



Tamil Arasu

FEBRUARY 1994 ,Rs.3

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TAMIL ARASU

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MOTHER THERESA LAUDS THE SERVICES OF HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER

Head of the Missionaries of peace, Nobel laureate Mother Theresa met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha on 20.1.1994. The Chief Minister received her with warmth and reverence and was closeted with her for about 30 minutes. Mother Theresa conveyed her sincere appreciation of the noble work being done in Tamil Nadu under the leadership of the Chief Minister for the welfare of the girl children, women, destitutes and old people. Mother Theresa was, in particular, very happy to learn about the Cradle Baby Scheme, which she said, was a great gift to girl children of the State and said that she would pray for the success of the Scheme.

Mother Theresa brought to the notice of the Chief Minister that the the Missionaries of Charity are occupying a house on land allotted by the Housing Board on a nominal lease and requested that the property may be gifted by the Tamil Nadu Government for the the Missionaries of Charity, so that they can

carry on the noble work in the interest of the poor in Madras City. Chief Minister readily acceded to this request.

Mother Theresa also requested for exemption from Entry Tax and Motor Vehicle Tax in respect of the vehicles used by the the Missionaries of Charity as ambulances. The Chief Minister promised to give utmost consideration to this request.

The Chief Minister invited Mother Theresa to be the Chief Guest at the function to be organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the occasion of International Women's Day on 9th March, 1994. Mother Theresa readily accepted the invitation.

Mother Theresa said that the Chief Minister and she were working for the same cause and were fulfilling the same noble goal and wished the Chief Minister Godspeed in all her endeavours. The Mother said that she would pray for the Chief Minister every day.

TEMPER THE ARTISTIC FEELINGS OF PEOPLE AND DISCHARGE DUTY WITH SOCIAL COMMITMENT

— Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha's advise to Film Industry



requested the Film Industry to make complete use of the facilities and concessions provided by the State. She recalled the various schemes being implemented by the State Government for the welfare of the Film Industry such as the grant for low budget films increased to Rs.3 lakh, reservation of seats in every departments of the Film Institute for the Children of those involved in the Film Industry

Do not Denigrate Police

The Chief Minister made a fervent appeal to all those in Film Industry not to portray the Police in any denigrating manner in Films. "From to-day onwards, the Tamil Film should ought to desist from portraying the police as villains". She said that the undesirable trend of denigrating the police by depicting them as anti-social elements,

The Film City, the ultra modern studio, with every conceivable facility being built at Taramani would be dedicated to the Film Industry 'very soon this year' the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha announced at the Star studded State Film Awards Function on 18.1.1994 at Madras University Auditorium.

Increase in Prize Money

Distributing the Annual State Film Awards for 1992 at the glittering function honoured by many Ministers, the Chief Minister announced that the Film City would have all the latest equipments. She



and the Single Window System for granting permission to Outdoor shootings. The Chief Minister also informed that there is increase in prize money from this year onwards for the Film awards.

and persons fit-to be lampooned at. She explained that the arduous service of the police as a service of sacrifice. "They serve all the seven days in a week, all the 30 days in a month and 365 days in a



year continually for the welfare of the people, without any rest. Unless the police kept law and order, no industry including the Film Industry could function well". There was also the danger of the Police becoming demotivated if they are not properly portrayed in the Films and slackening of the vigil, the Chief Minister said. "The only way the Film Industry could discharge its debt of gratitude to the police to show how important its service is, is by inspiring the police into further excellence".

Be Socially committed

The Chief Minister also appealed to the Film Industry to raise above mere commercial interest and treat the powerful medium of film as a sophisticated tool to temper the artistic feelings of the people and combine film making with social commitment.

She said that the medium of Film combined both art and service. It provided employment to thousands and entertained and influenced lakhs of people. The Chief Minister wanted the Tamil Film world to make its mark in the International Film scene.

Earlier, giving the presidential address, the Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru Sedapati R. Muthiah recalled the efforts of Perarignar Anna and Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. M.G.R. to bring

honour and respect to the Film World, which at a time was considered infamous. The Speaker also hailed the Hon'ble Chief Minister for sorting out the vexious problem that was about to bring about the

Delivering the welcome address, Hon'ble Minister of Information, Thiru M. Thennavan described the Film world as the Home (Thaiveedu) of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. He asked the people to



collapse of the whole Tamil Film Industry last year and called her a pace-setter in bringing solutions to challenges.

Thiru. Justice S. Pratap Singh, Chairman of the State Film Award Selection Committee felicitating the artistes and award winners thanked the officers and staff of the Information Department for wholeheartedly providing the necessary support to the committee during the screening of all the 62 films.

take advantage of the golden rule of Puratchi Thalaivi Dr.J.Jayalalitha.

The Hon'ble Minister for Information, Thiru M. Thennavan and the Director of Information and Public Relations, Thiru R. Sampath presented mementoes to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Director of Public Relations, Thiru R. Sampath proposed a vote of thanks.

1992 FILM AWARDS

BEST FILMS

- First Prize : Roja
Second Prize : Devar Magan
Third Prize : Chinna Goundar
Special Prize : Vaanamae Ellai

BEST ARTISTES

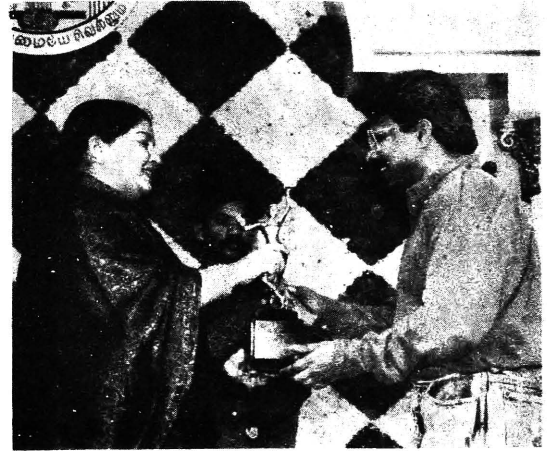
- Best Actor : Thiru, Kamalhasan
Best Actress : Selvi Sukanya
Best Actor (Special Prize) : Thiru Nassar
Best Actress (Special Prize) : Selvi Madhubala
Best Director : Thiru Mani Rathnam
Best Story Writer : Thiru Balachandar
Best Screen-Play Writer : Thiru Panju Arunachalam
Best Music Director : Thiru A.R. Rahman
Best Lyricist : Thiru Kalidas
Best Playback Singer (Male) : Thiru K.J. Yesudas
Best Playback Singer (Female) : Selvi Minmini
Best Camera Man : Thiru Santhosh Sivan
Best Sound Recordist : Thiru J.J. Manickam
Best Editor : Thiru R. Vittal
Best Art Director : Thiru P. Chalam
Best Stunt Master : Thiru Rocky Rakesh
Best Dance Master : Thiru Raghuram

SPECIAL AWARDS

- Arignar Anna Award : Thiru Krishnan
Tmt. P. Banumathi
Pavendar Bharathidasan Award: Tmt. Jikki
Tmt. S. Janaki
Kalaivanar Award : Thiru. Vennira Adai Murthy
Thiru. Y.G. Mahendiran
Raja Sando Award : Thiru Vincent
Tmt. Suhasini
M.G.R. Award : Thiru T.R. Ramanna
Tmt. Srividhya
Jayalalitha Award : Thiru M.N. Nambiar
Tmt. Manorama
Thiru P. Vasu



Thiru Kamalhasan



Thiru Mani Rathnam



Selvi Sukanya

State Annual Film Awards Festival



Thiru Balachandar



Thiru J.J. Manickam



Thiru A.R. Rahman



Thiru Rocky Rakesh



Selvi Madhubala



Thiru Santhosh Sivan

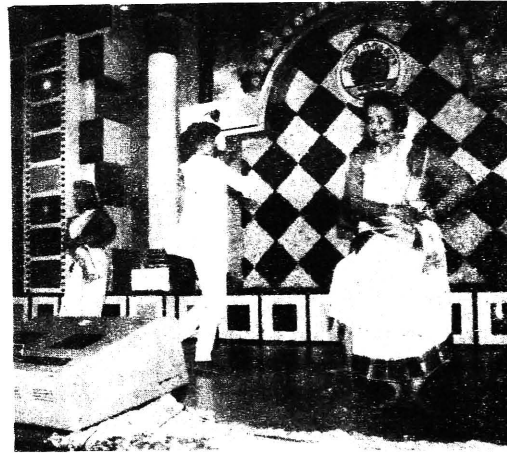


'JAYABHARAT', A CLASSICAL KUTCHIPUDI IN HONOUR OF HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER PRESENTED

The Glittering and Star studded State Annual Film Awards saw a cultural programme that lasted about 3 hours.

