution of the Ganga and its tributaries. Measures will be taken to ensure cleaner air and water in all parts of the country.

Administrative Reform is crucial for social and economic transformation. It is for this reason that I decided to take under my own charge the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms. A full-scale review of Administrative Organisation, policies and procedures is in progress.

I have asked that the decision-making processes should be decentralised along with enforcement of accountability. Rules and procedures will be drastically simplified to speed up decision-making. Results will take precedence over procedures.

I have directed all concerned agencies to ensure that citizens get prompt and courteous service from Government Departments and agencies. An effective machinery for redressal of public grievances will be set up in offices and Departments with large public dealings.

Action will be taken to raise the morale of public services. We shall prevent extraneous interference in the normal functioning of public services. We must create a new administrative culture for service of the masses. Training of civil servants of all categories will be re-structured to develop competence and commitment to the basic values of our society.

Education must promote national cohesion and the work ethic. The grandeur of our freedom struggle and its significance for national integration have to be brought home to every student. Our schools and colleges should acquaint the younger generations with India's ancient heritage and culture. The curricula and text books should curb parochial and communal interpretations of our composite culture.

I have looked at some of the policies and programme in this field. I have asked that a new national education policy be drafted.

We are formulating programmes to use on a large scale the new communication technology in our school system. Delinking of degrees from jobs under government is under active consideration. Steps are being taken to establish an open University to bring higher education within easy reach of all. The Central Schools Organisation will be expanded. These schools will function as Centres of Excellence in every district of our country.

I would strongly emphasise education's

organic link with the productive forces of society. We shall reorganise vocational education to align it with industry, agriculture, communications and other productive sectors of our economy.

We have inherited a well-tested and consistent foreign policy which serves our national interest. We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit. Our commitment to non-alignment and a new World Economic Order based on justice, equality and mutual co-operation is unshakeable. This means a total dedication to the twin causes of peace and development. We also believe in safeguarding the independence of States and upholding the principles of non-interference and non-intervention.

One aspect of our foreign policy needs special attention. We have deep historical and cultural links with our immediate neighbours in South Asia. We share the same memories of foreign rule and look forward to the same prospects of development and a better future for our peoples. I believe firmly that we can work together to realize these common aims. We do have some problems, but we are determined to resolve them on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality and friendship.

In a troubled world, India has a role to play because of its history, its geography and

its faith in peaceful co-existence. In trying to live up to our responsibilities, this Government will scrupulously follow the basic approach and principles bequeathed to us by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. Like them, we shall be dynamic in our responses to the changing context.

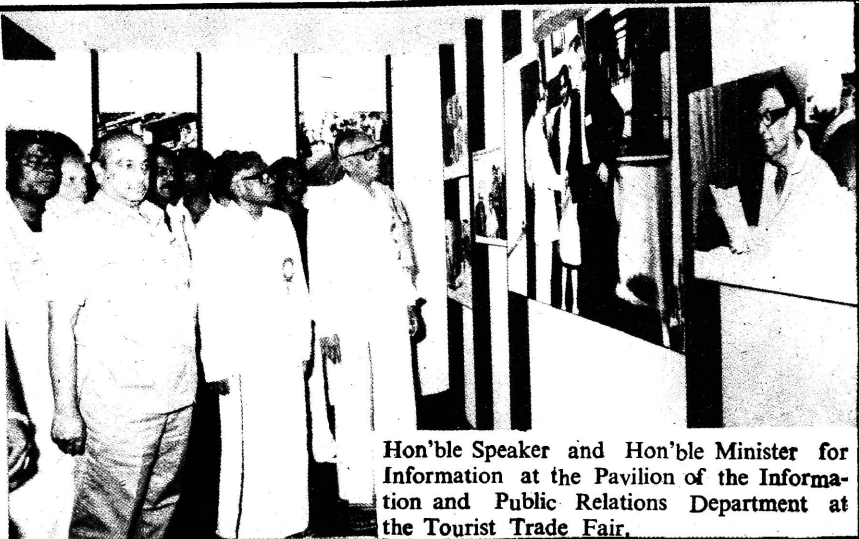
In the last few weeks it was my privilege to have travelled over all parts of our beloved and beautiful country. I saw millions of fellow Indian face to face. In all the cultural diversity of our people, what stood out was the unity of India. It is a privilege to be born in India and to be heir to its great civilization. We have so much to secure for our own people and so much to give to the world.

We are passing through a difficult phase. Our burdens are immense, our road long and arduous. Your co-operation is vital for achieving the national goals.

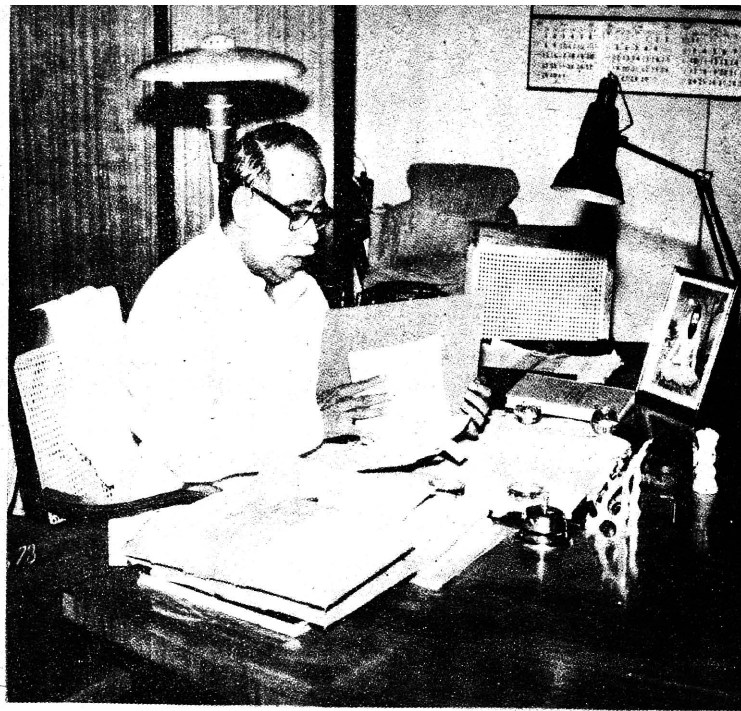
I give you my greetings for the New Year. May it bring happiness to everyone.

From time to time I shall share with you my ideas, my hopes, my struggles. But, even more, I want to listen to you, to your difficulties, your ideas, your hopes. Together we shall share the burden and the ecstasy of building our India.

Jai Hind.



Hon'ble Speaker and Hon'ble Minister for Information and Public Relations Department at the Pavilion of the Information and Public Relations Department at the Tourist Trade Fair.



ANNA

A
Kansas

Memory

by
ALBERT B. FRANKLIN

When spring last came to the Flint Hills of Kansas, it brought amid its garish tumbling of flowers and its impudent quarrelling of birds, the visit of a human being who was both a song and a flower. Springtime here does not forget Annadurai. There will be some in Manhattan in the Flint Hills whom every spring will remind of the sparkling-eyed, erect figure, minute but commanding in the majesty of an inner warmth of understanding. Though I know him little more than a year, Anna was one of my teachers. Courage, joy in humanity, the strength of integrity, the warmth of compassion, these sovereign qualities were joined in a unique amalgam that we called "Anna". They communicated to everyone who came in contact with him a pride in the humanity we all share with him.

As a student of India, more particularly of South India, I found it exciting that these qualities

of soul, the selflessness, the oneness with all humanity that are the keystones of the Vedanta should be so forcefully embodied in this brave political campaigner who specifically and outspokenly spurned the forms and rituals of organized religion. Born in the humblest of homes in the city where one Sankaracharya lived and spoke, in the shadow of hundreds of temples, Anna shared with that greatest of world philosophers the ability to separate the teaching from the non-essential formula.

Anna returned in triumph from that American tour, only to turn back to the United States for further treatment of a lingering ailment. Before he took his final departure in November, 1968, I made a pilgrimage to New York to say goodbye once more. I treasure the memory of those last moments with Anna's last Fall. Never had I seen him so brimming with life. So full

of ideas for Tamilnad. So interested in the life going on around him. For some days he had strength to visit New York's parks, to feast his eyes and heart on all the treasures of the world's great civilizations that New York has stored in her museums. He was returning to his beloved Tamilnad with great new perspectives and hopes for his people.

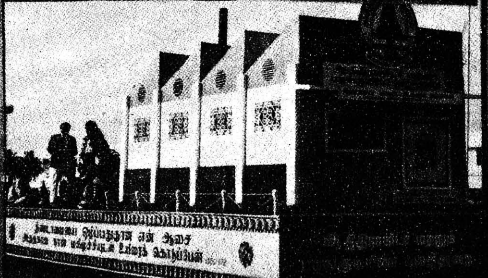
But before another Spring could come he had gone. He is more than a memory: his life is a reminder that the India that produced Sankaracharya, Vivekananda, Gandhi, and so many others of larger than human stature, can still give humanity. The teachers humanity will need to rise toward the new era of compassion which he so clearly foresaw.

Courtesy:

ANNA - 75

Edited by A.S.VENU

1985
REPUBLIC
DAY
FLASHES





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The Army Day

THE SHIELD and the SWORD



The Army Day is Celebrated on January 15 every year to mark the taking over of the Indian Army by Gen. K.M. Cariappa from the British General Sir F.R.R. Bucher, Commander-in-Chief in 1949.

The former British Indian Army that fought in the first two World Wars and was employed internally in the North-Western Frontier Province, underwent a

transformation on the mid-night of 14 August 1947. Prior to independence, India had armies of various states out of which had grown the Indian Army under the British which owned allegiance to the crown. During the patriation that divided India into two, it rose above the two nation theory that rocked the continent and saw one of the largest exodus of people in living memory from

one country to an other. But for it, the loss of lives and suffering of the people would have been on a much larger scale. The disciplined and secular forces of the Indian Army brought order, compassion and peace during the great crisis. Unlike some of the Armies of the world which owed their origin to dacoit gangs, the Indian soldiers fought for righteousness and gave their lives unmindful of the results. Indian Army's compassion knew no bounds, it transcended barriers of caste, creed and religion.

There is a true tale of that soft feeling of the heart which makes Indian Army different from any other in the world. In 1947, Sub Maj and Hon. Capt Murli Dhar Meghre(Retd) was given the task of providing relief to a threatened village now in Pakistan. Hon. Capt Murli Dhar reached Basti Kotla in Alipur Tehsil in Muzaffargarh district with a column but found it burning with charred bodies littered all around. He searched for any survivors and found a young Sikh boy who lay in a pool of blood but showed some signs of life. Murli Dhar brought the child to the Mahar Battalion and named him Harnam Singh. The boy's parents and relations could not be traced. Meghre adopted the child and brought him up as his own son. At that time he had no children

of his own but was later blessed with two sons. Harnam is now a grown-up man and is employed as a supervisor in Indian Tobacco Company in Karnataka. He is married and has children. Murli Dhar is now a warden of the Mahar War Memorial Hostel at Saugor and looks after the children of war heroes and ex-servicemen with the same love and care he bestowed on Harnam Singh.

