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AUGUST 1993 Rs.3

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TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2024

Aadi - Aavani

AUGUST - 1993

CHIEF MINISTER PURATCHI THALAIVI Dr. J. JAYALALITHA — THE GUARDIAN ANGEL OF THE TAMILS

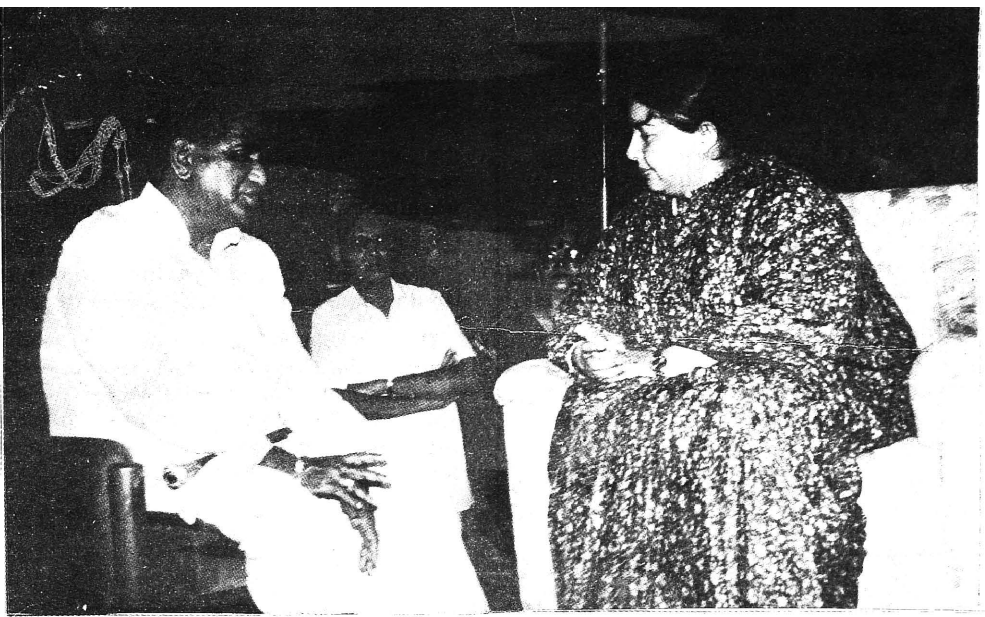
FASTING BY THE HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHTS OF THE TAMILS IN THE CAUVERY WATERS

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha went on an indefinite fast on 18th July, 1993 in Madras demanding immediate release of water in the Cauvery by the Karnataka Government for saving the standing Kuruvai Crop. The Chief Minister took everyone by surprise, when she sat down at the Threshold of the Dr. M.G.R. Memorial around 9.30 in the morning after placing

cabinet colleagues not to join her in the fast. Police made elaborate arrangements, diverting traffic and constructing shamiana.



a wreath and announced her fast. On hearing the news the Hon'ble Ministers, former Ministers, Chairpersons of various Boards, Members of the Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, higher Administrative and Police officials rushed to the venue. The Chief Minister advised her



Speaking to press persons, the Chief Minister said she had repeatedly on several occasions urged the Centre to order the Karnataka Government to implement the interim award. The present storage at Mettur reservoir would last for 20 to 25 days. The Centre and the Prime Minister should intervene and advise the Karnataka Government to release water in the Cauvery. She said she would continue her indefinite fast till the water is released in Cauvery. According to the award, Karnataka should release 205 tmc. ft. of water in the river a year. In that, data has been given regarding the release of water every month. In the month of June, Karnataka should have let 10.16 tmc. ft. of water in the river but only 4.82 tmc. ft. of water was

released. This month (July) 42.96 tmc. ft. of water should have been released but so far we were able to receive only 740 tmc. ft. of water and that too due to the rain in the catchment area. The Chief Minister said she had led the delegation to Delhi and personally spoke to the Prime Minister regarding the Cauvery waters but no action was taken. She said she had written a letter on 30.3.93 to the Union Minister Thiru V.C. Shukla and till then there was no reply. She said she herself wrote to the Prime Minister about the lack of water in Cauvery which would cause severe damage to the Kuruvai and Samba crops and for that also there was no reply. She said the Minister for Public works, Thiru S. Kannappan had written a letter to



Thiru. V.C. Shukla on 3.7.93. Luckily due to heavy rain during the year 1991-92 the problem was solved. Now, to safeguard the standing crops of Kuruvai 30,000 cusecs of water should be released. But we are letting out only 15,000 cusecs.

The Chief Minister said she was compelled to undertake the fast as all efforts by the Tamil Nadu Government had failed. This fasting was her last resort. Apart from this, she said, she had no other way.

She held periodical consultations with the Chief Secretary, Thiru TV. Venkataraman, I.A.S. and other officials and Ministers, She went through the files also.

In the evening around 7.30 p.m. His Excellency the Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy, cutting short

his stay in Pondicherry, rushed to see her and held talks with her for nearly an hour. The Chief Minister was stern in her decision and told the Governor that she would not end her fast till the Prime Minister direct the Karnataka Government to implement the interim award under Article 256 of the Constitution.

The Governor speaking to the reporters, said he would continue his efforts to solve the problem.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, on hearing the news of the Chief Minister's fasting summoned the Chairman of the Central Water Commission, Thiru M.S. Reddy and ordered him to submit his report of his findings after visiting Bangalore and Madras.

The Chief Minister appealed to the people to





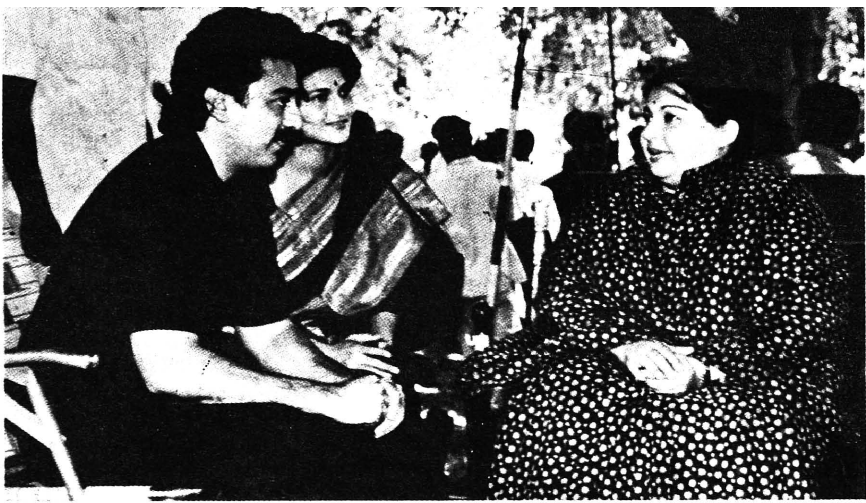
maintain peace and not indulge in any activity detrimental to normal life. Referring to reports of road blocks in support of her fast, the Chief Minister said she had undertaken the indefinite fast on her own to ensure that the people were not affected. She said, "I can bear all kinds of hardship, but cannot tolerate even minor sufferings of the people of Tamil Nadu".

The Chief Minister who was on indefinite fast for the second day on 19.7.93 received enthusiastic partymen and other well-wishers. The unmanageable crowd thronging the Marina cheered the Chief Minister giving her moral encouragement and support for the cause. She acknowledged the cheers of the crowd. Right from the morning party workers came to Madras by all means of transports and thronged the Marina. The

Chief Minister was visibly tired. Doctors kept a close watch on her health, checking the blood pressure, sugar and pulse rate.

People from all walks of life called on the Chief Minister and expressed their support to her. The visitors included former President Thiru R. Venkataraman, and former Maharashtra Governor Thiru C. Subramaniam. People from film industry, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Party-leaders, Industrialists, Volunteers and their family members came and extended their support and co-operation. Even while undertaking the fast, the Chief Minister listened to public grievances.

In a statement issued in the evening, the Chief Minister expressed deep sorrow over hardship caused to the people and appealed for maintain-



ing absolute peace in the State. She said, "I can bear any amount of suffering to resolve the issue but I cannot bear even a minor hardship to the people". She said, she had received reports about people resorting to picketing and other forms of protest as an emotional outburst. Although she highly respected the affection they had shown towards her, she cannot bear even an iota of suffering to others on account of their affection. All the fatigue resulting from the fast would vanish if they ensure that there was no hardship to others, she said. Reaffirming that she would continue fasting till a solution was found to the problem, the Chief Minister said that she was prepared to give her life as price for securing the birth right of the people of Tamil Nadu. Even when the doctors attending on her had said that her health would fail if she continued the fast, it gave her vigour and firmness when she thought of the rights of the Tamils, she said. She expressed her gratitude to all the people who had come to extend their support.

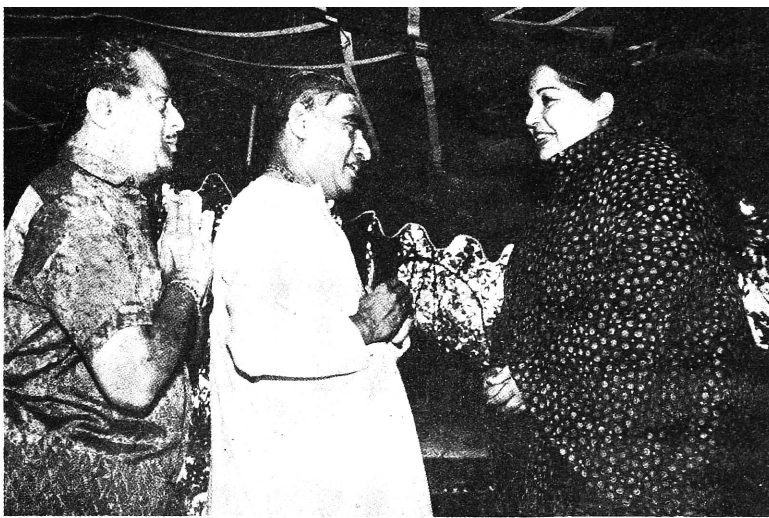
A medical bulletin issued around 6 p.m. said a

systematic examination and bio-chemical investigation gave the indication that the metabolic system of the Chief Minister was delicately balanced at present. The doctors were anxious that any further prolongation of fasting will adversely affect her health condition. Doctors kept a close watch on her health.

The crowd became unmanageable in the evening. Security was tight and visitors had to pass through door-frame metal detectors. Men, Women including children were seen surging forward to gain entry through the door-frame metal detectors.

A delegation of Members of the Parliament belonging to the AIADMK met the Hon'ble Prime Minister at New Delhi on 19.7.93. They briefed the Prime Minister of the Chief Minister's fasting and requested the earliest implementation of the interim award of the Cauvery Tribunal. The Prime Minister told them that as soon as Thiru Reddy submitted his report regarding the water level and other related matters, further steps would be taken.

