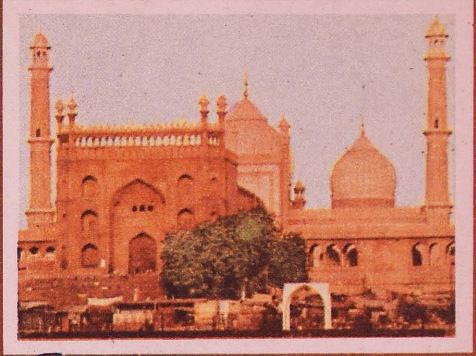
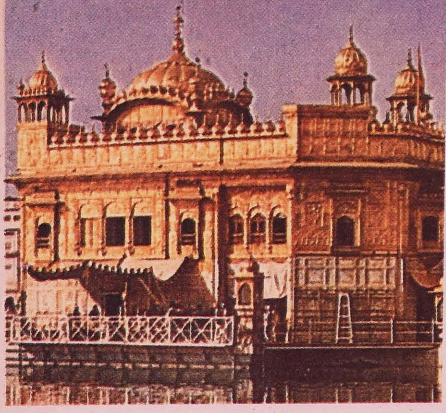
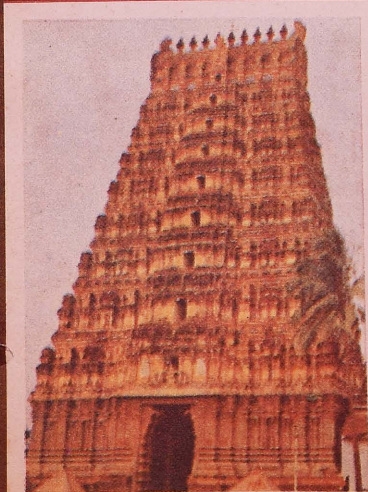
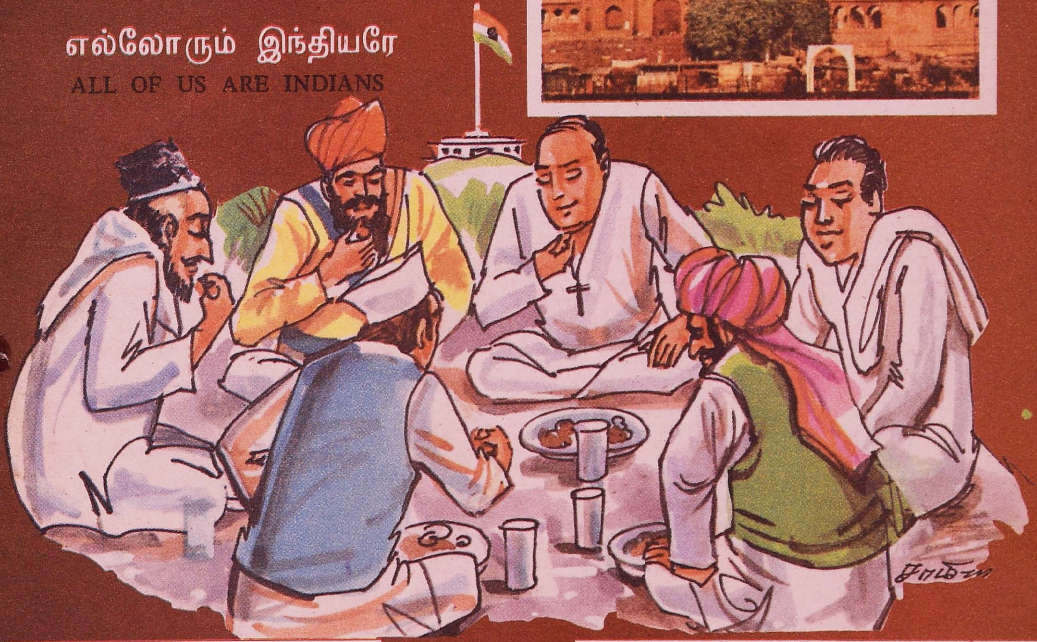


Tamil Arasu

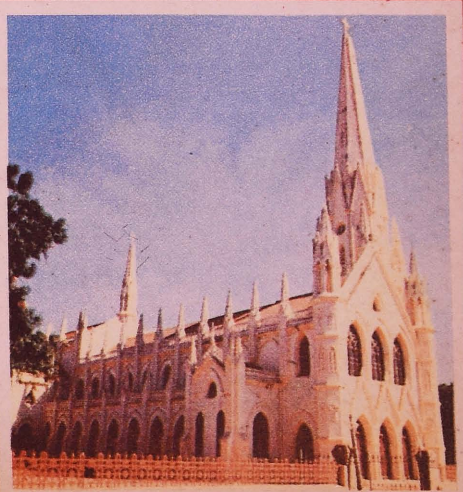


எல்லோரும் இந்தியரே
ALL OF US ARE INDIANS



1
8
1986

Re. 1





Dr. (Tmt.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY

TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

Muthulakshmi Reddy - India's first woman doctor.

On the birth centenary celebrations of that famous social worker, freedom fighter, legislator and India's first woman doctor, Tamil Arasu presents you a profile of the great lady.

Jagjivan Ram 'battled social evils'

The Chief Minister unveiled the potrait of Late Jagjivan Ram at a meeting at Rajaji Hall on July 10th. A report of the meeting and a resume of the Doughty champion of the Downtrodden.

Further improvement in Metro water supply.

The Chief Minister held a meeting on 1.8.86 to improve the Metrowater supply in the city of Madras. Thousands of residents are to benefit by the decisions of the meeting.

Rabindranath Tagore as I saw him.

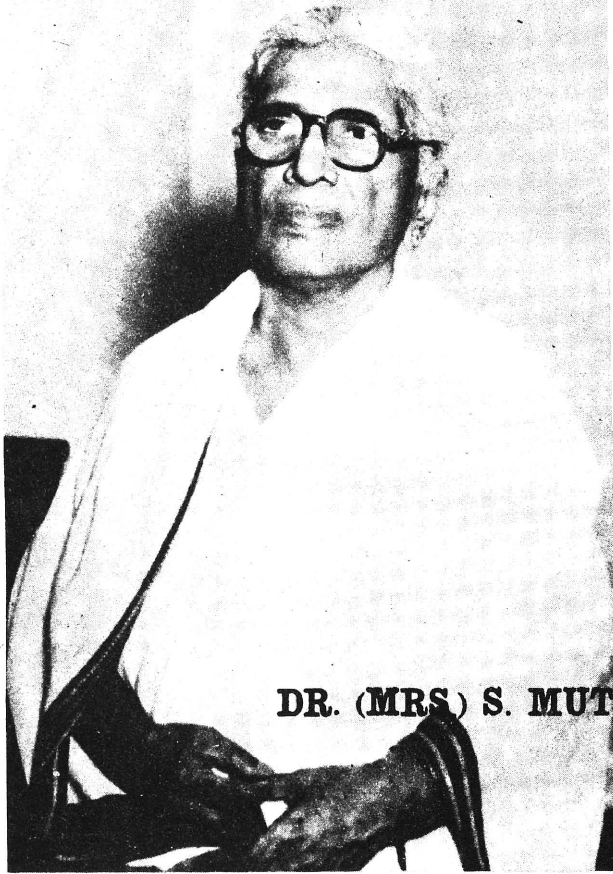
On the 125th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Tamil Arasu brings you an article by Thiru. Nandagopal Sengupta (Courtesy : West Bengal Information). Plus a sample of Tagore's poems.



Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

August 1986

Aadi-Aavani



INDIA'S FIRST WOMAN DOCTOR

DR. (MRS.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY

(Adapted from

Tamil Arasu - Tamil)

Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddy was born of middle class Hindu parents in the then Indian State of Pudukottah on July 30, 1886. She was the eldest of four children.

Tradition was, however, still strong and so Muthulakshmi's education was all gone through at home. She appeared for her matriculation examination as a private candidate and passed. Her qualifying for college was the most important news of the day in Pudukottah town.

No girl had ever been admitted to the Maharajah's College, Pudukottah, in all its history. The Principal, the Professors, and alumni of the College heard in stunned silence

that Muthulakshmi had filed her application for admission to the Intermediate class. But the Maharajah was a young man with an Australian wife and issued a special decree ordering the admission. As a compromise Muthulakshmi sat behind a screen, invisible to the boys, but visible to the teacher. At the end of each day the boys would be ordered to stay in their seats till Muthulakshmi had left and only then would the class break. Muthulakshmi passed the Intermediate University examination standing first in her class.

In 1907 she came to Madras to join the Medical College on a stipend from the Maharajah of Pudukottah. Her father came along with her to keep

home for her. He had retired prematurely from service and remained her constant companion throughout her college days. She was the first girl to join the M.B. & C.M. class in the Madras Medical College, but she stood first in her class right through her college career. She graduated in Medicine in 1912, standing first in the University. She was thus the First Woman in India to graduate in Medicine.

After graduation she joined the Women & Children Hospital, Egmore, as a House-Surgeon. No woman had ever been accepted as a House-Surgeon in that hospital before, though any number of L.M. & S. and apothecaries had applied. She was thus again

the First Lady House-Surgeon in Madras Medical history.

After completing her House-Surgeoncy in 1913, she set-up practice in Egmore. It was in that year that Dr. T. Sundara Reddy, the First Indian to qualify for the F.R.C.S., also a self-made man, approached her father for her hand in marriage. They were married in April, 1914 and their first son was born in December of that year. Their second son was born in September of 1919.

In 1923 Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy lost her beloved sister at the young age of 23 from cancer of the rectum. The first symptoms of cancer had appeared in 1921, but the eminent Surgeons and Gynecologists of that day had diagnosed and treated the condition as amoebic dysentery. Dr. Reddy knew nothing about it till 1922, as the sister was married and was living elsewhere. In 1922, Dr. Reddy examining her for the first time, detected cancer, but it was by then too late. From that day she stayed by that bedside of agony for nearly a year till her sister passed away in 1923. It was this personal experience that laid the psychological foundation of all her anti-cancer work in the years to come.

In 1918 the Women's Indian Association of Madras was founded by two European Women theosophists, Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins and Mrs. Jina Radha Dasa. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was its first Indian Member and was for many years its Secretary, and Editor of its journal "Stri Dharma". She later became its life President.

Dr. Reddy visited England for the first time in 1925 for post-graduate studies, and returned in 1927. Very soon after her return she was nominated to the Madras Legislative Coun-

cil and in a short while elected as its Vice-President. She thus became the First Woman in the world to preside over a legislative body.

In 1930, however, came the Salt Satyagraha campaign of Mahatmaji. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was in Ooty, when the news of Mahatmaji's arrest during the historic Dandi march came through. Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy immediately announced her intention to resign and within an hour the letter of resignation, both from the Council and the Deputy Presidentship, was in the hands of the English Governor.

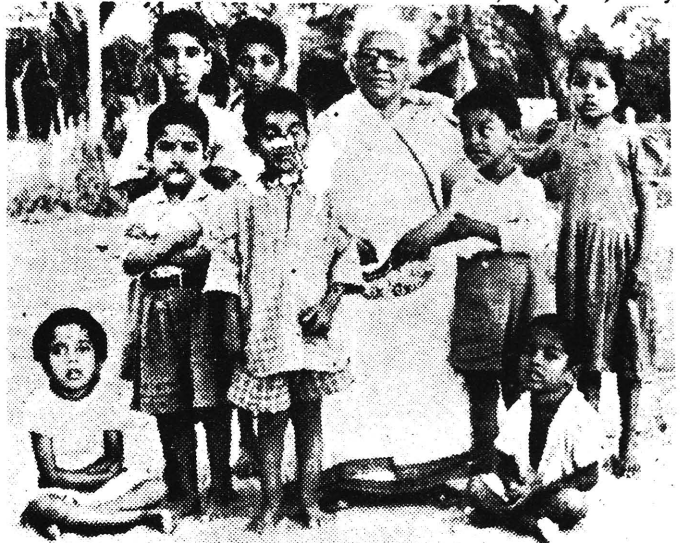
The Devadasi Act, enacted by Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy was to these ill-starred slaves of Hindu tradition and temples a liberation from centuries of slavery. The young girls of that community broke out of the fold immediately, the within a month of the passing of the Act came to Madras seeking their Mother and liberator, Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi, and through her a new life. These girls were innocent and unspoilt, and desired education and livelihood like other girls.

In 1930 the only shelter for Hindu girls were two hos-

tels in Madras City - the Ice House for Brahmin girls and Non-Brahmin Hostel in Big Street, Triplicane, for Non-Brahmin girls. When the first batch of seven girls from the Devadasi community arrived at Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy's house, she naturally directed them to the Correspondent of these hostels with a letter. Dr. Reddy was then the Hon-Medical Officer of both these hostels. But when the girls presented themselves before the Correspondent they were abused as fruits of corruption and driven out incontinently. The girls returned to Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy weeping and related their woe-ful tale. That night the Avvai Home was established in Dr. Reddy's house.