Even as the Army of independent India was settling down, tribal hordes from Pakistan poured in large numbers to annex Kashmir. They indulged in loot and rapine in the tradition of foreign hordes that had ravaged this country for centuries. But this time, they were stopped in their tracks. It was here that Major Som Nath Sharma of the Kumaon Regiment gave his life to repulse the enemy. On a cold November morning in 1947, 700 enemies attacked his company position with 3 inch mortars, light machine guns and rifles at Badgam village. Realising the gravity of the situation, that would result to both Srinagar and the aerodrome if the enemy attack was not held until reinforcement could be rushed, Major Sharma urged his Company to fight the enemy tenaciously. He directed the fire of his troops into the above advancing enemy and exposed himself to the fury of

the enemy fire. As he was laying out cloth strips to guide our aircrafts on to their targets in full view of the enemy with his left hand in plaster, he filled ammunition magazine of light machine gunners. An enemy mortar shell landed in the middle of the ammunition and resulted in an explosion that killed him. He was awarded Param Vir Chakra posthumously.

Pakistani attack on Kashmir was nevertheless foiled by India's quest for peace. The Indian Army was strengthening its shield when again Indian borders were set a fire by aggression. After incorporation Tibet, India's other neighbour, China raised border dispute with us along the 3520 kms border. It was in Rezang La in 1962 in Ladakh that 128 men of Kumaon Regiment faced the Chinese attack in large numbers that threatened to encircle them. Major Shaitan Singh fought heroically and there were only 14 survivors from the defence position was overrun. However, the attack had been halted and the shield strengthened. In the early 60's the Chinese successfully occupied 22,400 sq. kms of Indian territory in Ladakh to open up the Sinking-Aksaichin Road that linked China with its last military post with Russia. After forcing a war on two fronts that divided our military forces, China withdrew with the Sinking-

Aksaichin Road under its possession. The loss of these areas also shattered the dream of Panchsheel. Intensive training was imparted to the Indian Army so that the shield could never be pierced. It was not only in equipment that the Army became more sophisticated, it was the steel that entered the guts of Indian Army to defend India at all costs that mattered. Army-men underwent toughening exercises that include 100 mile marches. Proficiency in handling weapons improved along with logistics to defend the borders. In fact, the Chinese attack was a blessing in disguise.

We were victims of another aggression by Pakistan in 1965. When an attempt was made to annex Kashmir, our forces gave a befitting reply and foiled Pakistan's attempt. It was during these operations that a our armoured regiments in Khemkaran sector destroyed Pakistani Patton tanks in large numbers. It was here on 10 September 1965 that Hav Abdul Hamid of Grenadiers moved his 160 mm recoilless anti-tank gun mounted on a jeep to knock out leading enemy tanks inspite of heavy shelling. He knocked out two tanks which went up in flames but was hit by the third tank's gun and he died a hero's death. It was here again that the out-dated Sherman tanks discarded by the Americans after



Second World War faced the most modern and sophisticated US pattons. It was here again that General A.S. Vaidya (then Lt. Colonel and Commanding Officer, Deccan Horse) dealt a mortal blow with these Shermans to the Pattons near Chemkaran which became a graveyard of Pakistani tanks and was known as "Patton Nagar."

During 1965 war, a Lt. Col. of the Sikh Regiment known commonly as Raja attacked another enemy post in Poonch which also bore the name Raja. This gallant soldier led the attack in the tradition of Indian Army where the commanders exhorted their men with "Come on" rather than "go on". It was a ferocious attack led by the Indian 'Raja' who was fighting against a strongly defended post. Ultimately, gave his life but the enemy had been captured. During his funeral, Lt. Col. N.N. Khanna, the Brigade Commander said, "Raja Litta, Raja Ditta" meaning that Raja post had been taken but real Raja was dead. The shield was fully strengthened and the sword honed. The fall of Raja led to the capture of Haji Pir pass later.

In 1971, we were again drawn into a war when millions of refugees under Pak repression poured into our country from the erstwhile East Pakistan. Our eco-

nomy groaned under the heavy burden of feeding and maintaining the hapless millions. When Pakistan attacked us in the Western Sector our counter-stroke was masterly and our forces emerged victorious taking 90,000 prisoners of war. In the West, we pushed back the Pak forces into their territories from Rajasthan to Kashmir sectors. We were magnanimous in victory. As former East Pakistan became free Bangladesh, our Army returned to India after completion of a difficult task. 1971 was Indian Army's finest hour. The 14 day Indian Army's offensive showed to the world that the sword had become sharp and the shield was impregnable.

As India stands an island of peace in a sea of instability. Indian Army has emerged as a highly trained, sophisticated and lethal force fully, combat ready to defend its borders and give a befitting reply to any adventurer. Its research and development has scaled new heights. The proto type of our new Main Battle Tanks are undergoing tests and the indigenously designed Indian field gun is in service. The fire power of the Army has been enhanced. While the nation rests and sleeps in peace it is confidence that the men of the Indian Army are vigilant to defend the nation.

The Union Cabinet

CABINET MINISTERS

Thiru Rajiv Gandhi	Prime Minister
Thiru Abdul Gafoor	Works and Housing
Thiru Ashok Sen	Law and Justice
Thiru B. Shankaranand	Irrigation & Power
Thiru Bansilal	Railways
Thiru Buta Singh	Agriculture & Rural Development
Thiru H.K.L. Bhagat	Parliamentary Affairs
Thiru K. C. Pant	Education
Tmt. Mohsina Kidwai	Health & Family Welfare
Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao	Defence
Thiru Rao Birendra Singh	Food & Civil Supplies
Thiru S.B. Chavan	Home
Thiru Vasant Sathe	Steel, Mines & Coal
Thiru Veerendra Patil	Chemicals & Fertilisers Temporary charge of Industry and company affairs
Thiru Viswanath Pratap Singh	Finance and Planning temporary charge of commerce and supply.

The Prime Minister will be in charge Environment and Forests, External Affairs, Science and Technology, Atomic Energy, Culture, Electronics, Ocean Development, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Space, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Youth Affairs and Sports and Other subjects not allocated to any other Cabinet Minister or Minister of State (Independent charge)

MINISTERS OF STATE

Thiru Arif Mohd Khan	Industry & Company Affairs
Thiru Arun Nehru	Power
Thiru Ashok Gehlot	Tourism & Civil Aviation

Thiru Bir Sen	Environment & Forests
Thiru Chandulal Chandrakar	Rural Development
Thiru Ghulam Nabi Azad	Parliamentary Affairs
Thiru H.R. Bhardwaj	Law & Justice
Thiru Janardhan Poojari	Finance
Thiru Khurshid Alam Khan	External Affairs
Thiru K.P. Singh Deo	Personnel & Administrative Reforms & culture
Thiru Madhavrao Scindia	Railways
Tmt. Margaret Alva	Parliamentary Affairs
Thiru Natwar Singh	Steel
Thiru P.A. Sangma	Commerce & Supply
Thiru R.K. Jaichandra Singh	Youth Affairs & Sports
Tmt. Ram Dullari Sinha	Home
Thiru Shivraj Patil	Science & Technology, Ocean Development, Atomic Energy, Space & Electronics
Thiru Yogendra Makwana	Health

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Tmt. Maragatham Chandrasekhar	Women & Social Welfare
Thiru Nawal Kishore Sharma	Petroleum
Thiru Ram Nivas Mirdha	Communications
Thiru T. Anjiah	Labour
Thiru V.N. Gagnil	Information & Broadcasting
Thiru Z.R. Ansari	Shipping & Transport
Thiru K.R. Narayanan	Planning

THIRUVALLUVAR DAY

CELEBRATIONS

The Tamil Nadu Government will present every year a cash award of Rs. 10,000 to the best writer of commentary on Thirukkural, the immortal work of the Tamil Sage Thiruvalluvar.

This and the institution of a similar award for the best research paper on the works of the former Chief Minister, C.N. Annadurai were announced by the Finance Minister Hon'bl V. R. Nedunchezian, at the Thiruvalluvar Day celebrations organised by the Directorate of Tamil Development.

The Government, he said, had also decided to celebrate every year Kamban day at Thetazhander and Ilangovaligal day at

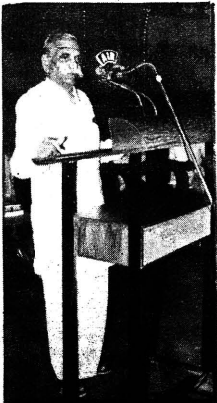
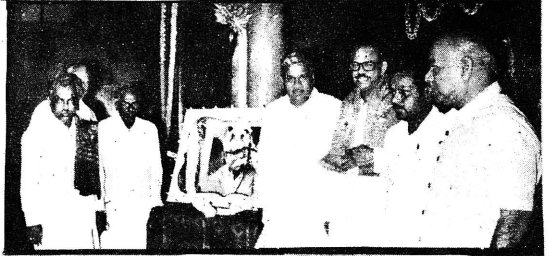
at
VALLUVAR
KOTTAM
on
15 - 1 - 1985



Coimbatore. These would be special occasions, held on the lines of Thiruvalluvar Day, to remember the services of the two Tamil poets.

As the Government had dedicated itself to the full development of Tamil, details of atleast 200 Tamil scholars and poets of Sangam age had been collected. Suitable memorials would be erected in the birth place of these savants or at the place where they had lived.

The unveiling of the portrait of Devaneyappaavanar, the Tamil scholar who worked for the preservation of the purity of language, distribution of monthly pensions



to indigent Tamil scholars and awarding of prizes to authors and publishers of good Tamil books and translations marked this year's Valluvar Day celebrations. A Tamil Etymological Dictionary brought out by the State Government based on the works of Devaneyappaavanar was released on the occasion by Hon'ble. Rama Chandran, Minister for Electricity.

The Government has planned to bring out 12 volumes comprising 32 parts of Tamil Etymological Dictionary. The volume released today was the first part. Fifty per cent. concession would be available for one month to those buying the dictionary. priced Rs. 100.

A plea earlier was made by Hon'ble M.P. Sivaganam, Chairman of the State Legislative Council and Hon'ble K. Rajaram, Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly for introduction of Tamil in Law Colleges.

The Education Minister, Hon'ble C. Aranganayagam, who presided, said that almost 70 per cent of the official translations are now carried on in Tamil.