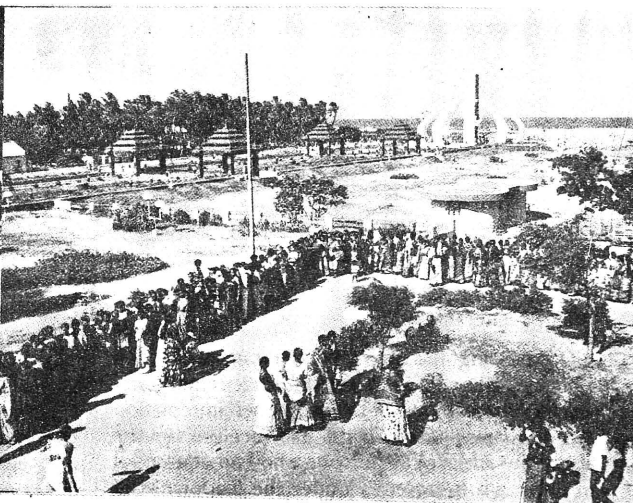
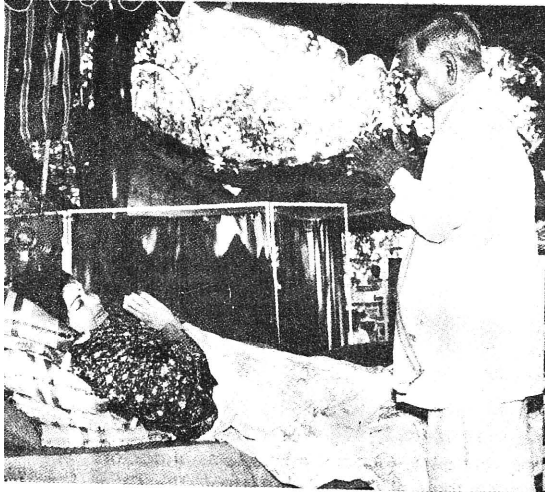




The Chief Minister, that night announced a grant of Rs.50,000 each from the AIADMK fund, to two women of Annadanapatti in Salem District who attempted self-immolation and sustained burns. The two women, Violet and Parasakthi were hospitalised. In a statement, the Chief Minister said that the entire medical expenses would be borne by the party. She appealed to people not to resort to such extreme measures.

Depending on the Chief Minister's reaction, he would proceed further in the matter. The Governor said he and his wife enquired about her health.

On the third day of her fast, the Chief Minister looked pale and haggard. A Medical bulletin issued in the evening said traces of acetone were noticed in Urine tests. It was decided to look for



The Chief Minister continued her fast for the third day on 20th July 1993. Her health deteriorated further. She turned down medical advice for oral administration of glucose.

His Excellency the Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy visited her for the second time and had conversation for five minutes. He was accompanied by his wife Tmt. Savitri Reddy. Replying to presspersons' questions the Governor said he gave her 'specific suggestion' that was nearer to a solution.

the presence of acetone in the urine since the Chief Minister refused to undergo any blood test. The Medical team also found that her blood pressure had fallen further. This called for immediate intervention like oral administration of glucose but the Chief Minister did not heed the Medical advice.

The Chairman of the Central Water Commission, Thiru Reddy, soon after his arrival in Madras from Bangalore, had discussions with State Of-



officials at the Secretariat, for 2 hours. He continued his discussions with the Chief Secretary Thiru T.V. Venkataraman, I.A.S. Thiru K. Subramaniam, Advocate General was also present.

On hearing the news of self-immolation the Chief Minister, in a statement urged her party workers once again not to attempt self immolation out of distress. She said she had received reports about the arrest of 50 persons who had attempted to immolate themselves under the leadership of Thiru N.R. Govindaraj, Secretary of the Bhavani unit of the AIADMK; about how police saved the lives of the two workers, Mani and Prabhakaran, at Rasipuram in Salem; the attempt of Sakuntala, daughter of Rangan of Thudiyalur of Coimbatore District by taking poison and how police thwarted the attempt of Paulraj of Jaihindpuram, Madurai and 20 others in Madras. She said these attempts affect her greatly. She was really grieved over the occurrence of such incidents despite her repeated appeals. She said, she had made arrangements to

donate Rs.50,000 to Sakuntala of Coimbatore from the AIADMK party funds. Under all circumstances, she was prepared to bear the sufferings all on herself on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu. And she requested her party volunteers not to attempt such acts.

A large crowd mostly women converged on the Marina. Women and Children arrived at the fasting venue from far and near. Teams of doctors continued their periodical check-ups. The Chief Minister received a regular stream of visitors including several party leaders.

The Tamil Nadu Government has rejected as incorrect statements suggesting that 1777 tmc. ft of water flowed into the State in June and July this year and that it has drawn 10 to 15 tmc. ft more than in the previous year from Mettur.

The Government of Tamil Nadu in a press note clarified that as per the interim award of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, 205 tmc ft was to



be released annually from June and May. Accordingly 10.16 tmc. ft and 42.76 tmc. ft for June and July respectively were to be released for the ayacut in Tamil Nadu. But Tamil Nadu had received 4.82 tmc. ft in June and 11.04 tmc. ft in July totalling 15.86 tmc. ft. 37.06 tmc. ft. of water was yet to be released before the end of July 1993. This was calculated with reference to the measurement at Mettur as directed by the tribunal.

The Karnataka Government's contention that Tamil Nadu had drawn from the Mettur reservoir nearly 15 tmc. ft more this year was irrelevant as it related to the administration of Tamil Nadu. It was

lakh acres to 11.2 lakh acres now. The cultivated area never reached the total ayacut area of five lakh acres. On the Kuruvai paddy area the area cultivated was only 4.14 acres. Even in the current year cultivation had been done only on 75 thousand acres and seedlings were ready for transplantation on about 2.58 lakh acres. Presently the farmers are anxious whether the standing crop could survive.

In a statement, Thiru R. Venkataraman, former President of India and other prominent citizens of



not within the domain of the Karnataka Government to raise this issue.

It was not right that there had been an increase in the area of cultivation by 2.5 lakh acres. In fact the ayacut in the delta had now fallen to 18.31 lakh acres from 28.2 lakh acres in 1971-72. On the other hand, Karnataka had increased its ayacut from 6.82

India urged the Prime Minister Thiru P.V. Narasimha Rao to do the needful so that the Karnataka Government fully implements the interim Award of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal.

On the fourth day of her fast, the Chief Minister was exhausted and was only able to smile at the visitors.



The Union Minister for Water Resources Development, Thiru V.C. Shukla, who held discussions with the Karnataka Chief Minister and Officials in Bangalore arrived Madras to a warm welcome. He was received by Thiru K.V. Thangabalu, Union Minister of State for Welfare, Thiru S. Kannappan, State Minister for Public Works and Thiru M.S. Reddy, Chairman of the Central Water Commission and driven to the Marina to meet the Chief Minister.

The Union Minister for Water Resources, Thiru V.C. Shukla had discussions with the Chief Minister from 10.15 a.m. for 20 minutes. The Chief Secretary Thiru T.V. Venkataraman I.A.S. and other Officials were present.

As the Union Minister departed for the Raj Bhavan he told waiting presspersons that he had

to hold further consultation with State and Central Government officials and that he would be back to the venue soon.

Soon after the Union Minister's departure a Cabinet Meeting was conducted at the bedside of the Chief Minister and the proposals made by Thiru V.C. Shukla were discussed.

The State's reaction to the Centre's proposals was conveyed by a team of officials including the PWD Minister Thiru S. Kannappan and the Chief Secretary Thiru T.V. Venkataraman, I.A.S. to Thiru V.C. Shukla at the Raj Bhavan.

In the mean time, the medical team attending the Chief Minister issued a bulletin stating that her health condition was getting worse.

Thiru V.C. Shukla accompanied by the Governor

Dr. M. Channa Reddy came back to the venue and held the second round of discussions with the Chief Minister from 4.55 p.m. for 35 minutes. The crowd again and again became delirious and repeated slogans were raised, which hailed the Chief Minister and appealed to the Centre to get justice done to Tamil Nadu.

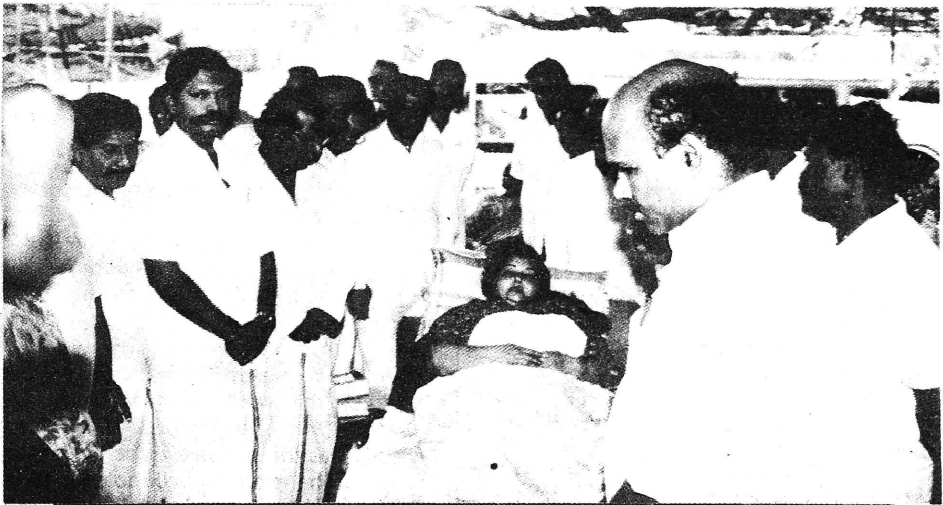
After ending her fast by taking the fruit juice offered to her by the Union Minister Thiru V.C. Shukla, the Chief Minister replied to the presspersons' questions. She said the Centre had agreed to set up a committee which would be charged with monitoring ground data with reference to the implementation of the interim order of the tribunal. There would also be an implementation Committee, consisting of the Cabinet Secretary to the Union Government and the Chief Secretaries of the Cauvery basin States. It would ensure the implementation of the interim Order.