Begun under such circumstances of stress and revolt against an unjust and selfish society in 1930, the Avvai Home has grown from strength to strength, housing 350 children, many helpless adult women an Industrial school, a Basic school, a Basic Teachers' Training School and a High School. Thousands of discarded women and children have walked out of the Avvai Home as Nurses, Doctors and Teachers.

In addition to founding the Avvai Home, Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy





DR. (Mrs) MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI
BIRTH CENTENARY — 1886 — 1986
30-7-86



What is the meaning of human life or for that matter, of the life of any creature? To know an answer to this question means to be religious. You ask, Does it make any sense, then, to pose this question? I answer: The man who regards his own life and that of his fellow creatures as meaningless is not merely unhappy but hardly fit for life. —Albert Einstein.

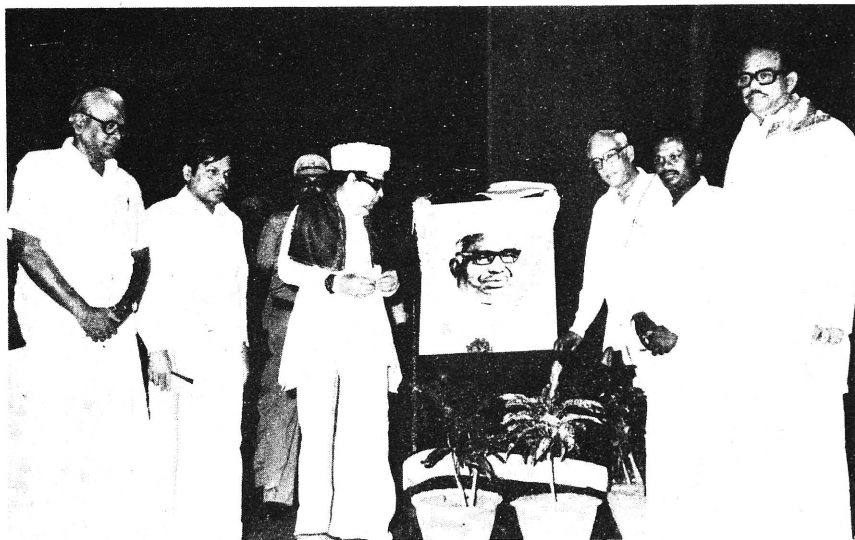
organised the first Vigilance Association in Madras, established the first Rescue Home for women (which later became the Stri Sadana) and was for long the Secretary and the life behind the Children Aid Society, a home for delinquent children.

It was while Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy was in England in 1926 that she first saw many cases of cancer of the rectum being cured by surgical operation by Sir Ernest Miles at the Royal Cancer Hospital. It became her great ambition that a similar hospital should be established in Madras. In 1949 after Independence, Dr. (Mrs.) Reddy, with her characteristic

perseverance and resolution, formed the Cancer Relief Fund (W.I.A.) to collect funds to establish a Cancer Hospital. In two years of incessant campaigning, which took her across thousands of miles, she was able to collect only Rs. 2 lakhs, but she did collect a lot of insults and abuses. With this small amount of Rs. 2 lakhs, but with great courage and an indomitable resolution she established in 1955 the Cancer Institute. It has been selected by the Government of India as the Southern Regional Centre of Cancer Research and Treatment.

Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddy was awarded the Padma

Bhushan by the Government of India in 1956. In 1966, on her eightieth birthday, all the women's organisations in Tamil Nadu, honoured her at Rajaji Hall. On November 5th, 1967, she presided over and spoke for half an hour at the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Women's Indian Association, of which she was the founder together with Mrs. Margret E. Cousins and Mrs. Jinaradha Dasa. She went to Bangalore in the summer of 1968 to escape from heat of Madras. There, on July 18th she suddenly took ill and was brought to Madras, where she quietly passed away on Monday, the 22nd July, at the Cancer Institute, Adyar, full of years and honours.



JAGJIVAN RAM "BATTLED SOCIAL EVILS"

The Chief Minister, Hon'ble Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, led leaders of various political parties in paying homage to Jagjivan Ram, at a condolence meeting organised by the State unit of the Republican Party of India (Khobragade) at Kalia-var Arangam on July 10th.

Dr. M.G.R. unveiled a portrait of Jagjivan Ram.

Dr. V.R. Nedunchezian, Hon'ble Finance Minister described Jagjivan Ram as a great administrator, man of conviction and courageous leader. His political sagacity, concern for uplift of the Scheduled Castes and backward classes and un-

relenting efforts at fighting social evils and protecting the integrity of the nation were praiseworthy.

Thiru K.Rajaram, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, said the death Jagjivan Ram was an irreparable loss to the nation of this juncture. He urged the younger generation to imbibe the spirit of service and sacrifice of the great leader.

Thiru S.Ramachandran, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, said Jagjivan Ram's zeal to uplift the suppressed sections had no parallel. In this demise, progressive forces had lost a great champion.

Thiru M.Palaniandi, TNCC(I) president, said Jagjivan Ram had introduced many progressive legislations for the working class. Till the last moment, he had waged a battle to end social inequalities and injustice.

Messers Thiru Tiruvarur K. Thangarasu (DK), Thiru Margabandhu (Toilers Party), Chengam Jabbar (Progressive Muslim League) and others described Jagjivan Ram as a symbol of service and sacrifice. Thiru C.K.Thamizharasan MLA(RPI) welcomed gathering.

The meeting in a resolution, said the nation had lost a great stalwart and patriot and conveyed its condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

Every great movement in the annals of history is the triumph of enthusiasm.

—Emerson.



DOUGHTY

CHAMPION

OF THE

DOWNTRODDEN

A doughty champion of the downtrodden, Jagjivan Ram was one of India's political statwards whose views on matters of national importance were respected by all sections of leadership and people.

Jagjivan Ram in post-Independent India held office in every successive Government at the Centre.

Quiet confidence, balanced and clear vision, a robust sense of reality, an uncommon courage of conviction, sweetness of temper, affability combined with firmness of purpose sum up Jagjivan Ram's personality.

Affectionately called 'Babuji' his name is synonymous with uplift of the downtrodden. To the younger generations of the post-independent India he appeared in yet another role-the role of a nation-builder.

Born in a poor Harijan family on April 5, 1908 in the Chandwa village in Bihar, Jagjivan Ram was brought up

in an atmosphere of intense religious devotion. Ram's philosophy of life was based on traditional Indian human values. His desire to serve the downtrodden, his zeal to break the age-old superstition of untouchability made him enter public life. He founded the All India Depressed Classes League in 1934 with a view to rousing the awareness of Harijans. He graduated in Science twice from the Banaras Hindu University and Calcutta University.

The young boy who had dreamt of becoming a religious reformer under the impact of his father's personality turned out to be one of India's front rank national leaders.

Simplicity : Coming under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Rajendra Prasad early in his public career, Jagjivan Ram imbibed the great characteristics of simplicity and devotion to service.

By early 1930s, struggle for independence had reached its zenith. This was the period when Mahatma Gandhi launched his salt satyagraha and swadeshi and the Indian National Congress adopted a resolution demanding complete independence for India at its Lahore session in 1934.

Young Jagjivan was observing the Congress Satyagrah in courting arrest. He could not contain himself and resolved to devote himself whole heartedly to the cause of the country's freedom.

In 1934, Gandhiji's refusal to accept the statutory reservation of seats at the Round conference irritated Jagjivan Ram. He wrote a strongly worded letter to the Mahatma. Gandhiji's secretary in reply said that Bapu regarded any kind of segregation as bad, both for the upper caste and the Harijians. During this time an Anti-untouchability League was set up which was later renamed Harijan Sevak Sangh. By 1932

Jagjivan Ram had made up his mind to devote to the uplift of the downtrodden.

Jagjivan Ram made Bihar the launching pad for the crusade against untouchability. His steadfast devotion to the cause led to his appointment as the Secretary of the Bihar branch of the Harijan Sevak Sangh. Untill mid-1930s, he grappled with a plethora of social problems facing the have-nots. Following differences with Thakkar Bapa, All-India Secretary of the Sangh, he resigned his post in 1935 and concentrated all his energies in the work of the Depressed Classes League.

In May 1936, N.B.R. Ambedkar, another staunch fighter for the depressed classes, gave a call to his followers to renounce Hindu religion. Jagjivan Ram, however, differed with him. His approach was nationalistic.

His untiring efforts infused new life and vitality into the Depressed Classes League. When the Congress decided to contest the provincial legislature elections in 1937, the League announced that it would contest all the 45 reserved seats in Bihar and won all the seats.

Jagjivan Ram's nomination to the Bihar Legislative Council about a year earlier had initiated him into parliamentary politics. And in 1937, following his election to the Bihar Assembly, he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary.

Joining the interim Government headed by Jawaharlal Nehru in September 1946, Jagjivan Ram was a Cabinet Minister in successive Congress Governments till 1977 except for a 28 month break from October 1963 under the Kamaraj Plan. Under the Plan some of the senior

Ministers were taken out of the Government and drafted for party work.

Jagjivan Ram was invited by Mrs. Indira Gandhi to re-join the Central Cabinet in 1966.

The portfolios handled by him included defence, agriculture, labour, communications and railways.

Significant role: Jagjivan Ram was appointed Defence Minister on June 29, 1970. He played an extraordinarily significant role in the events of December 1971 when the Indian forces beat Pakistani aggression and liberated Bangladesh.

A member of the All-India Congress Committee from 1940 to 1977, Jagjivan Ram was on the party's Central Parliamentary Board for 22 years from 1950.

COURTESY : THE HINDU

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

WASHINGTON : Moderate exercise not only improves looks and makes one feel better but may also prolong life.

Exercise has about the same life-extending effect as when all cancer had been eradicated from the group, says a report in Science 86.

A comprehensive study which monitored nearly 17,000 Harvard alumni has found that those who exercised lived as much as two years longer.

Those who daily walked briskly for 45 minutes or swam or ran for 30 minutes had a death rate one-quarter to one-third lower than that of sedentary men. Even among smokers and others considered prone to life-threatening diseases, those who exercised had lower death rate than those who did not.

DOLPHALE OR WHOLPHIN ?

HAWAII : The birth of a rare female calf from an Atlantic bottle-nosed dolphine and a false killer whale has been reported at Hawaii's Sea Life Park on Oahu.

The hybrid resulted from the unplanned mating of a female dolphin with a type of killer whale. The calf looks like a whale with dark body, face and numerous teeth. From her mother's sides she has inherited dolphin like flippers and dorsal fin but not, the bottle nose.

According to the journal international Wildlife, only one other dolphin-whale calf has been known to survive from such mating.



TAMIL NADU SEEKS RS 310 CRORES FOR DROUGHT RELIEF:

The Tamil Nadu Government on July 24th sent to the Centre a detailed memorandum on the drought situation in the State, seeking assistance to the tune of Rs. 310.02 crores for undertaking drought relief measures.

The memorandum, prepared in the light of the discussions the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, had with the Collectors, the Relief Commissioner and the Secretaries to Agriculture, Revenue and other departments, has highlighted the need for providing drinking water and work to agricultural labourers in the 12 districts declared drought-hit as also to those who have been suffering in the delta areas of Thanjavur and South Arcot.

It has been estimated that, through the departments of Revenue, Agricultural Engineering, Public works and High-

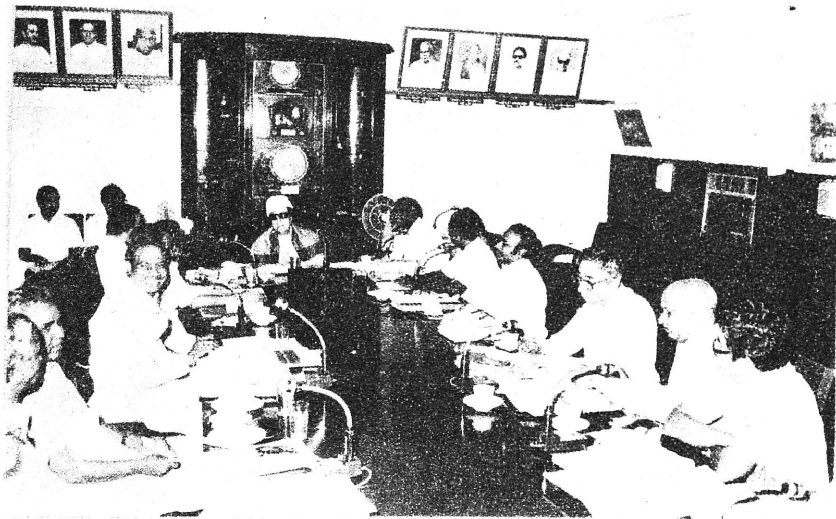
ways, it will be possible to create work opportunities for 1,59,22,450 mandays in the next two months. The funds available under the NREP, the RLEGP and other regular programmes under implementation by the several departments will be made use of for this purpose. The Collectors and heads of department have been instructed to implement these schemes more intensively in the affected areas so as to provide work for agricultural labourers.