Hon'ble R.M. Veerappan, Information Minister urged the Tamil newspapers and magazines to adopt the script reformation introduced by the Government a few years ago.



GIANT ORCHARDS

There are 23 Giant orchards in the State. Quality grafts of the fruit plants are prepared and supplied to the farmers at cheaper rates. City Vegetable Development Scheme has been extended to Madras, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Vellore cities and quality vegetable seeds in packets and vegetable and fruit seedlings are distributed for use in Kitchen gardens. Scheme for plantation crops improvement, Banana Development Scheme, Western Ghats Development Project are some of the productive schemes. About 30,150 farm families are so far benefitted in the Nilgiris Hill Area Development Project. To augment the production of spices and fruit crops and also to increase the area under these crops in Madurai, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari Districts, a development project in Western Ghats is being implemented at a cost of Rs. 15.2 lakhs.

Hon'ble K.A. Krishnaswami, Minister for Dairy Development, and the Chief Secretary, Thiru K. Chockalingam, who welcomed the gathering and Dr. Avvai N. Natarajan, Secretary, Tamil Development Culture Department highlighted the steps taken by the Government to promote Tamil language.

Thiru Thirukkural V. Munuswami said centres to propagate the message of the Tamil couplets would soon be established in various parts of the State.

36 Agmark Laboratories :

257 Regulated Market Committees, 102 Grading Centres, 36 Agmark Laboratories are functioning in the State to facilitate the growers to get good price for their commodities and consumers to get quality products.



Thiruvalluvar's Day

The Universalism of Thirukkural

Dr. K. APPADURAI, M.A., L.T., D.Litt.,

The illustrious Tirukkural of Thiruvalluvar is easily the best-read Tamil work among the Tamils themselves: it also happens to be the best-known and the most of-translated Tamil work in the various other languages of India and the world. So far as we know, it has kept up this place of honour all along the history of the Tamils. For there is not a single literary work in Tamil from the days of the Tolkappiyam and the Sangam Classics to the national poems of Bharati and Bharatidasan of our own day, that has not paid its tribute to Tiruvalluvar either by direct praise or by quoting him or by using his own characteristic words, phrases or ideas amidst their own as a mark of their appreciation of his inimitable splendour.

Thirukkural is better known to the world abroad than the language and the land of its birth, albeit in a manner confined to a limited circle of intellectuals all over the world. Despite the inadequacies and imperfections of many of its foreign translations, the all-conquering universality of its appeal is such that it has permeated every land and every age, every tongue and every creed, and has won unstinting tributes from even those whose knowledge of the Tamil Language, literature or culture is otherwise negligible.

Even under these circumstances, the great thinker of recent days, Alfred Schweitzer has remarked, while referring to this work, that it has been the leaven that continually inspired and embellished the evolution of religious thought in India all through the centuries from the age of the Vedas to that of Saint Ramakrishna and his great disciple, Swami Vivekananda, of Mahatma Gandhi and Poet Tagore.



One particular couplet of Tirukkural (55) has had an exceptional influence on the thought and beliefs of the people in Tamilnad as well as in other parts of India and abroad. The couplet seems to hint, or at any rate, has been taken to hint at a subtle connection between Karpu or Chastity of a woman and the fall of timely rain from the heavens. The same couplet also seems to talk of a chaste woman as one who would not deign to pay homage to any other deity but her own lord. Both these ideas are repeated parrot-like throughout Tamil literature from the days of the Sangam. Testiges of these beliefs are found in many places of India and South Eastern Asia, not to say of regions beyond. A veritable Creed of Chastity (Pathini cult) has left its mark on the rural folk in India, Ceylon and China.

The universalism and modernism of Tiruvalluvar's Tirukkural thus appear to be due really to its far-reaching, though silent influence over the evolution of religion and culture, thoughts and ideas of people in Tamilnad and India in particular, and of the wider world in general, in the course of ages.

After Schweitzer reads the influence of Tiruvalluvar's thoughts and ideas in the evolution of India's religion and culture through the ages. However, as he accepted the age of Tiruvalluvar as the 2nd century A.D. following current ideas about the same, he had to postulate a theory of his own in order to account for and explain this influence, which according to him began far earlier than the 2nd century A.D. in fact began earlier than the Vedas. He concedes for this purpose that the maxims of Tiruvalluvar existed long before him, and were only codified by him in

the literary form of Tirukkural as we see it. The wisdom of Ind, which according to him is the same as the wisdom of Tiruvalluvar, has slowly seeped through from the masses below to the classes above, to be accepted and adopted by the latter in slow and steady stages, evolving thus the magnificent structure that we call Hindu thought and Hindu culture today.

We see the Sun only through the light that emanates from him. Had it not been or the casual phenomenon of darkness at night, and gradations of light and shade, variation of temperature even in daytime, we perhaps would not have been conscious of the fact that we are able to see the sun only because of the light that he disseminates. This fact is in a great degree applicable to Tiruvalluvar—we often see Tiruvalluvar through the cultural light that he himself has helped to throw around us. This is the reason why few until recently have ever stopped to think of Tirukkural as a work of philosophy. Probably Alfred Schweitzer was the very first to see any philosophy in Tirukkural at all. However, even he, as we have seen above, had not credited Tiruvalluvar himself with the authorship of the philosophy. He gives the credit to the Dravidian masses or the so-called Depressed Classes of India, whose age-long wisdom was only codified by Tiruvalluvar, according to him.

However great the name and fame of Tiruvalluvar, till recently his great book has not been considered as a work of philosophy but as a book of maxims, as a literary work of general wisdom or at best a treatise on popular ethics. Indeed in recent days, from the time of V.O. Chidambaram Pillai of the shipping Satyagraha fame, certain scholars have denied Tiruvalluvar even the credit for the codification that Alfred Schweitzer allows him. They imagine him to be the author of only a formless jumble of loose maxims codified by somebody in the present form of the Tirukkural, in the same manner as the collection of maxims in Sanskrit known as the Hitopadesa.

That Tirukkural is no out-and-out ethics or stray maxims has however been recognised early by a picked few. Among the early eulogists of Tirukkural (collected for us in the Tiruvalluva Malai, which is not later than the 9th Century A.D.) one (Madurai Tamil Naganar) has chosen to call it an encyclopaedia.

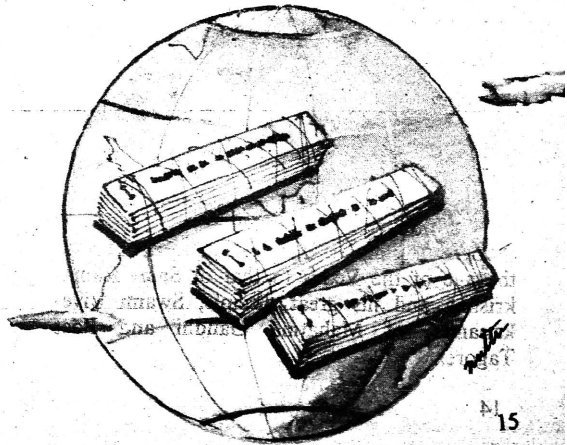
"In this work, one can see everything; there is nothing it does not contain"

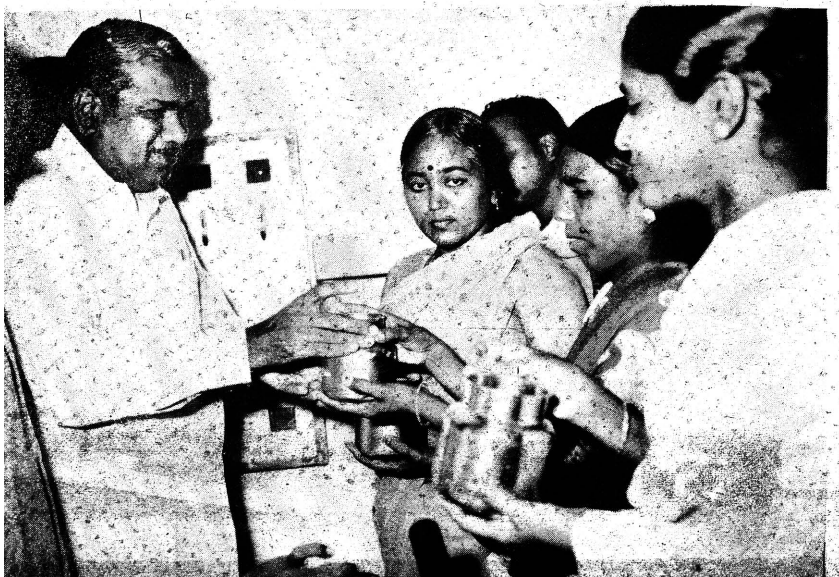
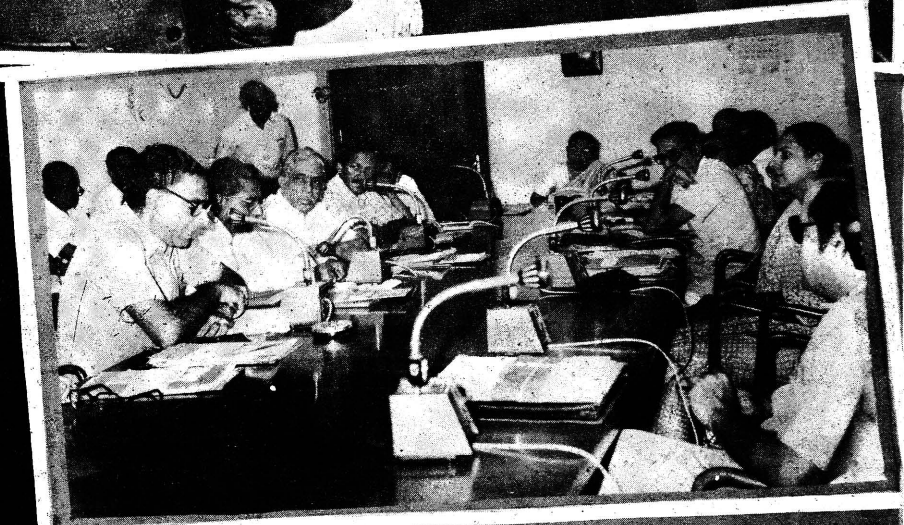
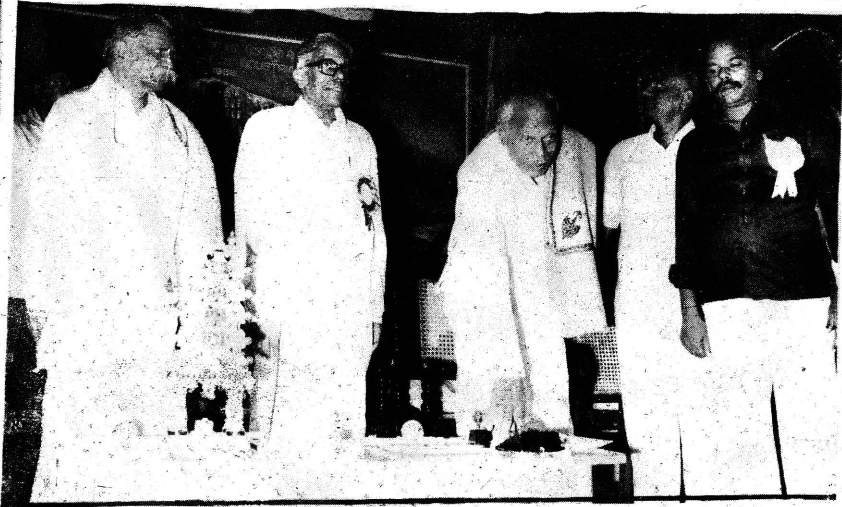
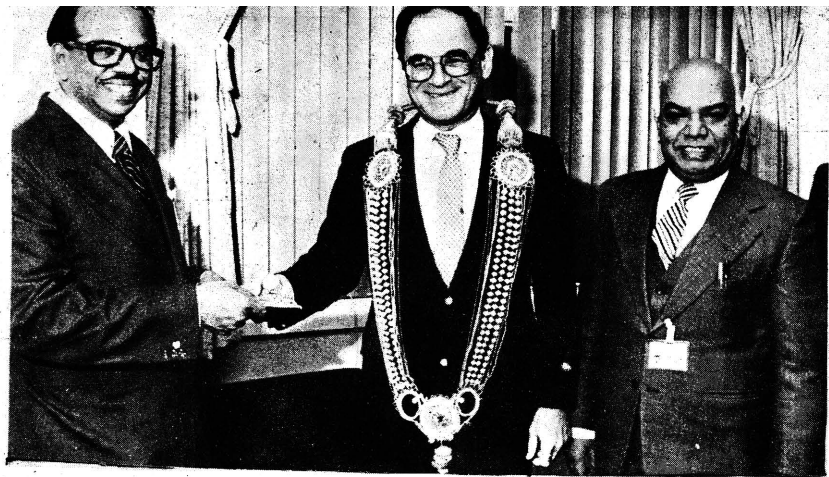
Scholars quite recently have sought to collect the ideas that form the background Tiruvalluvar's mind and to see some individuality or other among his conceptions. They have searched for his ideas on Ethics from the section on Aram, of politics from that on Porul, of Love from that on Inbam or Kamam. Some have gone deeper and tried to cull out some system from his ideas through a study of individuals chapters or even couplets—his ideas on economics or agriculture, education, warfare, espionage, etc. But these are possibly no more than literary studies, more or less like the studies of Shakespeare's dramas to elicit his ideas or knowledge of particular fields like medicines, law, statecraft etc. But these are characteristic of the spirit of the times, that is not satisfied with the verbal interpretation of the couplets, but wish to get into the mind of the great sage and understand his innate ideas and ideologies.