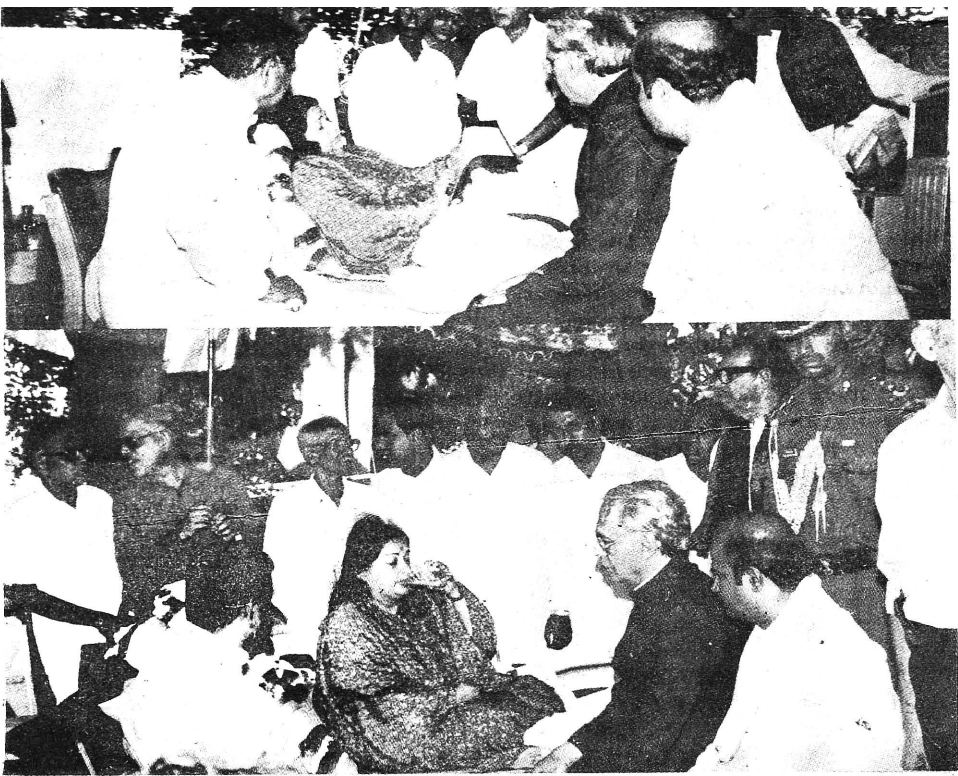
To a question, whether the quantum of release in the Cauvery would be increased, she said all that was implied in the formula.

To a question whether she was satisfied with the outcome, the Chief Minister said though two years had passed by, since the tribunal gave the interim award, there was no mechanism for implementing it. The Centre had now agreed to set up that mechanism.

Asked whether Karnataka had agreed to implement the interim award, she said that was not 'our concern'. She said, she wanted the Central Government to ensure the implementation, and the Centre had agreed.

In a Statement issued in the evening, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha, thanked the people of the State for their whole-hearted co-operation in her





crusade for justice.

She thanked His Excellency the Governor Dr. M. Channa Reddy, for rushing back to Madras after cutting short his visit to Pondicherry and making kind enquiries about her health by visiting the venue of the fast twice, unmindful of the protocol, along with his wife.

The Chief Minister noted with gratitude the enquiries made in person by Thiru R. Venkataraman, former President of India, and Thiru C. Subramaniam former Maharashtra Governor, and also for expressing their solidarity with her cause. She thanked the eminent persons from different walks of life, former, sitting Members of the Legislative Assembly, film artistes, producers, Directors, Music Composers, Playback singers, Distributors, Technicians who called on her. She thanked the Government Officials, Industrialists from different parts of the State, Merchants and Press persons who had called on her. She conveyed her gratitude to the Doctors who had stood by her bed attending on her and the Speaker of the Assembly, Finance Minister and other Ministers who had stood by her.

The Chief Minister said she was overwhelmed by the affection shown by lakhs of women who came from nooks and corners of the State. What surprised her was that many of them did not belong to

any Political party.

The Chief Minister thanked the Union Minister for Water Resources Development, Thiru V.C. Shukla, who had come to Madras in an effort to find a solution after hearing her views. She said she undertook the fast only to indicate that the Centre was legally and morally duty-bound to implement the award and that in achieving this, Tamil Nadu stood as one person and what caused her agony was the sacrifice made by some of her partymen. She expressed condolence to the families of those who subjected themselves to such sufferings.

She expressed her sorrow for the incidents that occurred in the first two days due to emotional outburst of the people. She thanked all the people for maintaining peace, immediately after her appeal to this effect.

The Chief Minister said, the victory was a milestone in the dispute in the last two decades. She expressed her gratitude, to all those who showed love and affection to her when she undertook the non-violent agitation to assert that securing the due share of Water in the Cauvery was the birth right of every Tamil. She thanked the people of Tamil Nadu for their whole-hearted cooperation which helped her to secure this great victory.

A COMPASSIONATE SOUL MARKED BY A HUMANISTIC APPROACH



Mr. Chancellor:

I deem it a unique honour and a proud privilege to introduce the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha, who is a very distinguished and inspiring personality. Under her leader-

ship, the poor and the downtrodden of Tamil Nadu have seen a new light and are experiencing a new life. She is an embodiment of nobility, truth, intelligence, dynamism and pragmatism. She is a paradigm of perfection. As the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu she has proved herself as a worthy leader and has projected Tamil Nadu as one of the front ranking States in India. She is affectionately and reverentially called Puratchi Thalaivi by the people of Tamil Nadu, who adore her.

Besides her brilliant academic record in school, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has added to her store of knowledge through self education. It must be recorded that she is a voracious reader and she has kept company with great writers such as Dickens, the Bronte Sisters, Jane Austen, Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Vivekananda and enlarged her mind and widened her intellectual horizon.

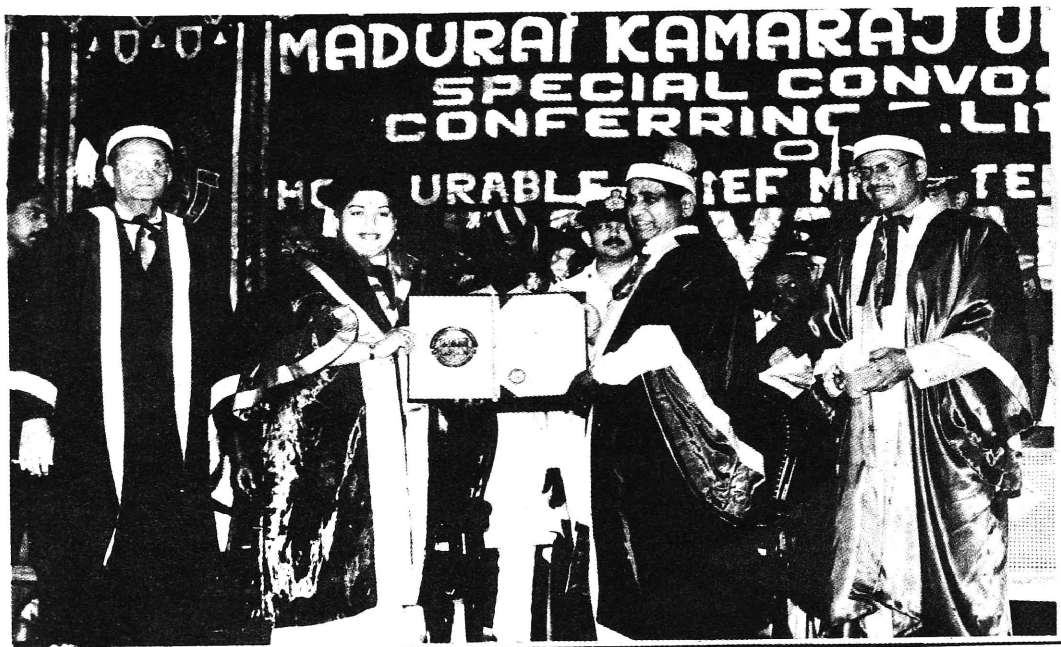
Dr. J. Jayalalitha is well known for her command and mastery over the English language. Her polyglotism is evidenced by her proficiency and competence in Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Hindi and Malayalam besides English. Her strength as an orator or writer lies in her ability to make her speeches or writings powerful packages of brilliant language, contextual relevance and rich thought content.

A reputed artiste on the stage and screen, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has enlarged the world of living experience with artistic brilliance. Her

MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY

SPECIAL CONVOCATION:

Citation presented by Dr. M.D.K. Kuthalingam, D.Sc., Vice Chancellor at the time of the Conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa on Dr. J. Jayalalitha Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu (14th July 1993)



proficiency in the various art forms has enriched her total comprehension of life and has stood her well in the many tribulations she had to undergo in her public life.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is acknowledged as a remarkable creative artiste. She has the painter's eye for the minutest details and the singer's ear to capture the soul of everything. With rich imagination, high intelligence, language competence and command over vocabulary she has earned the reputation of a creative writer through her autobiographical work *Manam Thirandu Pesukiren*, four novels and several short stories in Tamil and a series of informative articles in English and Tamil. In this regard she projects herself simultaneously as a regionalist, nationalist and universalist.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha's profound understanding of human psychology has given her a fine sense of balance and objectivity, a warmth of appreciation and a sincere concern for the suffering. She is a gifted politician marked by rich statecraft, political insight and remarkable presence of mind and native and acquired wisdom.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha possesses leadership qualities in a rich measure. Her sense of

moderation and her sensible, pragmatic and progressive outlook are reflected in everything that she does. With her rich eloquence, administrative acumen and remarkable intelligence, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has proved to be a great achiever. But she remains modest and humble to the core. Dr. J. Jayalalitha is a person of culture, dignity and self-possession. With right discernment and proper perspective, she tackles all problems and issues of society. Her robust common sense and high level of thinking enable her to cope with the rigorous task of administration with ease and polish.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha's life and mission are deeply touched by her concern and sympathy for the downtrodden, the underprivileged and the weaker sections of society, especially, women and children. That is reflected in the Girl-Child Protection Scheme and the Cradle Babies Scheme. A ten-point programme for the welfare of Adi-Dravidars and Tribals is under implementation. She has the unique distinction of having created a separate Directorate to look after the needs of the disabled in the State. The Government is implementing in right earnest, a scheme of health care to all, with the conduct of Free Health Camps and Special Medical Camps and the "Hospitals on Wheels" programme.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is an outstanding and mature feminist of the twentieth century. She strongly feels that women should claim their social and political rights and should be helped to become economically independent, but at the same time, they should fulfil their responsibilities to their family, society and the nation. With a view to extending a helping hand to women to rise in life, she has set up the State Level Commission for Women. She has ordered that all Primary School Teachers should be women. It is a step in the right direction because very young children require motherly care, concern and attention. She has ordered the establishment of All Women Police Stations in all the District Headquarters to attend to the grievances of women exclusively.

During the two-year stewardship of this State under Dr. J. Jayalalitha, new industrial projects with an investment of over Rs.20,000 (Twenty thousand) crores have been cleared. The significant projects which need special mention are the National Aromatics Project and the Integrated Lignite Mining and Power Generation Project near Jayamkondan.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha's love for sports and administrative ability are revealed by the construction of an ultra-modern and sophisticated outdoor stadium answering to international standards built in a record time under her stewardship, at Madras. She has also constituted the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu under her Presidency, to identify and nurture budding sports talents among our youth and to place Tamil Nadu in a position of pride in the arena of National and International Sports and Games.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha has done a great deal for the renovation of the long neglected but famous temples of Tamil Nadu and for creating funds for the performance of poojas in temples. Thus she has contributed a great deal to the preservation and maintenance of our ancient cultural heritage and the development of Indian culture.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha has taken considerable interest in education. It is her firm conviction that one way of eradicating class consciousness and poverty is through education of the masses. Tamil Nadu has introduced



Compulsory Primary Education. She desires that Universities and Colleges should promote quality higher education. She has been instrumental in the creation of the State Council for Higher Education and the State Advisory Committee on Education.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha has been guiding the destiny of Tamil Nadu sensibly and purposefully.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is a dynamic and pragmatic leader marked by firm determination.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is a compassionate soul marked by a humanistic approach.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is a talented and innovative performing artiste, capable of blending the ancient with the modern in a variety of art forms.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha has noteworthy leadership qualities.