The Government has already declared Coimbatore, Salem, Dharmapuri, Anna, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Pasumpon, Muthuramalingam, Kamarajar, Periyar, Tiruchi, Kanyakumari and Pudukkottai districts as drought-affected.

The Chief Minister held two conferences with Collectors in January and May to review

the water supply position. In accordance with the decisions taken at those conferences, the Government issued sanctions to the tune of about Rs.12 crores for sinking 2,622 borewells and 700 wells. Utilising the funds available under the NREP, 3016 open wells were deepened. Arrangements have also been made for transport of water through lorries to the affected areas. The various municipalities have been given funds for improving water supply. For rural water supply schemes, Rs.30 crores had been set apart.

The Special Commissioners for Revenue Administration, Land Administration and Land Reforms have been instructed to tour the drought-hit areas allotted to them to coordinate the works and monitor the progress of the various relief measures, to facilitate a continuous review at the Government level.



HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER'S DISCUSSION ON METROWATER SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS IN CITY

A meeting was taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 1-8-1986 to solve certain long-standing problems in the working of the MMWS & S Board, the T.N.H.B. and the T.N.S. C.B. Hon'ble Minister for local administration, Thiru P.U. Shanmugam, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Water Supply, Dr. K. Kalimuthu and Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Thiru N. Nallusamy were present as also the Chairman of M.M.W.S. & S. Board, Thiru Jeppiyar, Chairman T.N.H.S., Thiru Thirupur Manimaran and the Chairman T.N.S.C. Board, Thiru N.V.N. Selvam. The Chief Secretary to Government, Secretaries to Government in the Finance, MA&WS Housing Departments were in attendance. After detailed discussions, the Chief Minister announced the following decisions:-

(1) In respect of the Housing Board Neighbourhood schemes where the Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board or the Corporation of Madras have not taken over public utilities for maintenance

due to certain unresolved problems, to ensure that the public are not inconvenienced, the Metro water Board or the Madras Corporation as the case may be will immediately take over the utilities such as roads and watersupply and drainage schemes. Amounts required for bringing these utilities to the required standards will be provided by the Govt. to the MMWS& S Board and the Corporation of Madras. The T.N.H. Board set up water supply and drainage schemes at Bharti Nagar, Vyasarpadi, Anna Nagar West, Kottupuram, Raja Annamalipuram, Foreshore Estate area, Villivakkam and Arumbakkam will be taken over and improved immediately at a cost of over Rs. 1.74 crores.

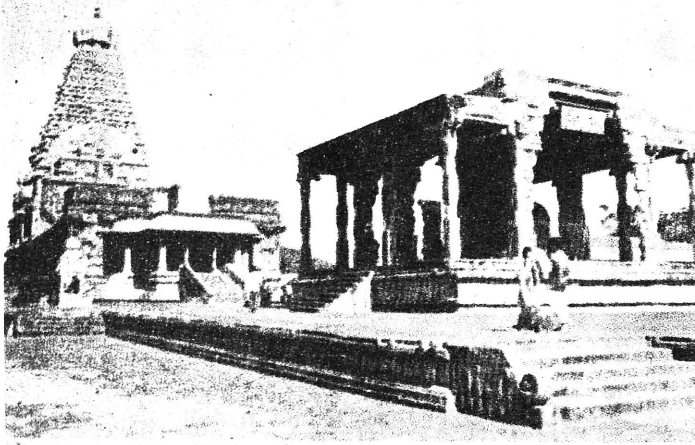
To ensure that such problems do not arise in future layouts of the T.N.H.B., three officers in the rank of Chief Engineer will be deputed, one each from the Metro water, the Madras Corporation and the T.N.E.B. to the T.N.H.B. to advise the T.N.H.B. in establishment of amenities,

conforming to the standards of the local authorities and also to ensure continuous and close liason between the T.N.H.B. & these local authorities.

The Water supply & Sewerage taxes due to the Metro water Board and the property taxes due to the Madras Corporation from the T.N.S.C.B. in respect of Slum Board tenements will be paid by the T.N.S.C. Board. Payment for water supplied through public fountains and through lorries in Slum Board tenement areas by MMWS&S Board will be made by T.N.S. C.B. For water supplied through public fountains, the Madras Corporation will make payments to the MMWS&S Board. Government will make suitable financial allocations to the T.N. S.C. Board and to the Madras Corporation for making these payments on a half yearly basis.

Several thousands of residents of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board tenements will immediately benefit from these important decisions.

Thanjavur, Showplace of Chola Architecture



Time turns back as you penetrate farther and farther into the Deep South of India. For example, forty six miles from Chidambaram on the road or railway to Tiruchirapalli, you encounter one of the oldest cities of the south Kumbakonam, on the banks of the Cauvery River giving life to its surround-

Kumbakonam for a bathing festival in its holy Mahamakham Tank.

Kumbakonam will whet your appetite for a particularly choice morsel of South Indian art and architecture half-an-hour away. This is Thanjavur (formerly spelt Tanjore) lying at the foot

granite weighing eighty tons. The block was inched up to the top along an inclined plane that began in a village four miles away.

The main shrine of the temple lies at the end of a parved courtyard and houses a huge lingam. This courtyard is guarded by another gopuram tower. As you near the inner shrine of Brihadeeswara, you will encounter India's second largest statue of Nandi the bull (the biggest is at Lepakshi near Anantapur). Sixteen feet long in black granite, this is the mount of the god Siva. Other sculptures inside the temple draw upon Vishnu and Buddhism for their subjects as well as Siva. The walls of the inner courtyard of the temple are covered with the excellent frescos of the Chola (10th- 11th century and the Nayak (17th century) periods. These wall paintings are of special interest to lovers of Indian art because for a long time, the earlier and the really more interesting Chola frescos lay hidden under the upper



In Tamil Nadu, you see the whole of India



COURTESY : FODOR'S GUIDE TO INDIA

ing delta. Kumbakonam lives in very much the same way as it did before a highway or a railway ever reached it. Its craftsmen still make traditional gold and silver jewellery, and its gardeners still tend their betel vines. Kumbakonam betel is reputed to be the best in South India. Just ask any chewer.

The old city has 18 temples with some exuberant Hindu sculpture on the Ramaswamy temple in particular. Once every twelve years, pilgrims invade

of what has been called India's greatest temple. Thanjavur was the capital of the Chola Empire from the 10th to the 14th centuries and it was a Chola King, Rajah Chola (he held the throne from 985 to 1016) who built the greatest of its 74 temples, the Brihadeeswara.

The tower of this temple was the greatest feat of the Chola architects. It soars more than 200 ft. high in that Dravidian truncated pyramid form now so familiar to you. But, in this case, the crowing dome of the tower rests on a single block of

layer of the Nayak paintings. Only when the modern archeologist was able to expose the bottom layer did we come to know of the existence of an excellent school of painting in the Chola period, comparable to the famous frescos in the Ajanta cave shrines.

The Cholas ruled Thanjavur from its palace which also was used by the Nayak and Maratha dynasties. It is a huge pile of no particular architectural interest, but it does contain the celebrated Saraswati Mahal Library with 30,000 volumes

(8,000 of these are manuscripts written on palm leaves). In Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi, Telugu and a number of European languages, it covers subjects from dancing to astronomy. The palace also has a superb collection of bronzes, poorly displayed in an old audience hall.

At Thanjavur you might find time for a few glimpses of the Subramanya Temple, the Sivaganga tank, and the Schwartz Church built by a rajah in 1779 to express his friendship for a Danish missionary, Rev. C.V. Schwartz. Close to Thanjavur lies Tiruvaigar, the 19th Century home of Sri Thyagaraja, saint and composer. He wrote more than a thousand songs in Carnatic (Southern Indian) music. In his honour a major music festival is held here every January.

The Fort of Tiruchirapalli:

West of Thanjavur and 35 miles by road or rail, you reach Tiruchirapalli, also known as Trichinopoly and, to anyone in a hurry, as Trichy. Tiruchirapalli has always been a seat of power in South India and it bears the scars of wars fought to control it, particularly by the French and English.



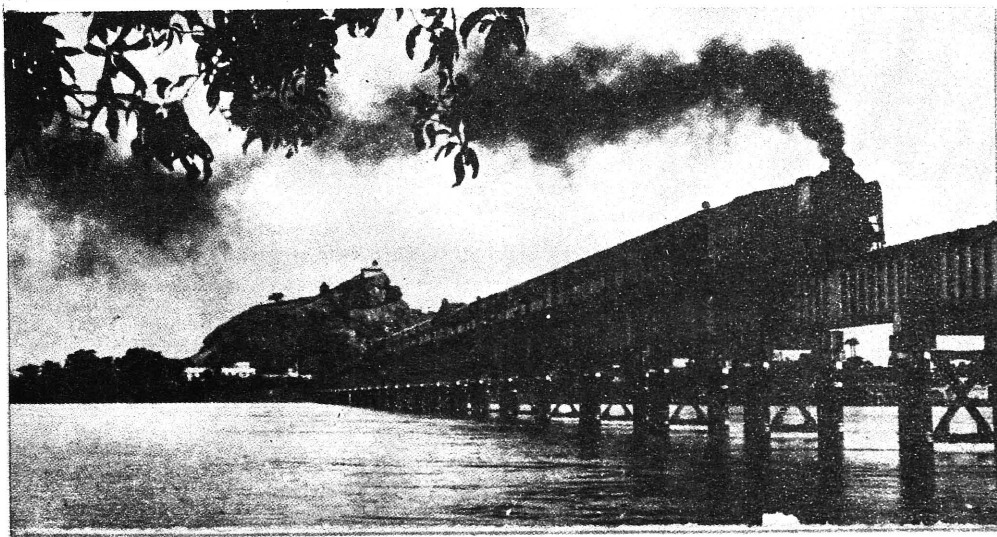
The military and architectural heart of Tiruchirapalli is its famed Rock Fort, looming nearly 300 ft. over the city on the banks of the Cauvery River. A stone staircase cut into the Rock leads up to the Fort. At its first levels stand the remnants of a huge hall blasted into ruins in 1772, although part of it is still used by shopkeepers. The next storey on the Rock is hall of one hundred pillars and then the steps lead to the Mathrubhuteswarar Shrine dedicated to Siva.

The lingam under the gold-plated dome over the shrine is said to be part of the Rock upon which the temple stands. Finally, at the very top of the Rock Fort, the Ucchi Pillaiyar Koil, a Ganesh temple offers a breathtaking view of the city and the countryside below.

Temples were not only built on the Rock but carved out of its sides as well. The bigger of the two cave temples were executed by Pallava sculptors who placed seven pillars across its facade and a square shrine at one end of a hollowed-out hall.

Below the Rock, Tiruchirapalli offers several other points of interest including St. Joseph's College, a house where Clive is believed to have lived, Christ Church founded by Schewartz and a large tank, the Teppakulam. Trichy is a busy place, industriously turning out handloomed cloth, cigars, mats, textiles and even several kinds of artificial diamonds.

Three miles to the north, though, the glory of religious India burst forth again on Srirangam, an island in the Cauvery linked to the mainland by a bridge of 32 arches. Chida-



mbaram, you remember, was sacred to the followers of Siva. Here, the worshipers of Vishnu come to one of India's largest temples dedicated to their god. The town of Srirangam itself lies almost wholly within the walls of the huge temple and there are no less than seven of these walls. The temple itself really begins when you reach the mandapam behind the fourth wall. This is another of those thousand-pillared halls (by actual count, there are 940 pillars) and it is

guarded by three gopuram towers over its entrance gates. Pilgrims from all over India come here every year in December for the Vaikunta Ekadasi festival. It is then that the idol of Ranganatha is brought into the mandapam from the inner shrine under a golden dome. This temple houses a beautiful collection of jewellery.

There is another temple, smaller but of much better design, about a mile to the east and this is a shrine of Siva.

Here, in the Jambukeswaram pagoda, is a lingam, the symbol of Siva, submerged in water.

The water surrounding Srirangam island is not only holy but useful. In the 11th century a Chola ruler built a stone dam below the island to harness the Cauvery River. He built it so well that you can still see it today, a sturdy wall 1,000 feet long and 60 feet wide, serving the purpose for which it was built 900 years ago.

PANDAS DISCOVERED

: A Giant Panda family consisting of two cubs and their parents has been discovered in the yunnan Province of China, reports Liberation Daily.

The Giant Panda is considered to be highly endangered and forms the emblem of World Wildlife Fund.

What has baffled zoological experts is that the pandas are being successfully brought up by a farmer while concerted efforts of world-renowned experts have failed consistently in getting these animals to breed.