The hand of the time-spirit thus shows that it is high time to study Tirukkural as a whole and see what are Tiruvalluvar's innate ideas on the essentials of life, how far they have influenced the progress of human civilisation and guided it, and in what respects they are in advance of our age and can give us light and guidance for the future.

Tirukkural, as many early enlogists of Tiruvalluvar claim and as Tamil tradition affirms, as long been considered as a Veda or Bible, and has often been called the Bible of the Tamils. It has also been styled as Podhu Marai or the Bible of Humanity.

If these claims are correct, it follows that the Kural is not mere ethics, not mere philosophy, but a full-blooded religious philosophy that has a unique message to mankind covering all the requirements of man.





PHOTO

ALBUM

12th ALL INDIA TOURIST INDUSTRIAL FAIR Inaugurated

The All India Tourist and Industrial Fair, now being conducted annually in the city will become a permanent feature in the next three years, with the Tamilnadu Government spending about Rs. 40 to 50 lakh every year for the purpose.

This was stated by Information Minister Hon'ble R.M. Veerappan, while presiding over the opening of the 12th Tourist and Industrial Fair organised by the Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation.

The Minister also announced that a permanent auditorium would be built in the next 6 months at a cost of Rs. 12.5 lakh on the Island Grounds, venue of the Fair, in the place of the present temporary auditorium.

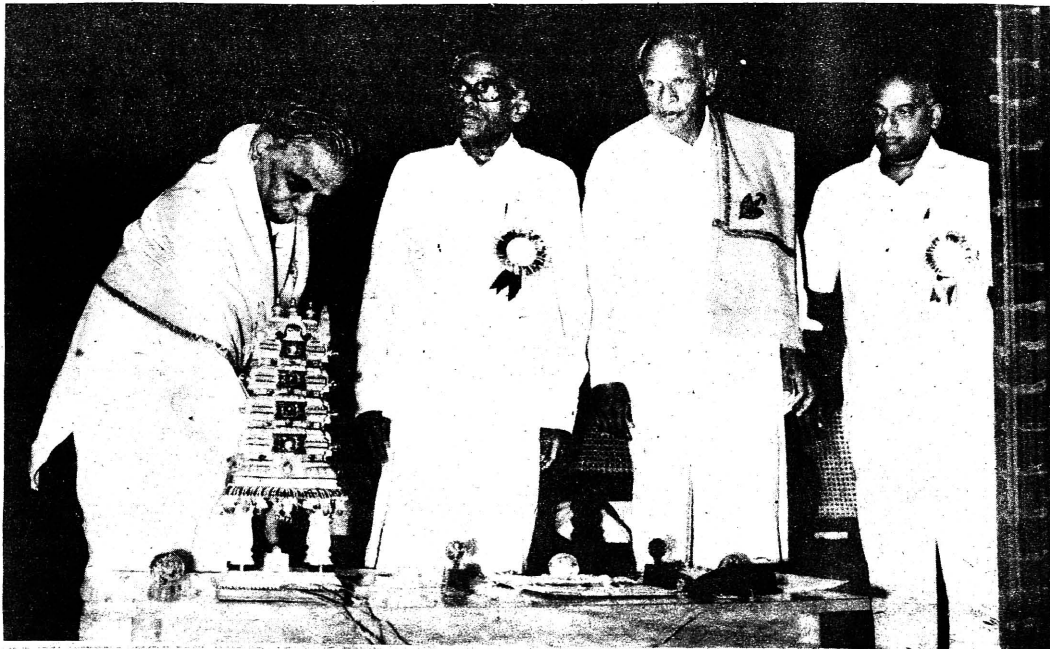
He said the State had sent to the Centre plans costing Rs. 80 crore to develop Kayakumari, Mamallapuram, Rameswaram and Uthagamandalam. He urged the Centre to give enough publicity to the tourist spots in Tamilnadu.

India attracted only 8.5 lakh of tourists a year compared to the world figure of 30 crore of tourists attracted by other countries.

Hon'ble K. Rajaram, State Assembly Speaker, who declared open the Anna auditorium, suggested that hovercraft be run between Madras and Mamallapuram along the coast.

The Chairman of the Legislative Council, Hon'ble M.P. Sivagnanam, who inaugurated the fair, wanted more encouragement to be given to development of tourism in order to earn foreign exchange. He suggested that literary debates and discourses should be conducted at the fair everyday in addition to cultural programmes.

Thiru N. Govindan, Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation, welcoming the gathering, said last year's fair had attracted 40 lakh people and this year, it might go up to 50 lakh. The Animal Husbandry, Industries and Forest Departments of the State Government would be awarded first, second and third prizes respectively for erecting their pavillions early enough.



12th All India Tourist and Industrial Fair, 1985.

The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation Limited an undertaking of Government of Tamilnadu has organised the All India Tourist and Industrial Fair for the 12th year in succession since 1974. The Fair is designed to highlight the Tourist attractions in the States and also their Industrial Progress. The Fair attracts every year over 50 lakhs of visitors from various parts of India and is considered to be the biggest Fair in India.

The present layout of the Fair has been suitably modified to have a better outlook, measuring an area of 22 acres on both sides of the river Cooum and is easily accessible to the public by Road and Rail.

This year the participants are 40 State Government Departments, 16 Districts, 17 State Government Undertakings, 11 Central Government undertakings and Departments, 19 Other State Government Departments and Undertakings, 24 leading private sector units and 208 shops.

Prominent among them are Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Madras Port Trust, Indian Navy, SIPCOT, Indian Space Research Organisation and Indian Railways.

Highlights of the Pavilions :

The Neyveli Lignite Corporation at their pavilion displays

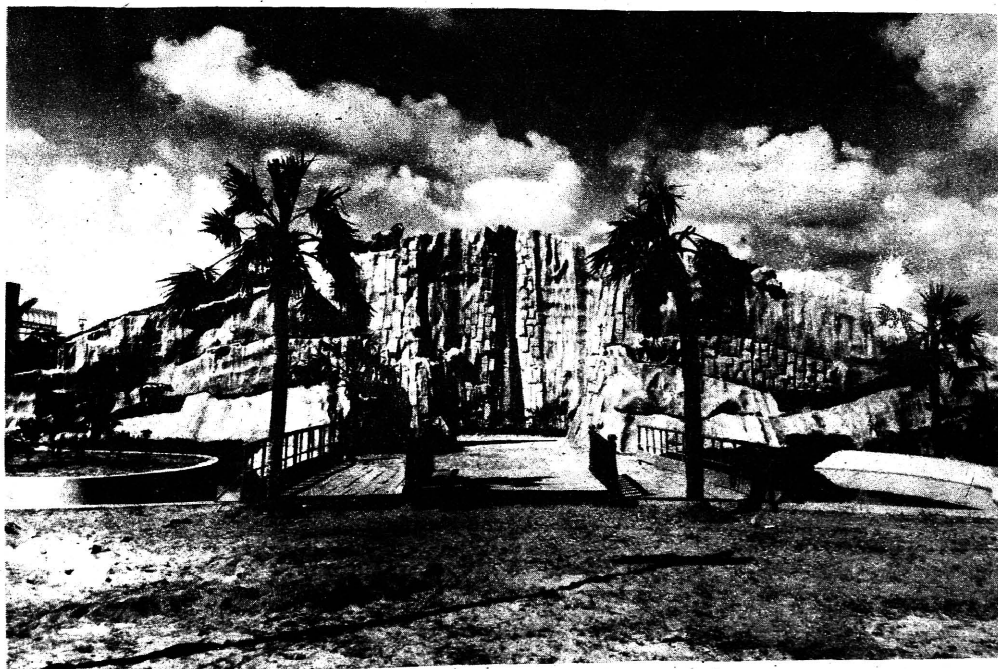
working models of machines for mining operations.

