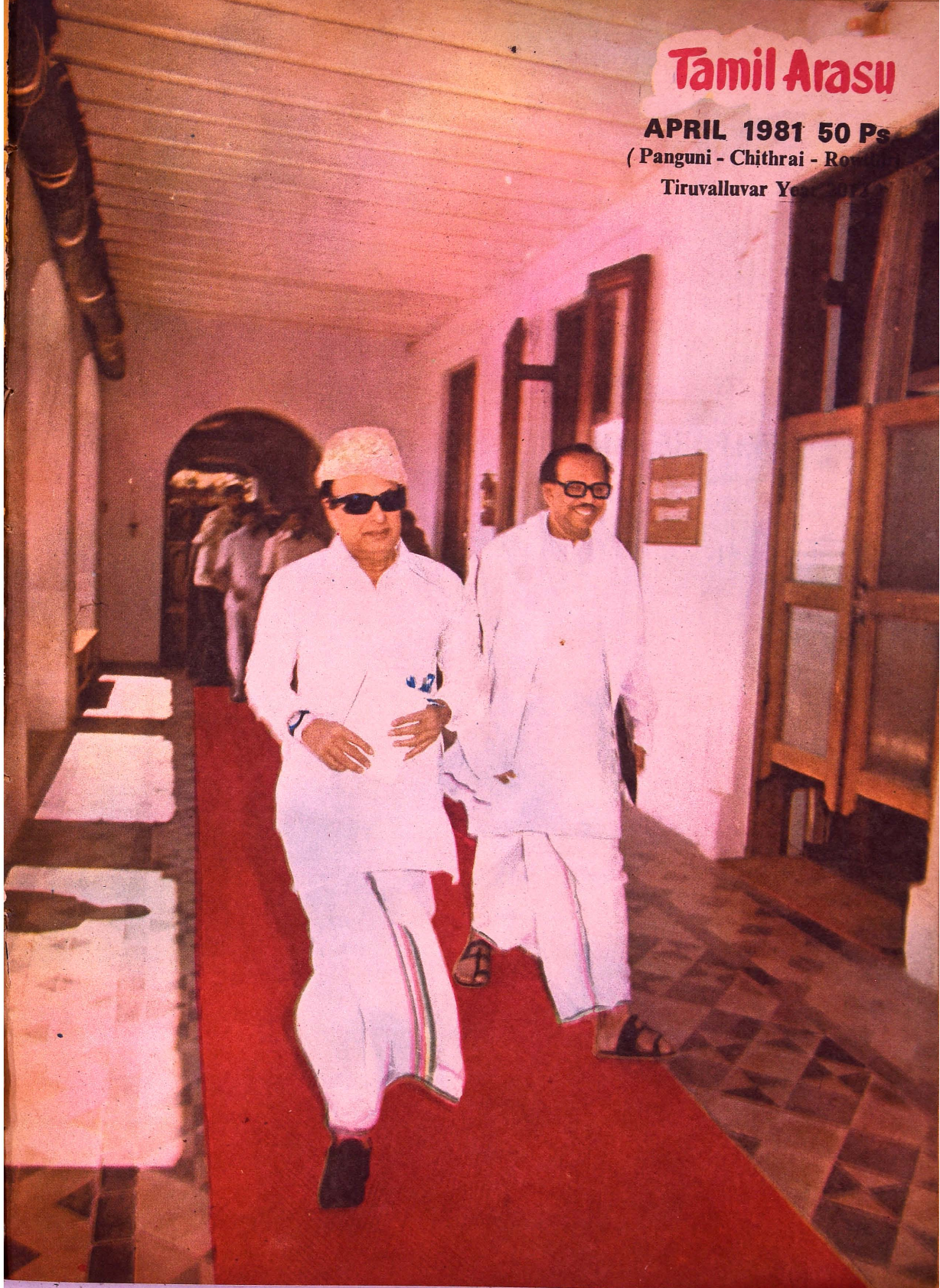
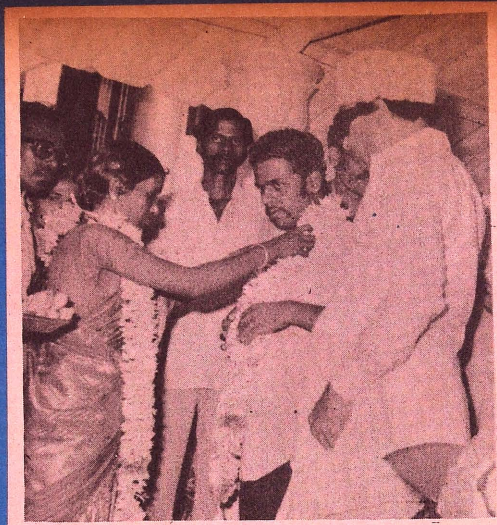


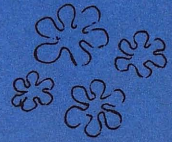
# Tamil Arasu

**APRIL 1981 50 Ps**  
(Panguni - Chithrai - Rohini)  
Tiruvalluvar Year 2022





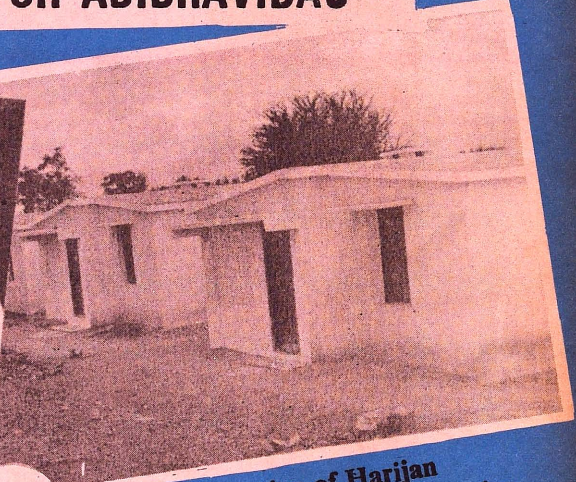
Gold medals and financial assistance for inter-caste married couples.



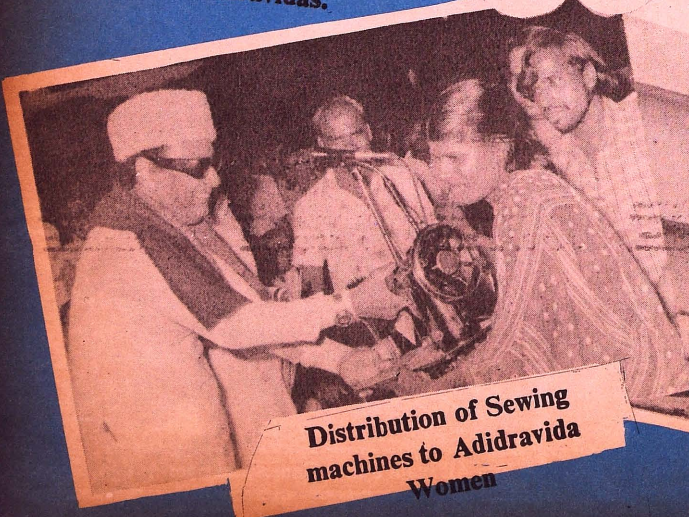
## WELFARE SCHEMES FOR ADIDRAVIDAS



Allocation of house-sites to Adidravidas.



Construction of Harijan Colonies



Distribution of Sewing machines to Adidravida Women



Girls' Hostel.

# Tamil Arasu

APRIL - 1981

VOL: IX

NO: X

## CONTENTS



TAMIL NADU IN THE GRIP OF DROUGHT

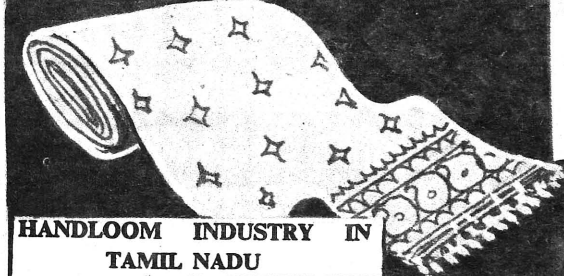
HEART SCAN EQUIPMENT



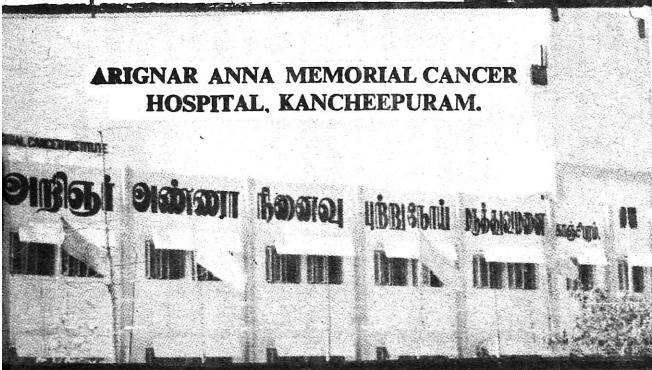
V.V.S. IYER  
THE SCHOLAR  
CRITIC.



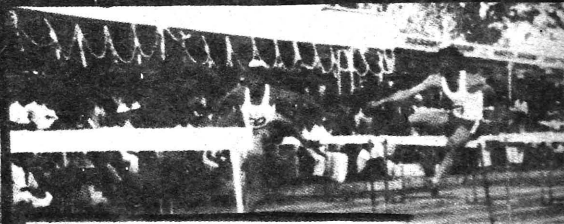
BHARATIDASAN  
THE BARD  
OF REVOLT



HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN  
TAMIL NADU



ARIGNAR ANNA MEMORIAL CANCER  
HOSPITAL, KANCHEEPURAM.



30th All India Police Games and Sports

# TAMILNADU IN THE GRIP OF DROUGHT

'Tis rain begets  
the food we eat  
the precious rain  
is drink and meat.'

The great sage Valluvar writes about the benefits that rain brings to man. It is seen that without water mankind, or any living creature can not survive.

'And every tongue through utter drought

was withered at the root.....

They passed a weary time :

each throat was parched".....

The more the people became thirsty, the more they looked to Heaven and prayed. But the rain God has turned a deaf ear. The spectre of drought is stalking over Tamilnadu, hailing in its wake images of luscious green fields being converted into arid deserts.

The monsoons have failed. Fields where paddy stalks with ripe corn should be blowing in the breeze and ready for harvest, have gone dry and barren. It is only March.

The summer has yet to display its fury, but already the fields are without water. There are vast stretches of sands where once rivers flowed. There are only sandy ribbons in the place of streams. Ponds, wells, water-holes contain very little water. Often, none at all. In many places they have gone completely dry. There is acute scarcity of drinking water. Agricultural operations have been thrown into disarray. People are seen going long distances with pots on their heads for drinking water. The farm hands with their employment opportunities dwindling have to be provided with work so that they could feed hungry mouths at home.

If the people are so affected the cattle are no better-off. Most animals in the area no longer graze in herds. They roam about from place to place in search of fodder, which is scarce. They wander from one water-hole to another. Acres and acres of green fields lie parched and deserted presenting a gloomy picture. Tamil Nadu is in the grip of a severe drought.

Into this picture of grim drought entered, the Government of Tamil

Nadu with its army of manpower and resources to mitigate the sufferings due to the "drought octopus". The government has drawn a blueprint to keep the drought at bay. Programmes have been drawn up to tackle the situation on all fronts on a war-footing.

A high level committee has been set up, financial assistance extended to the drought-hit areas to expedite relief measures. A detailed report has been submitted to the Government of India seeking financial assistance to gear up the work. Besides, assistance has been sought for provision of additional rice, coarse grain and wheat for distribution in the affected areas and also for diversion of rigs to be used for sinking bore wells.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran did an extensive tour across a section of the chronically arid zones and other drought hit areas and saw for himself the dried-up irrigation tanks, the fallow lands, which were once fertile and green, now lying dry and cracked up and the starved cattle wandering in search of scarce fodder.

Based on the reports received from District Collectors, the Government of Tamilnadu has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 695.05 lakhs for sinking new bore wells and for augmenting water supply in Municipal towns and town Panchayats.

In addition to this a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been allotted for distribution of water through lorries, carts and head loads. Another Rs. 50 lakhs has been allotted for construction of separate feeder lines for supply of electricity continuously to water supply works of municipalities and Town Panchayats wherever feasible.

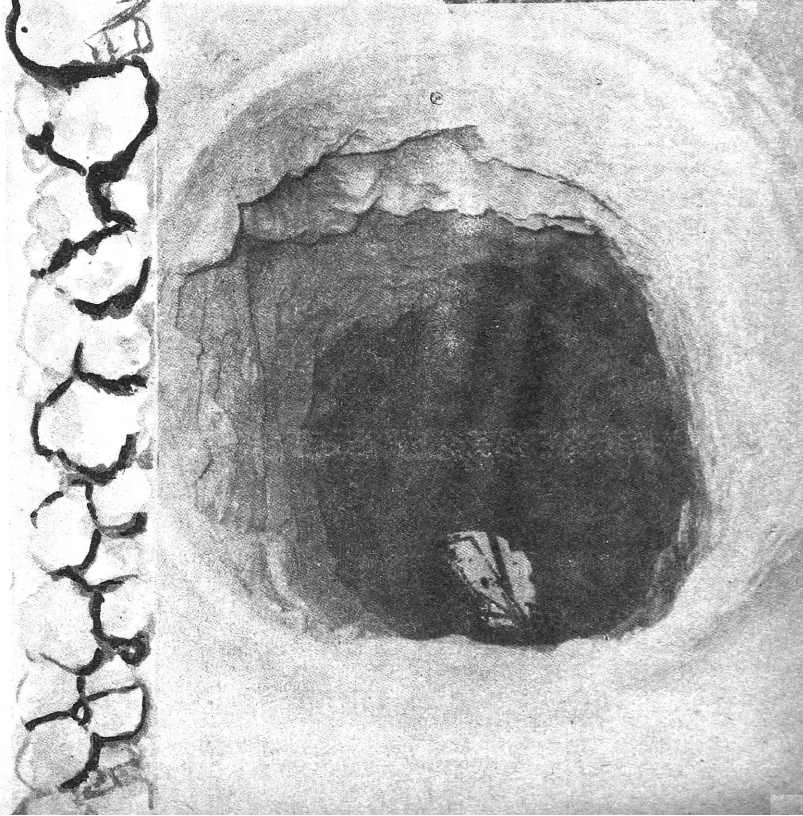
The above-mentioned drinking water supply works are being executed on a war-footing by the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, the Agricultural Engineering Department and the Ground water Department. All the available rigs with these organisations have been mobilised and have been put to use. About 2,000 bores will have to be put up. Another 4,000-5,000 bores will have to be put up before the end of June 1981. A large number of existing drinking water wells will have to be deepened and the deepening work is in progress.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have requested the Central Government to divert about 100 rigs for meeting this contingency.

The Government is keeping a close watch on the situation and no effort would be spread to ensure relief for the people.

**District wise allotment for new bore wells and deepening of wells.**

	<i>Rs. in lakhs.</i>
North Arcot ..	140.00
Ramanathapuram ..	89.61
Dharmapuri ..	48.09
Tiruchirappalli ..	60.00
South Arcot ..	40.00
Thanjavur ..	45.31
Pudukottai ..	77.04
Salem ..	60.00
Madurai ..	45.00
Chengalpattu ..	30.00





Periyar	..	20.00
Coimbatore	..	20.00
Tirunelveli	..	10.00
Kanyakumari	..	10.00

Due to severe drought conditions, there is an acute scarcity of drinking water in the State. Employment opportunities also have dwindled resulting in a number of people being rendered jobless.