TRACKING AIR POLLUTION

A method which makes it possible to pinpoint the source of toxic air pollution has been developed by an Austrian scientist, reports News Survey, an Austrian news agency.

The method involves introducing a tracer gas, sulphur hexafluoride, to the exhaust fumes from the industrial plant suspected of causing pollution. The gas, which does not occur naturally, can be identified up to a distance of thirty kilometers, from the point of introduction.

The emissions from the chimney of the suspected culprit are marked at source, and computerized monitoring equipment in the area takes regular air samples and examines them for this gas.

Equipment for implementing this technique is being installed at the newly constructed coal-fired power station near Vienna, which is due to go into operation later this year.

NEW DENTAL TECHNIQUE ELIMINATES PAIN

A simple new American dental technique uses electrical waves to eliminate pain.

Instead of administering a local anesthesia by needle, the dentist uses a small device that sends mild, painless waves through electrodes taped to several areas of the patients' body. The waves stimulate the production of natural body substances, called endorphins, which control pain.

The technique works for patients having teeth filled or gum surgery, say the developers at the University of Colorado.

Comments one dentist: "It holds possibilities for wide spread use and may some day replace needles entirely."



The New Chief Secretary

FROM the bureaucracy and the red tape to humanism and romantic poetry might indeed be a far cry. If the atmosphere of files and VIPs, precedents and standing orders, is not conducive to the rise of poets, it is also true that it might not succeed in killing them either.

Not many might be aware of the fact that the new Chief Secretary, Thiru A. Padmanabhan, a seasoned administrator, known in the Secretariat for his crisp and pointed notes, has also a flair for pleasant and readable verse. He is a man of deep humility, with a respect for all life, and of a wide-ranging humanism, with sympathy for the lowly and the lost.

An impressive variety of themes, covering man, nature, poetry and world affairs, is treated with a light touch by Thiru Padmanabhan in his "Rain Drops", a slim collection of short poems. In 'the Gardener and Garden', he deplors the vandalism of man, when he says:

"The lovely woods and forests/The flora
and the fauna
The Peaks and the Mountain/The flowering
Valleys
And the flowing rivers/All are laid in gaiety
and grandeur
By Nature, the Great Gardener/Alas !
Mankind-the stray cattle
Enters determined/To lay them all waste in
a trice."

Are we not too familiar with 'stray cattle'
of all varieties in the city ?

Not is he content with pretty words. He believes in deeds as well. On reading a news item that a painter of Bombay was suffering on the pavements, Thiru Padmanabhan promptly sent him an M.O. (for Rs. 200) He is a good samaritan, who does not talk too much about himself.

Courtesy : *The Hindu*.

Thiru A. Padmanabhan, IAS joined duty on 21.7.86 as the new Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu.

Thiru A. Padmanabhan was born on 14.12. 1928. He began his Government service in 1951. He had been Deputy

District Collector(sub-collector), District Collector, Secretary to the Department of Public Works Department, Secretary to the Family Welfare Department and Secretary to Labour Welfare Department. He has also been the Chairman of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. Thiru

A. Padmanabhan was with the Central Government too as Joint Secretary to the Department of Shipping. Prior to joining this new post, he was with the Revenue Board and Commissioner and Secretary, Vigilance Department.

The question "Why an ornamental flower crop originated in Northern America should be introduced as an oilseed crop into India, while we are having a number of conventional oilseeds like sesamum, groundnut, castor etc. in our farming system?" needs enlightenment.

In spite of sincere efforts made to boost the oil production in our country, there is an outflow of Rs. 600—Rs. 800 crores every year in foreign exchange for importing about a

million tonnes of edible oils in India, to meet its shortage. Though sunflower is an introduced oilseed crop, it contributes substantially in the world vegetable oil production (17.77 per cent of the total vegetable oil) and ranks next only to soyabean. The colour, odour and taste of sunflower oil are acceptable. The saturated fatty acids content in sunflower (9.8%) is relatively lesser than groundnut oil (19.4%) and gingelly oil (14.2%). The high production of poly unsaturated fatty acids in sunflower makes

it fit for consumption even by heart patients without apprehension. The oil content in general ranges from 35—40 per cent resulting in higher oil output from an unit area than the other major oil crops. Because of its semidrying nature sunflower oil has industrial uses in the manufacture of paints and varnishes, unlike the non-drying groundnut oil.

The protein content in seeds is also considerably higher in sunflower (27.7%), than

The Importance of sunflower and its Cultivation Practices



groundnut (23.6%) and gingelly (19.3%)

In addition, sunflower is also attributed with many agronomic advantages. Short duration (65—90 days), suitability for cultivation in all seasons and all soils both under irrigated and rainfed cultures, suppressing the incidence of abnoxious weed 'Striga' in sorghum crop which succeeds sunflower, are few notable characteristics of sunflower. In general, sunflower remains practically free from the incidence of serious pests and diseases.

In Tamil Nadu the area under sunflower is gaining momentum year after year and now has touched 1.25 lakh hectares with the annual production of about 60,000 tonnes grains. The major area under this crop is concentrated in these southern districts viz. Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Madurai.

Dr. N. Mohamed Sheriff
Associate Professor,
School of Genetics,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural
University.

In breeding programmes the major objectives are high grain and oil yield, resistance to pests and diseases, earliness and wide adaptability. Due to self incompatibility and protandry systems in pollination, seed setting particularly in the central portion of the capitulum are often affected resulting in central hollowness. This would in turn inflict the seed yield considerably. Therefore research programmes are in progress to develop self fertile lines in sunflower. In the mean time to circumvent this problem a simple operation termed 'hand pollination' (rubbing the blooming heads gently with a soft cloth in the morning hours from 9-11 a.m. for 5 to 7 days) is advocated to enhance the seed setting. The results of an experiment conducted at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for four years revealed that by practicing hand pollination an yield increase of 250 kg per hectare (27.2 percent) could be obtained over the crop not hand pollinated. This works out to an additional net income of Rs. 600 per hectare.

Initially few genotypes of exotic origin, were introduced for cultivation in India. The

breeding research in TamilNadu has resulted in the development of two strains from Coimbatore (Co. 1 and Co. 2) and two from Kovilpatty (K. 1 and K.2). Sunflower Co. 1 is a short term variety (65 days) and suitable for raising as a catch crop in garden lands. Co. 2 is of recent release during January 1986 to meet the needs of sunflower growing tracts of Tamil Nadu. Its duration is 85-87 days. In oil content, yield and resistance to rust disease, Co. 2 was superior to K.1 (Ec. 68414).

Cultivation Practices for Sunflower :

There are seven popular varieties in Sunflower namely Co. 1 Morden, K.2, K.1, 'Ec. 68414', EC. 68415, CO. 2 and BSH. 1 (Hybrid). The duration of Co. 1, Morden and K.2 varieties are 65, 75 and 70 days respectively. Other varieties have a duration of 85 to 90 days. June-July and September-October are the best season for both irrigated and rainfed Crops. January - February is the season for irrigated Crops. For Sunflower, apply a basal dosal dose of fertilizer in the ratio of 40 N: 20P: 20K.

The spacing for Co. 1 and K. 2 varieties is 30 x 15 Cm. For other varieties it is 30 x 30 CM. The seed rate for Co. 1 and K. 2 varieties is 30 Kg/ha., for other varieties it is 15 Kg/ha. Before sowing, the seeds should be treated with 2 gm. Bavestin or 4 gm. Thirum per Kg. of seed. The plant protection measures should be under taken by spraying with Endosulfan 35 EC 625 ml and Mencozeb (Dithane M 45) at 1250 gm per hectare on 30th day. If necessary, repeat the spraying 10 days later. To increase the seed setting gently rub the flowers in the morning hours (9-11 a.m.) at the blooming stage for 5-7 days.

At full maturity stage, (basal portion of the flowers turning yellow) the flower heads are to be cut, sun dried and threshed.

Sunflower can be raised either as a pure crop or as a mixture with groundnut and pulses. By identifying suitable new companion crops for sunflower, the avenue will be opened up for further enhancement of area and production of sunflower.

INDOORS MORE POLLUTED

WASHINGTON :

Household products, building materials and cigarette smoke produce air pollution inside homes up to 10 times greater than that found in the air near chemical plants, according to a study by an American environmental agency.

Among the indoor hazards are paradichlorobenzene, used in moth balls and home deodorants; styrene used in plastics foam rubber and insulation; benzene present in cigarette smoke and gasoline; and chlorine given off by tap water.

SUPERCITIES

GENEVA

Calcutta and Bombay will be among the five "supercities" of the 21st century with a population of 16 million or more.

The United Nation's 1986 State of the World population Report says that by the year 2,000, growing urbanization will create five such supercities with above 16 million population, four of them in the third world.

SCIENCE MUSEUM AND PLANETORIUM FOR CITY:

A massive construction operation is on behind the CLRI campus, which when completed will give Madras a science museum and a planetarium. While the museum is being put up by the Tamil Nadu Government, the planetarium comes as a 'gift' from Thiru C.K. Birla, industrialist.

The construction is in progress even as machines to make models have started arriving and steps have been initiated for the import of equipment.

When completed, the science museum, estimated to cost Rs. 6.82 crores will have, 16 galleries covering the entire gamut of science and technology. The planetarium, which may ultimately cost upto Rs. 2.5 crores, will have a seating capacity of about 280.

Realising the need for creating such a centre, which exists in other cities like Bombay and Calcutta and in every major city in the developed countries, the Tamil Nadu Government set up an autonomous body called the Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre in 1983 and went about the task of formulating plans for it.

The Executive Director of the Centre, Thiru R. Periasamy said the first phase of the science museum and the planetarium would be ready by the end of 1987, with four galleries in the

museum. The museum was expected to be completed towards the end of 1989.

He noted that 75 percent of the galleries would have working exhibits in the push-button type, which could demonstrate scientific functions and tests to the visitors, particularly students. The remaining 25 percent would be models and collections depicting the developments in the realm of science and technology.

Three significant developments which have given a push to the centre are complete customs and duty exemption granted for the import of all equipment, including the massive planetarium dome: IT exemption under Section 35-1(2) for any donations to the centre and a personal letter from the Prime Minister, Thiru Rajiv Gandhi, to the State Government, promising full support from all Union Departments and establishments connected with Science and Technology in contributing to the galleries.

The technology could be useful in other medical fields, say researchers.

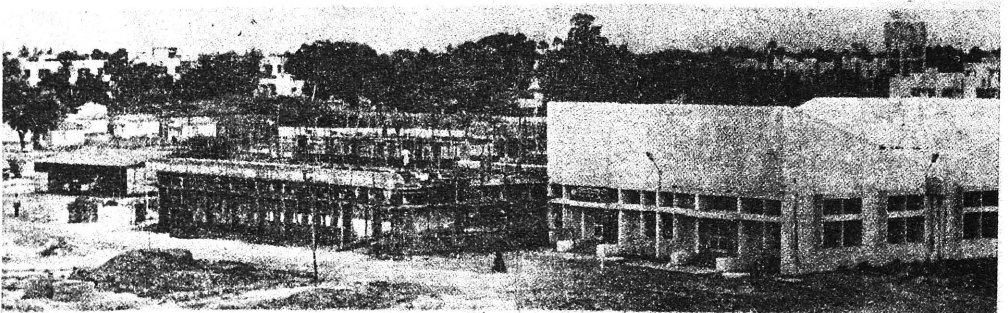
The Hon'ble Education Minister Thiru C. Aranganayagam, who was the brain behind this project, made an all-out effort to get the centre going. The Hon'ble Industries Minister, Thiru K. Rajaram recently took over as

chairman of the board of the Centre and has picked up the threads to continue the good work. The State Government decided to name the Science and Technology centre at Kottur (Madras) after 'Periyar'.

Two more science museums are to come up in the State, at Tiruchi and Coimbatore. Construction work will begin at Tiruchi first, some time next year.

Thiru Periasamy said the Madras museum would have something like 12,000 sq. metres of built up area, and the galleries were being designed in a trapezium shape with ideal lighting and ventilation. The planetarium would be laid out over 1,500 sq.m. and instead of the conventional semi-circular dome, it would have a pyramid-shaped top with a semi-circular metal dome for slide projections.

The Federal Republic of Germany has promised to help in planning galleries with the expertise of the world renowned museum at Munich. Thiru Rajaram, met the U.S. Consul General, Thiru John Stempel, to discuss the possibility of American collaboration. The Consul General it is reported was agreed to extend all possible help, including training of personnel, and assistance from the Smithsonian Institution, Exploratorium (California) and another museum at Berkeley.



The progress of science museum at the Tamil Nadu Science and Technology centre, Madras.



In India, the foodgrains produced are stored by the farmers, traders, processors, Government and their agencies. While the Central and State Governments have made efforts to take care of the grains in Government hands by increasing the availability of modernised godowns and warehousing facility much remains to be done in respect of grains stored at the farm level which accounts for the bulk of the total output. The losses in quantity and quality in foodgrains lead not only to loss of financial returns to the farmer from his produce, but also result in under-nutrition to consumers; it is ultimately a National loss.

