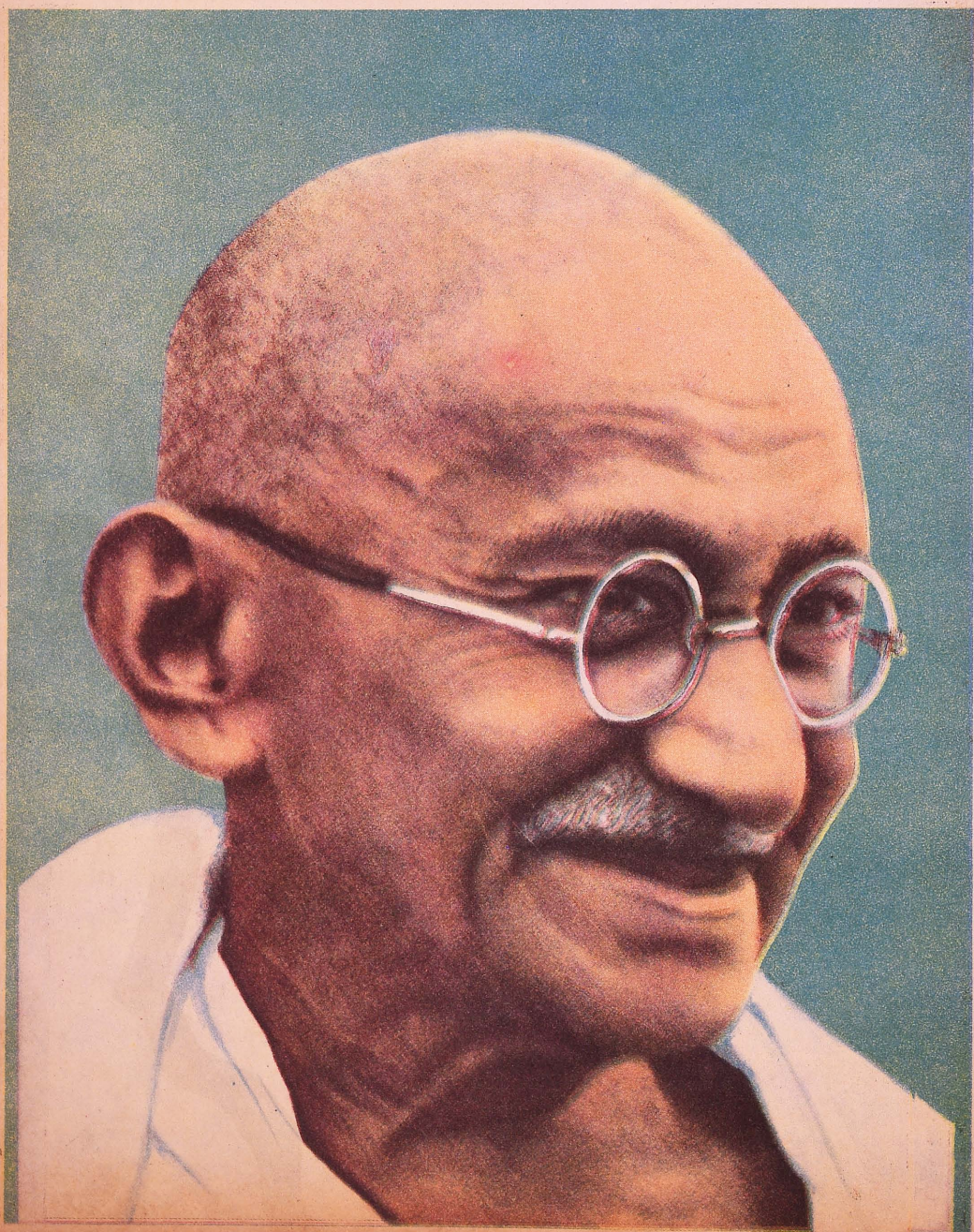


Tamil Arasu



October 1986
Re. 1





TAMIL ARASU

In scope this month

The New Chidambaranar District

To perpetuate the memory of Late V. O. Chidambaranar, the Tamil Nadu government has named the new district formed by carving out of Tirunelveli district as Chidambaranar district. A statistical report.

Late V. O. Chidambaranar, an inspiration

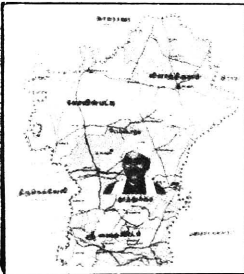
Late V. O. Chidambaranar was one of the leading patriots in Tamil Nadu whose contribution to the freedom struggle is immeasurable. A brief sketch on the great man.

The birth of Chidambaranar district

After two days of thoughtful seminars and pageantry at Tuticorin, Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. inaugurated the Chidambaranar district on October 20th. A report.

Mahatma Gandhi

On the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, an essay that is the sample of the profound thoughts of the Father of the Nation.