Instructions have been issued to expedite the works under the National Rural Employment Schemes and for taking up new works to provide employment to the people. Besides, more rice has been made available for distribution. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned for digging of open wells in the beds of minor/major irrigation tanks of land Revenue.

**Exemption from levy of land revenue:** There has been widespread crop failure in the affected areas. Taking note of the crop position, the Government has ordered remission of land revenue including local cess, water-tax, special water-tax and cash crop tax in areas where the yield was less than 50 per cent in the districts of

North Arcot, South Arcot, Ramana-  
nathapuram, Pudukottai, Dharmapuri,  
Salem, Madurai and Chengal-  
pattu.

In the case of landowners for whom land revenue had to be waived, for 50% of their land holdings recovery of Government loans and arrears would be postponed to next year.

North Arcot had a rainfall which was 50% below the average and which led to the drying up of 2970 irrigation sources including Kaveripakkam lake. The groundnut and cholam crops in all the districts have withered up. There was only 59% of rainfall in South Arcot district resulting in the drying up of over 2,900 tanks. Ramana-  
nathapuram experienced a rainfall which was 30% less than what it had been in the previous year. About 3,500 out of 7,322 tanks have dried up, affecting agricultural operations in the District. In Pudukottai, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Salem and Periyar districts also similar situation prevails.

The State Government is aware that a massive rural employment programme is necessary to take up works in the affected areas. An additional quantity of 13,050 tons

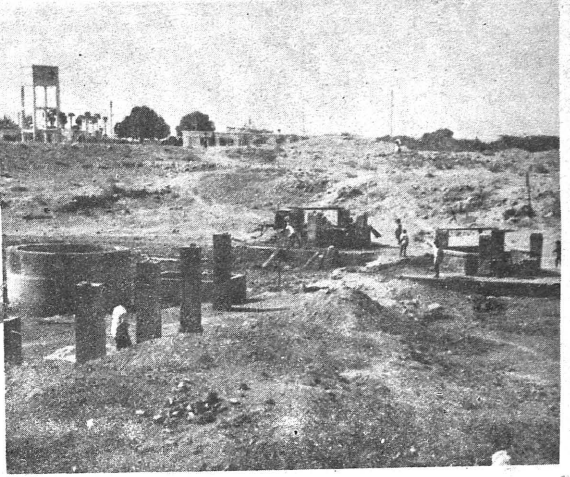
of rice has been released to the districts for taking up additional employment oriented works in the drought affected areas under the National Rural Employment Scheme. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 12.50 crores for taking up labour-oriented works like the formation of roads, repairs and improvements to minor irrigation sources, major irrigation tanks, formation of new tanks, deepening of ooranies, ponds, etc.

#### CHIEF MINISTER'S TOUR OF DROUGHT - HIT AREAS :

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran toured the drought-affected areas in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharmapuri, Pudukottai, Salem, Ramana-  
nathapuram, Madurai and Chengalputtu.

Beginning his tour in the North Arcot District, the Chief Minister inspected the Kaveripakkam irrigation tank and made detailed enquiries about the ground water potential of the tank.

The Chief Minister asked the engineers to study the possibility of sinking some open wells in the tank bed itself to alleviate the sufferings of the people. He was told that water would be available at a depth



of 30 feet on the tank bed itself. Subsequently orders have been issued for sinking of open wells in tank beds or in the proximity of tanks, so as to supply drinking water in the neighbouring villages.

Later he visited Kilveeranam village and inspected a tank renovation work at Mangalam Village under the National Rural Employment Programme.

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran told newsmen that the State Government in its recent report to the Union Government on the drought situation had sought financial assistance besides additional allotment of rice, coarse grain and wheat for public distribution in the affected areas.

The Self-sufficiently programme has been extended to cover 150 blocks in the State with immediate effect, so as to take up welfare measures on a war-footing, he said.

The Government would provide funds to all departments so that relief works would not be affected due to lack of finance or procedural delays.

Special squads will be formed in the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board for maintaining handpumps and for attending to immediate repairs.

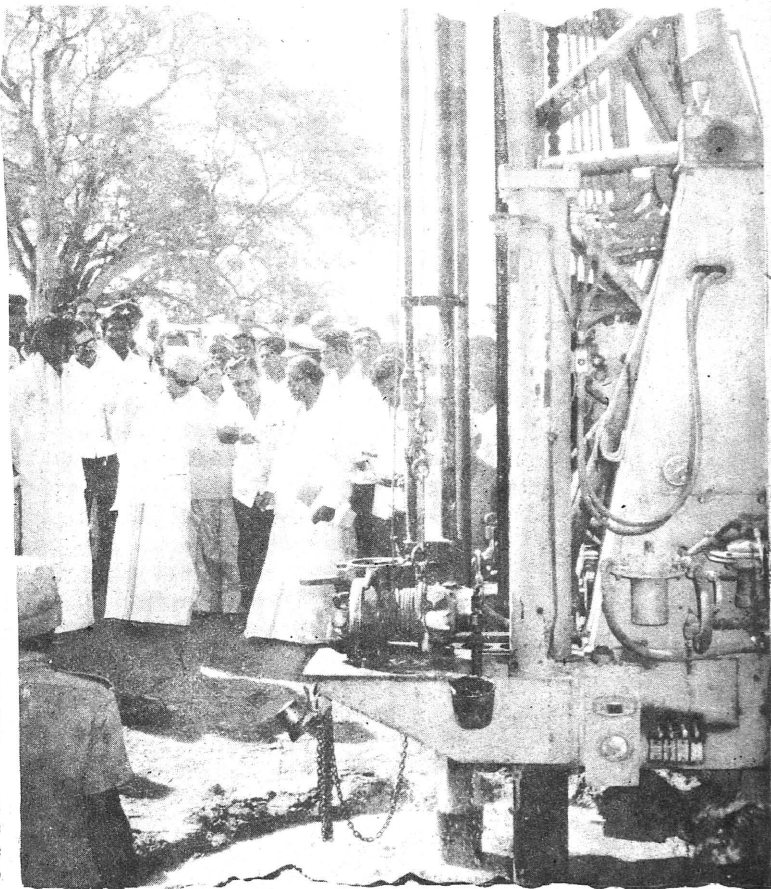
Answering a question, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran said that he was hopeful the Central assistance would come in adequate measures to meet the exigency.

### CHIEF MINISTER'S TOUR OF DROUGHT HIT PUDUKOTTAI

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran drove 100 km across a section of the chronically arid zones of Pudukottai district. He saw for himself the dried up irriga-

tion tanks, the fallow lands and the starved cattle looking for scarce fodder.

The Agriculture Department estimated the loss of crop at over Rs. 40 crores, paddy to the tune of over Rs. 21 crores, groundnut





around Rs. 9 crores and other crop at over Rs. 10 crores. Pudukkottai has always been a self-sufficient district in the matter of rice.

The Chief Minister drove from Pudukkottai to Kavinadu Kanmoi, the biggest irrigation tank in the district. During the 1975 drought a sum of over Rs. 12 lakhs was spent to improve the kanmoi.

The Chief Minister then went to Annavasal, Illuppur, Viralimalai, Keeranur and kotlathur where he inspected TWAD Board efforts to provide drinking water.

The Agricultural Engineering Department is busy deepening 247 wells, sinking 64 new wells and drilling 201 in-bores in the hard-rock and sedimentary soil areas in the 9 panchayat unions. These would cost Rs. 17.54 lakhs.

2535 habitations had been identified for solving the drinking water problem.

Two Panchayat unions, Aavudayarkoil and Aranthangi situated on the coastal belt, had problems of salinity and hence only deep bore wells could meet the demands of these two areas. Seven deep bore wells would be dug to benefit 260 habitations.

Regarding crop failures, a remission of Rs. 54 lakhs would be given immediately.

#### **Drought: Tamil Nadu Needs Rs. 75 Crores :**

Completing a 350 Km tour of drought hit Ramanathapuram District, The Chief Minister said that Tamil Nadu would require more than Rs. 75 crores to tide over the drought conditions in parts of 11 districts. Justifying the 40 per cent levy on paddy, the Chief Minister said that the Government has a duty to make rice available to the people.

The District Collectors have been entrusted with the responsibility for Co-ordination and for smooth and speedy implementation of the programmes. The required funds are being allotted to the Collectors who in turn distribute it to the implementing agencies. Each of the affected areas has been put in charge of a responsible officer who will look after the progress of implementation of the drought relief programme.

The Government have ordered the constitution of two types of Committees in each district-one- a local committee for each of the affected area and two- a district level committee.

The Local Area Committee will consist of Members of the Legislature, Members of the Parliament and representatives of political parties.

These Committees can inspect relief works in progress, ascertain the needs of the people in the affected areas and bring to the notice of the Collector pressing problems for action. They may also make suggestions for remedial measures of a temporary or permanent nature. The officer appointed to be in charge of the relief works in the local areas will be the convenor of the Local Committee. The Collector will preside over the meetings of the District Level Committees. The suggestions and reports made through the Committees will be considered by the Collector for suitable action.

The Government have also constituted a High Level Committee with the Chief Secretary as Chairman and 19 other Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments as Members to review the implementation of the drought relief programmes, to monitor the progress to give instructions to the implementing agencies and to advise the Government on the policy regarding the drought relief programmes. This Committee will meet once in a fortnight and review the situation.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu himself has presided over a detailed review meeting and has given instructions on the speedy execution of works.



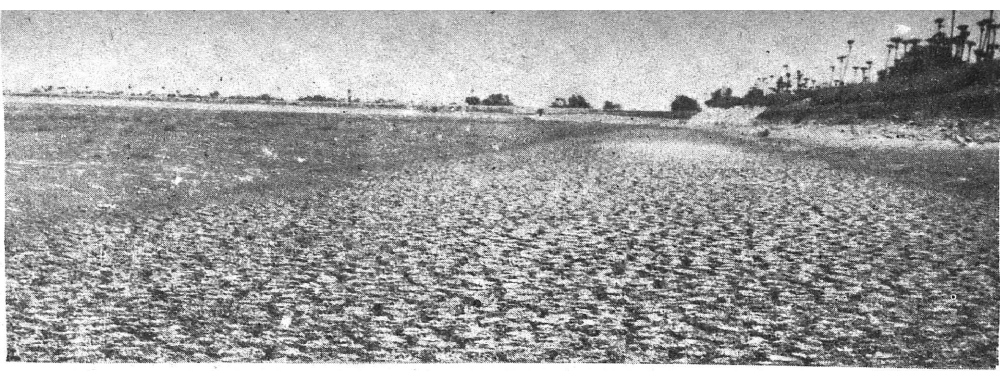
The Revenue Minister of Tamil Nadu has apprised the Union Minister for Agriculture and the Union State Minister of Agriculture of the drought situation in the State.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has brought to the notice of the Prime Minister of India the drought conditions prevailing in the State and has requested for assistance and help in tackling the situation.

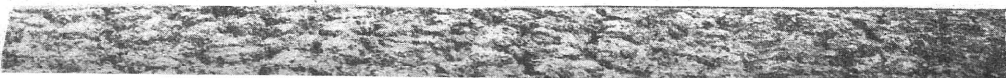
The State Government is closely watching the situation and are taking up remedial measures immediately. In the context of failure of crops on a large scale, the State Government has to strengthen the Public distribution system. The State Government has asked for increased allocation of rice and wheat.

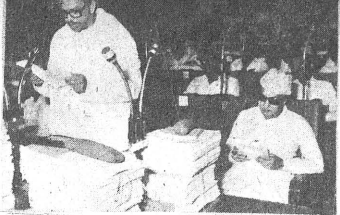
#### ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

Name of the District	Category of the works and amount allotted				
	Formation of new earthen roads	Repairs improvements to minor irrigation tanks	Desilting of Ooraries including ponds meant for the use of cattle	Formation of percolation ponds	Total of cols. 2 to 6.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(Rs. in lakhs)					
1. Chengalpattu ..	25	5	..	..	30
2. North Arcot ..	35	20	5	..	60
3. South Arcot ..	20	15	5	..	40
4. Tiruchirapalli ..	5	5	..	..	10
5. Thanjavur ..	3	3	1	..	7
6. Pudukkottai ..	3	15	5	2	25
7. Salem ..	18	5	..	..	23
8. Dharmapuri ..	20	10	10	..	40
9. Madurai ..	7	8	..	..	15
10. Ramanathapuram ..	20	20	5	5	50
	156	106	31	7	300



Serial No.	Name of the District	Drinking water Supply Scheme	Labour Intensive Works		Grand Total
			Executed by Panchayat Union.	Executed by Public works Department	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(RUPEES IN LAKHS)					
1.	Chengalpattu	30.00	30	50	110.00
2.	North Arcot	140.00	60	200	400.00
3.	South Arcot	40.00	40	120	200.00
4.	Pudukottai	77.04	25	90	192.04
5.	Ramanathapuram	89.61	50	200	339.61
6.	Dharmapuri	48.09	40	80	168.09
7.	Salem	60.00	23	80	163.00
8.	Tiruchirapalli	60.00	10	40	110.00
9.	Thanjavur	45.31	7	10	62.31
10.	Madurai	45.00	15	60	120.00
11.	Periar	20.00	..	..	20.00
12.	Coimbatore	20.00	..	..	20.00
13.	Tirunelveli	10.00	..	20	30.00
14.	Kannyakumari	10.00	..	..	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		695.05	300	950	1945.05
To sink open wells in Tank beds		100.00			100.00
To construct separate feeder lines by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to water supply works.		50.00			50.00
Provision of Drinking Water through lorries & Carts, head loads.		50.00			50.00
		895.05			2145.50





**“ Diseases ’ absence, mighty wealth, the largest yields from land, And joys and protection are five fold jewels of a kingdom grand ”**

is the wise saying of the sage Poet Thiruvalluvar. Disease free life, abundant wealth, bounteous agricultural production, an immensely happy life and sound protection are the five embellishments of a State, as visualised by Thiruvalluvar. On behalf of my Government whose functioning is guided by the objectives of retaining these embellishments perennially, I have great pleasure in placing the Revised Estimates for 1980-81 and the Budget Estimates for 1981-82 for the approval of the House.

Before dwelling on the financial position of the State, it is my duty to refer to the situation prevailing in the country. Increase in the prices of essential commodities, inflationary trends and shortage in consumer commodities prevalent at the All-India level have adversely affected Tamil Nadu. In addition to this, the severe drought condition in many parts of the State resulting from the failure of monsoons has brought misery to the people of Tamil Nadu in many ways. The State Government, with its limited rights, powers, opportunities, capacity and financial resources, has to handle this situation to the extent possible. To resolve difficult situations that arise and to give help to the affected persons, the State Government needs substantial additional resources. As the powers and the financial sources are very much restricted in the present federal structure of the Indian Constitution, State Governments have necessarily to look up to the Union Government every now and then for assistance. While speaking on the floor of the Rajya Sabha, Perarignar Anna once said, clearly and unequivocally, as follows :—

“ The working of the federal structure all these years has created a sense of frustration in the minds of the States. They feel that the States are fast becoming dole-getting corporations. The States are feeling more and more frustrated that their demand is to make the Union Government think that there should be a review of the Constitution, a reappraisal of the Constitution. ”

As it is the direct responsibility and duty of the State Government to ensure the welfare of the people, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise that the Central Government should come forward to give necessary powers to the States. A few days ago, Government of India has announced an increase in the procurement price of wheat from Rs. 117 to Rs. 130 per quintal. The State Government has been pleading with Government of India for a higher fixation of the procurement price for paddy. It is hoped that Government of India will agree to an upward revision of paddy prices as requested by this Government.