POST HARVEST LOSSES :

On examination of post-harvest handling and storage in the country, it is revealed that at farm level considerable quantities of foodgrains are lost between harvest and consumption. Insects, rodents, moisture, fungus, termites and birds are the main enemies of the stored grain. Estimates of losses during post-harvest

Scheme on Rural Storage- A Fillip in Tamil Nadu

-G. P. RANGANATHAN
Deputy Director(S&R)
Save Grain Campaign,
Government of India

handling, processing and storage and as per the Expert Committee appointed by the Government of India are as follows :—

State at which loss is
occured:

	Per- centage	
Threshing yard	1.68	} 2.75%
Transport	0.15	
Processing	0.92	

Storage:

Rodents	2.50	} 6.58%
Insects	2.55	
Birds	0.85	
Moisture	0.68	

With a view to help the farmers to minimise the losses, Department of Food Government of India, launched the "Save Grain Campaign" as a countrywide programme during 1965-66 as a pilot project and from 1969-70 as a regular plan scheme.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE SAVE GRAIN CAMPAIGN ARE :

1. to impart training to the farmers, traders and extension officials to carry the knowledge of better storage methods,

2. to extend scientific techniques of storage to farmers, traders etc. through demonstration and publicity programmes,

3. to supply improved storage bins to the farmers through State Governments,

4. to arrange intensive implementation of the programmes on modernisation of storage at farm level through creation of State Government teams; and

5. to assist the Farmers Training Centres in propagation of scientific storage at the farm level of farm women.

TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATIONS :

Two types of training courses (stipendiary and non-stipendiary) are conducted by the Save Grain Campaign. Stipendiary Training courses are of 3 weeks duration and are normally held in a village or in Block Headquarters. Fifty educated farm youths including farm women are selected for each course. On successful completion of the course, each trainee is paid Rs. 100 as stipend and a certificate. The trained youths act as Save Grain Volunteers and the message of "Save Grain" is disseminated through this youth force.

ASSISTANCE THROUGH FARMERS TRAINING CENTRES :

Farm women play an important role in propagating

Scientific Storage techniques in rural areas. A fulltime Lady Demonstrator has been appointed at each centre who will have to cover atleast 10 villages every year and train farm women in simple and effective techniques of pest control and scientific storage practices. Presently, the scheme is operated in the Region in eight centres viz., Kancheepuram, Aduthurai, Lalgudi, Navlock, Tindivanam, Tirunelveli, Pudukkottai and Pondicherry (Union Territory). **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT :**

The Save Grain Campaign teams are functionally linked with the Indian Grain Storage Institute stations (Nagpur and its field stations at Hyderabad, Ludhiana, Jabalpur, Jorhat and Udaipur) for surveying the storage problems peculiar to different agro-climatic zones of the country for developing suitable codes of practices, for popularising the recommended techniques in selected areas and for obtaining the necessary food back.

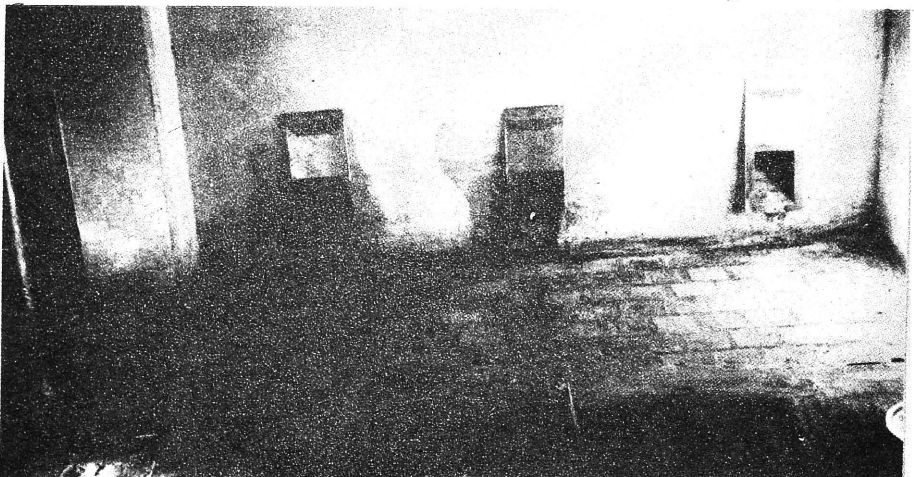
THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SCHEMES UNDER OPERATION IN MINIMISING THE STORAGE LOSSES OF FOODGRAINS IN TAMIL NADU AND PONDICHERRY :

The Government of India with a view to reduce the losses

of foodgrains in storage particularly at farmers' level have launched a no. of schemes through the Central Food Department and provide financial assistance obtained from FAO, UNICEF and EEC to the State Governments. Presently there are four schemes under operation viz., 1. Central Sector Bin Programme 2. Grant in-aid a programme 3. UNICEF assistance and 4. FAO Project.

CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME :

The Government of India has advanced funds to the Tamil Nadu State Government by way of loan assistance for the implementation of the metal bin programme. In Tamil Nadu the job of fabrication and distribution of metal bins has been undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Agro-Engineering and Service Co-operative Federation through its net work of District Centres. The metal bins have been found to be ideal as they keep out insects, rats, moisture and are easy to transport. So far the Government of India has provided Rs. 42 lakhs on loan basis to the State Government. On date as many as 14,205 metal bins of different capacities were fabricated and distributed 13,232 bins. Metal storage bins of various sizes ranging from 0.3 M. ton (urban domestic), 0.50 MT, 0.60 MT,



0.75 and 1.0 MT are being sold at a cost of Rs.320/330,480,575, 585 and 680 respectively with 25% subsidy at the cost price.

Realising the benefits accrued to the ryots, the State Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs for similar programme in 1982-83.

Grant-in-aid to the State Government :

The Government of India also provides funds to the State Government for improvement of existing traditional storage structures at farmers level and for the construction of non-metallic storage structures like improved mud-brick bin, Pucca Kothi, RB Bin and RCC Ring Bin. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been given a grant-in-aid of Rs. 11.65 lakhs for the implementation of the above scheme in the selected 69 blocks under Self-Sufficiency scheme through the Rural Development Department. Materials like wooden crates, rat-proof stands are to be supplied free of cost to the weaker sections of farming community; the Scheme also envisages to provide inputs like inletse, outlets, for the construction of non-metallic storage structures like mud-brick bin, Pucca Kothis, RCC Ring and RB Bins.

The State Government has allowed Rs. 5 lakhs for similar purpose in 150 self-sufficiency blocks of the Second Phase Programme.

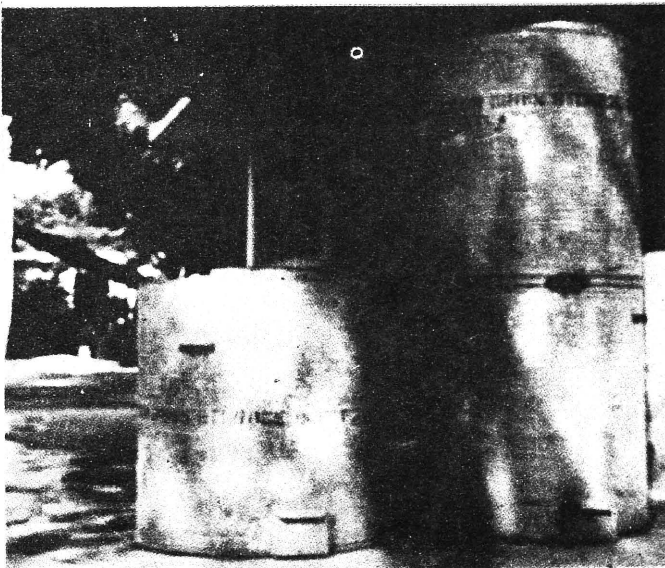
INTENSIVE GRAIN STORAGE MODERNISATION PROJECT WITH UNICEF ASSISTANCE IN TAMIL NADU:

For the benefit of Small and Marginal Farmers a programme called Intensive Grain Storage Modernisation Project, with UNICEF financial assistance, was started in 10 selected blocks in India from June 1977 (Rs. 50 lakhs monitored through the Union Food

Department). The programme is implemented in Kancheepuram Block of Chingleput District in Tamil Nadu. Storage pesticides like EDB, Rodafarin, Aluminium Phosphide and Zinc Phosphide and the cost of improvements to the existing storage structures are out in the scheme. This includes rat proofing to doors with metal sleeves of GI sheets; from supply of wooden crates and rat proof stands; provision of mudbin inlets and outlets; wire-mesh-

FAO Project :

The Food and Agricultural Organisation of United Nations has similarly provided a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for the "Improvement of Rural Family Storage conditions and processing of foodgrains in Tamil Nadu" in the selected village of Periyar, Salem and Coimbatore Districts. The scheme envisages to provide financial assistance for the improvement of storage structures and construction of non-metallic storage structures



ing to windows to prevent bird entry; coaltar coating to mudbin and wooden structures as moisture barrier; fixing drainage shutters to prevent rat entry; improvement of Kalanjium (a room storage structure) etc. 25% subsidy was also given in the form of GI sheets for the fabrication and distribution of metal storage binds. Thereby the farmers in the blocks of Kancheepuram and also in Walajabad, Uthiramerur and Sriperumbudur are getting additional 25% subsidy in the purchase of metal bins of different capacities from 0.3 to 1.0 MT. apart from the subsidy of 25 and 33 1/3 percent afforded by the SFDA to the eligible farmers.

like improvised mud-brick bin and Pucca Kothis and also make arrangements for getting metal bins to the needy farmers.

MODEL VILLAGE COMPLEX

250 model and medium contact villages have been adopted in Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli and Thanjavur Districts and Union Territory of Pondicherry. Modern storage techniques are put into practice in these villages. On a conservative estimate, it has been calculated that grains worth Rs. 11 crores were saved from the ravages of insects and rats since the inception of the scheme to date in the region.

SPIRITUAL EXCELLENCE BY PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

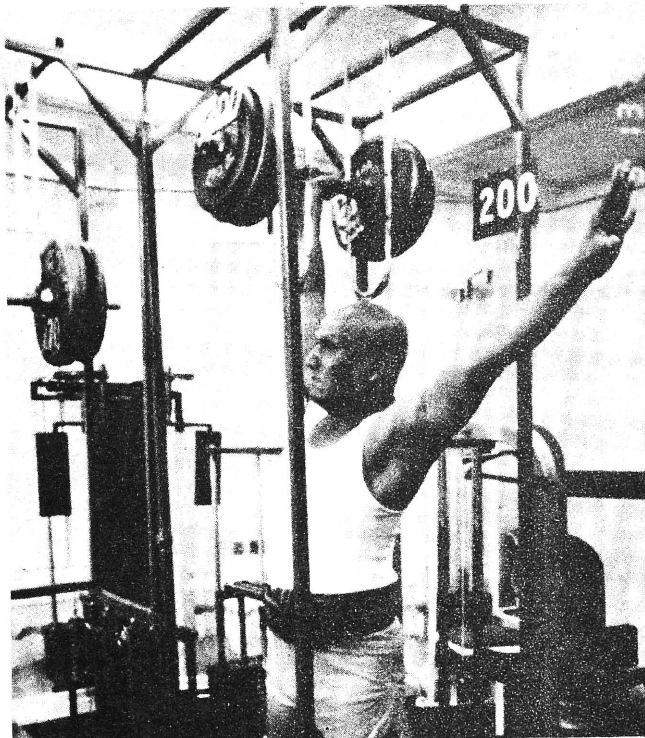
"How does the mind grasp the word silence? How does the mind grasp the words: depth, light, delight, joy?"

Meditation is not an experience of the mind, it is an experience of the soul".

Almost analogous to Swami Vivekananda, the great Indian spiritual philosopher who believed that physical improvement is as important as spiritual development, a modern philosopher has successfully achieved physical excellence through spiritual intensity. His name: Sri Chinnoy, 54 years old, runs numerous meditation centres in USA including one at the United Nations for the past 15 years.

In May, this year, he lifted 220 pounds-65 pounds over his own body weight in his "Body, Heart, Soul, One Arm Lift". (If you want to realise the effort and achievement behind this try lifting your television in one hand). Carl Lewis, winner of four gold medals in the Los Angeles Olympics, exclaimed "He's out of my league? His accomplishment is phenomenal. If he can lift that much weight, then he can inspire me to break that long jump record".