An hour long film music programme by Cine Music Director Thiru Deva and party was followed by couple of scenes from a play of Film Actor Thiru Y.G. Mahendran. A classical Kutchipudi dance by Thiru Raja Reddy and Tmt. Radha Reddy of New Delhi added colour to the evening. Thiru Raja Reddy and Tmt. Radha Reddy also gave a beautiful exposition in Kutchipudi in praise of Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha titled 'Jayabharat'. Film Actor Thiru S.V. Sekar gave some scenes from one of his popular plays and later the young team of dancer belonging the Cine Dance Director Thiru Raghuram's troupe gave a breathtaking display of dance combining modern western with classical Indian.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha spontaneously presented a gold chain as a mark of personal appreciation to the young singer Selvi Sangeetha Sajith of Thiru Deva's party who enthralled the audience by singing an old Tamil song from the Film, 'Avvaiyaar'.



State Annual Film Awards Festival



Selvi Minmini



Thiru P. Vasu



Tmt. Pushpa Kandasamy



Thiru R. Vikal



Tmt. Manorama



Thiru M.N. Nambiar

State Annual Film Awards Festival



Tmt. Srividhya



Thiru Kalidas



Thiru T.R. Ramanna



Thiru Krishnan



Thiru Nassar



Thiru Raghuram

State Annual Film Awards Festival



Tmt. S. Janaki



Tmt. P. Banumathi



Tmt. Suhasini



Thiru Vincent



Thiru. Vennira Aalai Murthy



Tmt. Jikki

TAMIL NADU ASSEMBLY PASSES
THE BILL PROVIDING
69% RESERVATION TO
BACKWARD CLASSES



TAMIL NADU ENSURES THE ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

A Bill to provide for reservation of seats in educational institutions in the State and of appointments or posts in the services under the State for the Backward Classes of citizens and for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State of Tamil Nadu.

WHEREAS the policy of reservation for the social, economic and educational advancement of the people belonging to Backward Classes of citizens in admissions to educational institutions in the State and for appointments in the services under the State has been under implementation in the State of Tamil Nadu for a long time;

AND WHEREAS the State of Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in providing reservation for the under privileged and the first communal Government Order was passed in the year 1921 and the proportional representation for communities was made in the year 1927 in the State of Tamil Nadu;

AND WHEREAS a large percentage of population of Tamil Nadu suffering from social and educational backwardness for many years have **started enjoying the fruits of the reservation policy** and have been able to **improve their lot and attain a higher standard of living;**

AND WHEREAS clause (4) of Article 15 of the Constitution enables the State to make any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally Backward Classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

AND WHEREAS clause (4) of Article 16 of the Constitution enables the State to make any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any Backward Class of citizens

which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State;

AND WHEREAS under clause (1) of Article 38 of the Constitution, the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may, a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life;

AND WHEREAS under clause (2) of Article 38 of the Constitution, the State shall, in particular, strive to minimise the inequalities in income, and endeavour to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst **individuals** but also amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations;

AND WHEREAS under clause (b) of Article 39 of the Constitution, the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good;

AND WHEREAS under clause (c) of Article 39 of the Constitution, the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment;

AND WHEREAS Article 46 of the Constitution, the State shall promote, with special care, the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation;

AND WHEREAS the representatives of the various political parties and social forums representing

backward classes have requested the State Government to consider all the ramifications of the Supreme Court judgement dated the 16th day of November 1992 in Indira Sawhney Vs. Union of India (AIR 1993 SC 477) regarding reservations under clause (4) of Article 16 of the Constitution and take steps to protect their interests adequately;

AND WHEREAS in the opinion of the State Government, Backward classes of citizens, and the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, who constitute the majority of the total population of the State are not adequately represented in the services under the State in proportion to their population in the State of Tamil Nadu;

AND WHEREAS the State Government have, after careful consideration, taken a policy decision that the existing level of sixty-nine per cent reservation in admission to educational institutions in the State and in the services under the State, for the Backward Classes of citizens and for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the

Scheduled Tribes, should be continued for ensuring the advancement of the majority of the people of the State of Tamil Nadu;

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Forty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title, extent and commencement

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of seats in Educational Institutions and of appointments or posts in the Services under the State) Act, 1993.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Tamil Nadu.

(3) (a) Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 16th day of November 1992.

(b) Section 7 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 15th day of March 1993.

The Mamallapuram Dance Festival organised by Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation was inaugurated on 7.1.1994 by Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation, Thiru K.P. Pattabiraman. Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Thiru Nagoor Meeran, Members of the Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly and Secretary to Information and Tourism Department, Tmt. C.K. Gariyali, I.A.S. also participated in the function.



Declaration

2. It is hereby declared that this Act is for giving effect to the policy of the State towards securing the principles laid down in part IV and in particular, in Article 38, clauses (b) and (c) of Article 39 and 46 of the Constitution.

Definitions

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "Backward Classes of citizens" means the class or classes of citizens who are socially and educationally backward, as may be notified by the Government in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette, and includes the Most Backward Classes and the Denotified Communities;

(b) "educational institution" means—

(i) any college or other educational institution, maintained by the State, or receiving aid out of the State funds, or affiliated to any university established by law including an university college and a constituent college; or

(ii) any institute or training centre recognised or approved by the Government,

with the object of preparing, training or guiding its students for any certificate, degree or diploma or other academic distinctions granted or conferred by any University, or authority established or approved in this behalf by the Government;

(c) "Government" means the State Government;

(d) "Scheduled Castes" shall have the same meaning as in the Constitution;

(c) "Scheduled Tribes" shall have the same meaning as in the Constitution.

Reservation of seats in educational institutions

4. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court or other authority, having regard to the social and educational backwardness of the Backward Classes or citizens and the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, who constitute the majority of the total population of the State of Tamil Nadu the reservation in respect of the annual permitted strength in each branch or faculty for admission into educational institutions in the State, for the Backward Classes of citizens and for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, shall be sixty-nine per cent.

(2) The reservation referred to in sub-section (1) shall, in respect of the persons belonging to the

Backward Classes, the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, be as hereunder:—

(a) Backward Classes .. Thirty per cent.

(b) Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities .. Twenty per cent.

(c) Scheduled Castes .. Eighteen per cent.

(d) Scheduled Tribes .. One per cent.

Reservation in appointments or posts in the services under the State

5. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court or other authority, having regard to the inadequate representation in the services under the State, of the Backward Classes of citizens and the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, who constitute the majority of the total population of the State of Tamil Nadu, the reservation for appointments or posts in the services under the State, for the Backward Classes of citizens and for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, shall be sixty-nine per cent.

Explanation.— For the purposes of this Act, "services under the State" includes the services under—

(i) the Government;

(ii) the Legislature of the State;

(iii) any local authority;

(iv) any corporation or company owned or controlled by the Government; or

(v) any other authority in respect of which the State Legislature has power to make Laws.

(2) The reservation referred to in sub-section (1) shall, in respect of the persons belonging to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, be as hereunder.—

(a) Backward Classes .. Thirty per cent.

(b) Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities .. Twenty per cent.

(c) Scheduled Castes .. Eighteen per cent.

(d) Scheduled Tribes .. One per cent.

Reservations not to be affected

6. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 4 and 5, the claims of the students or members belonging to the Backward Classes of citizens or the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, shall also be considered for the unreserved seats, appointments or posts which shall be filled on the basis of merit and where a

student or member belonging to the Backward Classes of citizens or the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, is selected on the basis of merit, the number of seats, appointment or posts reserved for the Backward Classes of citizens or for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be, shall not in any way be affected.