I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Members of this House to the grim situation facing the State on the drought front. This House had the opportunity of discussing this subject

# TAMIL NADU BUDGET-1981-82

Thiru V. R. Nedunchezhiyan  
Minister for Finance

in very great detail a couple of weeks ago. Since then, the Chief Minister, my Cabinet colleagues and myself have been touring throughout the State, to get to know first-hand, the drought conditions in various districts. Consequent to these visits and other follow-up measures taken by the Government, the administrative machinery has been geared fully to meet this challenge. I would also like to assure the Honourable Members that no effort will be spared to alleviate the sufferings of the people nor will finance be considered as a constraint for taking remedial measures. Digging and deepening of wells through Tamil Nadu Water-Supply and Drainage Board, Agricultural Engineering Department and the Ground Water Directorate have been undertaken on a massive scale. At this juncture, I would recall what happened when Tamil Nadu had a severe spell of drought some years ago. The poor villagers had to sell their cattle and their belongings and had to migrate to other districts in search of water, food and employment. But this time due to timely action taken by the Government, this catastrophe has been averted. Government is also confident that such a situation will not arise in the coming months either, as a well worked out drought relief programme ensuring water, food supplies and employment opportunities will continue to be implemented. Government of India have already been appraised of the seriousness of the situation and the need for sending a Central team for on the spot assessment of the condition. I am confident that the Central Government would render assistance to the State Government to the maximum extent possible. I am sure that in this common cause, all the Honourable Members will extend their fullest co-operation so that the hands of the Government are strengthened in helping the people out of their sufferings. I may also assure the Members that though the drought is severe, it is well under control and everything possible will be done by the Government to ensure that the people are supplied with drinking water, food and other necessities of life.

## Food Situation

As a result of the failure of the monsoons, production of foodgrains is likely to show a downward trend. If the monsoons are favourable to us, we expect to touch an aggregate food production of 92.14 lakh tonnes during the next year comprising 65 lakh tonnes of rice, 22.80 lakh tonnes of millets and 4.34 lakh tonnes of pulses.

Consequent to the failure of the monsoon, production of paddy has fallen below normal levels. This has increased the demand for rice in the Public Distribution System. To meet this, Government introduced traders' levy on paddy and rice purchased by the wholesalers throughout the State at the point of first purchase. Sufficient buffer stock will be built up to supplement the availability in the open market. Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation has been permitted to purchase rice from the open market outside the State. Steps have also been taken to procure and bring paddy or rice from surplus States

like Andhra Pradesh. State Government has also made a request to the Central Government to make a larger allocation from the Central pool and to move this quickly into the State. It has been suggested that as against 3,000 tonnes of wheat per month, 10,000 tonnes of wheat may be allocated.

### State Plan

Now turning to the Plan projects, as the Honourable Members are aware, the State's Sixth Five-Year Plan has been fixed at Rs. 3,150 crores. While the allocation for the current year is Rs. 411 crores, the Union Planning Commission has approved a Plan Outlay of Rs. 514 crores during the next financial year. But, it is the view of the Government that the scope of developmental activities needs to be extended so that many more schemes can be taken up for implementation. Consequently, a Plan for Rs. 563.26 crores has been drawn up for implementation during the next financial year. This necessarily would mean that the State Government's efforts in mobilising resources to fulfil this ambitious programme with a higher outlay, would require further intensification. I will advert to this in greater detail a little later.

### Agriculture

The Government is of the view that agricultural extension work in the rural areas requires special attention. To achieve this, a new project to reorganise and strengthen the agricultural extension work has been formulated and negotiations are being conducted with the World Bank officials to implement this scheme shortly. This scheme will provide agriculturists up-to-date advice on farm practices, best suited to the local conditions. It is expected that this will be introduced throughout the State over a period of about two years.

8. This Government is implementing a scheme for increasing the production of coconuts from the existing level of 103 crore nuts to 153 crore nuts per year, over a period of five years. The activities in the nurseries for producing quality coconut seedlings are also being increased considerably to achieve this objective. The Government is also considering a proposal for encouraging palm cultivation to increase the indigenous production of Palmolein oil. This will be done in certain selected districts where climatic conditions are most suitable for the growth of this special variety of palm trees. This scheme along with other schemes for increasing the production of edible oils, will help the State to tide over the shortage of edible oil after a few years. The Government also proposes to increase the production of groundnut in the districts of Chengalpattu, North Arcot and South Arcot over a period of ten years. With this goal in mind, the Oil Seeds Growers' Federation has been established, which, through its member co-operative societies, will assist the farmers to increase the productivity and get a better price for their produce.

The Small Farmers' Development Agency (SFDA) programme has been merged with the Integrated Rural Development Programme with effect from October 1980. During the next year, this programme will be implemented in all the blocks at a cost of Rs. 20.64 crores which will be shared equally by Central and State Governments.

### Co-operation

The Co-operative movement has taken deep roots in Tamil Nadu. The help being given by Government to this sector is very well-known. A number of schemes will be undertaken during next financial year to add strength to

the growth of the Co-operative movement. It is proposed to cover one lakh families of agriculturists belonging to Scheduled Castes by enrolling one person from each family to the membership of Agricultural Service Co-operative Societies so as to enable them to avail themselves of the credit and other services rendered by the societies and for improving their income. In 1981-82, the number of members to be admitted would be 40,000. It is also proposed to give a subsidy of Rs. 100 to each of these persons admitted as a member, towards the share capital to be paid by him to the society for raising cultivation loans and/or medium term loans for dairying, poultry-keeping, sheep breeding, etc.

Yet another proposal to be introduced during 1981-82, is to organise motorised cycle rickshaw drivers' societies, in important centres in the State and to provide financial assistance to 1,000 members for the purchase of 1,000 motorised cycle rickshaws. The assistance from the State Government will be in the form of subsidy of Rs. 1,125 towards 25 per cent of the cost of each motorised cycle rickshaws. The balance of the cost will be met through loans.

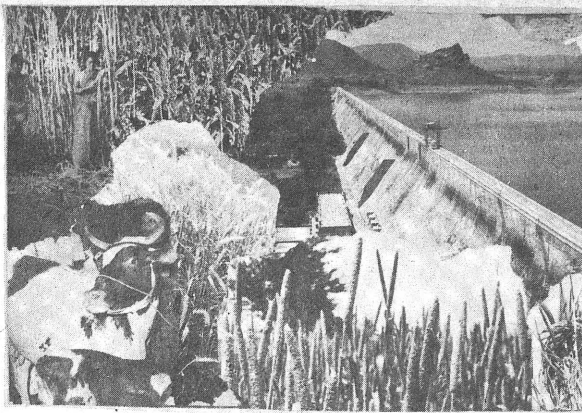
### Animal Husbandry

In the year 1981-82, Intensive Cattle Development Project will be commenced in the two districts, Chengalpattu and South Arcot at an estimated cost of Rs. 29.60 lakhs. In each project, one lakh heads of cattle will be covered to improve their quality and increase the milk yield. Government has been running nine livestock farms where vast extent of area can be put to profitable use with development of irrigation facilities. In the next financial year, Government proposes to strengthen 4 livestock farms by creating additional water sources, purchasing agriculture implements, etc., at a cost of Rs. 19.08 lakhs. Opening of 20 new veterinary dispensaries, upgradation of 4 dispensaries into hospitals and upgradation of 3 hospitals into clinical centres will be taken up next year. A new poultry disease diagnostic laboratory will be set up at Erode in Periyar district where a lot of interest is shown in poultry development. Rinderpest tissue culture vaccine production section of Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipet will be strengthened to produce adequate quantity of tissue culture rinderpest vaccine to eradicate this dreadful disease. Government has drawn up a scheme at a cost of Rs. 31.53 crores for development of poultry in Tamil Nadu. This scheme has been sent to Government of India for getting assistance from World Bank.

### Irrigation

During the Sixth Plan, Rs. 150 crores have been earmarked for major and medium irrigation projects and Rs. 18 crores for minor irrigation projects. The outlay proposed for the next year under irrigation is Rs. 26.62 crores. An additional potential to benefit 20,500 acres of land will be created which is expected to yield food production of 20,500 tonnes of irrigated dry crops.

In view of the marginal availability of untapped surface flows, the programme of modernisation of existing irrigation systems which aims at economy in water use and extension of irrigation from the water thus saved, has been given priority in the Sixth Plan. Fifty-five per cent of the total outlay on irrigation is earmarked for modernisation schemes. One of the major modernisation projects which is under implementation is the Periyar-Vaigai Modernisation Scheme. The reduction of water losses in



this project under the existing conveyance system will be used to increase the irrigated area by about 25,455 acres.

### Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare

A programme has been started for improving the inland fish production. The first phase will have a target of 100 million fingerlings per year which will be completed by 1983-84. Two more phases will be taken up subsequently which will step up the production to 300 million fingerlings per year. Further, reservoirs and irrigation tanks would be stocked with quality fish seeds. A training programme for the rural youth in Prawn Farming has also been taken up. These centres will train about 1,000 youths in a year. Simultaneously, the activities in the deep sea fishing will also be accelerated. During 1981-82, four sophisticated deep sea fishing trawlers will be acquired and deployed to exploit fish resources available in the Wage Bank, Pedro Bank, Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay areas. In addition, the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation will acquire five 45 feet purse-seiner vessels to exploit pelagic resources in the south-west and south-east coasts. The Corporation will also expand and intensify the marketing activities by opening more retail outlets in Madras City and in other important cities like Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli.

The landing facilities and fishing harbours will also be improved during the next financial year. A major fishing harbour at Madras is under construction. Yet another fishing harbour at Chinnamuttom and a minor landing jetty at Valinokkam will be taken up during the next year. Investigations have been completed for developing similar facilities at Pazhayar in Thanjavur district. It is proposed to provide such facilities in Thondi village also and investigations have been taken up. In collaboration with F.A.O. Government has been taking various steps to improve the earnings of fishermen. Trials with small fishing boats, improved indigenous crafts and surf boats, are being conducted to assess the most suitable and efficient small fishing crafts to increase the marine fish landings of small fishermen. Experiments are also being conducted at Mandapam and Tuticorin to assess the efficiency of the pair trawling methods.

### Forest

It is very well-known that failure of monsoons generally results from the extensive deforestation activities. While it is necessary to cut down trees for domestic and industrial uses, it is equally necessary that forest

growth is kept up at a fast rate. Government has been giving special importance to social forestry. Talks are under way with SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency) for drawing up a special scheme costing Rs. 45 crores under Social Forestry, during the Sixth Five-Year Plan period.

### Power

The State Government has given the topmost priority for development of power in the State. In the Sixth Plan, the outlay will go up to about Rs. 1,023 crores in an overall outlay of Rs. 3,150 crores. The installed capacity of Tamil Nadu grid, which was 2,719 megawatts at the beginning of the present Plan period will be increased to 4,769 megawatts by the end of the Plan. The second unit of the Tuticorin thermal project was commissioned in the month of January this year. With the commissioning of the third unit of the Tuticorin thermal project and the 235 MW unit of Kalpakkam Atomic Power Project, the generating capacity will be increased to 3,374 MW during 1981-82. Works have been commissioned for setting up of the Mettur Thermal Project and Lower Mettur-Hydro-electric Project from which Tamil Nadu grid will draw benefits in the last two years of this Plan period. A project report for replacement of the existing units of the Basin Bridge Power House by a 110 MW unit, is now before the Government of India. A 630 MW capacity thermal station in North Madras is being proposed. Till February 1981, 29,742 agricultural pumpsets were energised, as against a target of 30,000 pumpsets for the year. With the energisation of 916,969 pumpsets, Tamil Nadu has the distinction of being first among all the States in this field. These efforts will be continued and 30,000 more pumpsets will be energised during 1981-82. During the very short period of 1½ years after the commencement of the scheme of electrifying the huts, 2.7 lakhs huts have been given power supply so far.

The low storage position in the reservoirs resulting from the failure of monsoons has forced the Government to impose a cut in supply of electricity. But with the production of power picking up at Ennore and Tuticorin and supplies coming from Kerala and Neyveli, it is hoped that the position will improve.

During the last three years the cost of coal has increased from Rs. 82 to Rs. 114 per tonne. Similarly the ocean freight as well as railway freight rates have also gone up considerably. In addition increase in the cost of power purchased from Kerala has added on to the cost. Apart from this, power is purchased from the Neyveli project at a fairly high rate. The revenue presently earned by the Electricity Board does not cover the running expenditure fully. Even for covering the maintenance cost, principal and interest liabilities to the Institutions, Government has to give assistance. After taking into account Rs. 100 crores as assistance from Government, there will still be a gap of Rs. 89.31 crores in a Plan of Rs. 169.59 Crores. Planning Commission has stressed the need for a tariff revision, which, according to them, is absolutely essential to improve the performance of Electricity Board. Planning Commission has also mentioned that the rates charged by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is one of the lowest in the country and it has pointed out that it is inadvisable to continue this low rate of tariff.

### Industrial Development

In the field of industrialisation, Tamil Nadu has done quite well. Suggestions have been received from various quarters that further incentives must be given for

encouraging the setting up of new industries in the State. Government is examining all these suggestions and a decision will be taken soon. In the meantime, the public sector industrial corporations are forging ahead with their own schemes. An application has been made for a letter of intent for setting up the third cement plant in the public sector in Madurai district. This project, costing about Rs. 32 crores will generate employment for about 1,000 persons. TIDCO is also pursuing the Explosives Project to be set up in North Arcot district with Swedish collaboration at an estimated cost of about Rs. 20 crores. The spinning mills in the co-operative sector have done creditably well during this year. Certain mills have generated sufficient surplus funds to take up expansion of their installed capacity. The mills in North Arcot and Salem will increase their spindleage from 12,000 to 25,000 and the mill at Pettai is intending to establish another unit at Ettayapuram with an installed capacity of 12,000 spindles. In addition, 3 more spinning mills will be set up in the co-operative sector by the Government to cater to the increased demands of the weavers. A provision of Rs. 1.7 crores has been made in the budget for starting a sugar factory in 1981-82 with a crushing capacity of 1,250 tonnes per day.

Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited, a public sector undertaking has done commendably well by achieving a very high turn over. This Corporation has done particularly well in promoting exports and 90 per cent of its income is by way of foreign exchange. Its profits are likely to wipe out all the accumulated losses incurred so far.

Tamil Nadu Magnesites Limited, another public sector company has earned profit in the very first year of its operation. A beneficiation-cum-refractory plant at a cost of Rs. 3 crores will be set up to further improve the performance of this Corporation.

#### Small Industries

Government is also attaching great importance to the development of small scale industries and through the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation, small scale units are getting better financial facilities. During the current year, this Corporation is expected to double its operations with the sanctions going up to Rs. 32 crores. During next year, it has programmed to expand its financing operations to Rs. 45 crores. Government is also promoting the growth of small scale industries through another of its Corporation, viz., Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation. Assistance is given to small scale industries by this corporation among other things for construction of work-sheds and Tiny-sheds. It procures iron and steel, paraffin wax, coal and coke for distribution among the small scale units. During the current year, the turn over of this corporation will increase from Rs. 12 crores to Rs. 17 crores, while during the next year it will be stepped up to Rs. 25 crores. This Corporation is also concentrating on reviving sick units by providing margin money assistance.