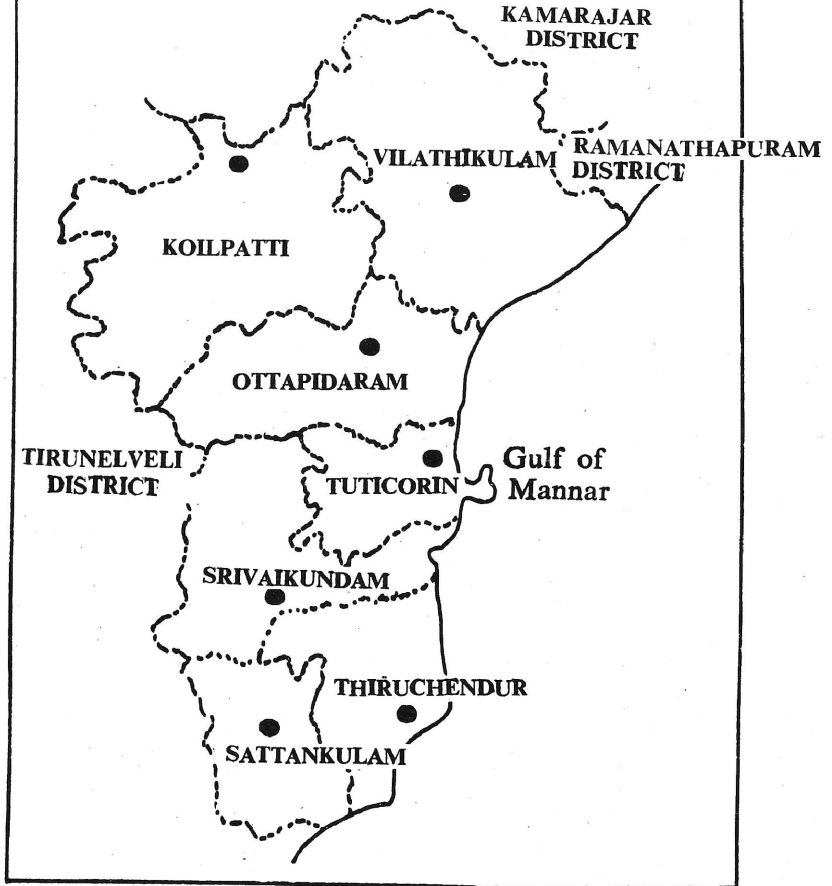


Thiruvalluvar Year 2017

October 1986

Purattasi - Iypasi

Chidambaranar District



CHIDAMBARANAR DISTRICT

TALUKS

1. TUTICORIN
2. SRI VAİKUNDAM
3. THIRUCHENDUR
4. SATTAN KULAM
5. KOVILPATTI
6. OTTAPIDARAM
7. VILATHIKULAM

PANCHAYAT UNIONS:

1. PUDUKOTTAI
2. SRI VAIKUNDAM
3. KARUNKULAM
4. SATTANKULAM
5. ODANGUDI
6. THIRUCHENDUR
7. ALWAR THIRUNAGARI
8. OTTAPIDARAM
9. VILATHIKULAM
10. PUDUR
11. KOVILPATTI
12. KAYATARU

MUNICIPALITIES

1. TUTICORIN
2. KOVILPATTI

REVENUE DIVISIONS — 2

1. TUTICORIN: Tuticorin, Sri Vaikundam,
Thiruchendur, Sattankulam.
2. KOVILPATTI: Kovilpatti, Vilathikulam, Ottapidaram

REVENUE VILLAGES	..457
PANCHAYATS	..408
TOWN PANCHAYATS	..20

TOTAL POPULATION ..13,50,581

Men	6,57,303
Women	6,93,278
Literates	7,57,530
Backward Communities	2,17,664

Population for Sq. K.M. 291

Total Area 46,35.1. Sq.KM

Irrigated Area 2,54,971 hectares

Live Stock 6,53,797.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

Elementary Schools	1122
High Schools	58
Higher Secondary Schools	53
Professional Colleges	9
Arts Colleges	8

IMPORTANT ROADS:

Tuticorin - Madurai
Tirunelveli - Tuticorin - National Highways 7A

V. O. Chidambaranar - a legendary freedom fighter



V.O. Chidambaram was born on September 5, 1872 at Ottapidaram and had his early education at St. Xavier's High School at Tuticorin. He graduated in law from the Tiruchi Law College.

VOC married Valliammal in 1894 and started legal practice in 1895 at Ottapidaram. In 1905 he started the Swadeshi Navigation Company to compete with the British shipping interests that monopolised the cargo movement from Tuticorin to Colombo. He organised the local textile workers' strike in 1906 and succeeded in reducing the working hours from 12 to nine.

Charged with treason on March 11, 1908 VOC was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for anti-national activities and another 20 years for his active support to Subramania Siva, a contemporary and legendary figure in the freedom struggle. The sentences were reduced on appeal to six years.

VOC served his sentence at the Coimbatore jail and later Cannanore. Subjected to torture his health was affected. He spent the last phase of his life after release from jail at Tuticorin where he died on November 18, 1936.

To commemorate VOC's birth centenary the late Indira Gandhi released stamp at the Tuticorin VOC College in 1974. The House at Ottapidaram taken over for preservation by the Tamil Nadu Government when Kamaraj was the Chief Minister, now houses a library.



P.M.'s assurance to C.M.

The Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi, has assured the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, that the use of English as an official language would continue as long as the non-Hindi speaking people wanted it.

This is in reply to a telegram sent by the Chief Minister conveying the apprehensions in Tamil Nadu about the recent circular issued by the Government of India on the use of Hindi.

In a communication to the Chief Minister, which was transmitted to the Chief Secretary here, the Union Home Minister Thiru Buta Singh, said: "The Prime Minister has received your communication mentioning your concern over the language agitation in Tamil Nadu following a recent circular issued by the Press Information Bureau. He has asked me to inform you that you need have to apprehension that any change has taken place in our policy regarding the use of Hindi and its applications to the non-Hindi speaking States.

The Government of India's policy in this regard is clear and unambiguous, that there would be no imposition of Hindi on the non-Hindi speaking States and the use of English would continue till such time as the non-Hindi speaking States desired it."

In view of the Prime Minister's assurance, the Chief Minister has appealed to all political parties, to the people of Tamil Nadu and the students community in particular to give up all agitations and demonstrations.