Dr. J. Jayalalitha is academically brilliant. And as an outstanding and responsive leader of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has brought clarity of vision and thought and creative energy and intellectual brilliance to the performance of her many praiseworthy deeds for the speedy development of the State of Tamil Nadu.

Hence, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has been unanimously recommended by the Syndicate and Senate of the Madurai Kamaraj University to receive the Degree of Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa to which, Sir, I pray that she be admitted.

ACT IN THE LIVING

PRESENT

Hon'ble Chief Minister
Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha

Your Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Channa Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Education of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Professor Ponnusamy, Vice-Chancellor of the Madurai Kamaraj University, Dr. Kuthalingam, Members of the Syndicate, Members of the Senate, Members of the Academic Council, Members of the Faculty, My dear students, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am obliged to you for the honour you have conferred upon me by inviting me to address this special Convocation of the Madurai Kamaraj University being held in connection with its Silver Jubilee. I thank His Excellency the Governor, Chancellor of this University, for inviting me to share your happiness on this special occasion. A span of 25 years may be short in the history of an Institution. But for all of you who have been closely connected with the fortunes of this University and have made notable contributions to its development, I am sure that this occasion has a special significance, for, it gives you an opportunity to evaluate the performance of this University in terms of the goals set at its inception.

The name of the Madurai Kamaraj University combines in itself the name of the City of Madurai and the name of the great leader Thiru K. Kamaraj. Such an

appropriate naming by itself has enhanced the reputation of this University and has contributed to its historicity as well as its character as a nation - building institution.

Madurai is one of the few cities in India with a history which can be traced back to pre-historic times. The earliest reference to the City, which are found in works like the Puranas, establish the antiquity of the City. The Great Epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharatha, Kautiliya's Arthashastra and the writing of the ancient Greeks like Megasthenes, refer to the City of the Pandyas, noted for its fine cotton fabrics and gems. Mahavamsa, the Ceylonese Chronicle, mentions the reign of the Pandya King with Madurai as his capital just after the Buddha Mahanirvana and this period may be around the Sixth Century B.C. Plini in AD 75 and Ptolemy in AD



130 mentioned the City of the Pandyas.

Madurai City attained the pinnacle of glory during the Sangam Age. For hundreds of years during this period, Madurai flourished as a great Centre of learning, culture and civilisation. Illustrious Poets of the Tamil Academy, known as the Sangam, have made memorable contributions to the growth of Tamil Literature. Madurai Kanchi (மதுரை காஞ்சி) the longest poem in the Pathupattu (பத்துப்பாட்டு) collection, contains an impressive pen portrait of the City of Madurai in the early centuries of the Christian era. Madurai City itself, during this period, was the Town Planners' dream. Its people lived and carried on normal avocations in an atmosphere of peace, prosperity, culture, learning and religiosity. From pre-Christian times, Madurai City maintained trade and commerce links with Sumeria, Babylon, Arabia, Egypt, Greece and Rome. The grandeur and beauty of the art and the architecture and the high eminence of culture in the lives of the people of the city, rightly earned for Madurai the epithet "the Athens of South India". Madurai was a great centre of learning as is seen from the impressive evidence of literary achievements. Madurai was also an international metropolis with economic and cultural contacts with Kingdoms of yore.

I am sure, I will now be right for me to say that the Madurai Kamaraj University is seeking to re-establish the pre-eminence of Madurai City as an international Centre of learning, combining the modern and the traditional in harmonious proportions.

Kamaraj is a name to reckon with. A legend in his own time, Thiru K. Kamaraj was an outstanding example of a person who could mould and shape the

destiny of a society, based on a keen sense of political perception and a high degree of realism. He was a man of the masses in the true sense of the term and he knew what they wanted and accordingly, he formulated policies reflecting the needs and the aspirations of the people. He contributed a great deal to the cause of education in our State. He foresaw that education opened the doors for employment and all round advancement and so he was keen that the benefits of education must be made available to the poorest of the poor and must not be merely the prize possession of a limited class of affluent people. Today, millions of peoples all over the State owe their advancement to his prophetic vision. If, today, the State of Tamil Nadu can claim to possess one of the largest reservoirs of technical and educated man-power in the country, the credit for the planning of and the thrust towards "free education" must be given to Perunthalaivar Kamaraj. However, it was Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. who brought free education within the reach of the poorest of children through his Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme, which ensured at least one nutritious meal a day to every child, and persuaded poor parents to send their children to school.

Higher Education in our country, today, is at the cross-roads. We are confronted by many problems. Many learned bodies have looked into the various issues and have made useful recommendations. But, successive Governments have been slow in implementing them. Quite often they are half-hearted in their approach. As a result, they are playing with the lives of young people. Any further delay in providing clear solutions to the existing problems will definitely place the future of our society in peril.

Historically, right education in our country has been considered a pre-requisite for right living. The search for higher values utilised the educational process to pick the right talent and teach the best to the student, eliciting the best from him or her. It also laid stress on the right conduct expected of a student and the development of good and correct character. Education was meant to uplift the students so that he or she matured in spiritual perception and learnt the values of sacredness of life and sanctity of nature, subduing his or her ego and giving his or her best to Society. There is a story in the Upanishads according to which Narada approached Sanatkumara and asked him to teach him. Sanatkumara wanted to know what the disciple had already learnt. Narada said that he had learnt Science, Chemistry, Astronomy, Astrology, Physics and other subjects. Sanatkumara replied that he had not learnt anything, meaning thereby that the objective or aim of Education was to look for the Unknown. The teacher and the student were considered to be embarked upon a journey in search of Truth, whether it concerned the material world or the spiritual world. Pascal reflected this feeling, when he wrote:

"Knowledge is like a sphere in space, the greater its volume, the greater its conduct with the unknown"

The people of Tamil Nadu had truly unique traditions with regard to learning and education. For them the values of education were intimately associated with the values of life. Education that did not make a man live properly, was not considered to be useful education. Two thousand years ago Saint Thiruvalluvar laid down the maxims of learning, even as the Tamil people then practised them, and they are relevant even today.



Thiruvalluvar said:

“Lore that must be learnt with perfect faultlessness. The students must not stop there having learnt. The student must treat the path that the lore has shown in turn”

“கற்க கசடறக் கற்பவை; கற்றபின்
நிற்க அதற்குத் தக”

The sage also said:

“Learning leads to wisdom. Deeper as the man learns, more profound will be his wisdom and this wisdom is meant for the welfare of the society and not for his personal aggrandisement”

தொட்டனைத் தூறும் மணற்கேணி;
மாந்தர்க்கு
கற்றனைத் தூறும் அறிவு”

Saint Thiruvalluvar spoke of the Art of Letters as well as the Science of Numbers and considered both of them to be important to the learning process. Learning promotes discrimination and discrimination makes possible the absorption of the good and the exclusion of the bad. Such learning is more precious than all the material values of this world because wealth decays whereas learning does not.

“கேடில் விழுச்செல்வம் கல்வி;
ஒருவருக்கு

மடாலவ மற்றை யல்வ”

Education was thus ideally structured and incorporated to meet

Life's needs. The ancient Tamil people knew the distinction between basic education and the education that gave scholarship. The final aim of the learning process was to enable the student to improve his faculty of discrimination, eschew improper conduct, understand and appreciate the good values of life and develop love and kindness towards all fellow-beings. Saint Thiruvalluvar aimed at general social education as a means of building an ideal society. The Thirukkural has come to represent the summation of the best in the tradition of Tamil Education.

The present structure of higher education in India had its origin in the British Model when the First Universities were established in India in 1857. The main purpose of University Education, as it was considered then, was to confer the benefits of a liberal education on a few chosen students, so that a small number of persons cultivated in the art and the classical lore of the world could be trained to provide leadership for the community and to take their place in the administrative machinery of the country. A chosen few would enter the portals of the University and would be groomed to help the British run the administration and to get along with them in the same atmosphere of culture, literature and social grace. The task of

managing the administration was left to be handled by a large majority of educated people who would fill in the ministerial posts. But the British did not foresee that the very liberal education, which they sought to provide through the University, would awaken the mind and the spirit of the millions of people in this country and that they would use the very same education to dislodge them from power. Education is a powerful tool. Its impact and influence cannot be confined to set goals and objectives within a given ambit. It kindles the mind and strikes deep chords; it arouses the emotions and provides a better means of articulation. It moulds the human mind, it inculcates a culture and a philosophy which will help the student to search for values in a spirit of freedom, unhindered by the syllabus or curriculum irrespective of the mode of teaching or the scholarship of the teacher. This is a lesson of history which we will have to learn and relearn in order that we may keep our minds open and continue to look at the structure of education so that it helps to fulfil the aspirations of young people and does not hinder them.

This means that we have to ask afresh the following questions:

What should be the nature of a University?

What is its purpose?

In what manner should it play its part in the life of the community?

What should be its role with reference to the rising tide of democratic aspirations and egalitarian pressure?

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, way back in 1947, in his Convocation Address to the University of Allahabad, summed up the basic objectives of the University and its role in national life. He said:

“University stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason, for the search of Truth. It stands for the onwards march of

the human race towards ever higher objectives. If the Universities today discharge their duties adequately, then they are wholly with the nation and the people"

Our Universities, therefore, were basically intended to promote a spirit of liberal education and were concerned with creating a class of men whose education equipped them with certain qualifications and attributes of mind and heart, necessary for assuming the mantle of leadership.

Developing from these basic objectives, the Universities have concentrated mainly on three functions, namely, education, scholarship and service. In the earlier times, the educative and scholarly functions dominated the activities of the University. In the complex technological society of today, the service functions have grown enormously and the educational and scholarly functions have come increasingly closer to the service function. In other words, the University provides Society with experts and expertise. University Education is oriented towards helping the students to acquire mastery in the field of technology. In this era of competition, the University has also to be in the forefront of excellence in the teaching-learning process, so that a generation of students representing the cream of the intelligentsia can pioneer and bring about change and transformation in different areas of national life.

Notwithstanding the complex nature of the above - mentioned goals, in a sophisticated sense, the University will still be a community of intellectuals, of teachers and the taught, ceaselessly engaged in the pursuit of knowledge. It will be a select exclusive group of persons concerned totally with the leading issues in today's cultural milieu. However, with the great growth in the corpus of human knowledge and the tremendous impact of science and technology on the lives

of men, it has become necessary to conceive of this milieu in quite new terms and to think of the University in entirely new ways. Whatever concept we develop of a University, it must be relevant to the context and the needs of our country not merely of the present, but of the future as well. Gandhiji, Sri Aurobindo, Rabindranath Tagore and other great leaders of our country had suggested varying models of University education, keeping in view the need to develop the mental and moral faculties of the individual, which would enable him or her to contribute to the welfare of the nation in the context of Science - Technology interaction.

It is necessary to look at all these models and evolve a pattern that harmoniously welds the past, present and the future and gives the University its due place in Society as a leader, a path-breaker and an experimenter and as the upholder of certain basic values.