A champion sprinter for many years while at the Sri



Aurobindo Ashram, Sri Chinnoy has along valued sports as important to spiritual development. He has founded the international Sri Chinnoy Marathon team. Sponsoring over 500 running races of all distances every

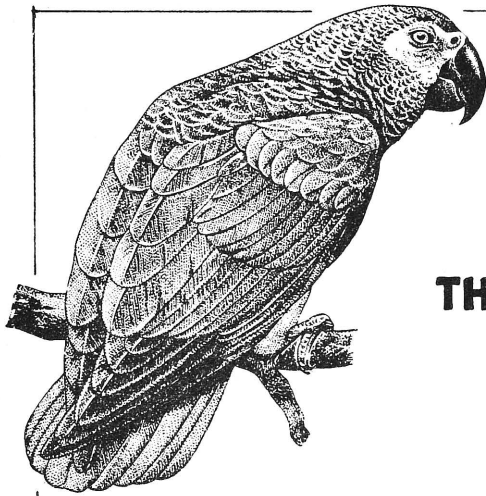
year, the group sponsors the longest race on earth- a 1000 mile race (1986 winner: Stu Mittleman in 11 days and 20 hours)

Apart from Athletics, Sri Chinnoy has other areas to prove that peace and dynamism are complementary to each

other. He has written over 760 books, painted over 140,000 paintings and composed over 5000 devotional songs. Perhaps a fine example that man's potential is limitless, especially when we tap our inner resources.

For the great majority of mankind are satisfied with appearances, as though they were realities and are often more influenced by the things that seem than by those that are.

—Niccolo Machiavelli.



THE TALKING BIRDS

By Nita Edwin

“By Jove! What a lot of parrots”! This is not what one of the audience at a parrot show said as one would imagine but what a parrot is reported to have exclaimed as soon as it was presented on the stage.

Whether the parrot was taught to utter a such witticism or whether it picked up the sentence owing to its highly imitative talent, no one can say. But the bird certainly bagged the first prize for its well-timed outburst.

Coupled with their talking ability, parrots have a remarkable sense of association and timing. Polly, the pet parrot is up at the crack of dawn waking up the entire household with harsh screams of ‘rise and shine, rise and shine!’ Its “good mornings” and ‘good evenings’ are not improperly timed either.

However, it has been repeatedly asserted that parrots have no idea of what they are saying. Studies indicate that parrots associate words and sounds with events and persons in much the same way and to the same degree as a two year old child.

Master mimics

Parrots belong to the Psittacidae family comprising nearly 315 species. Parrots form only one third of the group, the rest including cockatoos, cockateels, parakeets, lories, lorikeets, macaws, love birds and budgerigars. In India there are no parrots. The green birds which have become such favourites with us are parakeets. They can also be taught to talk and sing.

Parrots appeal to people because of their brilliant colours and their human-like qualities like showing affection for each other, reacting to flattery and using their feet almost like hands. They are keen imitators of human voice and can whistle tunes, sing a line or two from songs, address people by name and utter short sentences.

Parrots develop their ability as mimics only in captivity. In the wild, they are raucous birds and shriek and squawk most of the time. These gregarious birds when feeding in flocks are noisy and quarrelsome. But as soon as they sense danger they become ominously silent only to explode from tree tops a

few minutes later, shrieking hysterically. The ensuing chaos is so disconcerting that even hawks and falcons, their predators, are readily alarmed.

Grasping feet

Parrots are distinct from other birds by their prominent hooked bills and characteristic feet. The strong grasping feet with two toes in front and two in the rear function almost like hands. Parrots hold food with one foot in much the same manner as one would hold a sandwich. Their food is mainly seeds, fruits and nuts.

The bill is a highly versatile structure. It performs delicate tasks like preening, at the same time is powerful enough to crush a nut. The strong bill can easily destroy wood and that could be one of the reasons why pet parrots are kept in metal cages. The bill acts as a third foot too, helping the parrot to get a firm hold on the tree while clambering up.

Most parrots are monogamous. Prior to copulation males display in a seemingly

ludicrous fashion by bowing, hoping, wing flicking, clawing the air and strutting and prancing around their mate.

Though they may seem a noisy swarm of birds, parrots follow a social system which is more pronounced during the breeding season. At this time they develop a strong protec-

tive attitude towards their nest and patrol their territorial boundaries, tolerating no intrusions.

Parrots are extremely long-lived and in captivity reach up to 50 years. The African Grey Parrot, the best known imitator of human speech, is reputed to

have lived till the ripe old age of 80 in captivity.

The talking ability of parrots has been their undoing. Many countries like the West Indies trade in parrots threatening the island species. Many species of the parrot family have become extinct within the last few centuries and many more are seriously endangered.

Transquillizer gun for Zoo :

In principle, it is just a blow-pipe and dart, and it has a new application as tranquillizer injector in zoos. Tele-injector or blow-injector, as it is known, is widely used in advanced countries for restraining and capturing wild animals for veterinary treatment. In India the Vandalur Zoo is the only zoo to have it, according to Thiru S. Subbarayalu, Director of the Park.

"This is easy-to-operate and relatively less expensive injecting device has several advantages over the conventional tranquillizer guns used in most zoos in the country for handling uncontrollable animals", says Thiru Subbarayalu. In the tranquillizer guns, there are two bullets involved; one to propel the injector and the other to discharge the medicine into the animal's body.

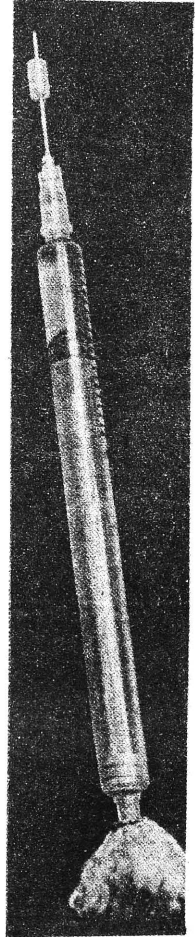
Normally, the burst of the first bullet may frighten the animal away; moreover there is always a chance of missing the target. Again getting the

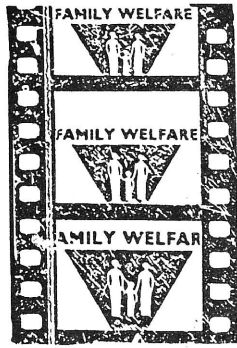
replacement of spares for the guns is also difficult.

The blow injector makes no noise, and with a little experience any one can use it on animals to administer drugs. It consists of a blow-pipe, whose length can be adjusted to suit the distance of the target, and a specially designed syringe with a guiding stabilizer at its tail.

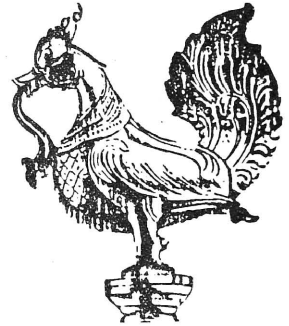
The syringe has a floating piston and second piston for developing air-pressure for releasing the injectible medicine. The needle is unique in that it has a sharp closed end, and an eccentric hold for discharging the medicine. The hole is first closed with a stopper, which will be pushed back when the needle hits the musculature.

When the syringe is blown out of the pipe, it strikes the muscular part of the target animals and simultaneously the stopper is pushed back. The desired medicine is delivered into the animal in the force of the striking syringe and the needle assembly can be recovered after immobilising the animals, according to the veterinarians at the zoo.





QUICKIE FILMS ON FAMILY WELFARE



With a view to convey the small family norm message effectively to all sections of people,

the Family Welfare Department has adopted a new strategy and has planned to produce Quickie films at an estimate of Rs. 73.77 lakhs. As a first step, the Department has produced 10 films and these films were released by the Hon'ble Minister for Health, Dr. H.V. Hande at a

function at South India Film Cham ber of Commerce on 29-7-86. The Director of Information and Public Relations



Thiru R. Karpoorasundarapandian, I.A.S., received the films.

Arrangements will be made for screening the films at theatres all over the State and by all the media wings.

The Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Thiru T.V. Antony, I.A.S. addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Health Minister appreciated the films and said that they could be dubbed into other languages also.

The Director of Family Welfare, Tmt. O.P. Sosamma, I.A.S. who arranged the function welcomed the gathering.



THE WORLD OF PRESS CONFERENCES

TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS' MEDICAL COLLEGE FROM THIS YEAR

The new medical college being founded by the transport corporations, under the aegis of the the Institute of Road Transport will start functioning this year.

To start with, the 60 seats allotted for the college (within the existing quota of medical seats in the State) will be provided this academic year in the Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai Medical Colleges at 20 each.

The Hon'ble Transport Minister, Thiru S. Muthuswami, told newsmen on July 2nd that the Government had approved the proposal to set up the college and steps would be taken to construct buildings before the end of the year. Until the buildings were ready, the students would be attached to these medical colleges.

The suggestion to go in for the college stemmed from the decision to construct a full-fledged hospital at Perundurai, near Erode, for the employees of the transport corporations.

A trust was already constructing a 350-bed hospital on a 350 acre spread near the Perundurai sanatorium. The transport corporations, through the IRT, would expand the hospital and make it a teaching hospital too.

The Minister announced, in the presence of the trade union leaders, that the six central labour organisations connected with the transport corporations-INTUC, Labour Progressive Federation (DMK), HMS, CITU, AITUC and the Anna Labour Federation (AIADMK)-had agreed to support the move. The 75,000 employees in the 14 transport corporations would contribute to the funding and running of the college hospital.

Asked about seat allocations and admission procedure, Thiru Muthuswami said a certain quota would be reserved for the wards of employees. The remaining seats would be open to the public and admissions made only on the basis of the regular entrance examinations. While the Government would have overall control of the college, the IRT would run the institution.

The Engineering College, now functioning on these lines-also at Erode-was a boost to the transport workers. Besides being given seats in this college, the children of the employees, were now getting special coaching to appear for the entrance examinations to the professional courses. The PTC was conducting it for 52 boys and 16 girls.

Wage talks: Thiru Muthuswami said the first round of talks on working out a new wage settlement for the employees of transport corporations was held and the demands of all unions had been submitted. The next round of serious discussions, for four or five days, would be held after July, 15, "We will reach a settlement at least 10 days before the September 1 deadline".

GENERAL HOSPITAL TO GET ELECTRO- NIC PAGER FACILITY

The Government General-Hospital in the city will soon have an electronic pager facility to summon doctors on the campus to attend to emergency cases, according to the Health Minister, Hon'ble Dr. H.V. Hande.

He told newsmen on July 8th that the wireless operated system to be installed at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs would have a central control room to communicate with the doctors anywhere on the 18-acre campus. The receivers given to the doctors would pick up the signals and rush them to their units in times of emergency.

The Minister said the facility, to be introduced for the first time in any Government Hospital, would help doctors rush without wasting time to save precious lives.

300 to get receivers: To start with, 300 medical men in the hospital will be given the receivers which they can keep in their shirt pockets. The receiver will make a "beep beep" sound to alert the doctor and make him rush to the ward. The system would be of great use in Departments like Cardiology and Trauma Care where the services of specialists during crises would make all the difference between life and death, according to Dr. Hande.

The Dean of the Hospital, Dr. S. Arumugam, said though duty doctors would be available at all the wards round-the-clock, the system would help the authorities secure the services of specialists and doctors from other specialities.

Dr. Hande, who went round the hospital, said the Government had sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs for renovating the hospital and its "services areas". Steps had been taken to construct fresh toilets and improve the condition of the existing ones. Plans were afoot to post watchmen near the toilets and at strategic points in the hospital to prevent the patients and visitors from defecating the premises, he said.

Laser equipment to be imported: The hospital would acquire laser equipment shortly. A laser operated Nephelometer to help rheumatologists dealing with acute rheumatoid arthritis and other types of rheumatism would be available for the doctors. The cost of this equipment, to be imported, would be around Rs. 4 lakhs.

Another laser equipment kit for use of doctors attached to the Department of Gastroenterology would be purchased from the U.S. The kit costing Rs. 12 lakhs and which contains sophisticated cutting equipment and knives would help surgeons perform operations without much loss of blood. This would be a boon particularly to cancer patients., Dr Arumugam said.

RECORD LAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS IN CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.

Land revenue collection in Chingleput district the year was a record at Rs. 2.3 crores against the Rs. 2.7 crores, the Collector Thiru K.A.Mathew, IAS told pressmen on July 9th at Kanchipuram.

Show cause notices had been issued to 19 cinema houses in the district for over crowding and licences of four had since been suspended.

He said, noon meal organisers had been asked to deposit Rs. 600 as caution deposit.

Panel visits coastal areas: Thiru Mathew said a high - power 35 member committee led by Tmt. Anjani Dayanand, IAS, Secretary, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, visited the coastal areas from Tiruvanniyur to Mahabalipuram to study the building construction pattern between Buckingham Canal and Bay of Bengal. Though there was a ban, many had constructed buildings.

It had been proposed to establish an International tourist resort on the east coast and non-resident Indians were ready to invest in it, he said.