Classification of Backward Classes of citizens

7. The Government may, from time to time, based on the reports presented at the appropriate periods to the Government by the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission constituted in G.O. Ms. No.9, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes Welfare Department, dated the 15th day of March 1993, by notification, classify or sub-classify the Backward Classes of citizens for the purpose of this Act.

Power to make rule

8. (1) The Government may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) (a) All rules made under this Act shall be published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette and unless they are expressed to come into force on a particular day, shall come into force on the day on which they are so published.

(b) All notifications issued under this Act shall, unless they are expressed to come into force on a particular day, come into force on the day on which they are published.

(3) Every rule made or notification or order issued under this Act shall as soon as possible, after it is made or issued, be placed on the table of the Legislative Assembly, and if, before the expiry of the session in which it is so placed or the next session, the Assembly makes any modification in any such rule or notification or order, or the Assembly decides that the rule or notification or

order should not be made or issued, the rule or notification or order shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be, so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or notification or order.


Validation

9. Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court or other authority, the reservation of sixty-nine per cent made, and anything done or any action taken on the basis of such reservation, by the Government for admissions into educational institutions in the State and for appointment or posts in the services under the State, for the Backward Classes of citizens and for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, during the period commencing on the 16th day of November 1992 and ending with the date of the publication of this Act in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette, shall, for all purposes be deemed to be and to have always been, validly made, done or taken in accordance with law, as if this Act had been in force at all material times when such reservation has been made and such thing done or action taken.

Power to remove difficulties


10. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provision of this Act, the Government may, be an order published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as appear to them to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of two years from the date of the publication of this Act in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette.



“Here is a powerful people’s rule of Dravidian Movement, a southern beacon light of the Indian Sub-Continent. This Government is following the foot steps of our ‘Ithaya Theivam Puratchi Thalaivar MGR’ to fulfil the objectives of Perarignar Anna. The Government now in Tamil Nadu is a Government of the people, for the people and by the people and is making rapid strides towards achieving its motto ‘People’s welfare - People’s Service - People’s Progress’”

— Hon’ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi
Dr. J. JAYALALITHA





A MULTI PURPOSE PHOTO IDENTITY CARD FOR VOTERS OUGHT TO BE INTRODUCED OVER A PERIOD OF TIME

HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
PURATCHI THALAIVI Dr. J. JAYALALITHA

Home Minister Shri Chavanji, Chief Ministers and other Representatives from the Central Government and the State Government,

I am happy that the Union Minister has found it appropriate to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the States in order to discuss the various issues arising out of the directive of the Election Commission of India for giving Photo Identity Cards to all voters in the Country before 1.1.1995. I am also happy that the Union Home Minister has responded positively to the request of the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Chief Minister of Orissa and a few other Chief Ministers to get this matter discussed in detail in a Conference like this.

The issues arising out of the directive of the Election Commission of India have far reaching implications for the electoral process in our Country.

Every registered voter has a right to vote in a Parliamentary or Assembly election. Over the

decades, institutional arrangements have been designed and created to ensure the exercise of this right by every registered voter. Indian electors are familiar with these institutional arrangements and our democracy has functioned. I am not unaware of the **flaws** in the system. I am equally anxious that these flaws should be removed. Ultimately all political parties will have to subscribe to a system that identifies the genuine voter and gives him/her full opportunity in exercising his/her voting right. With this view, I do agree that changes can be brought about in the system if they help to mitigate the evils.

I believe that the Election Commission of India has envisaged the introduction of the photo identity card system only in this context. I agree that the principle behind the directive of the Election Commission is laudable, but the main problem is how to go about it.

The notes given to us here clearly highlight the magnitude of the problem. They raise legal issues and point out practical difficulties.

The implementation of the new system calls for enormous investment and huge recurring cost. Even assuming that the benefits that flow from the system will be commensurate with the cost, the question is: Can the Country afford to incur an expenditure of this magnitude? Even if somehow or the other, we decide to incur this expenditure, is it possible to make the system foolproof so that all the flaws associated with the electoral process, particularly in the matter of proper identity of the registered voter, can be eliminated? We also have to take note of the legal issues in enforcing this directive. More than the legal issues, the problem of photographing the registered voters, relating them to the Voters' List, ensuring the safe custody of the duplicates, handling problems in the course of change of residence of the voter, etc., I am afraid, are going to be really difficult to solve.

It is in this context that we have to decide how far to go in the matter of the issue of photo identity cards. I would prefer to have a

multipurpose photo identity card which takes care of many needs of the registered voter. But, such a scheme ought to be introduced over a period of time, carefully, with complete control against possible illegal duplication. In fact, I consider the possibility of illegal duplication to be a very serious threat to this scheme.

Therefore, I would like to say that this scheme should be tried on an experimental basis in select Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies in every State, for a few years, before a decision is taken to

extend it throughout the Country. I would urge caution and I would not like this august assembly of Chief Ministers to take any decision in haste.

If however, a decision is taken to comply with the directive of the Election Commission of India, I would urge the Government of India to meet the expenditure fully, since it is impossible for the State Governments to foot the bill within a short time. If that is not possible, I would like to endorse the recommendation of the Chief Minister of West Bengal that 90% of the expen-

diture should be given as grant by the Central Government to the States and 10% must be given as a soft loan to the States.

Overall it seems to me that the Government of India should discuss this issue with the Election Commission of India and persuade it to agree to an experimental scheme.

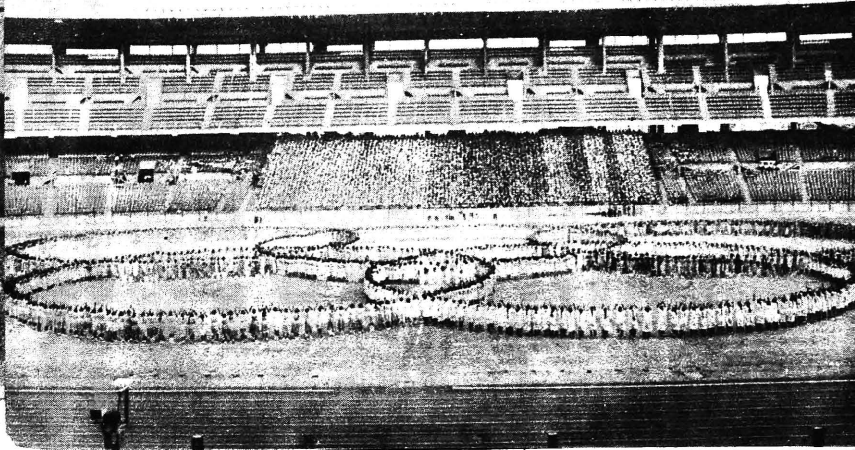
(This Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister was distributed by the Hon'ble Minister for Finance when he attended the Chief Minister's Conference at New Delhi on 19.1.1994.)



Hon'ble Chief Minister Writes to Hon'ble Prime Minister Cautioning on Signing the 'DUNKEL'

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narashima Rao on the Dunkel treaty being brought up at the General Agreement on Tariff's Trade (GATT) meeting at Uruguay. She has emphasized the after-effects of unanimously agreeing to the Dunkel treaty, on certain schedules that will affect our economic policy and the actions that may be taken to prevent the dangers.

In her letter, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has requested that 'the Centre consult all the states especially regarding the effects on Indian Agriculture Policies and Programmes, if the Dunkel Treaty is implemented by GATT'. 'And although the Government of India have been reassuring on the anticipation that Indian economy and Import-export trade won't be affected by 'Dunkel', the Centre must call for a meeting of the states to discuss the consequences of the treaty and allay all the doubts of the States', the Chief Minister has written in the letter.



TAMIL NADU HOSTS INTERNATIONAL INVITATION ATHLETICS MEET

Tamil Nadu is to host an International Invitation Athletics Meet and the 33rd Open National Athletics Championships. The International Meet and the National Championship will be held simultaneously from February 2nd to 5th, at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Madras.