ELIE WIESEL : NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE

At the beginning of this century, philosopher George Santayana cautioned that "those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

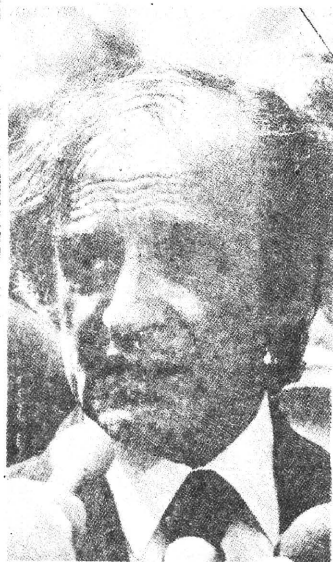
Elie Wiesel received the 1986 Nobel Prize for Peace on October 14 for dedicating his life to a one-word Biblical precept: "Zachor," Hebrew for "You shall remember."

Were it not for World War Two and the Nazi onslaught, Eliezer Wiesel might be in central Europe today—either in his native Carpathian Mountain town of Sighet or in one of the area's cities—teaching in a university or transmitting his

vast Talmudic knowledge to a new generation of Orthodox Jewish youth.

But the Holocaust swept through the continent between 1939 and 1945, killing—among millions of others—young Elie Wiesel's parents and the youngest of his three sisters. Wiesel, however, survived 14 months in Auschwitz and Buchenwald, emerging a generation later to bear witness through his work to a world that no longer exists—the world of European Jewry.

In conferring its prestigious honor, the Norwegian Nobel Committee noted that "Wiesel has emerged as one of the most important spiritual leaders and guides in an age when violence, repression and racism continue to characterize the world." (USIS)





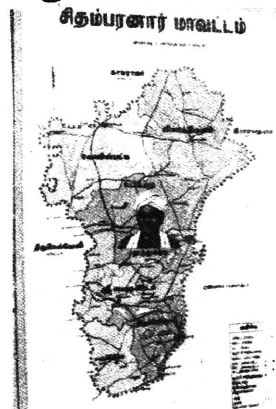
Chidambaranar District inaugurated

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R rechristened Tirunelveli district as "Nellai Kattabomman district" in honour of the freedom fighter who was hanged by the British rulers.

Dr. M.G.R who was speaking after inaugurating the Chidambaranar district which has been carved out of Tirunelveli district, said Kattabomman in fighting for country's independence, lost his property and his life. In his honour, Tirunelveli district would be named Nellai Kattabomman district from today, he said.

The Chief Minister said that because he felt that there should be closer rapport between the Government and the people, he decided to form new districts named after historic personages. The Chidambaranar district had been named after V. O. Chidambaram in recognition of his role in the freedom struggle.

Dr. M.G.R also laid the foundation for the new Collectorate complex, TNHB housing complex, rural textile centres and Adi Dravida housing projects on the occasion. He inaugurated the new bus routes of KTC and TTC.



Dr. M. P. Sivagnanam, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Legislative Council presided.



Mahatma Gandhi's
birth anniversary

Gandhiji's crusades

THIS nation has been accursed by the blight of untouchability. What began in the noble ideals of Varnashrama Dharma has been caricatured into a form of religion which is unacceptable to the mind and spirit of the people of India. The worst form of the caricature is the practice of untouchability. As usual the origins are lost in the midst of antiquity. It is the opinion of savants that what began as punitive measure to those indulging in the eating of flesh especially the flesh of cows has degenerated into the practice of abhorring a whole class of persons whose ancestors must once have practised this socially unacceptable custom.

Hindus have generation after generation been aware that a certain amount of injustice has been perpetuated against the untouchables but with the customary faith in rebirth and the certainty that atonement of sins follows the soul in each successive birth, Hindus have habitually continued their own harsh treatment of the fifth Caste. The awakened Hindu, however, must be deeply shocked at this treatment of his own fellow beings determined strictly by reason of birth. It was this deep sense of shock that turned Gandhiji into a crusader throughout his life in the cause of the untouchables. He has recalled the sense of sorrow and the sense of disbelief which he felt at the tender age of twelve when his first conscious thoughts about this social problem was formed. It was at that time that he cleaned himself after protest when he had touched the so-called untouchable. In the various issues of "Young India" and "Harijan", he had repeatedly dwelt upon the experience in his life and his deep analysis of the root causes of untouchability. He describes it as a "snake with a thousand mouths; through which it shows its poisonous fangs. It defies definition"-(Young India 11.7.1929). He has repeatedly urged that untouchability poisons Hinduism even as a drop of arsenic poisons milk.

Gandhiji was convinced that Hinduism like all other religions of



the world was on trial and has to prove its worth: He said, 'you must remember that all the great religions of the world are at the present time in the melting pot. Let us not ostrich-like hide our faces and ignore the danger that is at the back of us. I have not a shadow of doubt that in the great turmoil now taking place either untouchability has to die or Hinduism has to disappear.'

Gandhiji has repeatedly brought into focus the fact that untouchability has neither moral nor religious sanction. It is one of those parasitic growths which has sapped the energy of Hinduism.

The practitioners of Sanatana Dharma have continued to cling on to these forms because they felt that stability in society should be obtained at any cost and they were unable to envisage a situation, where caste and together with it untouchability could disappear. It is not a new thing in history that people should be conservative and attempt to preserve known life styles in which they feel safe. But history is also full of illustrations where people who have resisted changes

have found such life-styles swept away by the tidal wave of revolution.