#### Handloom

The continuing interest of the Government in the welfare of the handloom weavers is very well-known. Recently when there was an increase in the price of yarn, Government arranged supply of yarn of counts 20s to 40s at reasonable prices. At Government instance, the South India Mill Owners' Association has agreed to make available 5,000 bales of hank yarn at reduced rates in coarse counts of 40s for distribution to handloom

weavers. The Government intends to introduce the "Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers' Conditions of Employment and Miscellaneous Provision Bill" shortly to regulate the working conditions of the weavers.

The Government has also been taking steps for increasing the marketing of handloom cloths of Co-optex. The turnover of Co-optex will cross Rs. 45 crores in the current year and will further be increased to Rs. 50 crores in 1981-82. The Government will invest next year Rs. 100 lakhs in the share capital of Co-optex with assistance from Government of India.

#### Village Industries

Employment in the rural sector is given an impetus by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Board. The Board is expecting to create additional employment opportunities for 33,000 persons during the next financial year. The Board will be expanding its Chrome Tanned Upper Leather Units in Periyar district at a cost of Rs. 21.12 lakhs. State Government will continue to provide adequate assistance to the Board to finance its activities. By lending Rs. 27 crores through T.I.I.C., by procuring raw materials of the value Rs. 25 crores through SIDCO, by increasing the turnover of the village Industries of the Khadi and Village Industries Board to Rs. 45 crores and by allocating a plan provision of Rs. 13.19 crores, Government will be further promoting the development of the small scale and village industries in the next financial year.

#### Roads

Formation and improvement of roads benefiting villages of population of 1,500 have been attended to by Government in a phased manner. This scheme consisting of 5 phases will cover 2,789 villages at an outlay of Rs. 28.25 crores forming 4,819 km of road network. In the current year, this programme will be implemented in self-sufficiency blocks for which purpose Rs. 6 crores have been allocated. This has been enhanced to Rs. 7 crores for the next year. The total outlay is of the order of Rs. 40 crores for the Sixth Plan period. In addition to this, the programme of Government to take over panchayat roads on which buses ply will be continued with a provision of Rs. 10 crores this financial year. During the next financial year the provision will be stepped up to Rs. 13 crores.

#### Sethu Samudram Project

Members may kindly recall that this Government had been pressing the Union Government for taking up the Sethu Samudhram Project. I am happy to inform the Members that Government of India has since constituted a High Power Committee to have a fresh study of this Scheme.

#### Transport Corporation

Transport Corporations have put on roads during the course of the financial year about 1,376 buses till February 1981. New routes to connect 310 villages benefitting the population of about ten lakhs have been introduced. The steep increases in the price of petroleum products and steel have adversely affected the financial position of the Transport Corporations. These Corporations which earned a pre-tax profit of Rs. 6.67 crores in 1979-80 are likely to end up with a huge loss of about Rs. 16 crores in 1980-81, which is bound to adversely affect the capital programmes of these Corporations. In view of the increased cost of fuel, there will be a gap of Rs. 14.46 crores in a Plan of Rs. 17.50 crores. In order

to bridge this gap and to continue to give to the public an efficient and economic service, the revision of bus fare is inevitable. This has already been mentioned in the Governor's address. Necessary steps have been initiated by the Government for revising the fare. The neighbouring States have already revised the rates which are higher than the rates prevailing in Tamil Nadu. The two successive price hikes in petroleum products and huge increase in cost of all items involved in Transport operation has left us no other option except to raise the fare to an economical level.

### Tourism

Tourism is gaining prominence day by day. It is one of the most important industries earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is working hard to make the State attractive for tourists. Besides developing places of international tourist attraction like Mamallapuram, Rameswaram and Kanyakumari, the Government is also giving attention to develop new places like Pichavaram, Hogenakkal, etc., which have a lot of tourism potential. A Master Plan for the development of Rameswaram involving a total outlay of Rs. 28 crores has been drawn up and forwarded to the Government of India for seeking assistance from the I.D.A. A scheme for setting up an open air museum at Mamallapuram which will depict among other things, the evolution of sculpture and temple architecture, has been sanctioned. Youth hostels for promoting youth tourism are under construction in about 8 places of tourist importance. As a further boost to the development of tourism, Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is continuing to put up tourists' hotels in important places. A 3 star hotel was recently commissioned at Madurai and another major project is nearing completion at Coimbatore. Recently, T.T.D.C. appointed overseas selling agents in Malaysia and Singapore for their coach tours. Tamil Nadu is the first State to have this distinction at the All-India level.

### Education

In the year 1981-82, total outlay on Education has been stepped up from Rs. 238.88 crores in the current financial year to Rs. 255.35 crores. The Plan Outlay for Education in 1981-82 is Rs. 23.58 crores compared to the outlay of Rs. 18.71 crores in the Revised Estimates, 1980-81. In the year 1981-82, 1,650 teachers will be appointed consisting of 1,000 teachers at elementary school level and 200 B.T. grade teachers at high school level to cover the additional enrolment of students. In the Middle Schools 200 B.T. Grade Headmasters and 250 Physical Education Teachers will be appointed, while 250 posts of part-time craft instructors will be converted into full-time posts. 500 Tamil Pandits will also be appointed in the Middle Schools. A new scheme for employment of Tamil Pandits by big temples is being drawn up. The Central Kitchen Scheme will be extended to Dharmapuri district at an estimated cost of Rs. 49.70 lakhs with CARE assistance. In the coming financial year, Science Laboratories for 50 High Schools will be equipped with science equipments and 5 Mobile Science Laboratories will be introduced in 5 Educational districts at an estimated cost of Rs. 50.17 lakhs. School buildings for Aided Corporations, Municipal and Government High Schools will be put up incurring an expenditure of Rs. 50 lakhs. Additional school buildings in 86 Higher Secondary Schools will be put up at an

estimated cost of Rs. 2 crores. Industrial Training Institutes will be set up at Cuddalore and Arakkonam in 1981-82. Members may be aware, the Panchayat Union Teachers will become Government teachers from 1st June 1981.

Non-formal education in the Self-sufficiency Blocks will be commenced in 240 centres to cover those in the age-group 6-14. 100 Post-literacy Centres for neo-literates will be opened in the Self-sufficiency Blocks. Provision of Rs. 160 lakhs has been made in Budget Estimates, 1981-82 for Adult Education.

Provision of Rs. 10 lakhs for new Bachelor Degree Courses and Rs. 5 lakhs for new Post-Graduate Courses in colleges have been made in the Budget. Government will also commence certain new Post-Graduate Courses in Science in the Evening Colleges. Additional class rooms and hostels will be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.50 lakhs. In the Governor's address, it was mentioned that two Universities—a Tamil University and a University at Karaikudi—would be established during the current financial year. Government has since decided to start the Tamil University at Thanjavur and is endeavouring to inaugurate it on Arignar Anna's Birthday on 15th September 1981. Regarding the establishment of the University at Karaikudi, it is under correspondence with the University Grants Commission. The World Tamil Sangam will be set up at a cost of Rs. 1 crore.

Government has been bestowing special attention to Technical Education. The Plan provision of Rs. 152 lakhs for the year 1980-81 has been increased to Rs. 218 lakhs in 1981-82. A Central Service Centre with a Computer will be set up in the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 lakhs. In the Alagappa Chettiar College of Engineering and Technology at Karaikudi, a Control System Laboratory will be put up incurring an expenditure of Rs. 22.38 lakhs. For construction of hostels in five Technical Educational Institutions, Rs. 7 lakhs have been provided in the Budget. For the new Courses, a provision of Rs. 15 lakhs has been made.

### Sports and Youth Welfare

Government is keen to develop Sports in Tamil Nadu. A new Department set up for this purpose has been taking up various steps to spot and develop talents and even from the young age. In 1981-82, construction of an open air stadium in Pudukottai and Periyar districts will be started and in two district headquarters, swimming pools will be constructed. In 150 Panchayats, rural sports centres will be set up. To select talented sportsmen even in the young age, the programme "Catch them Young" will be continued and expanded in the coming year. Government intends putting up an indoor stadium in Madras in the next financial Year.

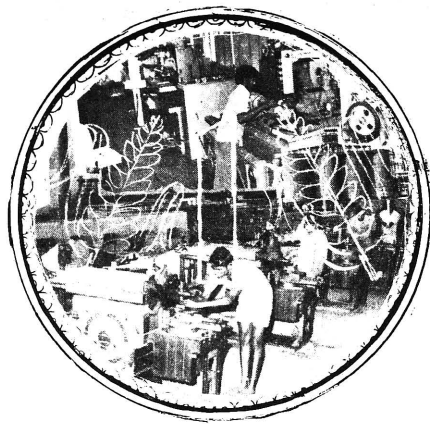
### Health

Government attaches a lot of importance to the concept of providing health facilities in the rural areas. It has been proposed to open 20 new primary health centres during next year. Further, 15 existing centres will be upgraded at a cost of Rs. 82 lakhs for providing facilities of a hospital. The annual allocation for drugs for the existing mobile team will be increased from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000. The scheme for medical check-up of school children in the age-group of 6 and 11 will be extended to 50 primary health centres and 25 municipalities as against 20 primary health centres

during the current year. The scheme for immunisation of children with triple vaccine, will be extended to 50 more primary health centres. By these measures, 8.5 lakh school children will be additionally covered in the year 1981-82. At the same time, Government has not been ignoring the needs of the urban areas. In this International Year of the Disabled persons, Government has proposed to set up a Peripheral Limb Fitting and Rehabilitation Centre at Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai and a new building for this purpose will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 24.5 lakhs. A Renal Transplantation Unit in Government General Hospital, Madras and a Virology Unit at Madurai Medical College will also be taken up during the next year. A separate Paediatric Block will be put up at Stanley Hospital to benefit children in the Northern part of the City. A new Peripheral hospital at Perambur at a cost of Rs. 1,70.91 lakhs will be constructed. During next year the bed strength in the teaching hospitals will be increased to 15,050. In the district headquarters hospitals, 507 beds will be added to the existing strength of 4,631 beds. During the next financial year, the accident emergencies relief scheme will be extended to 4 districts at an ultimate cost of Rs. 181.38 lakhs. All the district headquarters hospitals will be provided with the stand-by-generators and for this purpose, Rs. 13 lakhs have been set apart in the next financial year.

A comprehensive and an all embracing health care programme which would include strengthening of infra-structural facilities in the rural hospitals with special emphasis on the strengthening of maternity and child health, family welfare and preventive services will be taken up for implementation in 1981-82, with aid from the Danish International Development Agency. This project will be implemented in Salem and South Arcot districts over a period of 5 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 14 crores. The aim of this project is to improve the health status of the population in the project area and to cater to the needs of the weaker sections of the society. A provision of Rs. 2.4 crores has been made for this project in the year 1981-82. The provision for Indian Medicine which was Rs. 41.25 lakhs in the year 1975-76 has been stepped up to Rs. 102.37 lakhs during 1980-81. This Government is taking keen interest in the development of Indian Medicine. Keeping this in view, Government has decided to open Siddha wings in 200 primary health centres next year at a cost of Rs. 62 lakhs. In the district headquarters hospitals at Ramanathapuram, Dharmapuri and Chidambaram, 15 bed wards will be started for children while 24 beds will be opened in the Arignar Anna Hospital for Indian Medicine at Madras. Separate buildings for the Siddha wing will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs in the headquarters hospitals at Dindigul and Vellore. For implementing all these schemes, the provision under Indian Medicine will be increased to Rs. 1,71.47 lakhs in 1981-82.

In the course of this year, the General Hospital at Madras has had the distinction of putting into operation CAT Scanner and Echo Cardiogram, two very expensive and sophisticated medical gadgets. This has proved a boon to numerous patients suffering from cardiac and brain ailments. Government is also considering a proposal to expand the medical facilities in General Hospital, Madras by taking over the present Jail premises which will be shifted to another location outside the city.



### Family Welfare

The Family Welfare Programme is being implemented vigorously in the State. As against the sterilisation target of 182,000 for the current financial year, the achievement up to end of January 1981 is 101,253. Allocation of additional 10 beds have been permitted in district headquarters hospitals for post-partum purposes. The construction of 20 bedded post-partum wards in 14 district headquarters hospitals at an estimated cost of Rs. 28.60 lakhs, is in progress. To ensure quality and to obviate the irregularities and other defects pointed out by the Evaluation Teams, the State Government has dispensed with the Intensive Family Welfare Campaign during the current year. It is now being implemented on a steady and continuous basis throughout the year.

### Rural Development

The Food for Work Programme and the National Rural Employment Programme, which has replaced the Food for Work Programme, has provided considerable employment opportunities to unskilled rural workers and has also created durable community assets. During the current year, a cash grant of Rs. 7,68.5 lakhs in addition to 50,000 tonnes of rice have been allotted by Government of India under these programmes. From 1st April 1980, till end of February 1981, about Rs. 8.36 crores worth of works have been completed. Till end of February, about 3 lakh persons were provided with employment under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

### Self-Sufficiency Scheme

The self-sufficiency scheme which is one of the most important programmes being implemented in the rural areas, is now in progress in 69 blocks. As the Honourable Members are aware, the following essential works are undertaken in the scheme :

- (i) Drinking water-supply ;
- (ii) Link roads ;
- (iii) Culverts ;
- (iv) Pathways to Harijan habitations and burial grounds ;
- (v) Improvements to minor irrigation sources ;
- (vi) Rural dispensaries ;
- (vii) Maternity and child welfare centres ;
- (viii) School buildings ;
- (ix) Houses for Harijans (Rural Housing Scheme).

The results under the self-sufficiency scheme have been commendable. Works on about 6796 kilometers of link roads 976 kilometers of pathways to Harijan colonies and burial grounds, about 942 school buildings, about 81

rural dispensaries and about 237 maternity and child welfare centres are expected to be completed would be nearing completion by the end of this financial year. Taking note of the success of the scheme, Government will be taking up works in 150 new blocks during the year 1981-82.

#### **Rural Water Supply**

The programme of providing rural water-supply to all category I and II villages will be very nearly completed. The provision for 1981-82 under this programme has been stepped up to Rs. 24.5 crores to cover the habitation in the blocks under the self-sufficiency scheme besides others.

#### **Rural Housing**

The rural housing scheme started by this Government in 1979 has been a great success. As against the original target of 1 lakh houses in five years, Government has proposed to assist construction of 2 lakh houses in five years. During the eight months between July 1980 and February 1981, 73,756 loan applications for Rs. 22.68 crores have been sanctioned. In that period, 19,952 houses were completed of which 15,009 were accounted for by Adi-Dravidars. In 1981-82, assistance will be given for construction of 40,000 houses.

#### **Slum Clearance Board**

The work of the Slum Clearance Board is progressing well. Till 1980, 27,783 tenements at a cost of about Rs. 29 crores have been constructed. During the current year, about 3,200 tenements are expected to be completed at a cost of Rs. 3.24 crores. During the next financial year, 3,500 more tenements will be put up at a cost of Rs. 3.42 crores. Assistance to Slum Clearance Board for this scheme has been stepped up from Rs. 150 lakhs in 1980-81 to Rs. 250 lakhs in 1981-82.