As a prelude to the Sporting extravaganza, the mascot-the concept and choice of Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha - Leo in hurdling action, was unveiled on January 17th 1994 by Hon'ble Minister Prof. K. Ponnusamy. The colours of the mascot convey restfulness (green), Cheerfulness (Yellow) and health, stability and conservation (brown).

About sixty athletes from over twenty countries and about 700

athletes from all over India are expected to compete in the biggest sporting event that Tamil Nadu has ever seen. This Big event is apparently a dress rehearsal to a bigger event - the South Asian Federation games to be held at Madras in December 1995.

On February 2nd 1995, during the opening ceremony of the Meet and Chalmionships, Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha will inaugurate the most modern synthetic athletics track at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. The opening day's programme would begin at 2.30 p.m. and would last for about four hours. The Meet Flame would be lit at a specially erected cauldron atop a 40 feet high tower. The captain of the Tamil Nadu team

would take the oath 'to play the game in the spirit of the game' on behalf of all athletes. After the inauguration, a spectacular and colourful programme involving 11,000 children, police personnel and Railway protection force would be held. As also, a colourful and meaningful placard display by about 3000 boys seated in the gallery opposite the VIP's stand. A 'Nadhaswaram recital' by Sheik Chinna Moulana and party would be held from 1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m., preceding the inaugural programme.

Events on the Invitation International and National Open Meet Programme:

100m., 200m., 400m., 800m., 1500m., long jump, shot put, discus throw and javelin throw (all for men and women);

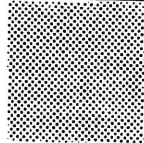


3000m., race and 400m., hurdles: (women only) 3000m., steeplechase, 5000m., and 10,000m. (men only).

Some of the top foreign athletes taking part in the international Meet are: Chidi Imoh (Nigeria-100m - 10.18 secs.), Samson Kitur (Kenya - 400m - Olympic bronze), Paul Ruto

(Kenya - 800m - World Champion), Li Tong (China-110m hurdless - Asian Champion), Ade Olukaju (Nigeria - discus throw - 67-67m), Chellina Mondle (USA - 100m - 11-22 secs; 200m 22-66 secs.), Juliet Campbell (Jamaica - 400m - 50-1 secs.) and Larisa Bereznaya (Ukraine - long jump - 7m).

Top National athletes expect to participate in the meet are: Bahadur Prasad (1500m., 5000m., 10,000m.), Shakthi Singh (discus throw), Shiny Wilson (400m., 800m.), K. Saramma (400m., 200m.), Molly Chacko (1500m., 3000m.).



Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Thiru V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Thiru S.D.Somasundaram, Hon'ble Minister for Law, Thiru K.A. Krishnasamy and other Ministers garlanded the statue of Saint Thiruvalluvar on Thiruvalluvar Day on 15th January 1994.





**21ST JAWAHARLAL NEHRU NATIONAL
SCIENCE EXHIBITION FOR CHILDREN**

ORGANISED BY
GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU

INAUGURATED BY THE
HON'BLE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA
THIRU ARJUN SINGH

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER, OF TAMILNADU
DR. J. JAYALALITHA

SPONSORED BY
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH
AND TRAINING, NEW DELHI,
19. 01. 1984.

CHILDREN MUST LEARN TO DEVELOP SCIENTIFIC TEMPER

— Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi
Dr. J. JAYALALITHA

I am grateful to the Honourable Union Minister for Human Resources Development Thiru Arjun Singh, for giving us the privilege and the opportunity to organise this prestigious National Science Exhibition at Madras.

I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for its initiative in sponsoring this Exhibition at Madras. I extend to all of you, and especially to the bright students gathered here from all parts of the Country, my hearty welcome. I thank you for your participation in this Exhibition.

The National Science Exhibition for Children is being organised every year, in different States of our Country, in commemoration of the

Birth Anniversary of the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was our first Prime Minister.

As you know he was a friend of children. He had a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of children and gave them all his love and affection. He believed that the best hope for the future of India lay with the children of the Nation. He did his best to shape the economic and social policies of our Country, in order to ensure that the children grew in a proper, healthy, carefree and intellectually stimulating atmosphere, so that they could flower as the future leaders in Science and Arts, professions and specialities.

He was a true scientist. He gave importance to the growth of the rational faculties, the development of

mind and intellect and declared more than once that the future of our Country would be secure if it was based on scientific foundations. The annual conduct of the National Science Exhibition, where young children display their scientific talents, is the best tribute to his memory.

Science and Technology are transforming the world everyday. They are bringing about a revolution in our ways of thinking, in our attitudes and outlook, in material resources, in social life and in our personal lives.

It is not possible to live away from science or wish away science. This is not only because of the fact that growth and prosperity in the West are directly related to the development of science and technology. Science has become important, mainly because it connotes a new manner of thinking, the adoption of a particular kind of logic and a way of life, and all these are vital for all people, irrespective of where they live, so that the complex problems of a developing society can be sorted out uniformly. Science is also important because of the mental and intellectual discipline that it postulates. Such a discipline is greatly necessary in order that our minds, our skills, our wits and our intellect may be sharpened, and Society may benefit from the high energy flowing from lively minds

and keen intellects. Science and technology have also contributed a great deal to the alleviation of the problems of poverty and unemployment, the two biggest problems of our Country. There is no doubt that scientific and technological solutions can be utilised successfully for tackling our economic problems.

When we talk of science, we need to underline the spirit of scientific enquiry. It is the proper cultivation of this spirit of scientific enquiry that fuels the vehicle of discovery and points out vast vistas of the future. We know that the spirit of enquiry is the primary quality of every child. It is important to see that this spirit of enquiry is properly canalised, is given proper motivation, and is coloured by scientific bias. So long as our system of education does not spot the spirit of enquiry in children or promote it, education cannot be deemed to have fulfilled its purpose.

History shows that the spirit of scientific enquiry leads to the development of a scientific temperament, which promotes and strengthens scientific research, discovery, and the adoption of scientific values by Society. Science is a precious heritage of humanity and is the result of incessant human labour, search and struggle for growth. The development of insight, reasoning and intuition that accompany the growth of scientific temper, have greatly benefited human society in a variety of ways.

It is therefore very necessary that our children must learn to develop a scientific temper. I can tell the young children gathered here today that there is something essentially attractive about science, and you will be impressed by it, the more you involve yourself in it. After some time you will find that there is beauty, simplicity, harmony and brilliance in science, and the pursuit of science can give you enormous pleasure. Besides, it can give you a goal in life and an attitude to cultivate.

Your own outlook will vastly change; your sense of humanism will increase, and your concern for other people will also grow. I would like to tell you that the proper pursuit of science can give you a philosophy that will be wholly satisfactory throughout your life. We all know, that in order to be a successful scientist, all that you have to do is to keep alive your sense of curiosity. The desire to know is the basic motivation of discovery in science. It is wonder that animates science.

The great Physicist Erwin Schrodinger observed: "Curiosity is the stimulus. The first requirement of the scientist is to be curious. He must be capable of being astonished and eager to find out." The capacity for wonder distinguishes every great scientist. Einstein's profound capacity for wonder is well known:

"From the time Einstein was fifteen or sixteen years old he puzzled over the question: what will happen if a man tries to catch a light ray? For very he thought about this year problem. Its solution led to the relativity theory. We see in this one example some important features of Einstein's genius. First, and above all, there is the capacity for wonder. Scientific

ideas are inspired by a sense of wonder and a regard for beauty. As one scientist wrote: Many of our speculations about the atoms and about our Universe were created because of Man's curiosity, because of his desire to penetrate deeper and deeper into the unknown."

The great scientific discoveries have been elegant but deceptively simple. But they call for a sense of wonder, a keenness for discovery and a profound application of mental faculties.

Then even simple tools become grand instruments for making major discoveries. That is why an exhibition like this is full of value. It gives an opportunity to young persons to conceive experiments and give a concrete shape to them. You derive a satisfaction which is the same as when you compose a piece of poetry, a poem, or when you solve a mathematic puzzle, or when you handle a musical instrument and render a composition of classical music. Therefore, you see that scientific experiments give you a satisfaction that is not possible of measurement in a purely utilitarian way.

At the same time, we must remember that science is intertwined with human culture in general.