At the same time, the University has to continue the teaching-learning process. The highest quality of teaching materials must be made available at the University. Excellence in the teaching-learning process and in the performance or achievement in higher education is totally dependent upon the quality of the students. The pursuit of excellence in turn is motivational. Proper inputs of human and material elements into higher educational in terms of adequate infrastructural facilities, competent and committed teachers, interested and devoted students, efficient teaching, efficient administration, commitment to learning, smooth and effective interaction between students, teachers and the administrators; all these are envisaged by the use of the term 'excellence'. When we speak of quality higher education, we think of a situation wherein the teaching-learning process reaches a very high level of performance and

motivation. There can be no compromise with quality conceived in this manner, because Society pays a high price for education and there ought to be a commensurate return in the form of performance and service to Society. Unfortunately, this aspect is largely ignored. Nowadays, the emphasis is on the quantity, the numbers of those educated. At the level of higher education, the emphasis ought to be on the quality of those educated, because the University will bring forth the future leaders of Society. In the era of Science and Technology, this means that the products of the Universities will have to be in the forefront of all branches of learning. Therefore, quality ought to be the pre-eminent goal. However, the students have a different expectation from the Universities. To most of them, a University degree is a passport to a good job. Hence they expect the University to teach them in such a way as to enable them to secure jobs. But, it does not happen that way, in actual practice. The performance of the University does not match with the needs of the students or of the community. Therefore, there is frustration on all sides. Mr. Will Durant has expressed this feeling aptly:

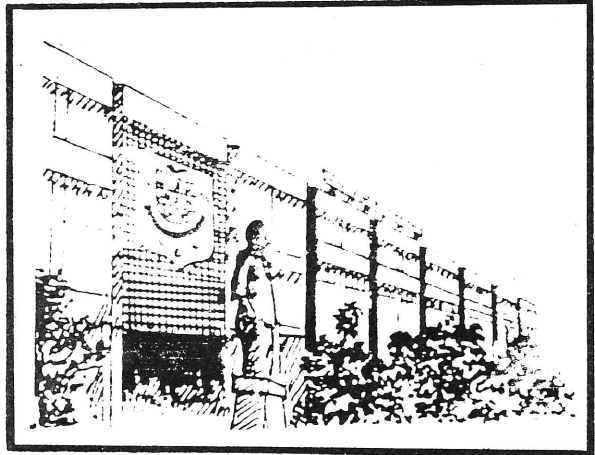
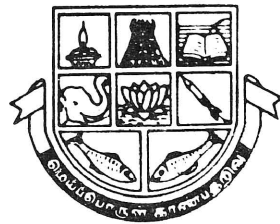
"The youth is wise in preferring the athletic field to the class-room and in rating base-ball above philosophy. When a bespectacled Chinese student described the American University as 'an athletic association in which certain opportunities for study are provided for the feeble bodied,' his remark was not so destructive as is supposed."

Will Durant was speaking of the American student. In India, the Indian youth does not even prefer the athletic field!

Youth is an impressionable period in a person's life. There is much to look forward to at that stage in life. The spirit of idealism

is dominant. Concepts of right and wrong rank high in the scale of values. The attitude of service comes naturally. As yet, passion and prejudice do not overtake the sense of reason and objectivity. The mental faculties are at their best and there is a desire to be discriminating. There is an instinctive thirst for knowledge. The tapping of such abundant energies as Youth displays naturally, is the major responsibility of Society and Society looks to the University to provide an atmosphere, in which the talents of the young people can be nurtured and promoted. But frustration and disappointment soon set in as the University is ill-equipped for handling this responsibility. Let us admit that the Universities in our country, as they are structured at present, do not seem to be reflecting the aspirations of young people. They appear to be straight-jacketed with a structure of their own and a logic of thinking and working that alienates, rather than absorbs the student's interest. Nor do the Universities seem to be in the mainstream of Life, so that they can serve to make life more meaningful, more attractive and more socially useful. I am making a general statement in this regard and do not have any particular University in mind while saying this. This problem has to be looked into with the utmost seriousness. University Education in India is now facing severe social and political criticism. The Universities have got to recognise sooner or later that national realities have to be properly reflected, both in the structure of their instructions and in their value systems as well as in the mode of their functioning.

Take for example the straight forward problem of unemployment among the educated. It is clear that this problem is of our own making. Today the University degree is sought after, for its value as a source of obtaining employment.



But the employment hoped for does not exist. The student does not realise it until after he or she has left the portals of the University. Young people rush to take University degrees with the hope of thereby getting jobs in the Government or in the Private Sector. Jobs in the Government for the kind of people whom the Universities are producing will be limited. The Private Sector adopts methods of selection that will not benefit the vast majority of the students armed with mere degrees. The resultant situation is an alarming increase in the rate of unemployment of educated persons - a frustrating situation for the students and a bitter waste of national effort. Today, there are more than 38 lakh young persons registered in the Employment Exchanges of Tamil Nadu, of whom 22 lakh persons are educated. Every year about 5 lakh educated persons register themselves with the Employment Exchanges, of whom 1.41 lakh young persons have passed the Pre-University course or its

equivalent and about nearly a lakh of persons are graduates and post-graduates. The Registers of the Employment Exchanges do not really fully reflect the gravity of the situation. The problem of unemployment among the technically qualified young people is equally severe, a true reflection of the rate of economic growth that is taking place in our country. I am sure that the picture must be more or less the same in other States. This raises the basic question about what kind of education the Universities should impart, so that there is no drain of resources and avenues of employment are always available and young persons can enter smoothly into the mainstream of life with dignity and confidence. Naturally, the society that we are developing in India today, offers a number of jobs for which a degree is not a prerequisite and for which high academic or technological qualifications are not necessary. I think that the time has come for us to look at University education in

the context of the employment situation in the country and clarify the goal of the Universities in this regard. I think that the model which envisages the University as a job producing factory is wrong. To equip the young people with skills for the jobs that our country offers, must be the function of a different set of institutions. This truth must be accepted at the earliest and the reforms must start at the elementary school level.

The Kothari Commission and the New Education Policy of the Government of India have, no doubt made many recommendations in this regard. But the Universities continue to produce young graduates whose employment opportunities depend on further technological training, for which other institutions are needed. It seems to me that the answer is that the Universities should not be saddled with the responsibility of producing more graduates, for the purpose of satisfying the ego of the society, in terms of increasing the output of educated persons. The requirements of employment in a fast changing society would have to be met by suitable institutions other than the Universities. Higher Education does contribute to employment, but at a different level. It makes no impact on the numbers. It confers its benefits in an indirect manner, by producing leaders, the teachers who will train the trainers. Also, in reality, we find that the problem of unemployment is more acute among the educated. Young educated persons feel frustrated by their inability to get the kind of employment that they are looking for. Educated young persons look for a particular type of employment and many of them aspire for desk jobs, either in Government or in business. They seek a University degree, not because they are interested in the subject which they study, but because the degree is a necessary qualification for applying for jobs in the Government, business,

banking etc. But, there are not enough jobs in these sectors to absorb all the graduates coming out of the Universities. I am, therefore, reiterating my plea that a radical change in the outlook towards University education is called for.

Personally I would think that an important concern of the Universities, particularly, of the technological institutions which come within the ambit of the Universities, should be to motivate students to start enterprises of their own. Self-employment can, in many ways, be more exciting and more rewarding than the service of an employer. Self-employment can be secured through small scale industries where the individual's talents can be put to full use. India is set on a course of rapid industrialisation which opens out avenues for new employment. It should be the responsibility of the Universities to explore these new avenues of employment and help the students to fit themselves into them. The higher educational system can help to infuse self-confidence in our graduates. Infusion of the right amount of self-confidence generates a sense of responsibility and discipline, so vital for the orderly progress of the nation. In this connection, there is a need for critical examination of the way in which the University education process is currently conducted. The curriculum and the mode of instruction have to be carefully evaluated and redesigned, so as to absorb the latest knowledge of the subject and its dissemination.

The teaching faculties have to play an important role in the higher education system. All education is a dialogue between the teacher and the taught. The aim of the teacher is to strive for the excellence of the student and to instil in him or her the correct sense of values. It is not so much the repertory of knowledge that finally counts. Rather, it is the motiva-

tion and personality of the teacher that provides the fuel that ignites the mind of the student. The high quality of mind and intellect is a very important pre-requisite for the success of the teaching process. The issue is not one of the payment of adequate salaries or rewards. It is the problem of the availability of a sufficient number of qualified persons, who want to take up the task of teaching as a labour of love, as a social mission, as an act of patriotism, as an intellectual pursuit which will help to widen the horizon of learning of both the student and the teacher in their common pursuit.

I must tell you that the Tamil Nadu Government has been concerning itself with the problems of higher education in their entirety. The State Government has set up the TAMIL NADU STATE COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION on a statutory basis with the Chief Minister as the Chairperson, Inaugurating the Council, I said:

"There is a compelling need to pursue the goals which will make our educational system keep pace with the phenomenal growth witnessed in other countries. Scientific pursuits have to concentrate upon the acquisition of knowledge upon knowledge, such that the new discoveries and improvements can directly contribute to the material welfare of mankind".

I stressed the need for upgrading the skills of the teachers and for inculcating the sense of discipline in the students and called upon the research workers to make a significant contribution to the social and economic transformation of our society. This Council has begun to function just recently. I hope this Council will play an important role in promoting cooperation among the institutions of higher education, encourage and promote innovations in curriculum development, facilitate higher training of teachers, identify and

encourage centres of excellence and help to promote the highest standards of education consistent with the best obtaining in the world.

I know that the Madurai Kamaraj University has established laudable traditions in the teaching-learning process. It has produced eminent teachers and students who have done well in their areas of specialisation all over the world. I also know that the Madurai Kamaraj University continues to reaffirm the importance of basic values essential to our society. Without the right understanding and acceptance of basic values, learning, however advanced, can be arid and bereft of purpose.

On the occasion of the Special Convocation of the Madurai-Kamaraj University, I have great pleasure in conveying my good wishes to all of you who have won

laurels and victory in the Battle of Books. Now there lies before you a greater Battle - the Battle of Life. The world you are about to enter is full of difficulties and challenges. You will see all around you a ceaseless drive in pursuit of limited values. You will feel the impact of varied human passions and prejudices. You will have to face new problems which will perplex you. However, there is no need for pessimism. You have received an intellectual and mental formation during your studentship, that will help you to face the coming Battle of Life with courage and confidence. You can now face the world head on and fight successfully to win the Battle of Life. My one piece of advice to you is:

Please be receptive to new ideas and learn to depend on yourself.

Great leaders like Perunthalaivar K. KAMARAJ and Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. came up in life this way.

I thank His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu once again for his invitation to me, to address this Special Convocation. I would now like to close with a quotation from H.W. Longfellow:

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!
Trust no future, how'er pleasant!
Let the dead past bury its dead!
Act in the living Present!
Heart within, and God o'erhead!
Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

Thank you.

(Convocation Address delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the Special Convocation at Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai on 14th July 1993).