#### **Welfare of the Disabled**

In this International year of disabled persons, Government will be launching many new schemes for the benefit of the disabled. Government proposes to set up three Regional Centres for giving special training to the disabled and for securing them suitable placements. In addition, two schools for the blind, two schools for the deaf and one centre for severely orthopaedically handicapped will be started next year. The allowance given to unemployed graduates will be extended to physically handicapped with a few relaxation of the conditions. Government will also provide subsidy for small units to be set up by physically handicapped persons to enable them launch self-employment ventures. Two new sub-centres for artificial limbs and peripheral limb fitting and rehabilitation centre at Madurai will be commenced in the coming year. A proper identification and enumeration of the physically disabled persons is essential for drawing up suitable schemes. Government will take up census of the physically disabled persons. Apart from the continuing schemes, an additional provision of Rs. 59 lakhs has been set apart for the programmes of the welfare of the physically disabled in the year 1981-82. The free bus pass scheme for the handicapped children, will be extended throughout Tamil Nadu.

#### **Welfare of Women and Children**

Government has been implementing various schemes for the benefit of poor women to improve their standard of living. In 1981-82, a new scheme to give vocational

training in Book-Keeping and Accountancy for 1,000 poor women will be taken up for implementation. Financial assistance to children of widows studying in higher secondary schools will be given. The question of supplying "thalis" at subsidised cost has been engaging the attention of the Government. In 1981-82 a beginning will be made for giving "thalis" at subsidised cost for the marriage of the daughters of poor widows. A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made for this purpose.

In 1981-82, 100 new child welfare centres will be opened and for 20 Balwadi buildings will be constructed. It is also proposed to open 100 new creches in the Integrated Child Development Service Programme area in Madras City. 50 creches each will be started in Coimbatore and Madurai to look after the children of women workers. The World Bank Nutrition Project will be extended in 1981-82 to 33 blocks in the district of Madurai. A provision of Rs. 8.54 crores has been made for this project in the Budget. Construction of Health sub-centres, selection and training of nutrition workers and health workers, and supplying of nutrition supplement will be taken up next year.

#### **Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

15 hostels for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students will be opened in the coming year. The food charges in hostels for high school students will be raised by Rs. 15 and the residential scholarship in subsidised hostels will be raised by Rs. 10 for both scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes. Additional expenditure of Rs. 1 crore will be incurred for this purpose. A provision of Rs. 245 lakhs has been made for construction of hostels for boys and girls of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the year 1981-82. In the year 1981-82, Government proposes to take up on a pilot basis a new scheme for giving special coaching to students of scheduled caste and scheduled tribes at high school level. This scheme will be launched to cover students in 500 high schools. The special component plan for scheduled castes is being implemented in all the blocks to increase the per capita income of 1.8 lakh families annually to enable them cross the poverty line as determined by the Union Planning Commission. A provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made for share capital investment in the Harijan Housing and Development Corporation for taking up economic development activities for the benefits of scheduled castes. To help the hill tribes, a separate programme to start small scale industries will drawn up.

#### **Welfare of Backward Classes**

In the year 1980-81, Government sanctioned opening of 34 hostels for the students of Backward Classes. In 1981-82, 40 new hostels will be opened at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.16 lakhs. Buildings for three hostels will be taken up for construction. Government will be launching a new scheme in 1981-82 for acquisition of lands for house sites to Narikuravars, Oddars, Barbers and Washermen. A provision of Rs. 15 lakhs has been made for this purpose in this Budget. The budget provision for welfare of Backward Classes has been increased from Rs. 756 lakhs in the Revised Estimates to Rs. 799 lakhs in the Budget Estimates 1981-82.

#### **Cyclone Shelters**

Tamil Nadu coast is hit by cyclones quite frequently. Hence the Government has ordered the construction of 82 cyclone relief centres along the coast-line for providing several shelters to inhabitants of cyclone prone areas

during times of cyclones. 25 such relief centres are constructed with financial assistance from Tamil Nadu branch Indian Red Cross Society on 50 : 50 cost sharing basis. The Canadian International Agency is assisting in the construction of 2 shelters through UNICEF, on the same partial sharing basis as mentioned above. The European Economic Community has offered one crore of rupees for the construction of 50 cyclone relief centres. The progress in the construction of these shelters has been very good.

#### Revenue Administration

Government has been taking up in a phased manner construction of Office-cum-Residence for the firka Revenue Inspectors. In 1981-82 construction of 200 additional buildings at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs will be taken up. Construction work of village chavadies at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs will also be commenced. Office buildings for two Revenue Divisional offices and three taluk offices at an estimated cost of Rs. 27.50 lakhs will be built in the coming year. Government has sanctioned construction of new office building for the Collectorate and other offices in the newly created Periyar district at Erode. A provision of Rs. 1.26 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1981-82 for taking up this work. Since the census work was taken up, upgradation of sub-taluks was kept in abeyance in 1980-81. In the next year, six Independent sub-taluks and 10 dependant sub-taluks will be upgraded into full-fledged taluks at an estimated cost of Rs. 32.32 lakhs.

#### Police

The Police personnel in the State are discharging their duties efficiently and impartially. Government on its part is formulating various welfare measures to help the police personnel who work under very difficult conditions. The distribution of subsidised food articles costing roughly Rs. 4 crores a year has proved to be a very beneficial measure to the families of policemen.

In order to boost the morale and instil courage and confidence in the minds of the police, a special ex-gratia payment of Rs. 10,000 is given to those killed in action under heroic circumstances, besides the lumpsum grant of Rs. 10,000 paid under the Tamil Nadu Government servants' Family Benefit Scheme. Similarly ex-gratia payment ranging from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 is also paid to those who sustain injuries. Those who are permanently incapacitated from the injuries sustained in action under heroic circumstances, are also given ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5,000. Under special circumstances, extra amount is also given as in the case of some police officers who were killed in August 1980 near Tirupathur taluk Police Station when an additional ex-gratia payment of Rs. 30,000 was made to each of the families, bringing the total financial relief in each case to Rs. 50,000.

During the current year, 16 new police stations, 8 new police outposts and one new circle headquarters have been ordered to be opened in the State. In addition, three existing police outposts have been upgraded into pucca police stations. Keeping in mind, the need to extend protection to villages against the activities of anti-social elements, Government will continue to open new police stations in rural areas wherever necessary. The State had programmed to recruit 1,200 Police personnel. As part of this scheme, 4,000 have been recruited during the current financial year.

Government have sanctioned nearly Rs. 2 crores for the purchase of 350 V.H.F. sets and 1,800 Walkie

Talkie sets which are meant to modernise and equip the police force. Sanction has been accorded for a sum of Rs. 1.2 crores for acquisition of U.H.F. facilities.

The women's wing of the police is also being strengthened. Government has sanctioned the employment of 60 women sub-inspectors, 60 women head constables and 600 women police constables.

The Fire Service Department is continuing to render efficient service. It is proposed to give top priority for purchase of ready-built fire engines like the mobile tank unit, trailer pump, wireless cars and other sophisticated fire engines. Some other items of equipment are also being added on to the Department. 30 new fire stations have been sanctioned to strengthen the activities of the Department. The fire-service personnel below certain levels are being provided with certain food commodities at subsidised rates.

#### Concessions to Government Servants

Honourable Members are aware of the appointment of One Man Commission which has been set up by the Government to go into the cases of alleged anomalies resulting from the implementation of the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. This Commission has since submitted its report. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Commission, the Government has decided to extend the following concessions to the employees :—

(1) Pay scales of over 100 categories of posts will be revised ; these scales will be given effect to from 1st April 1978 with monetary benefit from 1st January 1981 ;

(2) House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance are not being paid along with surrender leave salary at present. The Government has now decided that these two allowances will also be paid along with the surrender leave salary ;

(3) Stagnation increments will be allowed to those who are stagnating in the Selection Grade for more than 10 years ;

(4) Employees who have reached the maximum of the pay scale whether in the ordinary grade or in the Selection Grade, shall continue to get stagnation increments.

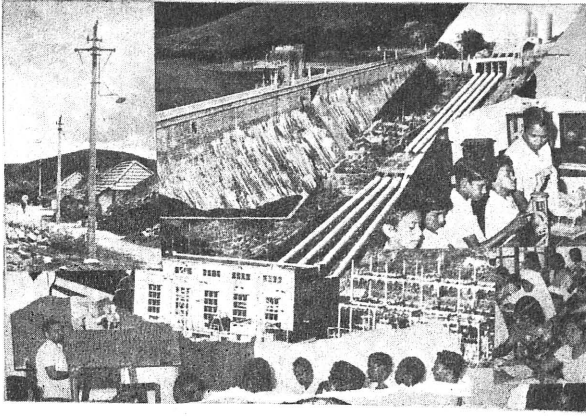
(5) The maximum of the pay limit for sanctioning stagnation increments which is Rs. 1,500 shall be raised to Rs. 2,000 ;

(6) While fixing the pay in the Selection Grade, the minimum benefit that shall be allowed to the employees will be as follows :—

Employees in the Grade.	Minimum benefit.
	RS.
VIII to XI .. ..	15
XII to XVI .. ..	10

(7) On promotion to higher posts carrying higher responsibilities, the pay of the employees shall be fixed in such a way as to ensure a minimum benefit of at least 5 per cent over their pay in the lower post ;

(8) A scheme of Leave Travel Concession shall be extended to all the permanent and approved probationer State Government employees once in two years for the journey of the employee and his family to any place in the State, beyond 240 kms from his place of work. The Government will bear the railway fare one way and the Government servant shall be required to compulsorily



go on 15 days' earned leave for availing himself of this concession.

(9) The employees will also be given the opportunity to give their option for getting their pay refixed between 1st April 1978 and 31st March 1979 in the revised scale of pay either as recommended by the Third Pay Commission or by the One Man Commission, which has been accepted by Government. This option must be exercised before 31st August 1981.

The cost of implementing the recommendations of the One Man Commission would be of the order of about Rs. 3 crores per annum.

The marriage advance given to Government servants will be increased from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 for the marriage of the daughters and from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 for the marriage of the sons.

Repeated representations have been received from pensioners urging the restoration of the commuted portion of the pension. Government after taking a sympathetic view has decided to restore the full commuted portion of the pension to all those pensioners with effect from the date on which they complete 15 years from the date of retirement.

All the above concessions will be given effect to from the date of the orders sanctioning them.

As the All-India Consumer Price Index crossed 376 points, Government has decided to sanction another instalment of dearness allowance to Government servants. This will be given from 1st December 1980, at additional 2.5 per cent for those drawing pay upto Rs. 650 and 1.875 per cent for those drawing pay more than Rs. 650.

#### Annual Plan.

The Budget Estimates for 1980-81 were presented projecting an Annual Plan Outlay of Rs. 438.61 crores. Taking into account the various changes that have taken place subsequent to the preparation of the Budget, the Revised Estimates now arrived at, present a picture of Rs. 454 crores as outlay for 1980-81. As against this outlay, the Union Planning Commission approved a Plan Outlay of Rs. 514 crores for the year 1981-82. As outlined in the earlier portion of my speech, there are certain essential increases which cannot be accommodated within the outlay approved by the Union Planning Commission. The new schemes that have been proposed during the year account for a plan expenditure of Rs. 35 crores. Taking into account these important provisions and keeping in view the outlay of Rs. 3150 crores for the Sixth Five-Year Plan, 1980-85, the Budget Estimates have

been drawn up projecting an Annual Plan of Rs. 563.26 crores. I have already highlighted the important schemes in the various sectors. Power sector continues to receive maximum attention with 30 per cent of the total plan outlay. The outlay in other sectors are : Rs. 169.59 crores for Power, Rs. 26.62 crores for Irrigation, Rs. 104.69 crores for agriculture and Allied Sectors, Rs. 55.61 crores for Industries, Rs. 37.61 crores for Road and Road Transport, Rs. 23.58 crores for Education, Rs. 25.89 crores for Health, Rs. 51.30 crores for Water-Supply and Drainage, Rs. 33.83 crores, for Housing and Urban Development, Rs. 17.87 crores for Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 16.67 crores for other sectors.

#### Financial Position

The Budget Estimates for 1980-81 envisaged a revenue receipt of Rs. 982.66 crores and revenue expenditure of Rs. 967.27 crores leaving a surplus of Rs. 15.39 crores. In the Revised Estimates, excluding the provisions relating to subsidy to and interest receipts from Electricity Board amounting to Rs. 90.58 crores from both expenditure and revenue, it is anticipated that the revenue receipts will be Rs. 1083.17 crores while the revenue expenditure will be Rs. 1,094.47 crores leaving a deficit of Rs. 11.30 crores. Though the tax revenue has registered an increase of Rs. 47.32 crores, the non-tax revenue has increased by Rs. 105.75 crores and assistance from Government of India and State's share of Union Excise Duty by Rs. 38.04 crores, there has been a worsening due to commitments taken on account of writing off of loans to agriculturists. The Revenue Expenditure also includes a provision of subsidy to Electricity Board to enable the Board to achieve the required percentage of return from the capital invested. The Revised Estimates provide for a capital expenditure of Rs. 93.33 crores as against the budgeted outlay of Rs. 94.21 crores. The net expenditure on Loan Account in the Revised Estimates is Rs. 77.55 crores as against Rs. 76.33 crores anticipated in the Budget Estimates for 1980-81. In Public Debt, the net receipt has been estimated at Rs. 109.70 crores as against Rs. 110.83 crores in Budget Estimates, 1980-81. In all, the overall deficit in the Consolidated Fund originally estimated at Rs. 44.32 crores in the Budget Estimates, 1980-81 has now been arrived at Rs. 72.48 crores in the Revised Estimates. In Budget Estimates, 1981-81, taking into account the surplus in the Public Account the overall surplus was placed at Rs. 33 lakhs. In the Revised Estimates, it has changed to an overall deficit of Rs. 3.64 crores. Taking into account the Opening Balance of Rs. (-) 7.83 crores, the Closing Balance at the end of this financial year has been estimated at Rs. (-) 11.47 crores.

The Budget Estimates for 1981-82 provide for a revenue expenditure of Rs. 1137.84 crores as against the revenue receipt of Rs. 1128.27 crores. There will be a deficit in the revenue account to the tune of Rs. 9.57 crores. The capital expenditure in the year 1981-82 has been stepped up to Rs. 135.99 crores while in the Loan Account, the net expenditure will be Rs. 125.02 crores. Taking into account the net receipts of Rs. 112.62 crores in the Public Debt Account, the net deficit in the Consolidated Fund has been placed at Rs. 153.96 crores. The Budget for 1981-82 has been drawn up to reflect the overall deficit of Rs. 111.49 crores. After taking into account the net surplus of Rs. 42.47 crores in the Public Account, the closing balance at the end of the financial year will then be Rs. (-) 122.96 crores.

I had mentioned earlier about the need for increasing the resources for financing a bigger Plan Outlay and for undertaking various welfare measures in the State. After very careful consideration, Government feels that certain tax measures should be embarked on for financing these developmental activities. However, care has been taken to see that this impact is minimal and that the common man is not hit by these few additional imposts. These are as follows :

Madras Corporation has been facing acute financial difficulties for the past many years. An agreement has recently been signed with the World Bank for improving the civic amenities in the Corporation limits. It has become very essential that financial assistance should be given on a more permanent footing to the Corporation for coping with the increased responsibilities. Hence, the surcharge on Sales Tax in Madras Corporation limits and the belt area of 32 kilo metres around Madras City will be increased from the present rate of 5 per cent to 10 per cent, a sizeable portion of which will be given to the Madras Corporation.