Scientific findings, however advanced, are meaningless outside the cultural context. It is not enough if science is understood and practised only by a few learned persons. Science and technology have to be used to solve human problems, the problems of health, the problem of poverty and the problem of want. Scientists acknowledge that science has to be related to the needs of mankind. There was a traumatic time during the Second World War, when science was being feverishly applied for the destruction of mankind.

Today, fortunately, the trend is changing. There is now a greater recognition that science must be used to bring people together to solve common problems of mankind. Here, the richer and poorer nations have to combine. The richer nations have to show a spirit of give and take. The poorer nations must learn to develop their essential human resources through education, so that more people can develop the scientific sense, and use science to solve their own problems. If you look at science from this angle, you will see that it can play a great role in bringing people together.

Young children who conduct scientific experiments, are making a valuable contribution to human progress by their understanding of the role of science in securing social needs.

We, in Tamil Nadu, have achieved several mile stones in the development and enrichment of science education for school children. Our Government has strengthened the school education system for effective science teaching, by establishing a Science City at Madras. We are also setting up Regional Science Centres in various places in the States. We have a plan to construct Science complexes in all Government schools.

The Government also provides laboratories and libraries for the

"Our Government is People's Government. This Government aims only at the welfare of the people. I have stated emphatically that this Government is least bothered about those who are against the peoples welfare and those who disrespect the people."

— Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi
Dr. J. JAYALALITHA

benefit of the students in High and Higher Secondary Schools.

The City of Madras can claim to have a very large number of scientific research institutions located in a cluster. We have decided to establish a Science City in the Taramani area of Madras, which will nurture and promote the growth of a proper scientific environment. Hundreds of scientists working in this place will be able to devote their time and attention to the cause of science and technology, in a congenial environment.

We have already set up a Science Centre, Science Exhibition galleries and a very well equipped Planetarium in this place. We are planning to expand our science exhibition with international assistance. I do not want science to remain the exclusive preserve of a few minds. I would like science to reach all children and all people. Our Science City will be so designed, that it will radiate the influence of science among all the people who come to study the scientific disciplines there.

I learn that over 450 students from about 300 schools from various parts of our Country, are participating in this National Science Exhibition, and a few hundred exhibits of science and technology are to be displayed. This is a unique event. I do hope that the children of our State will derive proper inspiration by visiting this Exhibition.

A well-known Chinese proverb says:

"I read, I forget,
I see, I remember,
I do, I understand."

A Science Exhibition helps students to understand the basic principles of science by interacting with the exhibits. It helps the children to gain an insight into the world of science, through entertainment and enjoyable participation. When children of many States gather together to demonstrate their scientific skills, their mutual understanding and appreciation grow. National integration becomes an actuality.

I wish to conclude by reiterating that science is born of a sense of wonder.

The sense of wonder drives a child to infinite possibilities and the child grows taller than itself. It comes to represent the oneness of humanity in its desire for discovery.

Therefore, all of us have to do everything possible to promote scientific interest in our children, so that their experience can develop science, and science will make them the true citizens of the world.

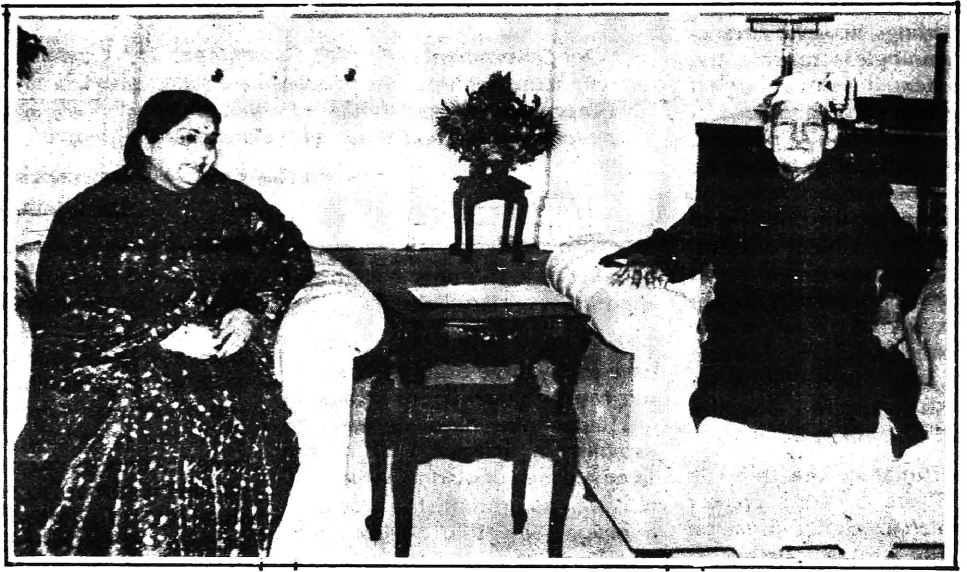
There are some words in John Lennon's music, which I wish to quote:

"You may say I'm a dreamer,
but I'm not the only one.

I hope some day you'll join us
and the world will live as one."

The same spirit must govern our scientific endeavour. I wish to convey my best wishes to all the children who are participating in this exhibition.

(Hon'ble Chief Minister's speech at the inaugural function of 21st All India Science Exhibition for Children at Madras on 19.1.1994.)



Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha called on His Excellency the President Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma at New Delhi on 15th January, 1994.

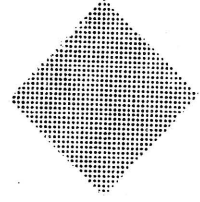
NEWS

IN

PICTURES

Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha received His Excellency the President Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma who arrived at Madras Airport enroute to Tirupathi on 20th January, 1994.





To commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R., the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha garlanded the statue of Dr. M.G.R. on 17th January, 1994.



THIRUVALLUVAR DAY CELEBRATIONS



THE TIMELESS RELEVANCE OF THIRUKKURAL RECALLED

Thiruvalluvar Day was celebrated by the Government of Tamil Nadu at Kalaivanar Arangam on 15th January 1994. Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru V.R. Nedunchezhiyan presented the Thiruvalluvar Award for 1994 for Tamil Scholar 'Thirukkural' V. Munusamy posthumously.

The Award carrying Rs.20,000 cash and a citation is presented every year to Scholars for their role in popularising Thirukkural studies. Thiru Kumaraguruparan, son of Thirukkural V. Munusamy received the award from the Minister.

The Minister also gave away the Awards



for Outstanding Books to 38 Tamil authors and State Pension to 17 indigent Tamil Writers. Among the recipients of the Outstanding Books award was Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Tmt. Indira Kumari for her book 'Bharathi Kanda Pudumai Penn'.

The Minister for Finance released two publications of the Tamil Development and Culture Department - 'A History of Tamil as Official language and its implementation' and 'A glossary of Administrative Terms (In English and Tamil)'. The Publications were handed-over to Tamil Scholar Thiru K.A.P.Viswanatham and Tmt.R.Indira Kumari respectively.

Hon'ble Minister for Education Prof. K. Ponnusamy presided over the function.

Thiru K.A.P. Viswanatham and Dr. S.V. Chittibabu, spoke on the timeless relevance of Thirukkural and recalled Thirukkural's contribution to popularising the work.

Thiru S.P. Elangovan, Secretary, Tamil Development and Culture Department welcomed the gathering. Dr. C. Selvaraju, Director of Tamil Development proposed a vote of thanks.

20TH ALL INDIA TOURIST
AND INDUSTRIAL FAIR
Madras



STRIDES ACHIEVED IN PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT IMAGINATIVELY PORTRAYED

Every year coinciding with the Tamil Pongal Festival, Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is conducting the Pongal Tourist Fair in a grand manner. This year, the 20th All India Tourist and Industrial Fair has been planned in a unique style. The exhibition has attempted to portray the leading tourist attractions in India - as part of the Fair.

The Primary objective of this fair is to highlight various steps taken by the Government to improve the social and economic status of the people, and the progress made in the various fields by the state. The fair also aims to focus the attention of the Tourist both domestic and foreign to various tourist spots in Tamil Nadu and provides them with information and entertainment. The Fair is timed during the peak Tourist season - i.e. January - March every year.