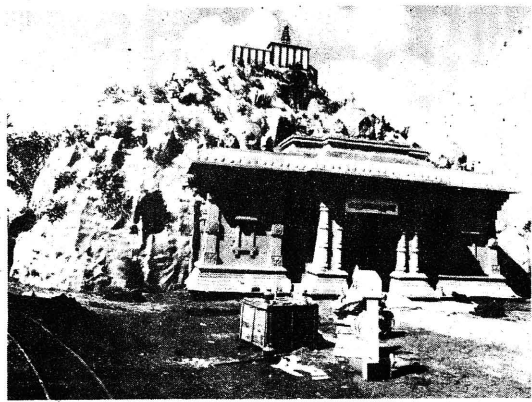
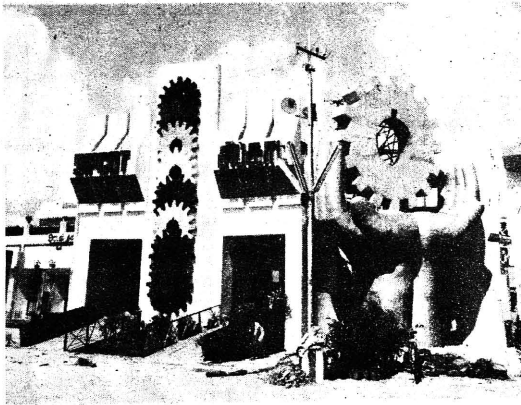
The SIPCOT highlights the Industrial Progress of Tamilnadu.

The Indian Navy have exhibited in their pavilion the working models of Ships, arms and ammunition used by them during War time.

The Hindu Religious and Endowment Department's pavilion depicts a colossal model of the Dandayuthapani Temple at Palani.

The Directorate of Fire Service; Government of Tamilnadu has put-up their pavilion for the first time. This is the maiden attempt





of the officials of Tamilnadu Fire Service. They project Fire prevention, fire protection and fire fighting tactics and technique with action displays, dos and donts and open air demonstration and display of educative films. Sound and Light effects highlight the miniature displays at the pavilion.

The Indian Space Research Organisation has presented colour photographic panels and three dimensional models of space hardware projecting a cross section of India's activities in the area of space. Among the space exhibits are India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle SLV3, which was launched from Sriharikota, the Rohini Satellite and India's second general satellite launch vehicle.

Indian Railways has exhibited at their Pavilion various working models of Trains. They have highlighted the activities and improvements of Railway Department.

The Tourism Directorates of State and Central Governments are presenting a colourful pavilion depicting the religious, cultural and national integrity of India and the beauty and excellence of handicrafts and tribal culture as well as schemes for the promotion of sportslike wind surfing. This pavilion will also be staging a variety of cultural events throughout the Fair.

All the 16 Districts of the Tamilnadu have put-up individual pavilions to highlight their Industrial Development and achievements on the socio economic front, art and Architecture and the Tourist attractions of their Districts.

The Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. has a permanent Drive-in-Restaurant in the Fair Grounds catering, quality and hygienic food.

An attractive Handloom Bazaar has been organised by the Directorate of Handlooms with its primary Societies. An Exclusive Theme Pavilion has also been put-up by the Directorate of Handlooms to highlight the demonstration of Weaving operations.

To give wide publicity and to highlight the proposed Vandaloore Zoo near Madras, by the Forest Department and the Open Air Museum to be put up by the Tourism Department at Mahabalipuram, the model of the Vandalur Zoo and the entrance Arch of the Open Air Museum have been put-up as Entrance Facade near War Memorial side and as the rear Entrance Facade, Mount Road, of the Fair respectively.

The Arignar Anna Auditorium is the main theatre where all the functions, cultural programmes, dance, drama and light music programmes are conducted.

The Madhavi Kalai Aranam is the Mini Auditorium



designed on the Bragadeeswarar Temple at Thanjavur by decorating with coconut leaves, which reflects the traditional Artistic skill of the Artisan. This auditorium is mainly to conduct the Folk dances of Tamilnadu and to conduct important shows such as Flower Show, Dog show and Food Exhibition.

The popular movies are being screened in the Open Air Cinema Theatre at Fair site.

This year the Children Happy Paradise is one of the special attractions organised by National Association for Child Education and Development.



Special events such as Horticultural Show, Dog Show, Fashion Parade, Fair, Book Fair and Boat Race make the Fair more colourful.

Yet another unforgettable feature of this year is the Photo Exhibition giving the general public an idea of gradual development of the Film Industry since 1931.

In view of the unique and added attractions, a record turnover of visitors is expected this year.



Special Leave for TNEB engineers:

A 5 year special leave for T.N.E.B. Engineers who want to set up industries in the State has been existing. The engineers availing the concession will be allowed to revert back to the board if they aren't successful in their venture.

Wireless Vans to face Breakdowns

For attending power breakdowns effectively in Madras, 19 vehicles with V.H.F. sets have been pressed into service. A central breakdown assistance wing has been created.

SIDCO DISTRIBUTES

SIDCO procures and distributes scarce industrial raw materials such as Iron and Steel, Coke, Match Wax Paraffinwax, Lead and Zinc, Pottassium Chlorate, Fatty acids etc., Due to the persistent efforts of SIDCO over the years, the availability of almost all the raw materials that were scarce during the earlier years has since improved so as to meet the full requirements of SSIs in Tamil Nadu. Particular mention should be made about all sections of Iron and Steel and various grades of wax.

Koyambedu Wholesale Market Complex :

In order to de-congest Central Business District and as part of metropolitan development it has been proposed to shift the existing Koyambedu Market, Textile, Food grains and flower markets to a well planned site at Koyambedu about 70 kilometers away from the city at the junction of Poonamallee High Road and the inner ring road. The total extent of the market site is about 230 acres. About 153 acres have been acquired so far and the remaining land would also be acquired shortly.

The year 1978 witnessed a major thrust in the reconstruction of the educational system in Tamil Nadu with the adoption of the new pattern of 10+2+3 for School and College classes. The two-year course forming the upper deck, 912 schools extended this level and type of education to the interior rural parts, replacing

Minister Thiru C. Aranganayakam, who piloted the scheme right from the start in 1977 with a firm faith in the system.

The distinct advantages in upgrading select high schools into higher secondary schools are easier accessibility to this stage of education in the rural areas; keeping the cost of

same school where general education was imparted to overcome the unhealthy mental barriers of standard, status, means and intellectual abilities among the students who are admitted to academic and vocational streams. The medium of instruction adopted was mainly Tamil or the mother tongue with facilities of free

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION - A RETROSPECT

the pre-university course, which was provided in 188 colleges, most of them in urban location.

The firm decision to locate the plus two stage in schools and to extend the benefit to every nook and corner of the State and to all sections of society, especially to the neglected rural population was the first effective step taken to correct the imbalance in higher educational provision. The credit for this goes, entirely to our Hon'ble Education

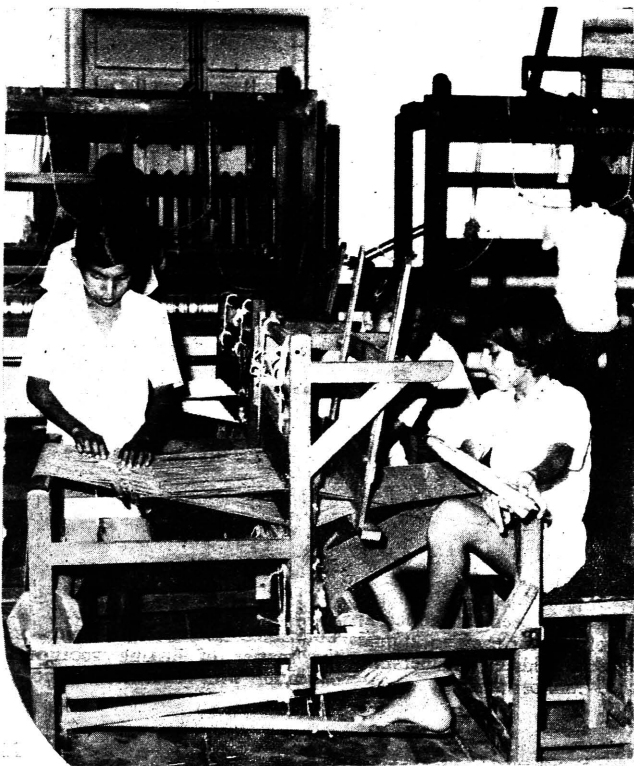
education within manageable limits in schools; lesser indiscipline problems in schools; more number of working days than the colleges and congenial atmosphere to pupils by the extension of the familiar school studies. Above all, it was considered easier to vocationalize education at the school system than in colleges or universities which usually offered degree or diploma courses at a higher level. For many reasons, academic and sociological, it was decided to impart vocational training in the

education for them. Community service, physical education and moral education were also part of the course.

At the higher secondary stage two distinctive streams were introduced, one preparing students for advanced education in the universities and the professional colleges and the other preparing for a variety of occupations immediately after completion of vocational studies.

According to the Kothari Commission, with proper planning, co-operation, co-ordination and implementation of the scheme of vocationalisation, it should be possible to divert at least 50 percent of the students who successfully complete 10 year education to the vocational stream, thus reducing the pressure on the universities on the one hand and preparing the students for gainful employment including self-employment on the other. For a majority of vocational higher secondary students this would be a terminal stage in the sense further educational facilities would be made available so that those in jobs may benefit through part-time or evening studies.

Hence in the Tamil Nadu Programme, the facilities for vocational education were suitably diversified to cover a large number of fields such as agriculture, fisheries, engineering, industry, banking, trade, commerce, medicine, public health, home management, arts, crafts, music, dance including Bharatha Natyam, secretarial training, etc.



The course of studies for the two streams was so framed that the student of general education would do two languages, one of which will be English and a combination of four subjects of arts, science or interdisciplinary nature. The students in vocational group had to do the same two languages and one or two subjects related to the vocational subject and the remaining part of the time was devoted to the study of the selected vocational subject.

Thus the 2 year stage between the school and university stages of education was regarded not merely as college preparatory but as a period for preparing an increasingly large number of school leavers for different vocations in life.

Thus vocationalisation of education is a major breakthrough in the reconstruction of the present educational system. Through vocationalisation it would be possible to prepare middle level manpower, who would not merely be superior to skilled workers but who would work with their brains as well as their hands in view of their academic and vocational background. The stress was laid increasingly on self-employment, due to the fact that all those who qualify in vocational studies are likely to secure gainful jobs of their choice in the organised sectors.