It is on a realisation of this sombre writing on the wall that Gandhiji repeatedly gave the clarion call for a change in the outlook of the Hindus. He was very well aware that if Hinduism failed to face the challenge it would itself be destroyed. As an ardent Hindu who practised the highest spiritual and philosophical and moral concepts of Hinduism, Gandhiji did not wish to see this fine religion perish on account of its refusal to mete out justice to a fifth of the population that is the untouchables.

Gandhiji's deep concern for the welfare of this section of the people is too well known to need reiteration. His compassion for this inarticulate class of persons drove him to spend as much if not more time and energy organize a better life for them as for the freedom movement. We realized that freedom would be meaningless when a class of persons is allowed to live in an atmosphere of poverty, illiteracy and the darkness of ignorance. His ceaseless striving

to make them an accepted part of Hindu society was responsible for many developments which were considered sensational steps in those times. Take for example—the question of temple entry. No doubt Tamil Nadu has seen Tirupanazhvar, Kanappan and Nandan and others who were the chosen of the Gods. But these exceptions never paved the way for the betterment of the class. It required the genius of Gandhiji and the kind of spiritual leadership he provided to view this as a social problem which needed a radical and immediate solution.

After finding that untouchability has no sanction in religion, it is the greatness of Gandhiji that he has proceeded to apply it in everyday life. He has stated that caste Hindus' feeling of superiority over the untouchables has no sanction whatsoever in the sastras. He has said, "If I discovered that those scriptures which are known as Vedas, Upanishads Bhagavad Gita, Smritis etc., clearly showed that they had great authority for untouchability as I have described it to you then nothing on this earth would hold me to Hinduism. I should throw it overboard as I would throw overboard a rotten apple. My reason is offended and my heart is wounded at the very thought that God himself who has created both Savarna Hindus and Avarna Hindus should impose this bar sinister between his children.... But prejudice and superstitions die hard. They cloud the reason, befog the intellect and harden the heart." (Harijan 26.1.1934)

The Mahatma that he was, Gandhiji wanted all distinctions springing from the accidents of birth should be altogether done away with and not only should we have a classless society but also that all religious distinctions should altogether disappear. He was constantly aware of the unity of all life and he was convinced that the true message of Hinduism conveys just this. The mantras for Vishnu Pooja chanting "Jale Vishnu, sthale Vishnu... Vishnu Parvatha masthabe" which roughly translated means that the Lord is present in water, in land etc, is correct Hindu approach showing that everything is the manifestation of God. There is no room for untouchability. In this wide view of Hindu religion.

"I ask you to do one thing. Forget altogether that some are high and some are low. Forget altogether that some are touchables and some

Bye Election results

ARUPUKOTTAI

The results:

Total electorate: 1,23,204;

Votes polled: 91,366;

Thiru V.S.Panchavarnam (AIADMK) 55,125;

Thiru V.Thangapandian (DMK) 34,202;

Thiru A.Ramasamy (Ind) 23;

Thiru T.K.Karuthapandi (Ind) 54,

Thiru V.Thuravi Vipoothi Govindan Samiar (Ind) 162

Thiru A.Sankaralingam (Ind) 50;

Thiru S.P.Poojyanathan (Ind) 92;

Thiru M.Marimuthu (Ind) 50;

Thiru G.Muthukrishnan (Janata) 381;

Thiru J.Ravikumar (Ind) 47;

Thiru I.Raman (Ind) 65;

Invalid: 1,115.

TIRUNELVELI

Electorate: 1,31,041; Votes polled: 95,585

Thiru R.M.Veerappan (AIADMK) 52,729

Thiru A.L.Subramanian (DMK) 39,495

Thiru P.Jeyapaul (Janata) 1,006

Thiru P.Jagatheespondian (Ind) 526

Thiru P.John (Ind): 75

Thiru M.Mohammed Mather (Ind) 66

Thiru T.K.Karudhapandi (Ind) 59

Thiru M.Rayappan (Ind) 46

Thiru S.Suriamuthu (Ind) 44

Thiru M.Ramakrishnan (Ind) 37

Thiru Jayaveerapandian (Ind): 33

Thiru P.Rajagopal (Ind): 25

Thiru S.Murugesan (Ind) 21

Invalid: 1423

are untouchables. I know that you all believe in God as I do; and God cannot be so cruel and unjust as to make distinctions of high and low between man and man, and woman and woman. This untouchability is the greatest blot on Hinduism, and I have not hesitated to say that, if untouchability lives Hinduism dies. If one may use man's language about God, God has been very patient with us. But I have no hesitation in saying that even God's patience can be exhausted and He will no longer be patient towards

this atrocity that man has been doing to man in Hindu India." (Harijan: December 29, 1933).

Are not these observations borne out by the happenings in India today? We require a change in heart, a change in values, a change in the religion which still operates on the four varnas and the fifth which cannot be brought into this fold. The words of warning have been uttered by the greatest Indian of this century and we see that this warning is coming to pass.



In Tamil Nadu, you see the whole of India



COURTESY : FODOR'S GUIDE TO INDIA

RAMESWARAM

This side trip from Madurai might also be your last leg in South India before leaving for Sri Lanka by rail and ship or by air from Trichy or Trivandrum. The sacred island of Rameswaram is some 100 miles from Madurai and Sri Lanka lies only 46 miles away on the other side of Palk Strait. This Silver of land separates the Bay of Bengal in the north from the Indian Ocean and the train ride to this out post of India offers some unique seascapes.

You will probably have company on your trip to Rameswaram. The island is one of the main goals of Hindu pilgrims who come here to pay tribute to Rama, that hero of the epic Ramayana, who came here in search of his wife, Sita. Rama is one of the ten incarnations of Vishnu and, to many pilgrims, Rameswaram is as holy as Varanasi.