The participants in this year's fair include 37 Departments of the State

Government, and State Government Undertakings. 5 Departments of Tourism from other State Government Departments. 6 Central Government and Central Government Undertakings. This year all Districts are participating individually. Besides these, handloom societies and private sector participants are also present. The Shopping arcade consists of 208 participants from all over the Country. This year the various Government Departments have put up their own exhibits in a unique manner.

In the permanent 'Arignar Anna Kalai Arangam' - daily cultural programme of Drama, dance and light music are being conducted to entertain the visitors.

Annai Indira Children's Amusement World

This amusement world has been created over a large area to enable children to play and simultaneously

acquire knowledge. It has been designed exclusively to attract children.

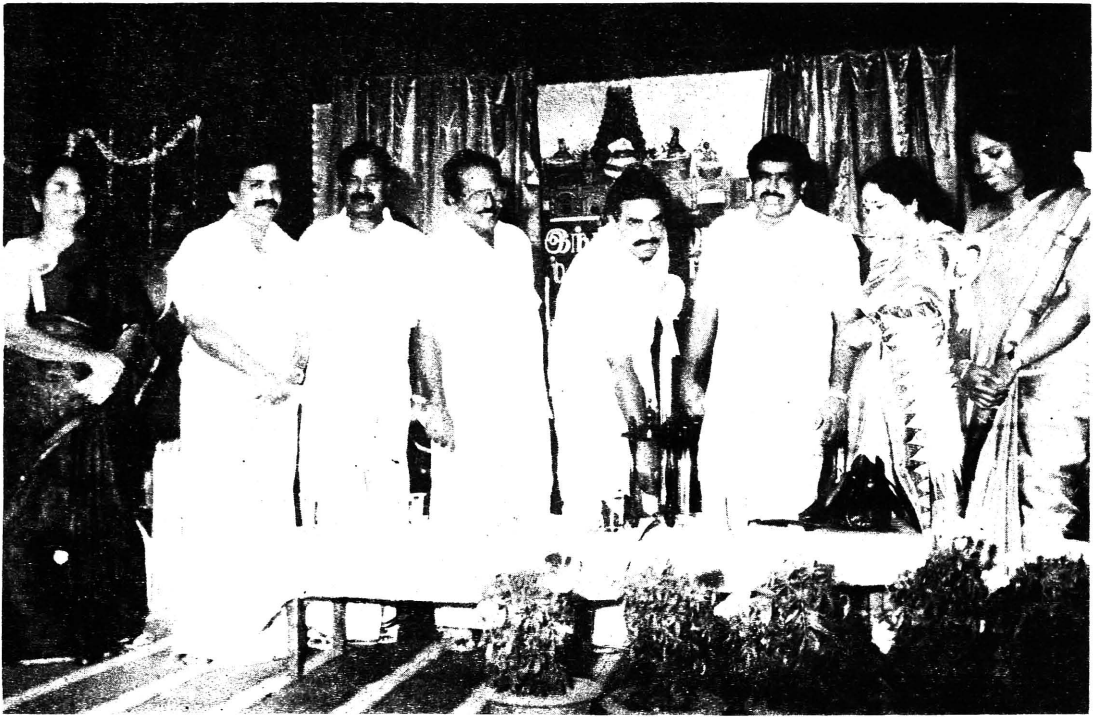
M/s. Madras Refineries Ltd, have fabricated a Science and Technology park in the Children's Amusement World. This Complex has designed to impart scientific knowledge to children in an entertaining manner.

This year, Fair also include Snake Park, Aquarium, Giant wheel and Merrygo-rounds, Children Train, Horse Rides etc.

Shopping Arcade

Colourful textiles, handicrafts, sports goods and modern kitchen ware from several states are grouped in shops in this complex. The fair is open daily from 3.00 pm to 10.00 pm on working days and holidays and Festival days the exhibition is open from 11.00 am to 10 pm.

The Pallavan Transport Corporation have made special ar-



rangements playing special buses for the convenience of the visiting public.

The Fair provided temporary employment to 20,000 people directly and indirectly. Further artistes are provided an opportunity to show their talents.

For the first time, the TTDC in association with Education Department has innovated a name called knowledge which is to be played by 10 lakh and more people who are likely to visit the Fair. General knowledge coupons are being issued free of cost along with the Entrance tickets to the public of these will be given daily prizes at the Special Counter. The winners will be made to participate in another Quiz programme and will be given very attractive prizes.

Last year, 40 lakh of people have visited the Fair and through which Rs.100 lakh revenue is earned. It is anticipated 50 lakh persons will visit this year Fair.

INNOVATIVE GAME "KNOWLEDGE"

The TTDC in collaboration with Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu has innovated a novel project called "Knowledge" which is going to be played by the 10 lakh people who would be visiting the All India Tourist and Industrial Fair 1994 in the course of the next three months (January to March 1994). The programme involves answering of 5 simple but intelligence testing questions in the form of numbers 00 to 50 in the boxes provided on the coupons which will be given free of charge to each and every person who buys a ticket to enter the Fair. As a made of segregation 5% of these people will be selected on the basis of a lucky draw everyday which will be held at 7.00 pm at the Trade Fair Office and the results of which will be announced over the P.A. system as

also displayed on various boards both at the Trade Fair office and at various strategic points in the Fair. The winners of the lucky draw each day will be given a token gift worth Rs.10 to Rs.15 which is being provided by the sponsors. On verification of the correct answers, these winner participants will be called for a quiz programme to be held once every month at a venue which will be announced in due course. The finalists/winners of these quiz programmes will be asked to participate in a final quiz programme on tourism in the last week of the Fair and would be awarded with very fabulous prizes ranging from Maruthi car to VCRs, gold sovereigns, etc., etc. and 10 fabulous sarees worth Rs.2,000 to 2,500. These would also be other prizes exclusively for children belonging to various age groups. This is an innovative project initiated for the first time by the TTDC at Fair in collaboration with the Education Department.

Kalaimamani Awardees for the year 1993-94

Fifty artistes of various distinction are to be presented with Kalaimamani title by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha soon. The awardees are:

Thiru. La.Sa. Ramamirudham
Tamil Literature, Eyal

Tmt. D. Pattammal
Carnatic Music Teacher

Thiru. Cudalore. M. Subramaniam
Carnatic Music Teacher

Thiru. Thanjavur S. Kalyanaraman
Carnatic Music Artiste

Tmt. Sudha Ragunathan
Carnatic Music Artiste

Tmt. Radha Narayanan
Carnatic Music Violin Artiste

Thiru. K.S. Chellappa
Carnatic Music Mridangam Artiste

Thiru. V. Nagarajan
Carnatic Music 'Kanjira' Artiste

Thiru. Tiruchy R. Thayumanavan
Konnakkol Artiste

Thiru. Sheik Mehboof Suvani
Nadaswaram Artiste

Tmt. Kalisabi Mahboof
Nadaswaram Artiste

Thiru. Kizhvelur N.G. Ganesan
Nadaswaram Artiste

Thiru. Thiruvottiyur' V.A. Balasundaram
Thavil Artiste

Tmt. Saroja Sundaram
"Thirumarai Devaram" Music Artiste

Tmt. N.C. Soundaravalli
Devotional Music Artiste

Tmt. K. Vyajayanthimala Narayanan
Music Discourse Artiste

Thiru. Na. Muthumani
'Bhagavatha Mela' Artiste

Thiru. Vempatti Chinna Sathyam
Kuchipudi Dance Teacher

Thiru. Bombay Kalyanasundaram
Bharathanattiyam Teacher

Tmt. Chandra Thandayuthapani
Bharathanattiyam Teacher

Selvi Melavika Sarukkai
Bharathanattiyam Artiste

Tmt. Abirami Rajan
Bharathanattiyam-Music Artiste

Thiru. R. Natarajan Pillai (Baroda)
Bharathanattiyam-Mridangam Artiste

Thiru. P. Sangeetha Rao
Kuchipudi Music Composer

Thiru. G. Nagarajan
Bharathanattiyam Flute Artiste

Thiru. K.P. Arivanandam
Play-Wright

Thiru. S. Prabhakaran
Stage Producer

Thiru. Kambar Jayaraman
Stage Actor

Tmt. J.G. Shyamala
Stage Actress

Thiru. 'Appachi' R.M. Krishnan
Stage Comedy Artiste

Thiru. 'Kathadi' Ramamurthy
Stage Artiste

Thiru. Dharmaraj
Stage Artiste

Thiru. Mohan-Natarajan (Anandhi Films)
Cine Film Producer

Thiru. R.V. Udayakumar
Cine Film Director

Thiru. Sarathkumar
Cine Film Actor

Selvi. Sukanya
Cine Film Actress

Thiru. 'Delhi' Ganesh
Character Actor

Tmt. C.K. Saraswathi
Cine Actress of Yesteryears

Thiru. 'Vietnam Veedu' Sundaram
Cine Film Dialogue Writer

Selvi. Swarnalatha
Cine Film Play Back Singer

Thiru. Pavalar Om Muthumari
Therukoothu Artiste

Tmt. A. Velkani
Villupattu Artiste

Thiru. V. Velu
Karagam Dance Artiste

Thiru. P.M. Veerachamy
"Naiyandi Melam" Nadaswaram Artiste

Thiru. P. Maruthappa
Music Drama Actor

Tmt. P.L. Ranjani
Music Drama Actress

Thiru. TV. Rathinappa
Music Drama Mridangam Artiste

Thiru. Aranthangi A.M. Yusuf
Music Drama Harmonium Artiste

Thiru. Paramasiva Rao
Paavai Koothu Artiste

Thiru. R.G. Moorthy
Vikada Artiste

Best Drama Troupe

"Azhagiri Drama Troupe" of
Thiru. 'Kanchi' Rangamani

Best Arts Academy

Sivakasi Arts Club, Sivakasi

Indigent Artistes who would get a cash grant of
Rs.5,000 each are:

Tmt. Gnanambal
Thirukkarakavur Thiru. T.G. Subramaniam

Thiru. P. Sundararaj Naidu
Thiru. T.P. Samikkannu

Portraits of 14 Yester Year's Artistes to be unveiled at
the Kalaimamani Awards Function

Ki.Va. Jagannathan
Literature

Panmozhipulavar Appathuraiyar
Literature

Tiger Varadachariyar
Music

Dr. S. Ramanathan
Music

Kunnakkudi Venkatrama Iyer
Music

Anandarama Deitchithar
Music Discourse

R.K. Venkatrama Sastri
Violin

Parur Sundaram Iyer
Violin

Karikudi Muthu Iyer
Mridangam

Chidambaram Selvarathinam Pillai
Bharathanattiyam

Y.G. Parthasarathy
Drama

'Devi Nadaka Saba' Rathinam
Drama

P.S. Ramaiah
Drama

V.A. Mahadevan
Musical Play

Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Thiru K.A. Sengottayan, inaugurated the Dr. Ambedkar Transport Corporation on 18.1.1994. Hon'ble Ministers, Thiru E. Madhusudhanan, Thiru M. Anandan and Thiru D. Jayakumar along with the Hon'ble Chief Whip of the Government, Thiru S. Jayakumar participated in the function.





Pongal, is essentially a thanks giving festival of the farmers soon after a seasonal harvest. It is celebrated on the 1st day of the Tamil month of 'Thai' (Jan. 14th to Feb. 14th or 15th) in the Tamil calendar when the sun enters the house of Capricorn. This year, Pongal falls on the 14th of January.

Pongal means 'upsurge' & the festival derives its name from the surging of the foam when rice is boiled in milk. On the day of the festival, all members of the household have an early bath and assemble to watch the lady of the house keep the rice pot on an open fire. The pot is watched constantly (not withstanding the proverb, the pot does boil) to observe the direction in which the froth rises first. An eastward frothing is popularly believed to be a sign of prosperity in the year to come. As the pot

boils, a conch is blown to the chorus cries of 'Pongalo Pongal' from all those around. An offering of the rice is made to Lord Surya, the Sun God as a mark of thanksgiving.

The Pongal festivities last for four days which are called Bhogi, Pongal, Mattu Pongal and Kannum Pongal. Bhogi is the prelude to the major festivities. On this day, old earthenware utensils, clothes etc are discarded into a big bonfire which is held in the night. The order of the day being, "Out with the old and in with the new". The 2nd day is the actual Pongal day, When the rice is cooked in every South Indian home.

The 3rd day of the festival is Mattu Pongal or the Pongal of the cattle. The animals are given a thorough wash and then gaily decorated with bells, garlands etc.

PONGAL The Tamil Festival

and fed with Sweet Pongal rice. They are then ceremoniously driven to various houses to the accompaniment of drums and other instruments. The cowherds and the cows receive sumptuous meals from the houses they visit.

The last day of the festivities is called 'Kannum Pongal' when people call on their friends and employers, before spending the rest of the day on a sight-seeing spree. This 'Kannum Pongal' is localised in Madras and Chengai MGR Districts only.

As with any other festival, there are legends associated with the origin of the Pongal festival also. It is believed that of the three important days of Pongal, Bhogi is dedicated to Lord Indra, the God of the Heavens; Pongal to Surya, the Sun God and Mattupongal to the cattle which are revered in Hindu mythology also formed the wealth of the people in ancient days.

These days, the four days of Pongal have come to be celebrated as a cultural festival with literary discourses, in an attempt to lay emphasis on the secular character of the festival.

Indian agriculture is entirely dependent on the monsoons and a good harvest is considered a boon not only to the farmer but to the land as a whole. The Tamil saying 'Thai Pirandhal vazhi Pirakkum' means 'There will be a way out of a problem when the month of Thai arrives' is a reflection on the hope held by farmers in Tamil Nadu.

PONGAL FESTIVAL: A Day of Rededication of Service to Society —Arignar Anna

I have visited the capital cities of many countries of the World not just once but thrice. Though a good number of festivals and celebrations take place there, none of such festivals or carnivals can be reckoned to be on a par with our golden Pongal festival; no festival as exquisite as Pongal is celebrated there. Merry festivals are there and exciting festivals are also there when people indulge freely in drinking bouts. But we do not come across any celebration of a festival there as our Pongal that is devoid of any sign of pretence or feignedness but colourful and novel at any rate. Everyone in the house takes part in Pongal festival freely and cheerfully mingling with each other.

Uproar in dancing halls; Demonical speed on highways, collision of vehicles and loss of lives; noisy business activity in shops all these are noticed there aplently. But we don't find any sight or hear any sound of any spontaneously raised cry as 'Pongal Oh Pongal', that we witness in every household here and the words that are uttered in chorus by old folk as well as young kids in our land.

Younger brother, there is grinding poverty in our land; I don't deny it; I don't possess the resources for executing various schemes. I don't choose to hide the stark fact. We are

engaged in the process of finding out the ways and means of achieving prosperity. We do not yet see the twilight of the day when progress is an accomplished fact. Such is the bare truth of the situation as it prevails. The wealth of thought enshrined in our ancient classical lore is a refuge to us offering solace as well as the means to look ahead with a refurbished feeling of pride that others can't boast of.

I won't beat empty drums nor do I look down upon other parts of the country. I feel we should be aware of the uniqueness of our Tamil culture, rejoice over it and draw strength from it. I say these as I am convinced that our culture is worthy of being known and followed by people of other parts of the country and the world. Loss of such a treasure is a loss not only to our country but also of the entire World. Hence we should know the unique features of Tamil Nadu.

As Pongal day is most amiably fitted for recalling the salient features of our Tamil culture and propagate it to others, our elders have termed 'Pongal Day' as a great day for the Tamils.

It is not a day for the rich. It is the most suitable day for youngsters like you fired with a zeal to set right the various ills that plague the society. I know you go about your work of



service to society with the full realisation that time should not be wasted. My greeting to you and the members of your family; I call upon you to be resolute to work for the prosperity of the country, society and for the blossoming of an egalitarian society.