Stamp Duty on sales, exchanges and gifts registered in places other than Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli will be raised from 6 per cent to 7 per cent. Stamp Duty on deeds relating to mortgage, lease, partition, release under Article 16 will be modified as follows. The rate on every Rs. 100 for the first Rs. 1,000 will be increased from Rs. 2.50 per Rs. 100 to Rs. 3 per Rs. 100. On values higher than Rs. 1,000 for every Rs. 500 or part, the rate will be increased to Rs. 15 from the existing level of Rs. 13. Stamp Duty on settlements will be increased from the present rate of Rs. 2.50 for Rs. 100 to 8 per cent of the value, in cities and 7 per cent of the value, in other places. Stamp Duty on deeds relating to releases under Article 55 will be revised to the same level as of settlements. For giving effect to the changes relating to surcharge on sales tax and the changes in the Stamp Duty, suitable legislative measures will be introduced in this Session.

Sales Tax of 5 per cent on petrol in Tamil Nadu is the lowest compared to other States like Andhra Pradesh (11 per cent), Kerala (15 per cent) and Karnataka (12.5 per cent). Hence it is proposed to increase it to 11 per cent. In the case of diesel also, it is lower than those in some other States, like Andhra Pradesh (10 per cent), Kerala (20 per cent) and Karnataka (16 per cent). Hence, it is proposed to increase the sales tax on diesel from 9 per cent to 11 per cent.

While these increases have been made Government also wishes to give relief in sales tax in certain transactions. With a view to encourage industries within the State supplying goods to Central Government, Railways and the State Government, it is proposed to reduce the rate of General Sales Tax on such sales to the Central Sales Tax level of 4 per cent, wherever the existing rates are higher. This will make the local industries more competitive in tenders as against bids from parties outside the State as the 4 per cent tax would be on par with the Central Sales Tax rate.

It is proposed to reduce the single-point tax of 8 per cent to 4 per cent on lay flat tubes, films, sheets, cans, blow moulded containers including caps and closures, etc., made of polythene, poly-propylene and poly vinyl chloride.

Rubberised coir is subject to a higher level of sales tax in Tamil Nadu than obtaining in the neighbouring States. Keeping this in mind, it is proposed to reduce the tax on rubberised coir products from 4 per cent to 2 per cent.

As a help to small newspapers with a circulation of 15,000 and below, the 8 per cent sales tax on newsprint will be reduced to 4 per cent.

Sales of Appalam, Vermicelli and Bakery products without a brand name or with brand name not registered under the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 will be exempted completely from the multi-point sales tax.

These changes in Sales Tax will be given effect to from 1st April 1981.

#### Loans to Agriculturists

In 1980-81, Government announced concessions to write off loans of agriculturists for Rs. 71 crores composed of Rs. 21 crores of Takkavi loans (as against Rs. 16 crores announced earlier) and Rs. 50 crores of Co-operative loans (as against Rs. 42 crores announced earlier). Government has also announced that an amount of Rs. 23 crores repaid by the Agriculturists will be adjusted against instalments of Co-operative loans falling due next year. Government has decided to give the following concessions to further reduce the debt burden of the Agriculturists.

(1) If a small farmer, owning or cultivating as a tenant, land of an extent of 5 acres or less, has not so far repaid principal of the short-term loan in arrears and if he repays the principal before 30th June 1981, then the interest due and the penal interest thereon will be written off. Government will be making the payment to the Co-operative Societies on behalf of the agriculturists.

(2) If other farmers repay the short-term loans taken from the Village Co-operative Societies together with the normal interest before 30th June 1981, then the penal interest due from them will be fully written off and the Government will be paying this amount to the Co-operative Societies.

76. As an incentive for prompt repayment of dues, it is proposed to give during 1981-82 a rebate of 2 per cent of interest to small farmers who repay their short term loans and medium term loans instalments on or before the due dates.

#### Prohibition

In the Governor's Address of this year, free and frank views of the members were sought on as to how best the prohibition policy should be implemented effectively or modified or whether a rethinking was warranted. Accordingly, Members also expressed their views. The Members are aware of the firm resolve of this Government and the Chief Minister in implementing the prohibition policy effectively. Members are also aware of the prevalence of illicit distillation and unauthorised drinking and the amendments enacted to hand out stiff penalties to those indulging in illicit distillation and unauthorised drinking. But, contrary to expectations, many poor families landed in difficulties and taking note of this, some changes were effected in the implementation of the policy. Rules relating to issue of permits for consumption of liquor

were modified. After these changes were made, some Members stated that Prohibition Act was not in force and remarked whether prohibition policy was still in vogue at all. This Government reiterates its firm belief in prohibition policy; it would also like to state that it would not scrap the law on prohibition. The Government is of the view that through modification of the prohibition Act it would be able to get at the money which otherwise went into the pockets of the anti-social elements. Hence, the Government has decided to make the following changes in the Prohibition Act :—

Only those above 25 years of age will be permitted to drink. They must obtain permits by following the procedure. Sale of bottled Arrack only will be allowed through authorised shops. No one will be allowed to drink in the premises of the shop. Shops will not be allowed to be opened near schools, hospitals, places of worship and students' hostels. Only authorised persons will be allowed to sell liquor. Illicit distillation and unauthorised sale and consumption of liquor will be prohibited and offenders will be punished under law. Only members of recognised tree tappers' Co-operative Societies will be permitted to tap toddy. Suitable legislative measures relating to manufacture and sale of arrack and toddy will be brought before the House.

Government will take up intensive propaganda on the evils of drinking. Rupees one crore will be provided initially for carrying out propaganda on prohibition through cinemas, dramas, cultural shows and songs. Through the changes proposed above, the Government hopes that people will be relieved from the clutches of illicit distillers, bootleggers and from the abettors of illicit transport of liquor.

I have clearly laid before the House, the situation obtaining in Tamil Nadu and the financial position of the State. I have offered my explanations and I have also made my requests. In implementing effectively and efficiently the policies, the objectives and the programme placed before the House, I seek the assistance and co-operation of all the Members.

I request the full fledged support from all the Members, to the Government, in its endeavours to implement its programmes which have been drawn up after assessing the resources and the means and after deciding on the nature of the deed, the appropriate time and the place and after eliminating all the flaws as epitomized in the following words of Thiruvalluvar :

“ Money and means as well as 'time, the nature of the deed.  
And place—these five, sans doubt examine before you act indeed.”

Thiruvalluvar year 2012—Rowthiri—Panguni—8

21st March 1981



### TAMIL NADU BUDGET, 1981-82

Items.	Accounts, 1979-80. (2)	Budget Estimate, 1980-81. (3)	Revised Estimate, 1980-81. (4)	Budget Estimate, 1981-82. (5)
(1)	(IN CRORES OF RUPEES)			
<b>I. CONSOLIDATED FUND—</b>				
Revenue Receipts .. ..	9,44.85	9,82.66	11,73.75	11,28.27
Expenditure met from Revenue (Net) .. .. .	8,49.55	9,67.27	11,85.05	11,37.84
Surplus or Deficit on Revenue Account .. .. .	(+)95.30	(+)15.39	(-)11.30	(-)9.57
Capital Receipts .. .. .	2,44.78	2,78.45	2,36.57	2,89.96
Expenditure met from Capital including Loans and Advances (Net) .. .. .	3,71.62	3,38.16	2,97.75	4,34.35
Deficit or Surplus on Capital Account .. .. .	(-)1,26.84	(-)59.71	(-)61.18	(-)1,44.39
Total Consolidated Fund (Net) ..	(-)31.54	(-)44.32	(-)72.48	(-)1,53.96
II. Contingency Fund (Net) ..	(+)0.56	..	..	..
III. Public Account (Net) .. ..	(+)24.90	(+)44.65	(+)68.84	(+)42.47
Total Net Transactions (I+II+III)	(-)6.08	(+)0.33	(-)3.64	(-)1,11.49
Opening Balance .. .. .	(-)1.75	(-)2.34	(-)7.83	(-)11.47
Closing Balance .. .. .	(-)7.83	(-)2.01	(-)11.47	(-)1,22.96

# TAMILNADU RAFFLE SCHEME

Tamil New Year Special Bumper Draw

1st Prize Rs. **10** LAKHS

3 Special 2nd Prizes Rs. **1** Lakh each

& Thousands of other Prizes.

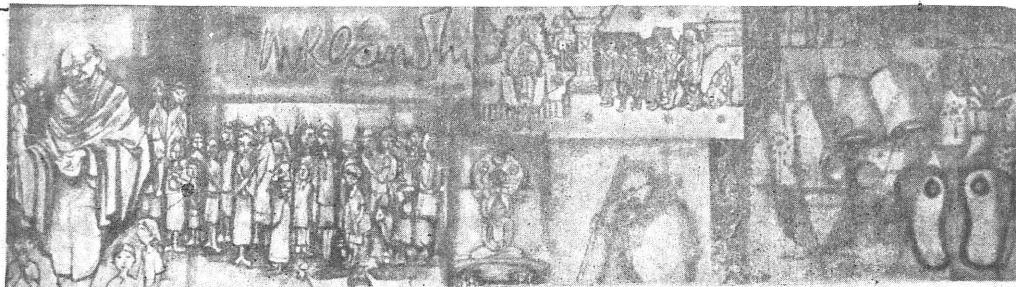
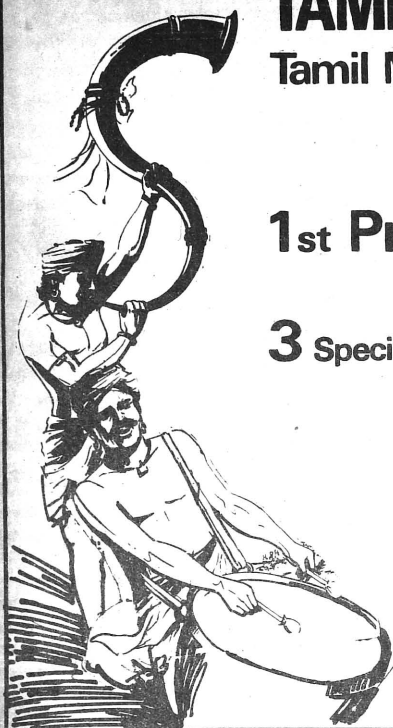
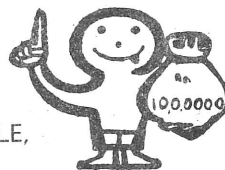
6 Series (GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ)

Cost of ticket: Rs. 2

Draw Date 22.4.81

Place: Udagamandalam

DIRECTOR OF TAMIL NADU RAFFLE,  
Government Estate, Madras-600 002.



## GANDHI ILLAM

A Museum on the Life of Mahatma Gandhi  
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Open from 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.

On all days (Including Sundays and Holidays)

Facsimile of Gandhiji's Writings

Photographs depicting his life and work

Photographs of Gandhiji's visits to  
Tamilnadu

The "Chekku" drawn by V. O. C.

When he was in Coimbatore Jail

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ALL ARE WELCOME.

# HANDLOOM

## TRADITIONAL RURAL INDUSTRY

R. VARADARAJULU, I.A.S.,  
Director of Handlooms and Textiles.

Handloom is an important traditional rural industry and ranks next only to agriculture from the point of view of employment potential. Though at one time there was fear of handloom cloth not getting a fair market in view of the sophistication entering the society, it is by now established that the handlooms have definitely an important role to play in the textile field and given the protection which has been considered necessary for this purpose, they can satisfy a very large internal market. In addition, the export potential for handloom cloth has risen substantially because of the capacity of handlooms to meet the artistic demands which are changing from time to time in the affluent societies of the world. Given the right backing and the technological and design support, the export market for handlooms could be an expanding one. Therefore, handloom is definitely a rural industry which can be developed to give remunerative employment to the handloom weavers.

Of the total of 38 lakhs handlooms in the country, 5.56 lakhs handlooms are scattered throughout the nook and corners of Tamil Nadu. These 5.56 lakhs looms provide employment to 13.34 lakh weavers and livelihood to about 30 lakhs persons in the State and produce about 600 million metres of handloom cloth per annum. The Government of India have since announced the new textile policy which seeks to allow maximum growth to handlooms. While at the national level, a total production target of 4100 million metres has been fixed for the handloom sector to be reached by March 1985, Tamil Nadu is aiming at increasing the production to the level of 700 million metres by the end of the Sixth Plan. It has been recognised that it would be very difficult to arrange for a regular flow of finance and raw materials and to provide marketing support to the handloom weavers unless

they are brought into an organisational frame-work under a centralised management. Development programmes for the handloom sector have therefore all along laid emphasis on the need for an appropriate non-exploitative organisation eliminating the middle men. In the light of our experience in the last two decades, it has been found that the Cooperative Societies form the best institutional agency for providing required facilities to the handloom weavers.

The Sivaraman Committee appointed by the Government of India recommended that 60% of the handloom weavers in the country should be brought into the Cooperative fold so as to ensure provision of continuous employment and regular income to the handloom weavers. The Centre has accepted this recommendation and recommended the same to the States. Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu have taken up a number of programmes to increase the Cooperative coverage during the VIth Plan period. This include:

- i Strengthening the existing Weavers Cooperative Societies.
- ii Formation of a net work of new Weavers Cooperative Societies in all important centres having concentration of handlooms, and
- iii Setting up of Industrial Weavers Cooperative Societies for the benefit of loomless weavers.

Though the national target for cooperativisation of handlooms is 60%, the Government of Tamilnadu has proposed to increase the Cooperative coverage to 67% by the end of the Sixth Plan Period-March 1985. We have so far enlisted 2.55 lakhs handlooms by organising 1115 Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in the State. The present production of these Primary Weavers

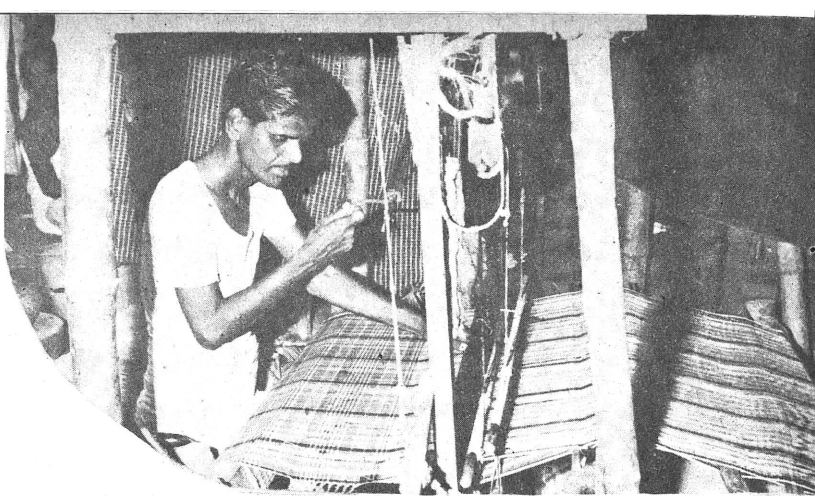
Cooperative Societies is 100 million metres of handloom per annum. The 'Apex' Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society in the State, popularly known as 'Cooptex', to which all the Primary Weavers Cooperative societies have been affiliated, plays a very important role in regard to supply of essential inputs and providing very effective marketing support to the handlooms within the Cooperative fold. As for the supply of the key raw material, namely, cotton yarn, the Government of Tamilnadu have set up a chain of 12 Cooperative Spinning Mills in the State which serve as a captive source for producing almost the entire requirements of yarn of the Cooperative sector of the Handloom



Industry ranging from 10s to 120- counts. The Apex society procures yarn from the 12 Cooperative Spinning Mills and distributes the same to the Primary Cooperative through its net work of 21 retail out-lets. The Cooptex also provides marketing support to its affiliated primaries by procuring about 50% of the total annual production. During the year 1979-80, the Cooptex procured handloom fabrics worth about Rs. 29.00 crores out of the total production of about Rs. 56 crores. The Cooptex effected a total sales turn-over of Rs. 35 crores during 1979-80 and thus established itself as the biggest marketing organisation in Handlooms in the country. The projected sales turn-over of Cooptex during 1980-81 is about Rs. 42.00 crores.