WATER FOR DELTA: GOVT. WATCHING SITUATION

In view of the low storage in the Mettur reservoir and poor inflow, release of water for irrigation in the Cauvery delta had to be put off indefinitely; the State Government would watch the behaviour of the monsoon for another week and then take all steps necessary, including a dialogue with Karnataka, to safeguard the interests of Thanjavur farmers, the Hon'ble irrigation Minister, Thiru Y.S.M. Yusuf, told newsmen on July 2nd.

Normally, water was released on June 12; however, this year, because of the late arrival and erratic behaviour of the monsoon there had been no significant improvement so far in the storage. The level this morning stood at 21.7 feet with an inflow of 1,700 cu. secs. and consequently, nothing specific could be said about the date of release.

Responding to queries, Thiru Yusuf said the inflow into the Mettur Dam had not picked up yet because Karnataka was trying to store the maximum water it could before allowing the free flow to Tamil Nadu. This had been so for the last seven or eight years. "We hope Karnataka will appreciate the needs and give us our rightful share of water in time," he said.

The Minister did not think that Karnataka would deny Tamil Nadu its due share of the Cauvery Water merely because this State had approached the Centre for setting up a tribunal to solve the long pending dispute between the two States. Naturally, Tamil Nadu should continue to get at least what it had been receiving all these years. The State's stand was that until the tribunal gave its award, Karnataka should not go ahead with constructing new reservoirs which would affect the flow into Mettur.

DIESEL ENGINES WILL REPLACE ALL STEAM LOCOMOTIVES IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Only in the Southern Railway, diesel locomotives have been provided for the entire, broad gauge section, Thiru K. Viswanathan General Manager, claimed.

Talking to newsmen at Madurai on July 1st he said that in the metre gauge section, there were just 35 steam locomotives and they too would be replaced with diesel engines in a phased manner.

Thiru Viswanathan concered that the quality of coal supplied from Bihar and Bengal was substandard and the percentage of ash content too much. That was why the railways was keen on replacing the steam locomotives. But the replacement could not be done quickly as out of the 120 types of diesel locomotives produced in India, only about 20 were meant for the metre gauge. Thiru Viswanathan expressed the hope of all metre gauge steam locomotives would be phased out in 10 years or so.

Referring to the complaint that the services between Mantapam and Rameswaram were not adequate and that tourists were stranded, Thiru Viswanathan said there were 11 pairs of trains running in the section. But tourists preferred bus travel up to Mantapam, where they took a train for Rameswaram.

Asked about the interruptions caused by sand dunes on the track between Mantapam and Rameswaram, Thiru Viswanathan said the problem was no longer there. The sand dunes were cleared by planting casuarina trees on both sides on the track. Also, a bulldozer had been stationed to clear the sand dunes.

NABARD SCHEME TO STRENGTHEN COOP. BANKS

The NABARD has a scheme to strengthen the credit delivery system and it will be implemented in Chingleput district from July.

Thiru R. Santhanam IAS, Registrar of Co-operative Societies who gave this information to newsmen at Madurai on July 2nd said that a similar scheme already implemented in Aurangabad in Maharashtra, Houshangatad in Machhya Pradesh and Sabarkanta in Gujarat and been a success. If the Chingleput model proved successful, efforts would be made to extend the scheme to other areas.

Among other things, the scheme envisaged strengthening of the cooperative banks through additional staff members after making an assessment of the staff requirements and the area to be covered by each bank in the district.

THE NABARD would provide vehicles to the staff to meet the farmers who had been extended credit. The period of operation of the scheme by the NABARD was three years and subsequently it was left to the State Government concerned to take appropriate action. Thiru Santhanam said what was lacking today was mobility to meet the borrowers. If frequent visits were made, it would ensure quick repayment of loans. The State Government would watch the performance of the cooperatives in Chingleput district and take appropriate steps to extend the scheme to other districts.

The State Government he said, proposed to intensify the jewel loan schemes. This year, a credit of Rs. 300 crores will be given through the cooperatives for agricultural purposes. The allocation under jewel loans last year was Rs.250 crores.

TEXT BOOKS TAKE A LEAP

Books production : The Managing Director of the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, Thiru K. Liakath Ali Khan, told newsmen on July 28th that steps were being taken to commence work on production of text-books for the next academic year even by August. Hitherto, the process was set in motion in September but quite often there were complaints that the books did not reach students in time. "We shall try to get the books ready by June 1st in future".

The society had approached the Centre for adequate sanction and release of paper at concessional rates (under the 20point - programme). It was forced to buy paper in the open market, at an increased cost.

It is stated the allocation by the Centre for the society is about 8,800 tonnes of paper a year at concessional rates, but it gets only 50 percent from the specified mill. Some of the 7 mills identified to make supplies to the State are unable

to deliver the quota. As such, the society is forced to buy 3000 to 4000 tonnes in the open market, involving an additional cost of about Rs. 1 crore. Consequently, the cost of books and note - books is bound to go up. Though it is not expected to meet the entire demand for note - books, the society has monopoly in supply of school text books.

Asked about the stock and supply position of text-books and exercise note - books this

year, Thiru Liakath Ali Khan said most of the supplies had been completed. Steps were being taken to despatch books and note-books to places of schools where they had not reached yet.

The society had six centres in Tirunelveli, Madurai, Kumbakonam, Coimbatore, Salem and Madras to distribute books. Two more branches could be opened next month in Tiruchi and Vellore.

The Society, which was buying the minority language

text-books — Kannada, Malayalam and Telugu — for Standards IV to X from other States would from this year supply the books to students at cost price, instead of taking a margin.

He said text-books worth Rs. 13 crores would be distributed free to children in Standards I to VIII under the Chief Minister's special programme this year also.

Buildings maintenance: The society had doubled its annual

grant for maintenance of school buildings and construction of additional blocks in deserving schools to Rs. 50 lakhs with effect from this year.

This Society had been regularly contributing to this programme of maintaining and improving school buildings. Till now about 100 schools had been benefited. The funds were made available to the Director of School Education for distribution to the most deserving schools.

MRL Record output

The feasibility report for the Rs. 600-crore naphtha cracker/aromatic plant, the largest in the southern region, to meet the synthetic fibre needs, has been approved by the Government of India and the sanction is expected from Delhi, Thiru V.R. Deenadayalu, Chairman and Managing Director, Madras Refineries Limited (MRL) told the newsmen on July 28th.

He said eight large business he sees in the country had evinced keen interest in taking up the project under the joint sector as envisaged by the MRL. Discussions with these businessmen centred on their competence and technological capability to secure foreign knowhow to operate the plant, with minimum cost of foreign exchange and their ability to raise the adequate rupee counterpart funds. The foreign exchange cent to produce 1,50,000 tonnes of PTA, 30,000 tonnes of ortho-xylene and a minimum

of 10,000 tonnes of benzene annually, would be around Rs. 180 crores.

This project had been forwarded to Delhi as part of the MRL's corporate activity to develop downstream industries in the Manali area and achieve the objective of developing petro-chemicals, thereby making the MRL have a strong foothold in the petro-chemical arena in the coming years.

The petro-chemical industry was poised for unprecedented growth in the coming years, with the hitherto unimplemented applications coming into use.

Consortium of refineries: The MRL had formed recently Petroleum India International (PII), a consortium of eight refineries in the country consisting of experts to secure several contracts for secondment of personnel to overseas indus-

trial units mainly in the petroleum and petro-chemical industries.

He said the MRL had achieved new records in crude throughput, decrease in fuel and loss, increased sales turnover, profit and contributions to Central and State Governments in 1985-86. The sales turnover was Rs. 1,291.52 crores, with a profit of Rs. 26.15 crores. The contribution to the Centre and State Government was about Rs. 381.68 crores.

LPG production: The FCC unit which was commissioned in 1985 to increase production of LPG, petrol, kerosene and high speed diesel, achieved a total throughput of 5.33 lakh tonnes, LPG production was highest last year at 1,10,000 tonnes. Petrol 1.85 lakh tonnes, kerosene 6.15 lakh tonnes, and diesel oil 1.62 lakh tonnes.

MODERN PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AT MADRAS

M/s. Sulabh International a Voluntary Organisation at Patna has been putting up Sulabh Souchalayas (Public Conveniences of an improved variety) all over the country. The organisation has been constructing and maintaining Public Conveniences in different cities in India very successfully. The Government have permitted the Corporation of Madras to entrust construction of 8 modern Pay and Use Public Conveniences to M/s. Sulabh International.

1. Moffusil Bus Stand, Broadway,
2. Loane square, Broadway,
3. Kalyanapuram, Vyasar-padi,
4. Canal Street, Triplicane (Alternate site at Besant Nagar),
5. Giriappa Road, T. Nagar,

6. G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar,

7. Mylapore Tank (Alternate site at Manicka Maistry Street), &

8. Wall Tax Road.

The Public Conveniences at G.N. Chetty Road and Giriappa Road have been completed in all respects and were opened on 19-8-86 by the Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration, Thiru P.U. Shanmugam.

The cost of construction of the two Public Conveniences complex is as follows :

	<i>Rs. Lakhs</i>
1. G.N. Chetty Rd.,	3.20
2. Giriappa Rd.,	2.63

M/s. Sulabh International and the Corporation of Madras have entered into an agreement

under which the organisation will maintain Public Conveniences for a period of 30 years and will collect nominal payment of 20 Paise for the use of toilet and bath facilities. Any increase in the nominal rate now agreed to will be done with mutual consultation.

The standard of hygiene and environmental sanitation of the Public Conveniences maintained by Sulabh International has been of a high order. The Public Conveniences will be provided with Electricity and water supply and will be maintained round the clock.

The 2 Public Conveniences which are ready for use are located very close to slums and are provided with the facilities of toilet, bathroom, children's Public Convenience, and clothe washing facilities for women.

TO Believe.....Or Not To Believe.....

THE GREAT PYRAMID of Cheops contains more than Five million tons of stone. It is 481 feet high and covers more than 13 acres.

The British Houses of Parliament cover Eight acres, have more than 1000 rooms, over 100 staircases and Two miles of passage.

According to the Mayans of Central America, Time begin in 3113 B.C.

MILOS OBRENOVIC, formerly a pig dealer, became ruler of SERBIA in 1817.

The Armistice ending the first World War was signed on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

The height of fashion in the 17th century was to tint the lips with Green or Black.



Fruit Bat

The Flying Mammals

SANTOSH K. GUPTA.

Flight is only for birds, or so most people think, but some mammals too fly. There are flying squirrels and there is a flying marsupial too in Australia, but only the bats have taken to the air in the manner of birds. All the others, though they cross wide distances in the air, are not essentially flying, but gliding.

Bats have undergone great adaptations to become masters of the air. Before they learned to fly, they learned to live in trees and to leap into the air. Though converted into wings the limbs of bats are also used for walking and climbing. The wings are an adaptation from the simple fore-limb. The finger bones have been greatly elongated and a thin web of skin stretches between them. This flap extends along the side of the body to enclose the legs. These leathery wings are as efficient for flight as are the more sophisticated feathered wings of birds. The hindlimbs, despite their claws, are very weak. They are useful only for landing onto ledges and services.

The bat while sleeping or resting hangs downwards from a perch. This way of hanging spells death for the bats in towns and cities where the perch is often an electric wire. Usually their body is longer than the distance between the

two wires of electricity lines, and so many bats die of being electrocuted.

There are two main groups of bats, the fruit eating (Megachiroptera) and insect eating (Microchiroptera). As their name suggests, the fruit eating bats are larger and are entirely fruit or nectar feeders. The Indian Flying Fox (*Pteropus giganteus*) is one of the fruit eating bats. The large size of this bat makes it unmistakable. Its head and body length is about 23 cm and wing-spread is about 1.2m.

Nocturnal animals

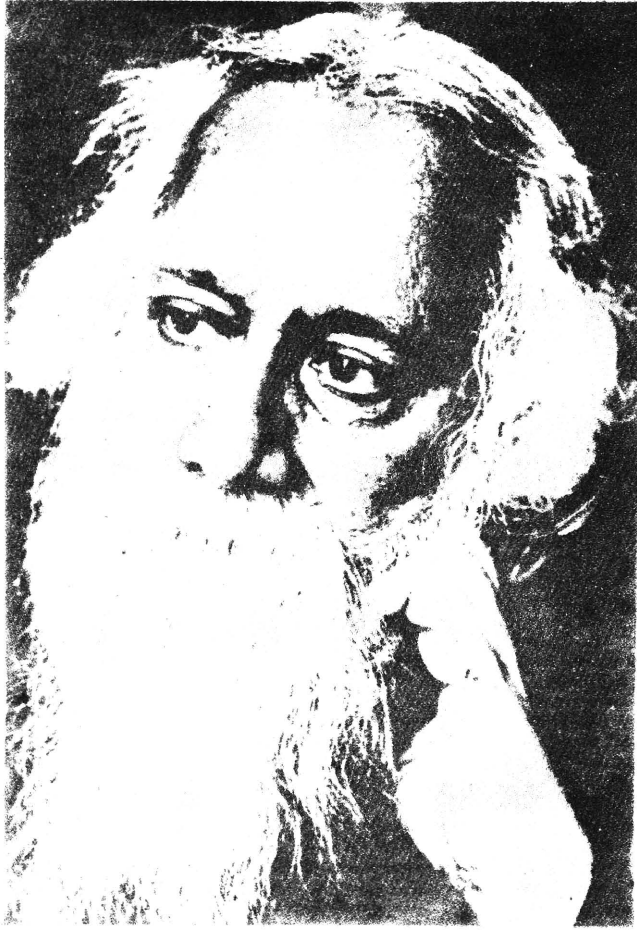
Bats are nocturnal, and it is believed that this is because of the competition from birds which are largely diurnal.