Advertisement No.28/93

**TAMIL NADU PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
PROFICIENCY TEST IN TAMIL
SEPTEMBER 1993**

It is hereby notified that the Proficiency Test in Tamil for I.A.S., I.P.S., I.F.S. Officers borne on Tamil Nadu State Cadre, whose mother-tongue is not Tamil and who have not taken Tamil as a subject or passed any examination in Tamil in the S.S.L.C. and or Degree Course and who will not complete six years of service on 13th September, 1993 will be held by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission at its office on the 13th and 14th September, 1993. Persons who pass the test will be entitled to a monetary award of Rs.1,000. The last date for receipt of applications for the test is 5.45 p.m. on 16th August, 1993. Persons other than IAS, IPS, IFS. Officers are not eligible to apply for this examination. Application forms may be obtained on written requisition from the Controller of Examinations, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, Government Estate, Anna Salai, Madras-600 002.

DIPR/1205/MS/93



A PEEP INTO THE PAST OF CUDDALORE

Cuddalore is soaked in history. The French, the Dutch, the Portuguese, the Swiss, the Germans and the English had established their links with this place through their tradings and battles in addition to ecclesiastical and educational assignments. Clive had lived here, trodden on its streets and his name is associated with this town.

On the ecclesiastical side, the Catholics, the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge (S.P.C.R.) the Danish Missionaries, the Leipzig Mission, the society for the Propagation of the Gospel (S.P.G.) Mission have all, in one way or the other left their imprints on this coastal Town. Missionaries like Bartholemew-Ziegenbalg, Grundler, Gericke, Fabricious and many others have made a mark in this place.

In the middle of the seventeenth century, the population of the town was predominantly comprised of fishermen, weavers and cultivators. The Raja of Gingee was the acknowledged feudatory chief of the place. The weavers of Cuddalore were considered the

best on the Coromandal Coast. The clothes woven in Cuddalore were in great demand not only in the inland but also among the English and the Dutch trading Companies.

Fort St. David

This article aims at presenting only the salient features of historical importance connected with the Christ Church and the St. David's Higher Secondary School at Cuddalore Old Town, without elaborating on the battles fought on its soil. This article does not also touch on the pre-seventeenth century history of Cuddalore and the influence of the Cholas, the rulers of Thondamandalam, the Nabobs of Arcot and the Vijaynagar Kings 'Albert' this write-up will not be full without a short history of Fort. St. David, before it took this name.

A very pushing and capable Tamil merchant by name Chinniah

D. VARADHAN
Administrative Officer
Port Office, Cuddalore.

Chetty played the role of a middleman between the foreign traders and the local weavers. His business thrived in leaps and bounds. He built a fort at Devanampattinam in order to protect his vessels-warehouses and stores. The fort had entrenchments and ramparts mounted with guns. The fort was just 400 feet by 500 feet, built of stone and mortar. Chinniah Chetty also lived within the fort. The Mahrattas invaded this place in 1673. Chinniah Chetty deserted the fort and sailed away with all his accumulated wealth and stores. The Dutch who were having a factory of their own at Cuddalore negotiated with the Mahrattas for purchasing the deserted fort of Chinniah Chetty. The French in Pondicherry also offered to purchase it. While this competition was going on, a young English merchant by name Elihu Yale was sent from the Fort St. George to negotiate with the Mahrattas for securing this fort of Chinniah Chetty and perform the same fort as Chinniah Chetty. This was in the year 1674. The Dutch were strongly apposed to this. Elihu Yale could not succeed. However the English established a



factory in Cuddalore in the year 1681. But the Dutch out-witted the English by purchasing all the cloth for a higher price. So the Englishman had to leave their factory and go back to Fort St. George in 1685.

Elihu Yale became the Governor of Fort St. George in 1687. He remembered the deserted fort of Chinniah Chetty at Devanampattinam. He initiated secret negotiations with the Mahrattas without the knowledge of the Dutch the French and the Portuguese who were all equally making assiduous efforts to purchase this Fort. He succeeded.

This fort of Chinniah was purchased by the English from the Mahrattas on 15th July 1690.

Governor Elihu Yale was Welsman. St. David was the patron saint of the Welsh. Further Governor Elihu's son David died in Childhood in fort St. George in 1688. These dual reasons evidently prompted the Governor to name the fort as Fort St. David. William Hatsell was posted as the first Deputy Governor of Fort St. David. The Rev. Jethro Brdcoake from St. George was sent as Chaplain to Fort St. David. A room was set apart in this fort as a chapel, where

services were conducted by this chaplain.

It is worthwhile to note that the St. David's Higher Secondary School at Cuddalore O.T. bears this historical name.

The Churches

The first Church that was built in India for the Europeans was at Cochin in the 1505 by the Catholics under the aegis of Albuquerque, the Portuguese Governor of the Indies. The Church was called the Holy Cross Church and then named as St. Francis Church.

The second Church was the Zion Church in Tranquebar, built in the year 1707 by Bartholemew Zeigenbalg, who arrived in Tranquebar on 9.7.1706 with Plutschau. Rev. Samuel in his book on the history of Tranquebar mission published in 1955 records that Zeigenbalg and Grindler established a school in Tranquebar in the year 1716, to train teachers and catechists. According to him, it was Grindler who established a school in Cuddalore in the year 1717. Fuller details are furnished in the succeeding paragraphs.

Christ Church at Cuddalore old Town

While the first seeds were being sown in Tranquebar for establishing protestant missionary work by the Danish missionaries, the Roman Catholic mission was established in Cuddalore in the year 1606, according to the South Arcot Manuel by Nelson. A Portuguese priest Paulo de saa, managed to get a piece of land in Cuddalore from the English in Fort St. David in the year 1692. A Church, a school and a Mission House were built. It is not the same location where the present Christ Church stands. When Count Lally attached Cuddalore garrison at Fort St. David. The French partly destroyed the old Church and completely destroyed the school chapel. They blew up the old fort itself. This was in the year 1758.

When the English recaptured Cuddalore two years latter; under the command of Eyre Coote and drove the French away, they had no Church, school or Mission House. Even as early as 1746 Fort St. David had become a Presidency and the Deputy Governor became a regular Governor.

The English felt that the "Romish Priests" were a stumbling block to the growth of protestant missions. They were asked to go out of the limits of Fort St. David. The Church and the Mission House had to be reconstructed. In 1766 Hutteman and Gericke who were posted to Cuddalore took the initiative to seek orders from the Governor to pull down the old Church, which was in a ruinous condition and rebuild a new Church close to the mission house, in order to 'reclaim the soldiers from pernicious ways of drunkenness and debauchery'. This Church was meant for the joint worship of the Europeans and the Eurasian soldiers. It was named the Zion Church, after the Church at Transquebar. Later on, it was renamed as CHRIST CHURCH, which was the name given to the old Church at Cuddalore in the year 1749. This new Church was dedicated in the year 1767.

Hyder Ali and the French took possession of Cuddalore in 1781. This time, they did not destroy the Church as they did in 1758.

I & IV Wrappers

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha fasting to safeguard the rights of the Tamils in the Cauvery Waters.

Gericke appealed to the German speaking Swiss officers of the invaders not to destroy the Church and harm the Christians, residing near the Church. They however made use of the Church as a powder magazine. The invaders were driven out by the English the very next year.

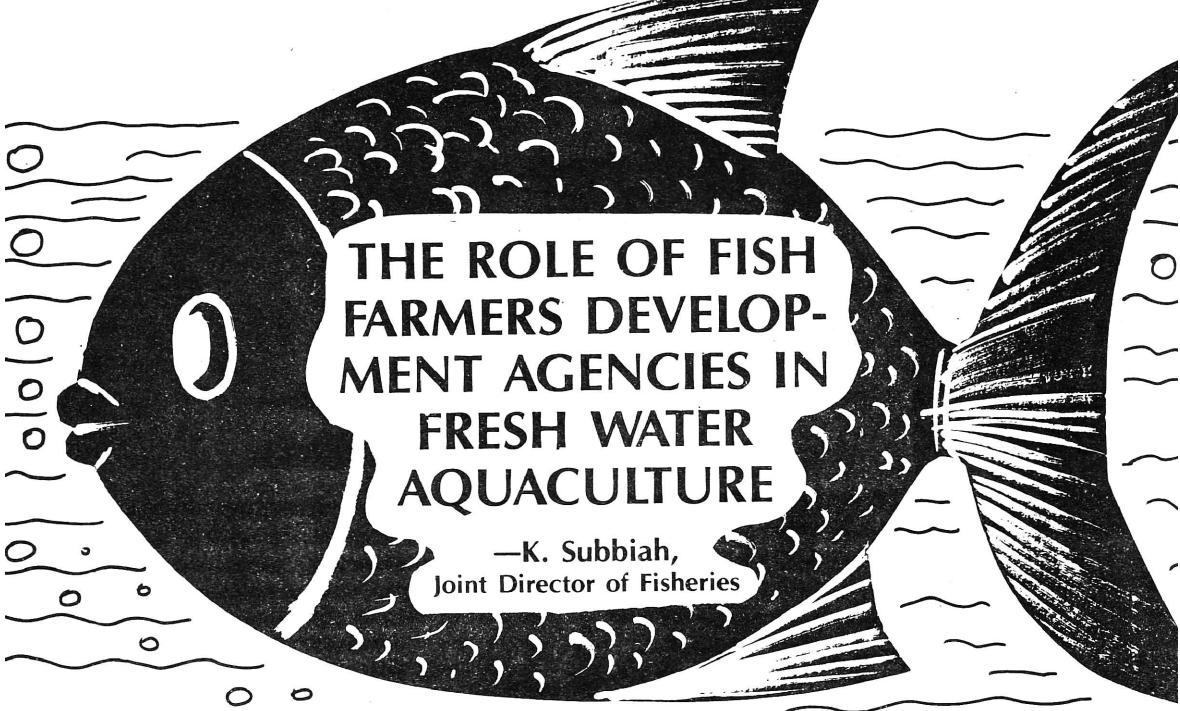
Many well-known missionaries landed in Cuddalore. The Reverend Fabricious landed at Cuddalore along with Kiermander and Zeglin on 22.1.1740. They met Rev. Aaron and Catechist Thiagou Naicker the Indians working in Christ Church. The Rev. Schwart landed in Cuddalore on 30.7.1750. Gericke did admirable work in the educational and missionary

fields in Cuddalore, Tranquebar and Vepery.

The Reverend Francis Fordyce, who performed duties at Fort St. David at Cuddalore during the year 1747-48 was assaulted by Robert Clive, who was then, an officer in the garrison at Cuddalore. In the enquiry instituted by the Governor, it transpired that the chaplain was a "meddling mischievous person" with similar antecedents of misbehaviour in his previous assignments elsewhere also. He was therefore suspended for his "ill conditioned temper".