One should not waste even a minute. The reason for my saying so is that during a minute's time space the earth rotates itself at a speed of 950 miles; 100 persons die; 114 children are born; 14 marriages are contracted while 16 marriages are dissolved and 68 automobiles are manufactured.

Time is so precious and possesses the capacity to change the time for the better. As an elder brother I take the liberty to remind you of your duty and in so doing I derive pleasure and am sure you also feel happy over it.



JALLIKKATTU - THE SPORT OF THE BRAVE

An exciting sport, Jallikkattu or Manjavirattu is a major event in villages of Tamil Nadu and is held on the 4th day of the Pongal Festivities. It dates back to many years and is even referred to in Tamil Sangam literature, written more than 2000 years ago.

Analogous to the famous bull fight of Spain, Jallikkattu of Tamil Nadu has added an unique richness to the cultural mosaic of India.

The objective in this sport of the brave is to wrest the bounty tied in a cloth between the horns of the bulls. The sport is quite different from the bullfights of Spain and

Mexico in that there the matador is expected to kill the bull with his sword. By and large, no attempt is made in Jallikkattu to harm the bull. In fact, it is the valiant youths who get injured in their efforts to snatch the prize from the bull.

In preparation for the Jallikkattu event, bulls are bathed and decorated with beads, bells, garlands and kumkum before they are taken in procession to the village ground located at one end of a main street, Drummers and folk artistes play their instruments attempt to excite the bulls and get them worked up.

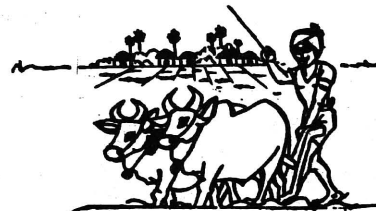
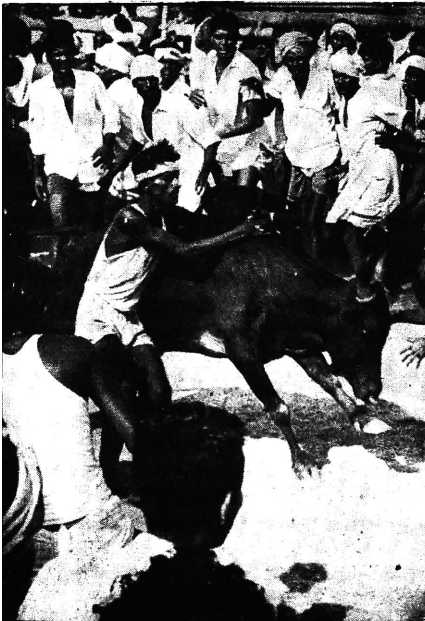
Prior to the start of the festival all the bulls are let out of the stockade one by one to provide a preview of the quality of the bulls to the participants and the audience. The first one to be let out is normally the temple bull of the village and it is generally allowed to take its path through the arena uninterrupted. The tacklers usually stand on either side of the exit gate and pounce on the other bulls as they emerge.

As the festival begins, the door to the stockade is opened and the ferocious bulls are let loose into the arena. They run amuck. The young and the valiant try to lead them in different directions. They may pounce on their backs or they may hold the bulls by their tails. They may seize their necks or attempt to hold of their oiled, pointed horns.

Somehow the bulls have to be tamed and the bloody battle between man and beast is on. Occasionally a tackler of the bull falls to the ground with his stomach ripped bloody open. Its all part of the risk involved in the sport of Jallikkattu.

Most often, the taming of a bull is a combined effort of two or three of the participants. The moment the bull is turned the winner unties the bundle of cloth from around the bull's neck or the bull's horn and takes away the money or gold sovereigns as prize money. This festival is also a test of the bravery of the young and in ancient Tamil Nadu, most young girls even chose their beaus from among the winners.

Jallikkattu is most famous and elaborate in the villages of Alanganallur, Siruvayal (Madurai District), Aralippayar (Ramnad District) and Thennalur (Trichy District) where a lot of time and money goes into the preparations for the sport and the excitement and anticipation is much more than normal during Jallikkattu.





**SALEM DAIRY
ADJUDGED BEST DISTRICT
UNION OF TAMIL NADU**

The Salem District Co-operative Producers' Union Ltd., called as "Salem Dairy" is situated near Sithanur Village about 4 kms. east of Salem Steel Plant. The Union was registered on 10.7.1978 and started functioning on 7.10.1978. The commercial production of by-products viz. Butter, Ghee and Skim Milk Powder started on 16.8.1993.

In the beginning, the union procured a quantity of 33,100 litres of milk per day through its 227 primary milk producers' Co-operative societies. Due to gradual and concerted developmental activities it has reached a daily average of 2,08,501 litres during 1992-93 through its 976 milk societies and now the Salem Union is procuring on an average 2,48,669 litres of milk through its 991 societies.

The Dairy complex lies in an extent of about 50 acres of land bounded by Sithanur and Dhalavaipatty villages. The Dairy's handling capacity of one lakh litres of milk per day in 1984 is being increased to 3 lakh litres per day.

3,07,890 Members/Farmers have so far enrolled in 991 Primary Milk Producers' Co-operative Societies. The milk poured in by the producers are being collected by hired vehicles from societies through 55 milk collection routes. The procurement and input operations are being managed through seven milk procurement team offices at Salem, Sankari, Namakkal, Mettur, Paramathivelur, Attur and

Rasipuram. Afterwards milk is delivered to the dock of the three chilling centres viz., Namakkal, P. Velur & Attur and Main Dairy at Salem for chilling and then chilled milk is diverted to the Feeder Balancing Dairy from the chilling centres for processing and pasteurisation.

The Dairy is having its machinery with a handling capacity of 2 lakh litres per day in processing, 10 tonnes in Skim Milk Powder production, 9 tonnes in Butter production and 6 tonnes in Ghee Production.

The balance quantity of milk standing after local sales (65,000 litres per day) and despatch to Madras is converted into products viz., Butter, Ghee and Skim Milk Powder. Ghee and Skim Milk Powder are being sold in the markets all over India by Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd., Madras with "Agmark" and "ISI" grades respectively under the famous brand name of "AAVIN".

An Aseptic Packaging Unit, a Sophisticated tetrapack packing plant imported from Sweden costing Rs.2 crore, the first of its kind in Tamil Nadu, is functioning in our Union. This unit is packing 200 ml Chocolate, Cardamom, Flavoured milk and 200 ml Standardised Plain milk and 1000 ml. Standardised milk with an enhanced shelf life of 90 days.

Artificial Insemination service, Input Veterinary service and Emergency Veterinary service are

being provided to the animals of the producers in societies by the Veterinarians of this Union. Further, artificial insemination with hybrid semen are also being done to the animals through 545 Artificial Insemination sub-centres of the primary societies, nutritious cattle feed is being supplied to the members at cost price and fodder slips and seeds are supplied to the societies at nominal cost.

A training centre is functioning within the dairy complex, to provide training to the farmers, society personnel, management committee members of the societies and other unions.

A wireless communication network system is functioning to monitor the dairy activities within the Salem District to save time and efforts.

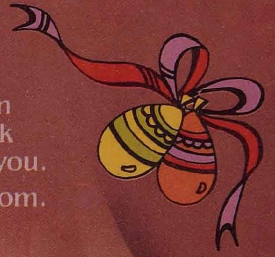
A Liquid Nitrogen Plant with a capacity of 45 litres per hour is functioning and Liquid Nitrogen is being supplied to all other Sister Unions and Animal Husbandry Departments from this Plant.

A Computer Unit has been installed at our Union at a cost of Rs.12.5 lakh. Milk billing, Pay bill, financial accounts etc., of the Union are done through the Computer unit.

Under Operation Flood III Programme, the Salem Union has been sanctioned the financial assistance of Rs.5.24 crore by the National Dairy Development Board for expanding the processing capacity of Salem Dairy into 3 lakh litres per day, for improving the procurement operations and input activity of Salem Dairy into 3 lakh litres per day, for improving the procurement operations and input activities for expanding Attur Chilling Centre to 80,000 litres per day capacity and for constructing a new chilling centre at Namakkal etc. This Union has been adjudged as the best working District Co-operative Milk Producers Union in Tamil Nadu for the last three years.

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