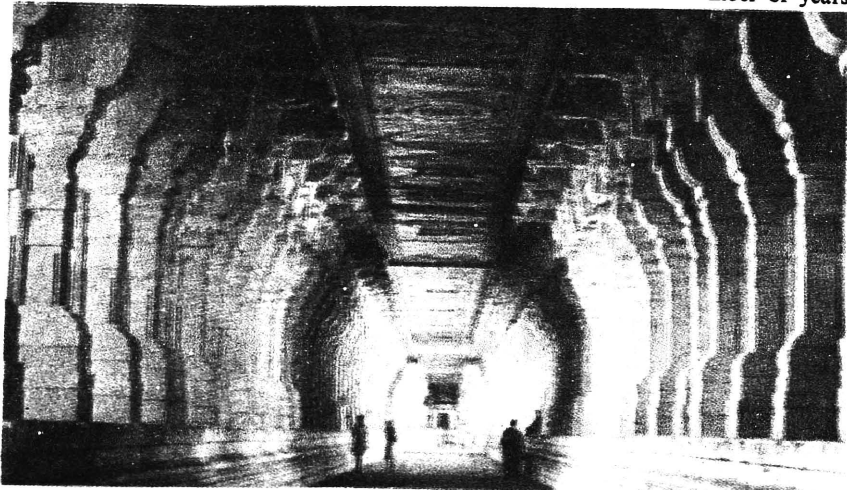
Both you and the pilgrims will head straight for the Ramanathaswamy Temple, built on the site where Rama worshiped Siva in order to do penance for killing the ten-headed demon king of Lanka. Rameswaram is so intimately linked with Rama that, to the Hindus every grain of its sand is considered sacred.

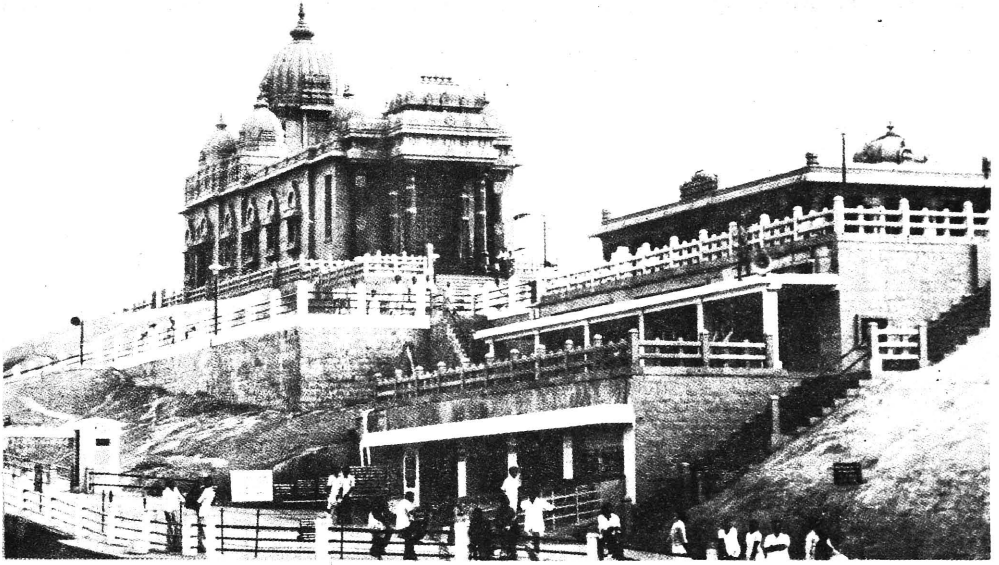
The Temple of Rameswaram is probably one of the most beautiful in all India in terms of sculpture. It rises above a lake as a vast rectangle about 1,000 feet along and 650 feet wide. It dates back to the 17th century although the process of building it took no less than three and a half centuries. The inspiration for its construction came from one of the princes of Sri Lanka.

Here, you will find that tall gopuram as typical of Dravidian temples as the spire is of Gothic churches. But the corridors of the Rameswaram

Temple are unique. They surround the rectangle, stretching out over a distance of 4,000 feet. Through occasional apertures, light filters into these corridors and flits over the carved pillars lining every foot on both sides. Each pillar is an individual composition carved out of solid granite. But it is only one of an army, and the total effect of the two ranks standing watch on the sides of the corridors is quite overpowering. Leading authorities call this the most evolved of all Dravidian temples.

From Rameswaram, you return in to the main line of the Southern Railway and head back to Madurai. Dhanushkodi, at the tip of the island should be visited if time allows. It is a must for Hindus, as bathing at the spot where the Bay of Bengal meets the Indian Ocean is considered one of their most pious duties. It was once part of the railway system, but a huge storm destroyed the connecting line a number of years ago.





Cape Comorin (Kanya Kumari)