The Rev. C. Aaron was the first Tamilian Pastor at Cuddalore. He was born of Hindu parents and his Hindu name was Arumugham. The Reverend Pakkianathan and Rev. Christian Samuel Pillai were some of the other Indian Clergy men, who worked in the Christ Church in later days. Rev. Martyn, another Indian Clergymen, was in charge of this Church at Cuddalore old Town, from 1865-1875. Christ Church at Cuddalore old Town now called the Cuddalore Port covers an area of 87 feet by 42 feet with tower and a spire. It contains very old but artistic furniture. The alter Cross was the gift of the Rev. J.A. Sharrock. This Church, which had been dedicated in September 1767, was consecrated by the Bishop in January 1845. By this time 19 burials were made inside the Church. Thomas Parry, the founder of Messrs. Parry & Co., was one of them.





THE ROLE OF FISH FARMERS DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES IN FRESH WATER AQUACULTURE

—K. Subbiah,
Joint Director of Fisheries

Tamil Nadu was pioneer in Inland Fisheries research and pond culture right from 1907. Under the post-war development schemes, "Rural Fisheries Demonstration Units" were established in 1945. This was precursor of the present day fisheries extension service. However, real development could not be achieved over the years in view of the non involvement of the public in fish culture practices. The introduction of composite fish culture scheme by the ICAR in the sixties did not create much effects in the development. This introduction of Fish Farmers Development Agency in the Fourth Five Year Plan has given an impetus to inland fisheries development in the State. The idea of Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA) was mooted out at the national level by the efforts of the Central Fisheries Board and through a technical Committee, and the same was introduced in Tamil Nadu first in Thanjavur District during 1976-77 as a pilot project with full central grant. This

has extended to 16 districts under 13 Agencies with a new financing norms of sharing 50% of the development costs by the Central Government and the rest by the State Government.

Objectives:

The main objectives of the scheme are to promote pond culture on selected areas in an integrated manner effectively linking, training and investments with culture practices and marketing by adopting modern techniques so as to progressively step up inland fish production in the existing ponds and tanks.

The objectives are:

(i) to activate the existing fish farmers or pond owners and to enable them to apply improved methods of culture and to create a class of fish farmers where they do not exist now and where they exist in order to provide fruitful and viable employment to the unemployed youths who are interested in fish culture.

(ii) to intensify fish production from the existing ponds and to reclaim and bring intensive production of derelict waters, silted up tanks, water logged areas, other village ponds etc. Since there water pieces belong to different agencies, arrangements have to be made to get on lease from panchayats, Revenue, Public Works Department, temples etc.

(iii) in the above context selected persons will be trained, capital for construction or renovation of ponds will be arranged as short-term loans for input. Necessary supplies and services will be rendered to the farmers including fish needs.

(iv) to popularise the new avocation and provide an increased employment to rural people and save as a nucleus for further spread.

(v) marketing societies will be organised for the farmers so as to secure maximum return.

Essential:

Protein is an important constitution in everyday food for the man. In this certain percentage of animal protein is a must for normal life. This type of animal protein is obtained in the form of meat, milk, egg etc. But if we look at the increasing world population and the culturable land it is very difficult to obtain animal protein from meat, milk, eggs etc through land animals alone to meet the growing demand of the population. So it is mandatory on the part of human being to go for large scale aquaculture practices to get the required animal protein.

The other important animal protein is from fish. Disease like blood pressure and liver problems are controlled by taking more quantity of fish food. Important life saving vitamins and amino acids are also available in a fish food. However, per capita consumption of fish in India is only 3.5 kg/pa. So it is essential to go for large scale fish culture for increasing fish production in the country.

Constitution and working of the Agency:

Each Agency is headed by District Collector as the Chairman and he is guided by a governing body constituted by Government. For the execution of the scheme one Chief Executive Officer is posted who is assisted by Extension Officers, Farm Superintendents, Fisheries Engineering Supervisor etc. Extension Officers are the main elements to select the tanks and beneficiaries. They will give all technical guidance to the farmers and arrange to get the required quantity of fish seeds for each tank. They will also assist the farmers about the type and quantity of fertiliser to be used and study the growth of the fish by making periodical trial netting and finally help the farmers for harvesting and marketing. The

Engineering Supervisor helps to put up inlet, outlet and periodical renovation of tanks by preparing plans and estimates and executing the works.

Eligibility:

Each Agency has got a sub Committee under the Chairmanship of Regional Joint Director of Fisheries/Deputy Director of Fisheries. Its activity is to select the beneficiaries after getting the applications for each tanks selected for this purpose. The beneficiary, in the age group of 18 to 35, should have studied upto 8th Standard. Preference will be given to those who are members of the Fisherman Co-operative Societies or who has already got fish culture experiences or who has got an aptitude to take fish culture. People below the poverty line, Schedule caste, Schedule tribes women were given further preference in the selection of the beneficiaries. However, selection for a particular tank will be finalised based on the location of the residence i.e. who is nearer to the tank - so as to have proper watch and ward during the culture period.

Training:

The selected beneficiary is given 15 days training both in theory and practical. They are taken to various fish seed production centres and to the farms of the progressive fish

farmers where they are given practical training. For this training, an amount of Rs.25/- is paid as daily allowance and Rs.40/- for transport charges.

Loans and Subsidies:

The selected tanks are renovated so as to maintain certain water level for a long period. Wherever necessary, inlets and outlets are constructed in order to prevent escaping of stocked fish seeds. **Rs.32,000 is the maximum permissible amount to undertake renovation work per hectare.** In this 75% loan from a nationalised bank and 25% as a subsidy are available. **Similarly, maximum of Rs.16,000 is allowed for a hectare for inputs like seed, feed, fertilisers, farm equipments etc.** In this 25% of Rs.4,000/- is subsidy and the balance is loan from the Bank. The Agency will arrange to get the loan from nationalised bank and give subsidy.

Selection of tanks:

It is advisable to have smaller ponds and tanks of 2 hecs. and less from rural areas. As far as possible irrigation tanks may be avoided for this scheme. While selecting a tank it should be ascertained and found that water retention period must be atleast for 6 months and this must be 50% of total water spread area. It is also advisable to select tanks having



easy approach for frequent visit, stocking of seeds and harvesting.

Preparation of tank:

Stockable fish seeds primarily depend on the plankton production for their food. The rate of growth of fish directly proportionate to the quantity of food available in the water. To increase plankton production natural manure should be applied in the form of cow dung and green manure. 10 ton cow dung and 10 tons green leaves are suggested for a hectare pond to increase primary production. However 250 kgs of superphosphate may also be added. Depending upon the quality of water column 250 kg of urea may also be added. Application of superphosphate and urea will have to be applied at definite intervals throughout the culture period for increasing primary production. In view of high fertility planktonic bloom will appear. At this stage, fish seeds may be stocked. Initially, these stocked fingerlings will feed on the natural plankton available in the water column. When planktonic production decreases, application of organic and inorganic manure may be repeated. In general villagers are objecting for the application of organic and inorganic manures stating that water quality is spoiled and cattles are affected by disease because of the use of fertilizers. This is not correct.

For small ponds and tanks and availability of plankton and the high stocking density of fish seeds will not commensurate the feed requirements. So, it is essential to go for supplementary feeding like oil cake, rice bran etc. in the form of powder. After 3-4 months this powder may be prepared like a paste by adding water and keep this feed in the form of ball at different places. Normally, 2% of the body weight of the total fish will be the quantity of feed required per day. This feed may be divided into 2 and be given one dose in

the morning and another dose in the evening. Presently, prepared pellet feeds are available in the market and the same can be used as supplementary feeding.

Fish seed stocking:

In a given tank, instead of stocking one particular species of fish seed, different species like Catla, Rohu, Mrigal, Silver Carp Common Carp etc. may be stocked with certain definite proportion and to a maximum of 5,000 per hect. This mixing up of all species is called composite fish culture. While stocking care should be taken to stock more than 50 mm size seeds. For better growth and recovery, one should go for 100 mm size fingerlings. All the species need not be stocked in a given water body. Wherever tanks are infested with aquatic plants, certain proportion of grass carps may be introduced. Otherwise grass carps need not be stocked. Similarly, stocking of Rohu and Mrigal may be 20% of the total composition, but the stocking rate of these species should be based on the experiences of earlier years. In certain tanks Rohu grow well and the growth of Mrigal will not be appreciable and in certain tanks Mrigal grow well and the growth of Rohu is poor. So stocking of these species depends on the soil, water quality of the particular tanks. By experience the percentage of stocking of these two species may be increased or decreased. In a period of 7 to 8 months these fingerlings will grow to a marketing size. At this stage, when there is no possibility of maintenance of water column harvesting may be done.

The required quantity and quality of fish seeds will be arranged by the agency either from departmental farms or through private farms. Some times seeds may not be available for our requirements at the appropriate size. So, fish culturists should go for cage rearing of seeds to get the required size,

and when the tanks receive water, seeds may be stocked in the ponds from cages.

New Pond construction:

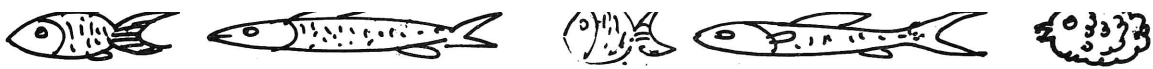
All these years fish culturists solely depend on the Government or panchayat water bodies for fish culture practices. In recent years, progressive fish culturists have taken their own efforts to put up new pond in their patta land for fish culture. In the districts like Thanjavur, Trichy, South Arcot Chengalpattu-MGR Districts etc. this practice of constructing own pond fish culture is growing well during the past few years. In any body goes for new pond construction he will get 20% subsidy to a maximum of Rs.20,000/- per hect.

The Extension Officers of the Agency will help in selecting the sites and prepare the Project reports for the construction of new ponds. Ponds may be constructed at 50 cm depth by raising the bundh on all the 4 sides. This may cost to Rs.70,000 per hect. Recently, trench cutting method is adopted in Thanjavur District wherein 50 cm depth at the margin by a width of 3 metres may be dug out and the earth is spread along the margin for raising bundh. The Central portion is not disturbed. While maintaining water level there will be 2½' to 3' water in the trench and one foot water at the centre. The other stocking and feeding practices are the same. For, this trench cutting method, the expenditure will be Rs.8,000 to Rs.12,000 per hect. depending on the labour availability in that area. NABARD is prepared to refinance the Banks advancing credit to the fish culturists. It is possible to get 35,000 to 40,000 rupees net profit by taking up such culture practices in the newly constructed ponds. All technical guidance are available in the local Fish Farmers Development Agency.

Facility from the agency:

Selection of suitable tanks and





beneficiaries, and training the beneficiaries will be the first and foremost duties and responsibilities of the Agencies. Preparation of the tank, observation on pre stocking and post stocking management will be attended by the agency, and wherever necessary renovation of tanks will be attended by the Agency by allowing 25% subsidy and one time subsidy is allowed for inputs. The following are the important benefits from the Agencies:

- i. tanks and ponds are taken for low lease rent and long lease period of 10 years;
- ii. agency vehicles are made available for the transport of seeds on hire basis;
- iii. for renovation of tanks Rs.8,000/- is allowed as subsidy per hec.
- iv. for inputs like fertilisers, feed and fish seeds on one time subsidy of Rs.1,000/- is available.

v. for training the farmers, all expenditures are met by the agency.

vi. for the construction of new ponds Rs.20,000/- is allowed per hec. as subsidy.

vii during harvest season, harvesting and marketing is arranged by the Agency.

viii all technical guidance are given to the culturists on free of cost.

ix through fish culture maximum revenue is earned per hectare which is not comparable to any other income derived from cultivation.