During the day time, the fruit eating bats rest in large colonies on high trees, often in the middle of towns and villages. In all fruit bats, the fruit is chewed, but only the juice is swallowed while the pulp is spit out. A small fruit bat may eat more than its own weight of fruit at a single sitting. When twilight falls, they fly from their resting places to their food trees. Many times they first visit a watering place, touching the water surface briefly and drinking in flight.

All fruit bats possess very large eyes capable of superb night vision though they are of course unable to see in complete darkness. Only a few fruit bats (like the genus *rousettus*) use the famous rader system to find their way in the dark. The method is more commonly used by the insectivorous bats.

These bats emit supersonic sounds which vibrate through the air and striking any object in their path get reflected back to be instantly picked up by the bat's ear. Even in total darkness, these bats can find their way with this radar system.

Bats have been associated with evil because they fly at night and lurk in dark places. Their great value as insect destroyers and even as pollinators and dispersers of plant seeds is often overlooked. The large fruit eating bats are considered harmful by orchard-owners. But Dr. Tuttle, a bat expert, has been quoted in the 'Hornbill' the quarterly magazine of the Bombay Natural History Society, that the damage fruit bats cause is over stressed as they mainly eat fruits which are already in an advanced stage of ripening, and are of little value as marketable products. In the words of Dr. Tuttle, 'Man is far from overgrowing his long dependence on bats.'



write, talk, take his meal and go to sleep. So I could easily see the creature man from out of the impersonal man that resided in him as poet and philosopher.

Some of my earlier illusions and misgivings, were thus dispelled. I was told in my adolescence that the poet was never accessible to the common man, that his ways of life were princely and he was indifferent to what was happening in the outside world. But I was over taken by surprise to find that he was a typically industrious man a man highly generous and amiable and all alert and that there was nothing, one could term as extravagant and unbecoming in his modes and manners.

He used to get up early at 5.30 daily in the morning, take his bath and then sit down at his table with tea, tiffin and writing materials. Letters came in their dozens from all corners, written by known and unknown persons, one seeking advice, another one praying for a suitable name for his or her new born child. Yet another wanting an autograph on a four line poem. He would himself read them and

Rabindranath Tagore

AS I SAW HIM.

NANDAGOPAL SEN GUPTA

I shall narrate a few personal reminiscences of Rabindra nath Tagore, as I saw him in my youth. Incidentally let me tell that I had the privilege of coming in contact with Tagore. For it is he who wanted me join his personal staff as literary secretary. Besides I had been a lecturer of literature in the Visvabharati also.

Naturally I saw the great personality from very close quarters. I might say that I almost lived in the same apartment with him for quite a number of years, during which I got enough of opportunities to see and study him under all circumstances. I saw him in good health and in fever and indisposition. Saw him read,

write with his own hand brief replies to all, irrespective of the fellows, who wrote them. Visitors, used to pour in from all quarter and he would admit them one by one with affectionate indiscrimination and would not grudge a few moments talk withone all. His daily pre-occupations however would go on undisturbed in

125th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE

the midst of everything and no one ever heard any word of disgust for such diversions.

At noon he would never lie down for rest after lunch and preferred sitting on a cushionless chair, reading, writing, or occasionally painting too. Indolence and wastage of time was what he disliked most. One word a two would not perhaps be out of place in this connection to stress on his dress and diet. He would usually wear a long hose and loose pyjamas in all seasons, either in summer or winter or rain. In winter some times he added a Turkey cap and that was all. His diet too was not rich or princely. He was a connoisseur of good food indeed, but good food never meant spicy and oily cooking. He happened to be a careful student of dietetics and would invent from time to time culinary recipe and wanted them to be put to experiment.

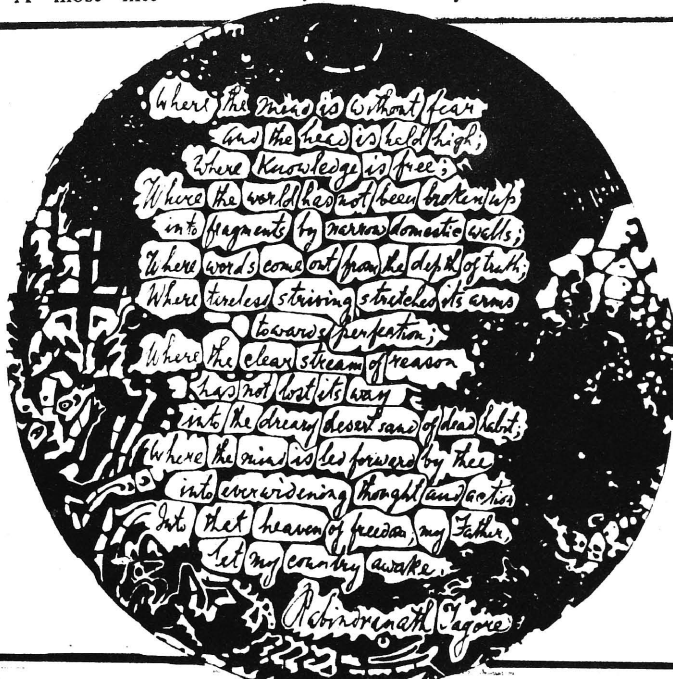
His evenings were generally devoted to conference or musical parties or dramatic performances. A most inte-

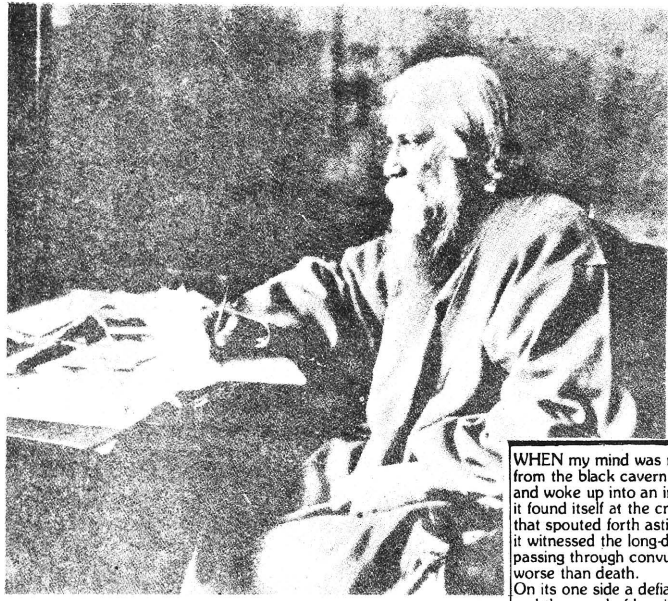
resting trait in his character was that he was a self-taught homeopath and often used to administer medicine to any one who sought his advice. But the most noteworthy or significant section of his daily life was his genial humour, with which he greeted all. His guests and relations, friends and associates, even menials, none ever missed it. Be it told here that his humour, that enlivened every one, both big and small was never used hit or bite any one. The person targeted could also participate in the chorus of laughter, he used to evoke by clever punning or twisting of words. He could invent impromptu verses to suit the occasion and thereby amuse his audience. It was really something which brought down the great personality to the level of our humdrum life.

But was that all? Did anyone comprehend the full stature of Tagore the man and poet, from a casual study of all these personal traits alone? Not at all. The inner man, I mean the real man in his spiritual identity was not easy to

grasp. That real man could in a moment transport himself to a region beyond our reach and rise above all earthly cares and petty considerations and be almost an abstract self. So to say, on several occasions I had had chances to watch that inner man, coming out all on a sudden and overpower the creature man, who lived in our midst.

But it was pleasing to note that the two selves of the same Tagore were so meticulously blended together that the elite and the commoner, both might reach the Master, the former getting deep into his inner region of his mind, the latter enjoying the grace of his human generosity. He was thus at once one of us and one head and ears above us. In that spirit man survives and for centuries to come, inquisitive scholars shall discover new horizons from the works he left behind. But the earthly man alas is no more and the coming generation shall never know how magnificent that man had been to us, his contemporaries.





WHEN my mind was released
 from the black cavern of oblivion
 and woke up into an intolerable surprise
 it found itself at the crater of avolcanic hell—fire
 that spouted forth astifling fume of insult to Man;
 it witnessed the long-drawn suicidal agony of the Time—spirit
 passing through convulsions of a monstrous deformity
 worse than death.

On its one side a defiant savagery
 and the growl of homicidal drunkenness,
 on the other timid powers tied to the load
 of their carefully guarded hoardings,
 meekly settling down to a silent safety of acquiescence
 after miscalculated bursts of impatience.

At the old nations' council—chambers
 plans and protests are pressed flat
 between the tight—shut prudent lips.

In the meanwhile across the sky rush
 with their blazing blasphemy
 the soulless swarms of vultre-machines
 carrying their missiles of ravenous
 passion for human entrails.

Give me power, O awful Judge,
 sitting on the throne of Eternity,
 give me a voice of thunder,
 that I may hurl imprecation
 upon this cannibal whose gruesome hunger
 spares neither women nor children,
 that my words of reproach may ever rock
 upon the heart-throbs of a history humiliated by itself,
 till this age choked and chained
 finds the bed of its final rest in its ashes.

Forgive my languor, O Lord,
 if ever I lag behind
 upon life's way.

Forgive my anguished heart
 which trembles and hesitates
 in its service.

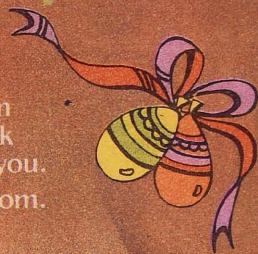
Forgive my fondness
 that lavishes its wealth
 upon an unprofitable past.

Forgive these faded flowers
 in my offering
 that wilt in the fierce heat
 of scorching hours.

Abhinavath Yogee

Exotic Designs for the New Year

A new range added in
Chiffon, Polyester, Silk
and Cotton sarees for you.
Visit Co-optex showroom.



Co-optex
Handlooms

DIPR/Efficient

BUILDING UP INDUSTRIES AND GROWING IN PERFORMANCE

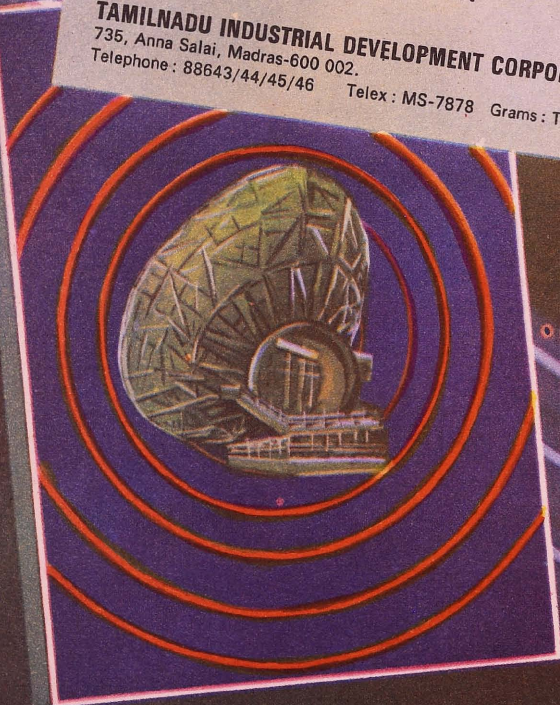
- ★ Setting up of large and medium scale industries in Public and Joint Sector mostly in industrially backward areas.
- ★ Investing in the share capital of Joint Sector.
- ★ Assisting the large and medium scale industries in the Joint Sector in obtaining technical collaboration, selection of equipment and the plant site to secure letters of Intent, important approvals, term loans etc.
- ★ Liaise with State and Central Govt. Departments and Financial Institutions
- ★ Providing Employment for 15,520 persons in 41 projects at an investment of Rs. 600 crores.
- ★ Creating Employment for 12,000 persons in 10 projects at a further investment of Rs. 400 crores.

E.V.K. SULOCHANA SAMPATH
Chairperson

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.,
735, Anna Salai, Madras-600 002.

Telephone: 88643/44/45/46

Telex: MS-7878 Grams: TIDCO



TIDCO