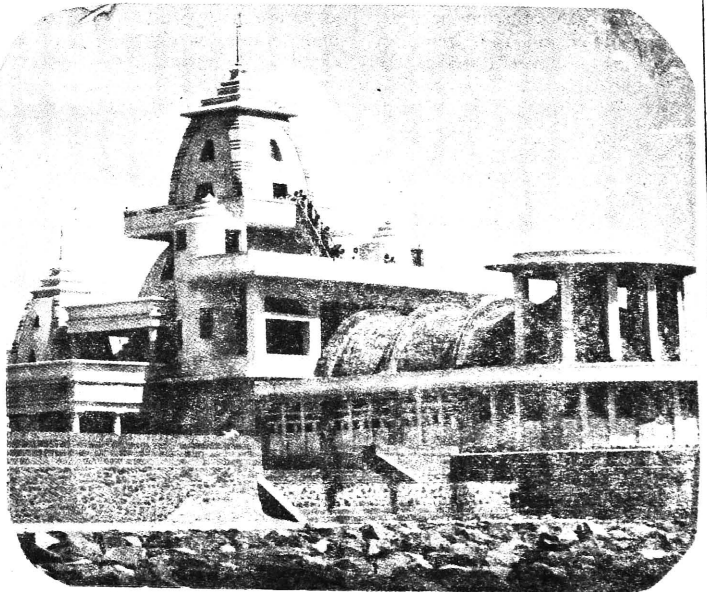
At Dhanushkodi, two seas meet, at Cape Comorin, the southernmost part of India, the waters of three come together. At this point, which India calls Kanya Kumari, the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean can be taken in at a single glance. It was known to the ancients, too: Ptolemy called it (comaria akron) on his maps and Marco Polo knew it as (Comori.)

By road from Madurai to the cape is a good 120 miles or more, depending upon the number of side trips in which you decide to indulge. It's best to plan this excursion as a leisurely journey. Fortunately, it can be broken rather comfortably at Courtalam.

Courtalam lies in the Western Ghat mountain range and you probably will appreciate its revivifying climate after a trek through South India. Its main claims to fame are the 300-foot waterfalls of the Chittar River and, nearby, an interesting temple. The falls themselves

have a local reputation as a spa-bathing in them is supposed to be good for both mind and body. With all these assets, Courtalam has developed into a pleasant resort. From here, it is a four-hour drive to Cape Comorin.

As you'll see on the map, though, there is no straight and easy road south from Madurai to take in all points of interest on the way. Courtalam is 35 miles to the west of Tinnevely (or Tirunelveli) on the main highway. About the same dis-





tance to the east is Tuticorin, a seaport and a centre for pearl-diving. To the south east, also on the sea, is Tiruchendur with a temple on the seashore, dedicated to Subrahmanya.

Then, driven through this Tirunelveli district, believed to be one of the earliest centres of civilization in India (discoveries of prehistoric burial urns have been made here), you reach Cape Comorin. Here, the Western Ghats, which begin in Mysore run into the sea, leaving jagged

rocks which make the Cape a danger point to shipping. It's a fantastic composition of sand, rocks and sea at the foot of green hills. According to a charming legend, this is where Siva married the goddess Parvati, daughter of King Himalaya. The seven varieties of rice thrown at the wedding were transformed for eternity into the seven coloured sands of Cape Comorin. You can see them in red brown, yellow, silver, orange, dark-blue and purple as they have been preserved by Varuna, God of the Sea. The Kanya Kumari Temple, erected on a pro-

montory of the cape, is revered by Hindus. Offshore lie the two rocks where Vivekananda sat in meditation before he left for the United States. The Nagercoil wild life sanctuary is only a dozen miles northwest of Cape Comorin and, in turn, it is just a matter of minutes to drive from Nagercoil to Padmanabhapuram with its old fort and a palace in the shape of a pagoda. From here you can either return to Madurai or else continue up the Malabar coast, towards the lush landscape of Kerala, the beach resort of Kovalam and the ancient port of Cochin.

All humane actions
have one or more of these
seven causes: chance, nature,
compulsions, habit,
passion, desire.

—Aristotle.

Widening the Southern traffic artery

This is one of the six highway development projects to be funded by the World Bank in India and the whole programme is slated for completion in 42 months.

Though the formal function to launch the project was held in September to coincide with the National Highways Week, actual work on strengthening the Pukkathurai-Villupuram section will be taken up from November 1st this year, followed by the construction of a second bridge across the Palar river from January 1st, and then commencement of the expansion work for four lanes from Tambaram to Pukkathurai from February 1 next year. Meanwhile, land acquisition work for the widening scheme has been set in motion.

According to the National Highways Department, the 'four laning' work alone will cost Rs. 22.7 crores, while the strengthening of the road upto Villupuram is estimated to cost Rs. 23.28 crores. The new bridge at Mamandur will cost Rs. 2.87 crores and land acquisition another Rs. 2.71 crores.

Of the three road overbridges to be taken up under the project, two will provide for an additional two-lane carriageway to go with the existing overbridges at Tambaram and Pararur. A new four-lane overbridge will come up across the Chingleput-Kanchipuram - Arakonam railway line near Chingleput. These three works are estimated at Rs. 2.57 crores.

Ultimately, a semi-circular by-pass around Madras will connect three main national

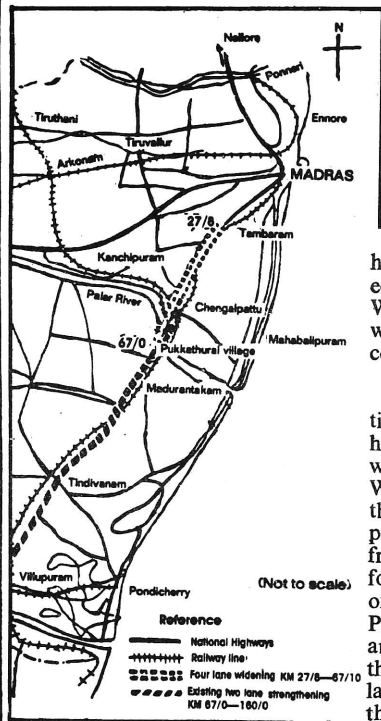
highways radiating from the city—to Nellore, Bangalore and Tiruchi / Dindigul. This will enable vehicles going from one highway to another avoid coming into Madras.