The Reserve Bank of India has been extending liberal finance towards the working capital of handloom weavers at 2½% less than the bank rate. On the recommendation of Dr. Hate Committee, the Reserve Bank of India has recently increased the scale of finance per loom by fixing higher limits namely Rs. 2,000/- per cotton looms, Rs. 2,500/- per silk loom and Rs. 5,000/- per polyester loom. It has also liberalised the credit facilities to weak and dormant societies so as to enable them to resume, continue and increase the production. It would be interesting to note that out of the total Reserve Bank of India credit limit of Rs. 60.00 crores for the handloom sector in the Country, Tamil Nadu alone is availing of credit facility to the extent of about Rs. 37.00 crores.

In tune with the fast-changing fashions and consumer-preferences and to meet the growing demand in the internal and International markets for new handloom products, it has been recognised that the Handloom Industry should also adopt modern techniques of weaving. Any technology appropriate to the handloom sector would involve three distinct objectives viz. reduction of costs, improving quality of the product and reducing fatigue on the part of the weaver. For this purpose the handloom Cooperatives in the State are being encouraged to undertake renovations/modernisations of looms or to purchase new modern looms. To enable the handlooms to develop new products and designs, the Cooptex has so far set up 4 Design-cum-Service Centres one each at Madurai, Trichy, Salem and Coimbatore. Two



more such centres are to be set up at Tirunelveli and Kumbakonam during the VI Plan Period.

Though most of the weavers are accustomed to produce traditional varieties and even resist any changes, concerted efforts are being made to introduce a massive programme of diversification in the pattern of production and to adopt a suitable product-mix, bearing in mind predominantly the consumer needs. This has resulted in a number of handlooms taking to the production of polyester fabrics -shirtings, sarees and suitings in the recent years. These fabrics are well received by the consumers. Leading polyester filament/fibre manufactures like M/s. Petrofils Ltd. and CAFI have acted as "change agents" for the introduction of polyester fabrics on handlooms through brain-storming of weavers. Now about 2000 handlooms are engaged in the production of polyester fabrics and it is proposed to increase the number of polyester handlooms to 5000 by the end of the VI Plan Period, which would give a total production of 27.50 lakh metres per annum. If the difference in cost of production of polyester fabrics between the handloom and mill sector is compensated

or reduced by way of concession in excise duty or draw back of excise duty, there is tremendous scope to introduce in the market, polyester handloom fabrics in a big way.

The new textile policy announced by the Government of India provides for increasing the production of controlled cloth from 400 million square metres to 650 million square metres. The handloom sector is expected to be given "a progressively increasing share" in this scheme. The handlooms in Tamil Nadu are also producing cheap cloth for distribution to weaker sections. In our state, about 10,000 handlooms are engaged in the production of Janatha varieties of handloom dhoties, sarees and lungies. While we are aiming at a total annual production of 35 million metres of cheap cloth by the end of the Sixth Plan Period, we hope to achieve 15 million metres during 1980-81. The projection for 1981-82 is 20 million metres.

Exports of handloom cloth which were around Rs. 11.43 crores in 1966-67 has risen to Rs. 302/- crores at the national level during 1979-80. About 50% of the total handloom exports from our country are out of handloom cloth produced in Tamil Nadu. So far as the Cooperative



Sector is concerned, the Cooptex has set up a separate Export Wing called "Cooptex International" and is gradually building up export sales. Its export to various countries such as Australia, United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany etc. are being stepped up. It is expected that the export of handlooms by Cooptex, which is now around Rs. 2.50 crores will reach Rs. 4.00 crores per annum in the next two years. A liaison Office-cum-Show rooms of Cooptex is being opened at Singapore where there is good demand for Tamil Nadu Handlooms. A Team headed by Thiru S.N. Rajendran, Honourable Minister for Handlooms, Government of Tamil Nadu with the Director of Handlooms and Textiles and the Special Officer, Cooptex as the other members is visiting Singapore and far east countries to explore the markets for handlooms, shortly.

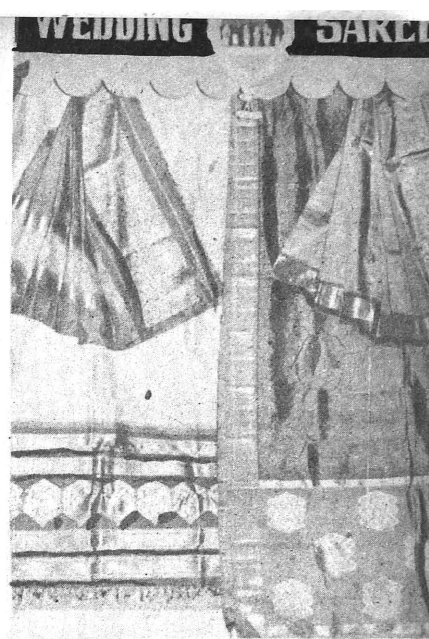
The Government of Tamil Nadu are implementing Welfare Schemes such as 'Weavers Housing Scheme' and "Savings and Security Scheme" for the benefit of handloom weavers within the Cooperative sector. The weavers Housing Scheme which was discontinued after 1962 has since been revived with effect from 1979-80. It is proposed to construct 5000 houses during the VI Plan Period. Of this, the construction of 2000 houses has already been planned and the scheme is now under implementation. For this purpose, the HUDCO is providing loan assistance upto 70% of the total estimated cost (Rs. 8000/-) for each house subject to the condition that the maximum loan assistance should not exceed Rs. 5,600/- per house. The HUDCO has so far sanctioned loan assistance to the extent of Rs. 59.79 lakhs and another loan amount of Rs. 49.73 lakhs is being sought for from them. The Government has sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 1,000/- per house.

The Cooperative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme which is being implemented in our State for the benefit of handloom weavers within the Cooperative fold is linked to a Group Insurance Scheme. 66,400 handloom weavers have so far been brought under the scheme. Each weaver who has joined the scheme is contributing 6 paise for every rupee of wages earned by him and the State Government is contributing 3 paise per every rupee and the total accumulations are funded with 7% interest in such ac-

cumulation. If a weaver who had joined the scheme died on or prior to 29th February, 1980 his nominee would get an amount equal to the total accumulation in his fund account or a minimum sum of Rs. 500/- from the Life Insurance Corporation. The Government of Tamil Nadu have since ordered that the quantum of insurance cover be increased to Rs. 3,000/- with effect from 1st March 1980.

As a result of the implementation of the various handloom development programmes in our State which are aimed at ensuring steady supply of inputs, marketing support to handlooms, upgradation of level of technology and product development, provision of welfare measures etc. the Handloom Industry will continue to fulfill its obligation of meeting the clothing needs of the people and will help to improve the standard of living of the handloom weavers.

It is an annual feature to conduct the 'All India Handloom Fortnight Celebrations' with Handloom Exhibitions at Madras and other important towns in the Districts during March/April, in order to help disposal of handloom goods and to make the consumers handloom conscious. This year, the 27th All India Handloom Fortnight is being celebrated for sixteen days from 4th April to 19th April, 1981, in Madras City and in eleven important towns namely Kancheepuram, Trichy,



Kumbakonam, Madurai, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Nagercoil, Salem, Coimbatore and Erode. Handloom Exhibitions are also being held in these places as part of the All India Handloom Fortnight Celebrations. It is hoped that the consuming public will visit the Madras and the Handloom Exhibitions in the Districts in large numbers, buy their entire requirements of cloth from Handloom taking advantage of the Government rebate and thereby give a helping hand to the poor weavers of our State.

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# ARIGNAR ANNA MEMORIAL cancer HOSPITAL KANCHEEPURAM

## INCENTIVE FOR DOCTORS TO SERVE VILLAGES

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran declared open a 250 bed cancer hospital, conceived as a standing memorial to the late Perarignar Anna, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at Kancheepuram on March 1, 1981. The Tamil Nadu Government will soon provide greater incentives and facilities to doctors to enable them to serve in rural areas.

Details in this regard were being worked out and these would be announced during the budget session, said the Chief Minister.

## EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER STRESSED

"The Anna Memorial Cancer Institute had done 10 years of field work in and around Kancheepuram to detect people who showed signs of pre-cancerous conditions particularly in uterine cervix (neck of the womb) and the mouth."

This was stated by the Health Minister, Dr. H.V. Hande, while presiding over the function.

Dr. Hande said the project was evolved as the first of its kind in South-East Asia by WHO in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Government.

By treating the early cases, not only could the incidence of cancer be brought down but the people could also be saved from becoming a victim to the disease later.

Perarignar Anna, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu conceived the idea of establishing a cancer institute to alleviate the suffering of the poor people who die of cancer without any proper treatment and cure. In view of these he had approached the World Health Organisation for establishing an Institute dedicated to research, teaching and training in prevention and cancer control, to establish a hospital for the rural population who can not afford to go to metropolitan cities and urban towns for treatment. Considering the merits of the request of Anna, the World Health Organisation carried out surveys all over the country and found that Kancheepuram with a population of 1,10,000 semi-urban, urban and rural in characteristics, non-migratory in nature was most suited for the purpose of establishing a Cancer Control Pilot Project. An agreement and plan operation was signed by Dr. V.T.H. Gunaratne, the Regional Director, World Health Organisation, New Delhi with Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu on 11th November 1968. The Project was inaugurated on 23rd March, 1969.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT :

(a) To organise cancer detection and treatment programme covering oropharyngeal and Uterine Cervical Cancer (which constitute 80% of total cancer cases reported); (b) To work out means and methods for making efficacious and meaningful studies by adequate coverage of the population and follow-up systems and (c) To train the relevant personnels. The long term objectives are: (a) To demonstrate cancer control; (b) To work out prevalence and incidence rates of the cancer

sites under study; (c) To record any suggestive causative factors for the disease; and (d) To set up a training centre for medical and para-medical personnel for the State and country.

## FUNDS

The Budgets were increased from Rs. 94,696.97 to 6,23,522.86 upto the year 1979-80 gradually depending upon the needs.

## W.H.O. AID:

As per the plan of operation one million Norwegian Kroners (equivalent to 11 lakhs rupees) were to be channelled from the Norwegian Aid Agency, through the W.H.O. for Capital Out-lay on buildings, equipments, etc., for this Institute apart from 20,000 U.S. Dollars (equivalent to 1.5 lakhs rupees) to be given per year through W.H.O. as a grant-in-aid to be cut by 20% each year for a period of five years.

## MAN POWER:

The W.H.O. had agreed to give consultants from time to time and fellowships for members of National staff to be trained abroad apart from equipments and supplies. A W.H.O. Medical Officer would act as Programme Director atleast for a period of 12 months Whereas a W.H.O. Medical Officer who was an Epidemiologist was present at this Institute for a period of two years. The Principal Medical Officer who was considered as a National Counter part to W.H.O. Medical Officer was sent abroad for training in Epidemiology and Cancer Control Programme for a period of one year. The importance of the role played by a Statistician was realised and a Statistician of this Institute was sent on a W.H.O. fellowship to Manchester (U.K) for training in cancer statistics for a period of 6 months. After completion of training he was joined by a W.H.O. Statistician for a period of 5 weeks to organise statistical component of the project.

A qualified Pathologist was also sent to Perth in Australia for training in Cyto-pathology on W.H.O. Fellowship. He was again joined by a Consultant Cytopathologist from Hungary to train more Cytopathologists and also graduate Lab Technicians in Cytopathology. Four other Assistant Professors of Pathology were also trained in this Institute with the aim of establishing a net work of Cyto-pathology departments all over the State.

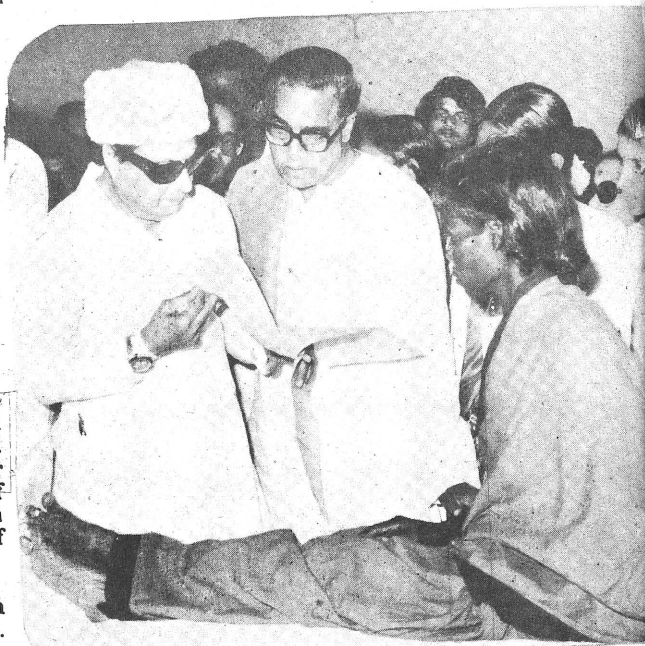
An Oral -pathologist who is a dentist by qualification was also sent to UK on a W.H.O. Fellowship for training in Oral Pathology.

For the purpose of field work and mass education and also to study the social and cultural characteristics of the population a Health Educator was sent abroad for training in Health Education for a period of one year. On the advice of the W.H.O. Consultant on the needs of the Multi disciplinary team approach for the functioning of the project 26 persons of various categories were appointed by the State Government. More

than 8 WHO Consultants covering the specialities of epidemiology, statistics, Cyto-pathology, planners the project, social scientists, health educators on pathology, organisation of cytology laboratory and a cancer epidemiology specialist have worked in this Institute for periods varying from a few weeks to two years.

In a population of 1,10,657 'at risk' population constitutes 32,579 Females for Cervical Screening and 64,475 both Males and Females for Oral Screening. These populations are subjected to comprehensive health screening to derive at the process of establishing the oral and cervical pathologies in their earliest pre-cancerous stages.

In this Institute and Hospital, various departments are established to facilitate and aid the investigation, diagnosis and treatment procedure. The following departments have been established and manned by fully qualified and trained personnel.



The departments of Epidemiology, Cyto-pathology, Obs.etrics and Gynaecology, Statistics, Oral Sc:eneing, Radiotherapy and Radiology, surgery, Anaesthesiology, General Medicine and Chemotherapy, Dental Surgery, Blood Bank, Microbiology, and Clinical Laboratory.



# V.V.S. IYER-THE SCHOLAR CRITIC

— A.V. SUBRAMANIAN

In this the centenary year of V.V.S. Iyer's birth, it is most fitting that we remember him with love and gratitude. His life was dominated by three interests—the first was politics, the second was the education of young Indians and the third that runs as a golden thread throughout his short life was love of Tamil. Politics has a way of dominating over other interests and the politics of his time involved total sacrifice with no rewards at all. He burnt himself out, fighting a fully entrenched imperial government at a time when the conscience of the world had not awakened to the full measure of the guilt and moral degradation of a country enslaving another and exploiting it for its own good. England, except for a small liberal minority, felt no qualms at all at this barbarism: the national conscience was conveniently stilled when repressive measures were taken against patriotic Indians when the finest flower of the nation was mowed down by lathi-wielding police-men and the survivors were clamped in prison. During this period, Iyer was a soldier of the patriotic army who, in the early years, preferred violent means to satyagraha for wresting freedom from the imperial power. During these troubled times he flits in and out of the footlights, a striking, heroic figure who seemed more properly to belong to the pages of Sir Walter Scott's novels. Then Gandhi came into his life and tamed him to the point when the patriotic fires began to burn low but burn steady in the intrepid warrior. Iyer died a true satyagrahi, having forever forsworn the pistol. He died without holding high office in the party and without the compensations that mellowed the evening of the lives of many compatriots who lived to see India free.