On the lines suggested by the NCERT and the Centre for the Study of Regional Development of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), occupational surveys were conducted as a preliminary step in all the districts with a view to identifying the manpower needs, demand for new skills, vocations in which there is shortage of trained personnel, the emerging industrial, agricultural, commercial and trade development, the facilities available for vocational training, the areas for self-employment opportunities and the facilities for on-the-job training to students.

Six major occupational areas were identified. Experts, Specialists, Professionalists connected with each vocation such as Senior Engineers, Doctors, Lawyers, Agricultural Professors, Home Science Teachers, Bankmen, Co-operators, Industrialists, Foremen of firms, were associated in the preparation of the syllabus and course of study with a stress on practical work.



In view of the changing pattern of vocations, it was considered that substantial hardware and permanent facilities should be created only for those vocations which would have a longer span of life. For others, as far as possible, existing facilities in educational institutions or other organisations could be utilised and teachers or instructors appointed on a part-time basis from amongst those who have expertise in the vocations concerned. The facilities available in the institutions belonging to different departments of the Government, public enterprises and private organisations were harnessed so that the cost of vocationalisation may be kept down. Several public and private sector industries and undertakings were associated with vocational programmes introduced in the area schools.

The requirements of teaching staff for the various vocational courses were met partly by inducting the personnel of erst while bifurcated courses into the Higher Secondary Schools and for the rest, it was considered that the object of these vocational courses will be better served if suitable persons working in the field in the locality are made available to handle both theory and practical classes on part-time basis. Permission was also accorded for holding the classes in the place of normal work of the part-time instructor such as banks, factories, farms, industries, hospitals, Primary Health Centres, private organizations, etc.

Posts of part time vocational instructors have been sanctioned at the rate of two for each vocational class on a consolidated remuneration of Rs. 150 p.m. per person.

The implementation of the vocational scheme was left to the local Headmasters and the Parent Teacher Associations and the Vocational Committees formed in each school. Girls are provided with a variety of courses under Home Craft. The Heads of Schools may change the vocational subject depending upon the job market with advance intimation. Internal assessment has been adjusted to assess the involvement of pupils on the vocational practicals. Hence for teaching the theory and practical of a vocational subject, a teacher should have first class practical competence; he must also possess comprehensive knowledge of scientific principles underlying the practicals. Therefore, practitioners from the particular vocation have been invited to participate in the instructional work. There is an advantage in having persons from the field to instruct the students. Not only the latest practices will be imparted and through his influence regular on-the-job training can be arranged but it may even ensure employment to the students ultimately resulting in a good collaborative arrangement.

Many retired personnel with appropriate skills are appointed on short term basis. But there is a demand that a certain percentage of teaching personnel must be appointed in each school on regular basis. There is also a demand to increase the rate of remuneration to part-time instructors. To the extent possible, the Heads of Institutions were themselves authorised to appoint persons possessing the qualifications subject to the age limit of 60 years. In special circumstances persons with lesser qualifications were permitted. Government also authorised all the Heads of Departments to permit their staff to serve as part-time instructors and to receive the remuneration allowed.

To assist the vocational instructors, Student "Vocational Monitors" are appointed on the "Earn while you Learn" principle on a monthly remuneration of Rs. 20/- Two Vocational Monitors are permitted for each course one for the first year class and the other for the second year class.

The Tamil Nadu Programme has provision for attaching the vocational courses with the industries, factories, banks, farms, hospitals, etc., to make the course fruitful. All leading industrialists and Chambers of Commerce have been consulted in the matter of linking vocational education with industries and com-

merce and a fair degree of success has been achieved in forging a linkage.

A District Committee on vocational education has been formed in every district with the District Collector as Chairman, the Chief Educational Officer as Convener and the District Officers in the Departments of Agriculture, Public Health, Industries and Commerce and Employment and Training as members to guide in the task of linking education with job. This has to be stabilised further to make it fruitful.

As an essential step, the Heads of Higher Secondary Schools having vocational courses have been given orientation training. With a view to orient the teachers of vocational courses the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi (NCERT) has organized in-service courses. The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) also plays a significant role in organizing orientation courses, induction courses and in-service training programmes.

There is also a proposal to give apprenticeship facilities to students with the co-operation of the related departments and organizations. To obviate the difficulties encountered, necessary measures to bring the vocational students under the purview of the Apprenticeship Act are being worked out by the concerned Ministry in the Government of India.

The production of suitable textbooks for a large variety of vocational subjects was considered a formidable task and a time-consuming job. Therefore, in the initial stage suitable publications were procured from other Departments and Institutions where similar courses or allied courses are conducted, and adopted by teachers and students for consultation and study. Simultaneously knowledgeable authors were involved to write well illustrated vocational Guide Books in clear and simple language with authentic practical details based on the syllabus, keeping the local conditions in view. Guide Books have been supplied to teachers free of cost to guide them in the method of instruction. So far 105 guide books have been published covering 48 vocational subjects.

The vocationalisation of education at +2 stage is being so structured

as to make it both terminal and continuing. The aspirations of the students for a better position on the employment market has been taken into account and now the system permits them to secure further qualifications for vertical and horizontal mobility whenever they desire or opportunities occur.

The objective is most of the students of the Vocational Courses should enter into the world of work either through self-employment or taking up a job. For those who wish to continue and improve their qualification, there is provision for allowing them admission in technical and professional institutions as follows in specialised areas, provided they fulfil the admission norms.

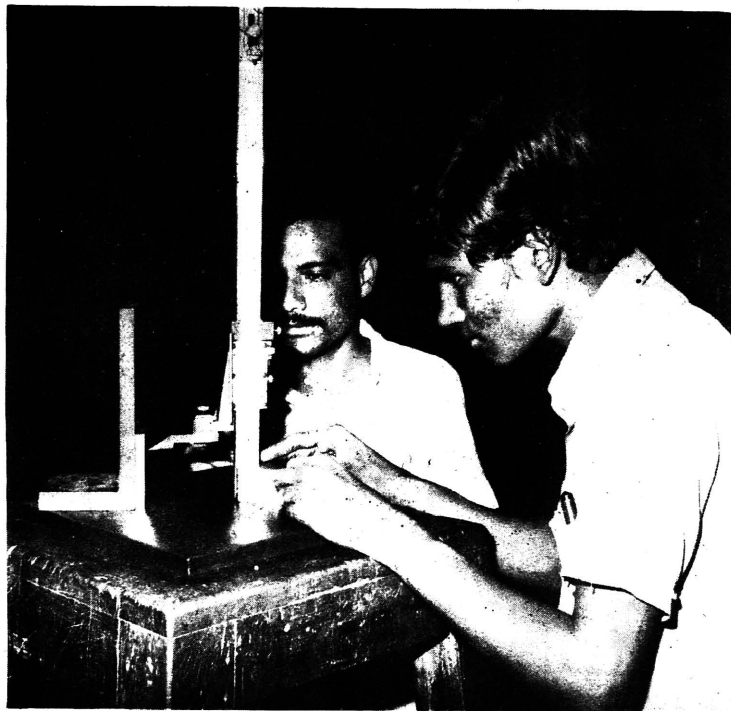
1. Engineering Colleges
2. Second year of Polytechnic and 10% of seats will be reserved for them.

3. Agriculture and Veterinary Courses
4. MBBS and BDS Courses
5. Vocational students of 'Nursing' subject in the B.Sc., (Nursing) in the 2nd year of the course

Similarly universities do not close the doors for those who wish to pursue studies by suitably offering courses in subjects studied by them in relation to the vocational courses. They may also appear in an additional subject of study outside school hours for this purpose.

To help the students to make a judicious selection of vocational courses, it is considered desirable to provide guidance and counselling for careers and courses to the students.

The total number of vocational courses started in 940 out of 1360 schools is 1,432.



SIDCO allots 983 developed plots:

SIDCO has so far constructed 1169 sheds in 29 locations (13 Government Estates and 16 SIDCO Estates) and allotted 983 developed plots in various Indus-

trial Estates to Small Scale Industrial units. In addition to the above, workshops are under construction in Kurichi (Coimbatore) Thuvakudi (Trichirappalli) Dindigal and Madhavaram.

Be Bold!

Be Strong!

Be Heroes!

—Swami Vivekananda



All power is within you. You can do anything and everything. Believe in that. Do not believe you are weak. Stand up and express the divinity within you. Your country requires heroes. Be heroes. What India wants is muscles of iron and nerves of steel, inside which dwells a mind of the same material as that of which the thunderbolt is made. Stand up, be bold, be strong. Take the whole responsibility on your shoulders and know that you are the creator of your own destiny.

—Swami Vivekananda.

The Prime Minister, Thiru Rajiv Gandhi formally inaugurating the International year of the youth on the 12th Jan, the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, impressed on youth the need for discipline in all walks of life. Without discipline, he declared, the country can't progress. The Prime Minister wanted youth to aspire for exceptional level in their respective spheres of work. Noting that 70 per cent of the nation's population is below 35 years of age, he called for concerted efforts to help youth develop physically and become good citizens.

Giving his message on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's birthday, the President, Thiru Giani Zail Singh said that the Swami has infused the youthful spirit into a stagnant society—a spirit of sacrifice, service, adventure and patriotism. The Vice-President, Thiru R. Venkatraman said in his message that renunciation, courage, service, and disciple are the motives the youth can learn from Swami Vivekananda.

It is to honour the Swami and to keep up with the youth tornado sweeping the nation, the Government of India declared that 12th Jan will be the National Youth day, every year. There can't be an apter honour to a man who barely lived for forty years but was the most powerful phenomenon of youth, in the century.

Swami Vivekananda called for a hundred thousand young men and women filled with the fire of spirituality and nationalism to go over the length and the breadth of India, preaching the gospel of salvation, the gospel of help, the gospel of social elevation and the gospel of equality.

Treating physical well being as important as anything else, he put football essential before spirituality. Sister Nivedita writes of him: "To him the workshop, the study, the farmyard and the field are as true and fit scenes for the meeting of God and man as the cell of monk or the door of the temple. To him there is no difference between the service of man and worship of God, between manliness and faith, between true righteousness and spirituality". Swami Vivekananda's works give us a young man who believed in himself, in his powers completely. There was no groping in the dark about him but a boldness to face and understand the impossible and the unknown. He was a synonym for self-confidence and deep faith.

Swami Vivekananda called the youth of India to realise that 'strength is life and weakness is death. "Strength is felicity, life eternal, immortal. Weakness is constant strain and misery. Let positive, strong helpful thoughts enter your brain from the very childhood." None lived who could foresee the potential of the Indian Youth than the Swamiji and none portrayed the power of

the splendour of youth than he could.

1985 is the international year of youth. Jan 12th is declared National Youth Day.