In the strengthening works from Pukkathurai to Villupuram, it is proposed to widen the road from the present 6.6 m to 7.5 m with a median, spaced at intervals for changing over from one side to another. Further, 'hard shoulders' for a width of 1.5 m and turfed shoulders for a width of 1 m on either side of the highway will be provided in the four lane section of 40 km. while the next 93 km will have 2.5 m wide hard shoulder and 0.5 m turfed shoulder to increase the 'trafficable width' and facilitate segregation of slow moving traffic. This is being tried for the first time in the country.

This national highway, described as the 'life line' and 'artery' of Tamil Nadu, is estimated to carry something like 80 to 85 per cent of the traffic in the State and hence the importance attached to this project.

A special significance is attached to the site (Mamandur) where the function was held to launch the programme—besides laying the foundation stone for the second bridge on the Palar, it was pointed out that some 35 years ago it was on the existing bridge pre-stressed concrete technology was applied for the first time in the country.

Courtesy : THE HINDU



The gala function on the banks of the Palar river in September 1986 marked the beginning of a much-awaited and long-talked project for the development of Tamil Nadu's "life line"—National Highway 45, otherwise known as the Grand Southern Trunk Road.

The Rs. 54 crore programme includes 'four laning' of the National Highway from Tambaram to Pukkathurai, a distance of about 40 km. into a divided four-lane road to segregation of traffic on two sides: slight widening and complete strengthening of the GST Road from Pukkathurai to Villupuram—a distance of 93 km., construction of three road overbridges (across railway lines) and a second bridge across the Palar at Mamandur and provision of by-pass roads for the towns of Chingleput, Mamandur, Madurantakam, Melmaruvathur and Vikravandi. There will also be a pedestraint subway at Melmaruvathur.

THE WORLD OF PRESS CONFERENCES

Noon meal scheme evokes interest in European countries:

The Noon Meal Scheme for children in Tamil Nadu, had evoked interest among parliamentarians in the Scandinavian countries known well for their social security measures, the Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker, Hon'ble Thiru P. H. Pandian, told newsmen on Oct. 16th.

Thiru Pandian, who had visited Norway, Sweden and Denmark and some other European countries during September-October, after participating in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's 75th anniversary in London, said that wherever he had occasion to address meetings, he highlighted the Chief Minister's Nutritious Noon Meal Programme for children. The subject generated a lot of interest in many places, especially in the Scandinavian countries and there was keenness to know more about the scheme; some even expressed a desire to visit Tamil Nadu for a first-hand study, he said.

The Speaker said he was very much impressed with the arrangement in the British Parliament for collecting petitions on public grievances from the members. Behind the Speaker's chair was a 'petitions bag' into which any member could drop representations. The Speaker's office would process them and have necessary action taken on them expeditiously. "I am thinking whether such an arrangement can be made here also" he said.

8.33 p.c. bonus, ex-gratia for bus Corporation employees:

Employees of the State-owned transport corporations in Tamil Nadu will receive bonus at 8.33 percent for 1985-86, besides an ex-gratia payment.

The Hon'ble Transport Minister Thiru S. Muthusamy said here on October 16th that the ex-gratia amount would be Rs. 475 for PTC workers and Rs. 500 for those in the other transport corporations. The bonus and the ex-gratia would be disbursed on October 20.

Last year, the workers were paid a lumpsum of Rs. 425 in PTC and Rs. 475 in other corporations, in addition to bonus at 8.33 percent.

The Minister said the workers of engineering corporations would be entitled to bonus and ex-gratia payment at the rates applicable to the corporations to which they were attached. For employees in the Goods Transport Corporation and the Pallavar-Transport Consultancy Services, the ex-gratia would be Rs. 475. The employees of the Poompuhar Shipping Corporation would get Rs. 375 in addition to the 8.33 per cent. bonus.

The bonus and the ex-gratia announced would involve an out go of Rs. 10 crores and benefit 77,500 employees in the transport sector.

Centre urged to compensate loss on prohibition

The Tamil Nadu Government has urged the Centre to compensate monetarily for the loss it will incur to the tune of Rs.250 crores from January 1st 1987 by enforcing prohibition, the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Dr. V.R. Nedunchezian told pressmen here on October 16.

There was no going back on the decision to reintroduce prohibition from January 1. However, the bottling plants might continue to operate as marked could always be found for arrack in the States where dry law was not in force. Even today, bottling plants in Tamil Nadu were supplying arrack to their neighbouring States like Karnataka.

Refusing to be drawn into discussion on how the State would meet the loss of over Rs. 250 crores, Thiru Nedunchezian said the exercise on mopping up of resources for the Annual Plan and budget discussions would begin in November or December. At that time the Government would consider in-depth how to offset this loss.

Pointing out that financial strains were mounting because of the inflating non-land expenditure like the recent commitment by the Government to write off Rs. 145 crores by way of interest on agricultural loans and the spending on other welfare schemes to the poor.

Handing over of raffle tickets said to a single wholesale

agency for Tamil Nadu was engaging the attention of the Government as it would relieve the pressure on treasury officials.

Rs. 95 to Rs. 275 wage rise for busmen

About 75,000 workers belonging to the 14 State-owned transport corporations in Tamil Nadu will get a pay rise ranging from Rs.95 to Rs.275 a month under a new wage accord.

The three-year agreement, effective from September 1, 1986, was signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Transport Minister, Thiru S. Muthusamy at the end of protracted negotiations between the managements and the workers representatives which lasted 142 hours spread over 20 days. Leaders of workers unions affiliated to the AIADMK, DMK, HMS, AITUC, CITU and INTUC participated.

The earlier three-year agreement, concluded in 1983, expired on August 31. The revised pay scales will be reflected in the salaries for September to be drawn on October 1. On account of the revision, the wage bill of the transport corporations put together will go up by Rs. 15 crores a year.