Fortunately, when we write about his third interest, we have pleasanter things to deal with. This is despite the fact that much of what he wrote seems to have been lost forever—not a surprising sequel considering the kind of life he led, a fugitive from justice; the brand of justice the British had set up in India. We have his translations from the Kural and the Ramayanam of Kamban into English and critical passages in English on the latter classic as precious heirlooms to remember him by.

However, Iyer's "Kamba Ramayanam-a study" is rightly regarded as his magnum opus; it was composed in nine months of jail life and how sorely Iyer would have missed the amenities of a library and the help

and advice of scholars in that jail room in Bellary; Still Iyer, undaunted, wrote to a friend in Kasi and got a few books he needed most and carried on.

But even without the help of reference books, Iyer has culled quotations and ideas from an amazing range of works starting with Aristotle: indeed his knowledge of Western poetics seems profound and in the first few chapters where he analyses the whole epic, he puts this knowledge to expert use. Iyer was the first critic to discuss ideas like the architectonics of the epic: he was the first to point out that our epics are planned in a chronological manner unlike the epics of Europe which follow the principle of *in medias res* as laid down by Aristotle; and a brilliant discussion ensues where Iyer ably defends the scheme preferred by the Indian epic-writers, pointing out how the western preference for "plunging into the midst of things" even at the beginning of the epic creates as many problems as it solves.

Besides being able to use western concepts of poetics, Iyer has brought in concepts from Samskrit poetics too to prove some points. Kamban was doubtless familiar with works of alankara in Samskrit and in so far as they were not repugnant to Tamil concepts enshrined in *Tolkappiam*, he must have put them to use to enrich his work. And Iyer is right in applying Samskrit alankaric principles in understanding Kamban's mind.

Iyer is a warm admirer of Kamban and he pays the most marked tributes to Kamban wherever he excels; he does not hesitate to show Kamban at an advantage over Valmiki. Even where Kamban takes whole passages out of Valmiki, he places them at points in the epic, different from where the Samskrit poet places them: and with a fine critical sense Iyer points out how Kamban's work has registered a substantial improvement over the Samskrit originals, thereby. For instance, Valmiki makes Rama praise Bharata as the best of brothers in the war council while discussing the question whether Vibhishana should be admitted into their camp. Kamban takes the idea from Valmiki but puts it in the passage when Lakshmana condemns the conduct of Sugriva in inviting Rama to kill his own brother; now Rama replies

"If all were  
like in their devotion to their  
brothers  
How can my Bharata be placed  
the first

"the list of the loyal brothers?"  
This is a better place than Valmiki's for in the Samskrit epic Lakshmana is admonished in public by Rama putting Bharata above this brother who had sacrificed everything for Rama—the admonition is done before all the monkey chieftains! Kamban will be found to display greater finesse, greater sophistication than Valmiki in most places where the later writer deviates from the original. This may be owing to the fact that a later writer can work embellishments and refinements into the work of an earlier writer: it is also indicative of the personal calibre and accomplishments of a formally trained scholar-poet as against the inspired genius of an unlettered hunter.

The analysis of Indrajit and Ravana is among the best portions of the work. V.V.S. Iyer was a staunch admirer of heroism and of heroes and this comes out best in describing the two most valorous characters of the epic. The verse translations hereabouts assume a new virility as witness Ravana chiding Indrajit;

The barbed darts still fixed in thy  
chest  
Announce the failure of thy sacrifice;  
They more than adamant frame  
doth tremble like  
A plantling twig; and thou hast the  
stricken look  
Of cobras when they sight the  
eagle swoop  
On them, so, son, now tell me what  
has passed.

When Ravana hears Indrajit, in reply, praise Lakshmana, his ire rises as does his ego and in a long passage he announced his intention to go forth and deal with the human striplings, stating that he never expected his army or even Indrajit to fight his battles for him; for, In my soleright arm I placed my trust and I provoked this war. These verse passages in the portions devoted to Indrajit and Ravana are full of martial spirit and contain much genuine poetry.

Indeed, apart from the high value of the critical passages in the Study, the verse translations are of the highest importance to the literary world. It is true, they are not all of the same high standard; if Iyer had had the time he might have polished some of the lines which are prosaic, where the rhythm sags: but they are most often competent and here and there rise to the level of genuine creative poetry.

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# heart scan equipment

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The heart-scan equipment is a two dimensional real time foci scan phased linear array echocardiogram.

This sophisticated machine, adopting the ultrasonic system, flashes on a video screen, the continuous image of the functioning heart, contracting and dilating.

The visual display of the heart will eliminate some of the complicated and laborious investigations in detecting various heart diseases like tumour, defective valves and fluid collection in the pericardium; the membranous sac enclosing the heart.

The equipment based on two dimensional image technique, has a video-recorder and a strip chart. It has built-in provisions to freeze the image on the video-screen and take a print out in a few seconds.

The transducer a small electronic gadget measuring about 3 inches, when placed over the chest flashes an image of the heart over the T.V. screen.

The transducer, transmits a short accoustical pulse. The rebounding echoes are electronically converted into dots and displayed along a vertical line. The electronic calipers provided in the machine can be adjusted to measure the actual dimensions of the various chambers of the heart and their wall thickness precisely.

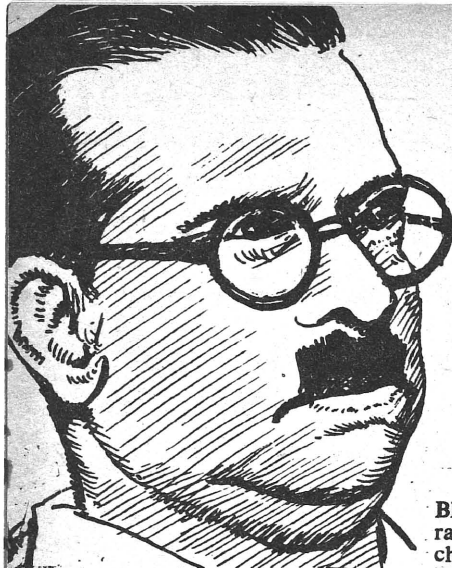
This equipment is useful in diagnosing various cardiac disorders like Valvular Heart diseases, Myocardial diseases, coronary Atherosclerotic heart diseases etc. But it would not be possible to study the pressure inside the heart chamber.

The procedure is painless and safe with no hazards of radiation and can be repeated any number of times. It can be done for a new born baby as well as patients in the geriatric age group.

There is no need for any special preparation of the patients. Diagnosis could be over in less than ten minutes.

The equipment costs about Rs. 8 lakhs and it is the first of its kind to be installed in India, and the Government General Hospital, Tamilnadu has the unique distinction of acquiring this equipment.





# BHARATIDASAN

## THE BARD OF REVOLT

Kanakasubburatnam, alias Bharatidasan as he came to be known later, was born in the year 1891 in Pondicherry, when it was under French Rule. Pondicherry was an asylum for political refugees from India during the freedom movement. Subburathnam came into close contact with Subramania Bharati, who was himself one of the refugees on voluntary exile from India. He admired Bharati's poetry, and having developed a great regard for the nationalist poet he assumed the pen name "Bharatidasan".

Subburathnam had his early education in a French School in Pondicherry. He did his university education at Calway College, Pondicherry and stood first in Tamil. On completion of his education he became a teacher when he was barely eighteen.

Subburathnam possessed a sense of rhythm and a balanced felicity of expression in Tamil which enabled him to write enchanting poems. At a friend's marriage he sang one of Bharathi's folk songs. He was not aware that the great poet himself was present at the marriage in the year 1908. Bharathi was greatly impressed by the fire and fervour with which Subburathnam recited the poem and sensed that Subburathnam had in him all the makings of a great poet. Once when among his friends Bharathi announced that Subburathnam could compose poems many doubted. But Bharathi looked at him encouragingly whereupon he sang the poem "எங்கெங்கு காணினும் சக்தியடர்". He earned the title "Kavignar" from Bharati and became the latter's ardent follower and disciple.

Among modern Tamil poets Bharatidasan was very popular and ranks next only to Bharati. A champion of Tamil renaissance, Bharatidasan has produced more than forty works which include poetical compositions, prose and a few dramas. Noteworthy among his works are the three anthologies "Alagin Sirippu", "Kudumba Vilakku" and "Pandian Parisu".

Bharatidasan's "Puratchi Kavi" and "Ethirparatha Mutham" bear testimony to his genius for romantic lyricism.

His love for nature is expressed with rare sensibility in his "Alagin Sirippu". Tamil is his religion and his songs on Tamil are uniformly popular in the Tamil knowing world. He looks on Tamil with great reverence and calls her the World Mother.

Love, emancipation of women, Tamil, Tamilians, and an aspiration for equality amongst men formed the core of his themes. "Sanjeevi Parvatathin Saral" and "Puratchi Kavi" are his best in this genre.

Bharatidasan was a crusader of social reforms. He was a great believer in education for all and was a protagonist of compulsory education in the ideal society he visualised. This is evident in his 'Irunnda Veedu' where he deplors the plight of a family which is illiterate. Picturing the family's house, which is kept in an unkept condition full of dust and dirt, the inhabitants living in a mire of ignorance and superstition, he emphasizes the need for universal education. As if in contrast he presents the picture of a happy family in his "Kudumba Vilakku" in which education, love and sense of duty reign supreme. He had a great faith in the wo-

men of The country and it is no wonder that his women characters are superior in all respects.

In his poems, Bharatidasan breaks free from the conventional tradition and introduces a refreshingly new and realistic view in Tamil literature. His works have generally been plebeian-oriented, the main characters being the farmhand the weaver and the industrial labourer.

He has inordinate faith in equality among men and believes in an ideal society where wealth belongs to everyone: in his "Panamum Manamum", he deplors current values, pointing out how the social mores of the day are borne on the monetary factor and not on human values.

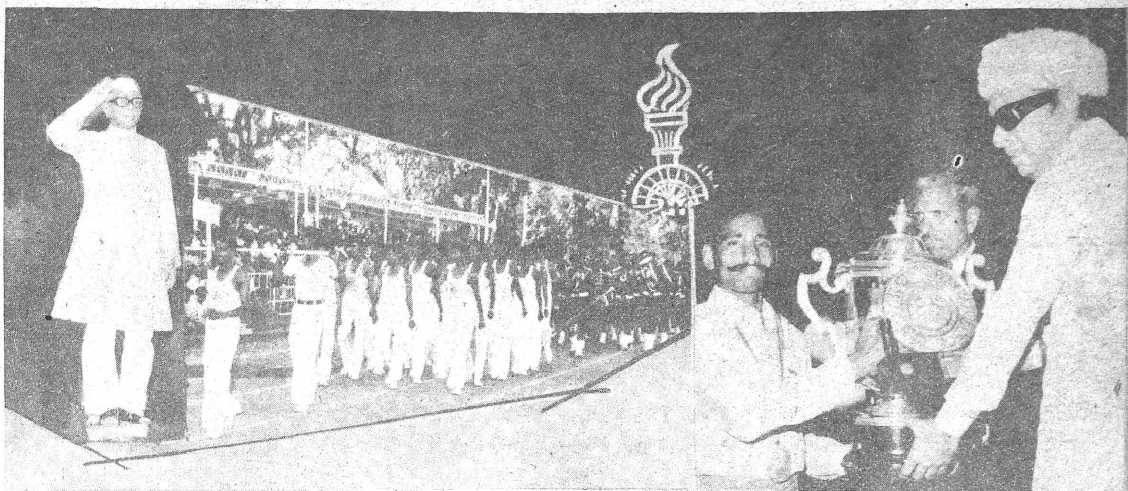
Bharatidasan held Tamil literature in great esteem and regarded it as an embodiment of culture.

This is seen in his version of the great epics, Silappathikaram and Manimekalai titled "Kannagi Puratchikappiyam" and "Manimekalai Venba" respectively as also in his narrative poetry on the life of Kumaraguruparar and in his dramas on the lives of Sattimuthu pulavar and the Sangam poet Piciranthaiyar. The play "Piciranthaiyar" is in chaste Tamil. He was awarded the Sahitya Academy Award for this play in 1969, posthumously.

Bharatidasan was drawn into the Self-Respect movement of Thanthai Periyar. Through his poems he tried to awaken the people from the slumber of inertia and beckoned them to free themselves from the shackles of superstition and bondage to conventions. His heart bled for the poor and the toiling masses. He became a champion of the downtrodden. He waged a crusade against pretensions of all kinds.

Bharatidasan in his unshakable faith in the ancient Tamil culture, sings the glory of the Tamil language with great fervour and pride.

"Our life and fortune is our eternal Tamil!  
Our enemies have disappeared with fear and frustration having seen the unity and strength of us.  
O conch! Convey this message to the world!"



The Police-guardians of law and order are ever under the scrutiny of the public. Their tasks are arduous and unenviable. While carrying out their onerous duties of maintaining peace, law and order, they have to keep check over unsociable elements. Relaxation aids boost morale and one of the best form of relaxation is active participation in sports meet. This allows diversion from their rigid duties. Sports meet held periodically aids understanding and relationship between the public and the police. The Tamilnadu Police have turned out outstanding sportsmen in the fields of cricket, hockey, football and other athletics. They have won name and fame for Tamilnadu.

# XXX all india police games

Tamil Nadu had the proud privilege of hosting the All India Police Games for the second time. The 30th All-India Police Sports and Games were held from February 20th to 28th at the Rajarathnam Stadium. Competitors from all over the country had assembled to give of their best at the meet. The meet began with considerable fanfare with the Tamilnadu Governor, Thiru Sadiq Ali declaring it open and taking the salute at a march past of the athletes. A number of games were held, individual and group participation, team games such as relay race, basket ball, volley-ball and testing of individual skills such as wrestling etc.,

During the closing down of the meet, the Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, who was the chief guest, distributed awards to the participants who won various competitions. In his address, the Chief Minister said that the unity of the people only could protect and safeguard the freedom of a country. If the police corps which follows the ideals of sacrifice, discipline and unity could instil the same in the minds of the youth, then the unity of the nation could be assured. Weapons alone do not protect the freedom of a nation, but unity and the feeling of self-respect alone could safeguard the interest of a nation.

The Chief Minister said that he was glad to note that the participants from various parts of the country had brought to the games a spirit of unity. The spirit of discipline and unity shown by the players would be

useful in guarding the freedom, culture and unity of the nation. He observed further "though we did not use weapons to attain India's independence, we have to nevertheless maintain weapons to defend the freedom of the country.

Freedom can be protected only by people who have a sense of unity, self-respect and discipline. This unity cannot be achieved through legislation. Unity develops only through such competitive sports. The victors might have secured first, second and third places, but we get the sense of feeling that the victory is totally ours. The merit of the players and the laurels they have won belongs to India. The players who make such a sacrifice and win awards will set an example for the future generation.

The Chief Minister said that he would advise the police to include the youth also in their games in future. Such participation in competition will help imbibe a sense of sacrifice and discipline.

They would help overcome religious and fissiparous tendencies in others and safeguard India's freedom. In such a situation, unity could be achieved and maintained.

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