**Cash Prize
To
Meritorious
Students :**

To encourage the Headmaster, Teachers and pupils in the Municipal Schools so as to improve the standard of education, Government has introduced a prize scheme from the year 1980-81. According to this scheme, the Municipal High School and Higher Secondary School which gets the highest percentage of results in X and 2 Examinations will be awarded a Rolling Trophy. Besides, this Trophy, the Headmasters and Teachers of that School which achieves the highest percentage of results and of the school which gets 20% more than the results of the previous year are being honoured with shawls. Any student who gets first mark in X and +2 Examination is awarded a cash prize of Rs. 250 each.

**19.5 percent of
Indian Pumpsets
in Tamil Nadu :**

As on 31st March '83 TNEB has energised 9,65,017 pumpsets which represent 19.5% of the total number of pumpsets in the entire country. The energy consumed by the Agricultural section during the year 82-83 is of the order about 2,500 MU. and this works out to 29.8% of the total Tamil Nadu Grid Consumption.

Youth urged to help

implement

welfare

programmes :

The Tamil Nadu Governor, His Excellency Thiru S. L. Khurana, called upon the youth to help strengthen inter-national peace and understanding.

Inaugurating the National Youth Week celebrations at the University Centenary Auditorium, Thiru S. L. Khurana said the country had rightly chosen to observe 1985 as the International Year of Youth as envisaged by the United Nations. "Our youths have a vital role to play in helping the country take its rightful place in the comity of nations", he added.

The observance of January 12, the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, as the National Youth Day, had great significance, Thiru Khurana said. The youth should channelise their energies in constructive ways and help the nation achieve greater progress.

Thiru C. Aranganayagam, Education Minister, who presided, asked the youth to take a pledge that they would not allow any

individual or group to override the interests of the nation. They should imbibe the spirit of Swami Vivekananda in carrying aloft the glorious tradition and culture of India.

Dr. B. B. Sundaresan, Vice-Chancellor, Madras University, who welcomed the gathering, said the International Year of Youth should help to stimulate research on the problems facing the youth.

Thiru T.D. Sundar Raj, Commissioner and Secretary, Education, said the Tamil Nadu Government would give top priority to solve problems facing the youth.

Earlier students from various city colleges in collaboration with the Song and Drama Division of the Government of India, entertained the audience to a cultural programme that included folk dances.

Tamil Nadu Leads in Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme

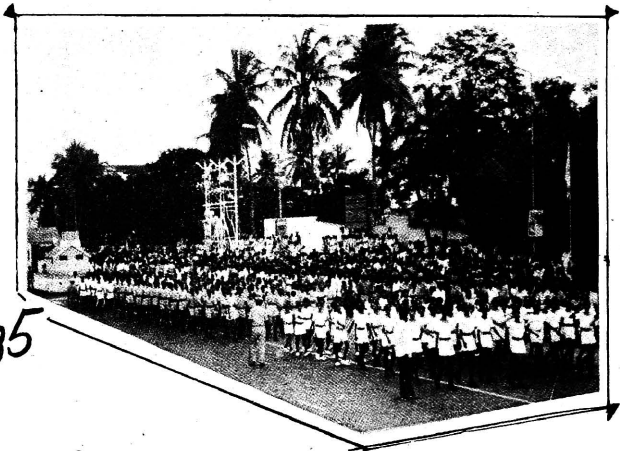
Tamil Nadu continues to occupy the first place in the country in availing of the benefits of Central Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme.

The scheme of 15% State Capital subsidy in respect of small scale industrial units situated in the notified 24 taluks, is implemented by SIDCO with effect from 17-12-79.

Special feature

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH

Year 1985



Whenever we talk about International Youth Year (1985) we always say that these events are being observed rather than celebrated. We do so intentionally: for there is more than a nuance in the difference between the two words. Young people suffer from the effects of the international economic crisis. There is no doubt that this situation is worsening the 'silent emergency' in which hundreds of millions of children and adolescents live today. Perhaps, therefore, there is not much to celebrate. What is certain is that there is much to be done not only for youth but also with them and by them.

What is "Youth" ?

There are many parts of the world where 'youth' is almost an

unknown concept. Many children are abruptly and harshly catapulted into adulthood at a very early age. Many people in the 15-24 age group, which is what the United Nations identifies as 'Youth', consider themselves adults and indeed are already shouldering heavy adult responsibilities and worries. For instance, many are already parents.

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But ideally the youth years are a vital transition from childhood to adulthood; a time for intensive training and preparation; a time when an individual's interests and talents are sharpened and focused; a time when special skills are acquired and matured habits formed.

The situation of youth today:

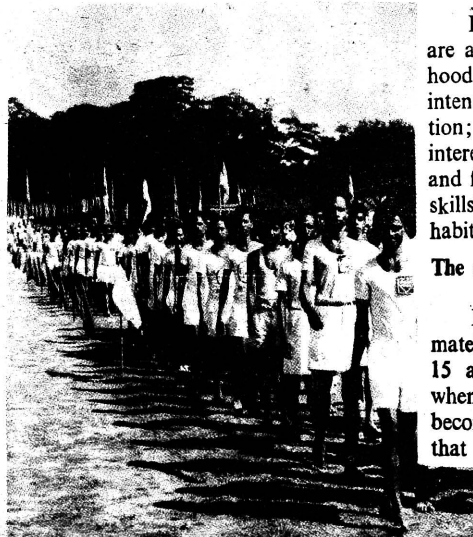
In 1975 there were approximately 738 million people between 15 and 24; by the year 2000, when today's children will have become youth, it is estimated that there will be 1,180 million-

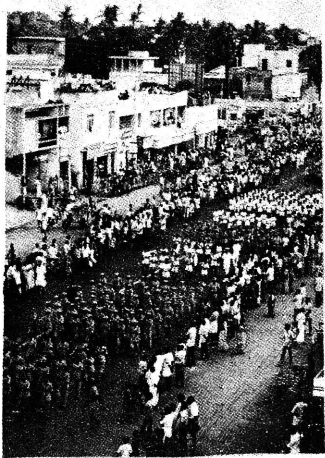
an increase of 60% world-wide. (30% in the Third World)

Then problems facing this age group are increasing as fast as its numbers. More than 300 million youths are unable to find jobs. Lack of access to education and high rates of school dropouts results in widespread illiteracy, particularly among girls. Health care is inadequate, especially among rural youth. Drug and alcohol addiction, teenage pregnancies and abortions, violence, crime and suicides involve more young people than ever before. In short, far too many are trapped in critical poverty, lacking sufficient food, safe water, proper housing health care, basic education and access to employment. They are growing up on the edge of survival, without any hope of decent life, and nothing to enable them to contribute to the development of their community and country. All this seems to indicate that society is often failing to provide youth with sufficient guidance and opportunity.

...and as seen by youth itself

Generally speaking, it would probably be fair to say that key words emerging from the experience of youth people during the present decade are 'scarcity', 'unemployment', 'defensiveness', 'pragmatism', 'Subsistence' and even 'Survival'. Many young to-





day are appalled by the injustice they see in the world, the lack of opportunities, the prospect of deepening recession, and the threat of a nuclear war. Some try to escape the problems by total marginalization fleeing the starkness of the real world and entering into the deadly illusion of drugs and alcohol. Others break-partially or wholly-with society and form their own local youth sub-cultures. But the only way to solve a problem is to draw up the energy, courage and imagination to face and conquer it. Fortunately, that is what most people opt for. And nowhere is there as much energy, courage, and imagination as in youth.

Why a Youth Year ?

When the UN General Assembly decided to make 1985 the International Youth Year, it was in recognition of just such points. Most observers believe that the 15 to 24 year-old age group has been ignored for too long. As we have seen, young people today, whether rich or poor-live in societies undergoing rapid social and economic change, in which finding productive employment grows ever more difficult. And they live at a time when the need to understand the planets great physical and cultural diversity has never been greater.

What can IYY accomplish ?

International Youth Year is not just another United Nation's 'year'. Unlike other years, IYY is being treated not as a deliberate process for reviewing the status of youth in every country and

Rural Youth Self Employment :

Trysem : (Training for Rural Youths Self Employment)

Government has recently launched a programme to provide credit facilities to unemployed and under-employed educated and technically trained youths in the State so as to enable them to start and run new ventures under TRYSEM scheme. As a first step, around 10,000 are being given financial and other assistance both from Government in the shape of subsidy drawn from the Integrated Rural Development Programme funds and from Commercial banks as loans. This will enable them to set up self-employment ventures in semi-engineering trades. Beneficiaries will be selected by a Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of the District Collectors from out of 1,30,000 youths trained under TRYSEM in the various Industrial Training Institutes. The project profiles in selected trades prepared by the Director of Employment and Training are being used under the scheme. Each beneficiary will be given financial assistance from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 70,000 depending upon the type of unit. The financial assistance will be in the form of subsidy-cum-loan. The Department of Institutional Finance is arranging for bank loan.

It is proposed to distribute loans through Banks to about 1,75,000 poor sections of the people in the State by arranging another massive and crash programme.

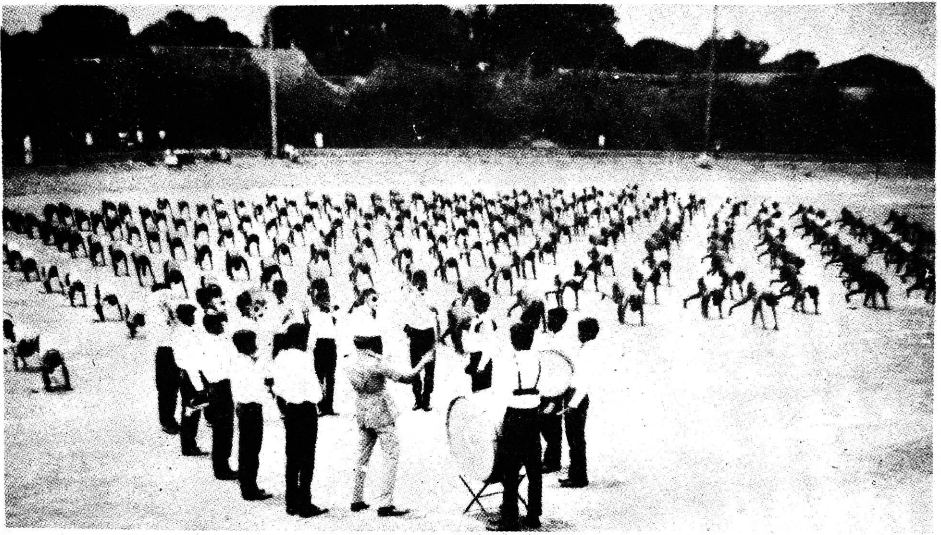
region of the globe, and for planning and acting on long-range programmes aimed at solving the problems and utilizing the potentials of youth.