Tamil Nadu has certain constraints in the development of fresh water aquaculture, such as lack of adequate number of seeds, non synchronisation of the major carp breeding season with the monsoon and successive drought conditions. The other major constraints at present is the policy of

the Government to auction the fishing in all panchayat water. At present, continuous fertilization and feeding are not being done scientifically in view of the local problems. This practice may be popularised among the fish culturists so that better yield may be expected in the order of 3 to 4 tons per hectare. The problem of protein gap is more acute in India and therefore, there is an urgent need for massive production of fish for which fish farmers could contribute considerably. The success of fish farming in getting some assured income through fish culture has created confidence among the fish farmers. This may be better exploited for fish production as well as employment to rural people and indirectly the rural economy will be increased by utilising the unutilised natural resources available in rural area.


The Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha gave away the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu Award and Rs. one lakh cash to Thiru S. Rajaratnam, a member of the Indian Team which won the Gold Medal at the 1990 Beijing Asian Games Kabaddi Competition (17.7.93).



HERITAGE OF

KANNIYAKUMARI

Dr. C. Selvaraj
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Kanniyakumari District



Kanniyakumari situated at the confluence of three Oceans such as the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean in the southern tip of Indian peninsula. It was named after virgin goddess Kumari Amman, has great historical heritage. Archaeological and literary evidences prove that the present Kanniyakumari is the remnant of the submerged Lemurian continent. Accordingly there was a large mass of land to the South of Kanniyakumari connecting Indonesia, Madagaskar, South Africa, Australia etc. on the other which was submerged due to sea erosion. The Tamil Literature such as Silappadikaram, Kuruntogai, Kalitogai, Purananuru etc. vividly portray the submersion of Kumarikandam along with Kumari mountain and pahruli river. Eminent archaeologists such as S.R. Rao, K.V. Raman argue that if under water archaeological excavations are undertaken in this part, definitely it will throw new light to rewrite the history of Tamils in proper perspective. Similarly eminent anthropologists by considering various factors argue that early human settlements have began in this part of earth and

subsequently spread to other regions. They also content that the Dravidian people also have organised in this region and from there they spread to other parts of the world.

Apart from this among the three Tamil Sangams, the first two were held at the submerged lemurian continent and after its submergement the third sangam was organised at modern Madurai. In addition, many eminent Tamil Scholars were born in this land and brought laurels to Tamil language and literature. It is worth to mention the place Athencode, the birth place of Athencottasan, Kappikudi (Kappicaud) the native of Tolkappiar are situated in this part only. Further the Tamil terminologies used by Tolkappiar such as Kayanthalai, takkol, unangal, kudachool etc. are still in practice in this part of land.

Nevertheless the history of sage Agasthiar, the author of Agasthiam is also mingled with the history of this region. According to tradition Agasthiar was sent to south by Lord Siva to maintain the ecological balance who in turn came to Kanniyakumari and enunciated the

treatment of varmam. This type of medical treatment is very useful to cure nervous diseases which English system of medicine is found ineffective. As this art has attracted much to the Buddha Bhikkhus who came to Southern India to spread their religion found excitement over this art and took this art to other parts of the world. Antique manuscripts reveal that the modern defence arts such as kharate of Japan, Kungfu of China have their real origin from the varma martial art of Kanniyakumari.

Further this region was the centre of different religions even during the ancient period. Religions such as Saivism, Vaishnavism, Jainism, Buddhism, etc. have flourished in this region even during the ancient period. Kanniyakumari is a place of divinity where Goddess Kumariamman is being worshipped from early days. The sthalapurana speaks of Parasurama who raised the temple at Kanniyakumari in the days of yore and worshipped. The Mahabharatha mentions of the pilgrimage of Balabhadra to this Kumariamman temple. Similarly the Bharatha Purana contains an account about the Arjuna's

Pilgrimage to this temple. This temple is functioning as a promoter of art, architecture, sculpture, paintings, music, dance, drama etc. The idol of Devi placed in the sanctum sanctorium is the most beautiful sculpture found in the temple.

Further at Sucendram there is a peculiar Sthanumalayan temple. It is the only shrine in the Indian sub-continent dedicated to the trinity. It is believed that the top, middle and the base of the Linga in this temple represent Siva, Vishnu and Brahma respectively. Similarly the Adikesavaperumal temple at Thiruvattar is one of the 108 Shrines sacred to Vaishnavaites in India. This temple is the unique mixture of Tamil and Kerala art and architecture.

In addition Kanniyakumari is also the centre of Jainism. It is known that places such as Kottar, Chitalar, Thirunandikkarai etc. were the centres of Jainism.

Further this region seems to be the orthodox sect of jainism. Thirunjanasambar, the Vaishnava saint who lived in the 7th Century A.D. accuses the jains as goondas moving nudely at the streets of Kottaru near Nagarcoil. Obviously Sambandar refers to the diggambara sect of jainism who neglect the wearing of dress. Similarly at Tiruccanarrumalai there are caves containing the statues of thinthankanas, Yakshas and Yakshis. In addition there are numerous inscriptions refer about the name and activities of jaina women ascetics and also the rich donations made to jaina temples. Similarly Bhuddhism also flourished in this region during the ancient period and have existed numerous temples in praise of Buddhist Gods.

As this region is famous for many religions, each religion copied the important features of other religions. For instance the Hindus

imbibed from the jains the practice of making pilgrimages from one temple to another. Accordingly, the orthodox Hindus of this region used to take penance for one week in the month of February and visit the famous 12 temples situated in different parts of this region on the day of Sivarathiri. During such time everyone after taking bath used to visit and worship the above 12 temples one by one by foot. This is a peculiar feature undertaken by the Hindus of this region.

Thus Kanniyakumari has great historical and cultural heritage. Further this district maintains pleasant climate, attractive natural scenery, historical monuments, art traditions, festivals etc. which make this region an attractive destination. In addition it is considered as a holy place as it is unique to see the rising and the setting the sun at the confluence of the three oceans.



Advertisement No.27/93

**TAMIL NADU PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATIONS AND LANGUAGE TESTS
FOR OFFICERS OF THE ALL INDIA SERVICES AND STATE SERVICE — SEPTEMBER 1993**

The Half Yearly Examinations and Language Tests prescribed for Officers of All India Services (I.A.S., I.P.S., and I.F.S.) and certain classes of Officers of the State serving in Tamil Nadu will be conducted by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission from 2nd September 1993 onwards. The last date of receipt of applications for the examinations is 11.8.93. Application forms and detailed particulars may be obtained on written requisition from the Controller of Examinations, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, Government Estate, Anna Salai, Madras-600 002.

Note:

- i) These examinations are only for those who are already in All India Services and State Services.
- ii) The Language Test in Tamil by the Higher Standard conducted under this scheme shall be the proficiency test in Tamil for All India Service Officers of others States, who desire to pass Tamil under Rs.1000 cash award scheme of their state. The Officers who wish to appear for this proficiency test in Tamil should apply to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Public (Special) Department, Madras-600 009, through the Chief Secretary to the Government of the State on the cadre of which the member of the service is borne so as to reach the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission on or before the last date i.e. 11.8.93. Only Officers who have not completed ten years of service are eligible for this examination.

DIPR/1204/MS/93



INDIAN GRANITES

A special exhibition was arranged and organised by the Government Museum, Madras (Geology Section) on 'Indian Granites' in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited (TAMIN), Gem Granites and Sunshine Granites from 17th to 31st May, 1993. In this exhibition we had colourfully displayed various granite products such as Multicolour granite specimens, granite slabs granite blocks, lanterns made of granites and photographs of granite quarries etc. These are some of the highlights of this special exhibition.

Usually, a rock is an aggregate of minerals. The term 'Granite' is a coarse grained plutonic igneous rock which derived its name from the Latin word 'Granum' - a grain. The granite is an important structural and ornamental stone and because of its high compressive strength and durability, it is used extensively for massive structural work. The granites that takes and preserves good polish is employed for ornamental, monumental and also for inscription purposes.

Granites are generally black, grey,

mottled grey, red or pink and white or green in colour. It mainly and essentially consist of minerals such as quartz, feldspars and micas. A number of accessory minerals may be present including apatite, zircon and magnetite. Granites have a broad range of physical and chemical properties. However, the chemical composition determines many physical properties of granites particularly its resistance to weathering.

In popular usage, the term granite is applied to almost any crystalline rock, irrespective of its composition or origin. Black granites are geologically called as dolerite rocks generally occurring in the form of dykes, mainly of volcanic origin. Similarly Kashmir white is geologically known as Leptinites. The exact composition of granite varies from place to place and even from specimen to specimen.

During the recent years the use of

D. Jawahar Prasad Raj
Curator
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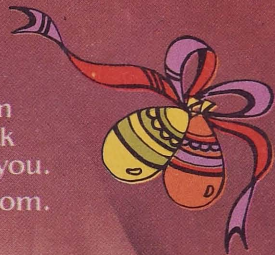
granites as monumental and decorative stones has increased worldwide, particularly in the Western Nations. In keeping with this trend and changing taste and choice for new colours, it has become necessary to search for new varieties of granites in addition to the conventional types.

The granites of India are mainly distributed in Orissa, Andhrapradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Particularly in Tamil Nadu, it is mainly distributed in Salem, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Tiruvannamalai, Chengalpattu, Periyar, North Arcot and South Arcot Districts. Indian granites are exported to various countries in the world, particularly to Japan, Korea and Italy.

The main reason, purpose and motive behind this special exhibition is to educate the common people and students about granites and its value. Our sincere thanks are due to the Chairman and Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited (TAMIN), Gem Granites and Sunshine Granites, Madras for participating in this special exhibition. Granites are undoubtedly a 'Treasure of our bounty earth'.

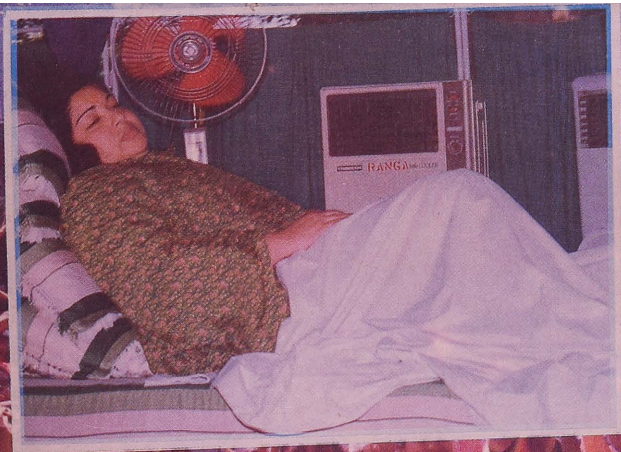
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