Nor is IYY meant to be a repetition or extension of IYC, a year in which everyone was urged to do more on behalf of children. Instead it is to be a year when youth are asked—and given new opportunities—to do things on their own behalf. It is hoped that the year will stimulate and increase youth's desire and ability to participate in all aspects of life-economic, political, social, and cultural. Among the priorities so far identified for actions during the year are :

- expansion of youth participation in national development
- increased employment opportunities and an end to job discrimination against young workers :
- greater access to education and to technical and vocational training ;
- Promotion of youth participation of community activities to improve health education, family life education, sanitation and nutrition.

IYY, then, will serve to attract public attention. The objective is to make everybody aware of the problems facing youth, to sensitize public opinion towards the solving of these problems, to help youth groups and organisations make their work better known, to promote their cooperation and exchange of experiences, and to assist them in their efforts towards development peace and justice. The key words are participation and action.

If IYY is to be nothing but another occasion to make empty speeches and demagogic promises



then it certainly will not contribute to solving the problems of youth in the present world.

The IYY themes: participation, development and peace.

Elaborating on the themes of the year, Mohammed Sharif, IYY Executive Secretary, has stressed what participation means; 'Young people have a right to be included in discussions effecting their lives and the future of their societies. It implies understanding, equality, acceptance, involvement and an affirmation that that are taken seriously.'

'Development', according to Thiru Sharif, "means innovation and progress—for both individuals and societies. Young peo-

ple must be free to develop in new ways and in all directions, while maintaining respect for their culture heritage." "Peace", finally "is not just the absence of conflict. Peace is understanding, it is the freedom to exist...and the assurance...that the future will be worth living."

The future belongs to Youth :

Life is a relay race. Each generation holds the torch to the next. In this sense, the future literally belongs to youth because they are the ones who are going to have to live in it. Who, then, are better qualified to work in behalf of society's future than youth? They are not stuck in the old and familiar prejudices and habits that often

paralyze their elders; and they are not afraid to try out new ideas. Without the spirit of adventure and idealism characteristic of youth the world would long ago have died of hardening of its mental arteries. Youth, in short, are potential agents of social change within the context of three IYY themes. And young people are crying for opportunities to be involved and to be of service.

If during IYY young people are given the understanding and inspiration and opportunities they need in order to fulfil their natural role in society, enabling them to reinvigorate and renew it, IYY can be a significant tuning point in modern history.

Courtesy: Friends.

25% CAPITAL SUBSIDY :

Under this scheme which extends to all areas except cities with more than one million population and which aims at providing self-employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth through industry, service and business routes; the beneficiaries will be given a minimum provision of Rs. 10,000. At target of

17,500 units of entrepreneurs-services-business has been fixed for Tamil Nadu for 1983-84. They can obtain from the banks a composite loan upto a maximum of Rs. 25,000. The assistance from the Government of India will be in the shape of an outright capital subsidy to the extent of 25% of the loan contracted from the banks.

MARTYR'S DAY

THE LESSON OF THE MASTER

A tribute by
NEHRU on
MAHATMA.



The last journey has ended. The final pilgrimage has been made. For over fifty years Mahatma Gandhi wandered about all over our great country, from the Himalayas and the North Western Frontier and the Brahmaputra in the North East to Kanya Kumari in the far South. He visited every part and corner of this country, not as a mere tourist or visitor for the sake of amusement, but in order to understand and serve the Indian people. Perhaps no other Indian in history has travelled about so much in India or got to know the common people so well and served them so abundantly. And now his journey in this world is over, though we have still to continue for a while. Many people are moved to grief, and this is proper and natural. But why should we grieve? Do we grieve for him or for something else? In his life as in his death there has been radiance which will illumine our country for ages to come. Why then should we grieve for him? Let us grieve rather for ourselves, for our own weaknesses, for the illwill in our hearts, for our dissensions and for our conflicts. Remember that it was to remove all these that Mahatmaji gave his life. Remember that during the past few months it was on this that he concentrated his vast energy and service. If we honour him, do we honour his name only or do we honour what he stood for, his advice and teachings, and more specially what he died for?

Let us, standing here on the banks of the Ganges, search our own hearts and ask ourselves the question: How far have we followed the path shown to us by Gandhiji and how far have we tried to live in peace and co-operation with others? If ever now we follow the right path, it will be well with us and well with our country.

Our country gave birth to a mighty one and he shone like a beacon not only for India but for the whole world. And yet he was done to death by one of our own brothers and compatriots. How did this happen? You might think that it was an act of madness, but that does not explain this tragedy. It could only occur because the seed for it was sown in the poison of hatred and enmity that spread through the country and affected so many of our people. Out of that seed grew this poisonous plant. It is the duty of all of us to fight this poison of hatred and illwill. If we have learned anything from Gandhiji, we must bear no ill-will or enmity towards any person. The individual is not our enemy. It is the poison within him that we fight and which we must put an end to. We are weak and feeble, but Gandhiji's strength passed to us also to some extent. In his reflected glory we also gained in stature. The splendour and the strength were his, and the path he showed was also his. We stumbled

often enough and fell down in our attempts to follow that path and serve our people as he wanted us to serve them.

Our pillar of strength is no more. But why do we say that? His image is enshrined in the hearts of the million men and women who are present here today, and hundreds of millions of our countrymen who are not present here, will also never forget him. Future generations of our people, who have not seen him or heard him, will also have that image in their hearts because that image is now a part of India's inheritance and history thirty or forty years ago began in India what is called the Gandhi Age. It has come to an end today. And yet I am wrong for it has not ended. Perhaps it has really begun now, although somewhat differently. Thus far we have been leaning on him for advice and support, from now onwards we have to stand on our own feet and to rely on ourselves. May his memory inspire us and his teachings light our path. Remember his ever-recurring message: "Root out fear from your hearts and malice, put an end to violence and internecine conflict, keep your country free"

He brought us to freedom and the world marvelled at the way he did it. But at the very moment of gaining our freedom we forgot the lesson of the Master. A wave of frenzy and fanaticism overtook our people and we disgraced the fair name of India. Many of our youth were misled and took to wrong paths. Are we to drive them away and crush them? They are our own people and we have to win them over and mould them and train them to right thought and action.

The communal poison, which has brought disaster upon us, will put an end to our freedom also if we are not vigilant and if we do not take action in time. It was to awaken us to this impending danger that Gandhiji undertook his last fast two or three weeks ago. His self-crucifixion roused the nation's conscience and we pledged before him to behave better. It was only then that he broke his fast.

Gandhiji used to observe silence for one day in every week. Now that voice is silenced forever and there is unending silence. And yet that voice resounds in our ears and in our hearts, and it will resound in the minds and hearts of our people, and even beyond the borders of India, in the long ages to come. For that voice is the voice of truth, and though truth may occasionally be suppressed it can

never be put down. Violence for him was the opposite of truth and therefore he preached to us against violence not only of the hand but of the mind and heart. If we do not give up this internecine violence and have the utmost forbearance and friendliness to other, we are doomed as a nation. The path of violence is perilous and freedom seldom exists for long where there is violence. Our talk of Swarajya and the people's freedom is meaningless, if we have internal violence and conflict.

I see large numbers of soldiers of the Indian Army in this audience. It is their proud privilege and duty to defend the integrity and honour of this country of ours. They can only do so if they stand together and function together. If they fell out among themselves, what would their strength be worth and how could they then serve their country?

Democracy demands discipline, tolerance and mutual regard. Freedom demands respect for the freedom of others. In a democracy changes are made by mutual discussion and persuasion and not by violent means. If a government has not got popular support, another government takes its place which commands that popular support. It is only small groups, who know that they cannot get sufficient popular support, that resort to methods of violence, imagining in their folly that they can gain their ends in this way. This is not only utterly wrong but it is also utterly foolish. For the reaction to the violence of the minority, which seeks to coerce the majority, is to provoke the majority into violence against them.

This great tragedy has happened because many persons, including some in high places, have poisoned the atmosphere of this country of ours. It is the duty of the government as well as the people to root out this poison. We have had our lesson at a terrible cost. Is there anyone among us now who will not pledge himself after Gandhiji's death to fulfil his mission—a mission for which the greatest man of our country, the greatest man in the world, has laid down his life.

You and I and all of us will go back from these sands of our noble river, the Ganges. We shall feel sad and lonely. We shall never see Gandhiji again. We used to run to him for advice and guidance whenever we were confronted with any great problem or when we felt it at ease or in doubt. There is none to advise us now or to share our

burdens. It is not I alone or a few of us who looked upto him for help. Thousands and hundreds of thousands of our countrymen considered him as their intimate friend and counsellor. All of us felt as if we were his children. Rightly he was called the Father of our Nation and in millions of homes today there is mourning as on the passing away of a beloved father.

We shall go away from this river bank sad and lonely. But we shall also think with pride of the high and unique privilege that has been ours to have had for our chief and leader and friend this mighty person, who carried us to great heights on the way to freedom and truth. And the way of struggle that he taught us was also the way of truth. Remember also that the path he showed us was one of fighting for the good and against evil and not the way of sitting quietly on the peaks of the Himalayas. And so we have to fight on and not seek escape or rest. We have to do our duty and fulfil the pledges we have given him. Let us read the path of truth and Dharma. Let us make India a great country in which goodwill and harmony prevail and every man and woman, irrespective of faith and belief, can live in dignity and freedom.

How often we have shouted 'Mahatma Gandhi ki jai.' By shouting this slogan we thought we had done our duty. Gandhiji always felt pained to hear this shouting, for he knew what little it meant and how often it just took the place of action or even of thought. 'Mahatma Gandhi ki Jai'—“Victory to Mahatma Gandhi,” what victory could we wish him or give him? He was the Victorious one in life and death. It is you and I and this unfortunate country that have to struggle for victory.

Throughout his life he thought of India in terms of the poor and the oppressed and the downtrodden. To raise them and free them was the mission of his life. He adopted their ways of life and dress so that none in the country may feel lowly. Victory to him was the growth of freedom of these people.

What kind of triumph did Gandhiji wish for us? Not the triumph for which most people and countries strive through violence, fraud, treachery and evil means. That kind of victory is not stable. For the foundations of a lasting victory can only be

laid on the rock of truth. Gandhiji gave us new method of struggle and political warfare and a new kind of diplomacy. He demonstrated the efficacy of truth and goodwill and non-



violence in politics. He taught us to respect and cooperate with every Indian as a man and as a fellow-citizen, irrespective of his political belief or religious creed. We all belong to Mother India and have to live and die here. We all are equal partners in the freedom that we have won. Everyone of our three or four hundred million people must have an equal right to the opportunities and blessings that free India has to offer. It was not for a few privileged persons that Gandhiji strove for and died for. We have to strive for the same ideal and in the same way. "Then only shall we be worthy to say "Mahatma Gandhi ki jai."



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