The Minister pointed out that it was for the first time all the trade unions which took part in the talks signed the agreement. "This shows the terms are satisfactory to all sections of workers," he said.

The Chief Minister had instructed that a new agreement to be signed before the expiry of the earlier accord. He had also wanted the managements to be generous towards the workers. "We have been able to carry out his instructions both the counts", Thiru Muthusamy said, adding a majority of nearly 100 demands put forth by the unions were conceded.

The basic pay of the lowest category of workers would go up from Rs. 400 to Rs. 540 for new entrants for existing employees it would go up to Rs. 590. The overall increase would be Rs. 105 in Madras, Rs. 100 in district headquarters and transport corporation headquarters and Rs. 95 in rural centres.

The annual increments were also revised upwards. In the lowest scale, the rate would be Rs. 10 instead of the present Rs. 7.50 and in the highest scale, it would be Rs. 60 as against Rs. 40 now.

The washing allowance would go up from Rs. 10 to 15 month, and the uniform stitching allowance from Rs. 90 to 135 for those taking terrycotton sets once in two years and from Rs. 45 to Rs. 66 in respect of cotton set issued every year. The ceiling on medical allowance would be removed. The sick leave entitlement would go up from eight to nine days and earned leave from 18 to 20 days.

The basic pay of drivers would be Rs. 15 more than that of conductors (the present difference is Rs. 10). This had been one of the unanimous demands of the unions.

To a question how the corporations proposed to meet the additional pay bill, Thiru Muthusamy said great attention would be paid to reducing the operational expenditure. He expected that the overall efficiency would improve further as a result of the "satisfactory agreement reached."

Cargo carrier: The second cargo carrier to be acquired by the Poompuhar Shipping Corporation would be delivered on October 1. The Transport Secretary, Thiru A.K. Venkatasubramanian, would receive the 40,000-tonne vessel at the Japanese yard costing 4,610 million yen, the ship had been named Tamil Periyar. The third carrier, "Tamil Kamaraj" also from Japan, was expected

to be delivered by the end of December.

Govt. to fix soon ceiling on edible oil price :

The Tamil Nadu Government will fix shortly a ceiling on selling prices of edible oils in the State.

This follows a steep rise in the prices of the commonly used groundnut and gingelly oil in the past three months by about Rs. 10, a kg.

The Honourable Food Minister, Thiru S.Thirunavukkarasu, met representatives of oil producers and wholesale dealers at the Secretariat on September 19th and discussed measures to bring down the prices. The meeting was attended by the Food Secretary, Thiru A.S. Padmanabhan, and the Civil Supplies Commissioner, Thiru V.T. Thurairaj, besides traders from predominantly oil producing areas like Virudhunagar.

One of the reasons attributed to the rise in prices was the fall in production of oilseeds. In a normal year, the production of groundnut and gingelly oil seeds in Tamil Nadu will be 3.72-lakh tonnes, which would be adequate to meet the edible oil needs of the people. However, due to drought and other factors, the production this year had fallen to 2.50-lakh tonnes resulting in short supply of this essential commodity.

It was also pointed out that there was no restriction on movement of oilseeds from State to State, as the whole country had been treated as a single zone for the purpose. As the ruling prices of oil in States like Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal were much higher than in Tamil Nadu, there was a tendency for a large movement of stocks to these States, accentuating the shortage in Tamil Nadu.

The Minister appealed to the producers and traders to cooperate with the Government's efforts to keep the prices under check, and suggested to them to work out, on a voluntary basis, a ceiling price which would be fair to both the producers and the consumers, so that the Government might enforce the same throughout the State.

The Minister later told newsmen that the merchants had agreed to discuss among themselves, work out a reasonable ceiling price, and meet him again on September 30. He said following the State-level meeting, the District Collectors would hold discussions with the traders at the district level and seek their cooperation to bring down the prices.

The Minister told the dealers that the Government would, in the meantime, strictly enforce and earlier order under which no trader can keep more than 80 tonnes of edible oil at any given time. Stocks held in excess of this limit would be seized by the Food Cell police as a measure to check hoarding and profiteering.

HDFC houses for Government employees

The Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) has had preliminary discussions with the Tamil Nadu Government on meeting part of the finance needed for its project to construct 30 lakh houses in three years. "Finance to the extent possible would be made available by the HDFC", Mr. K.S.L. Narasimhan, Branch Manager, Madras, told newsmen on September 11th.

The HDFC is already assisting the allottees of World Bank aided sites and services schemes of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and MMDA for construction of houses

under a special arrangement, he pointed out. It has also financed companies to provide staff quarters in backward areas like Hosur in Dharmapuri district, Arakonam in North Arcot district and Virudhunagar in Kamarajar district.

The Madras Branch of HDFC which caters to the needs of the people in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry had approved loans to the tune of Rs. 65 crores to benefit 15,000 families in Tamil Nadu since its operations began in 1979.

Narasimhan said, last year (1985-86); it has disbursed Rs. 14 crores as loans to benefit 2,500 people. The home savings plan which was introduced last year had caught on and so far 358 persons had opened accounts totalling Rs. 113.3 lakhs under the scheme.

Drug peddling in south declines

Peddling in drugs has shown a decline in the south owing to large seizures increased penalties and surveillance on the borders, according to Thiru K.K. Rajasekaran Nair Inspector-General of Police, CID, Crimes.

He told newsmen on September 11th that the amendment to the Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs Act of 1985 and imposed a minimum imprisonment of 10 years for possession of drugs. In fact, the first conviction in Tamil Nadu was made recently under the new provision.

Thiru Rajasekaran Nair said 60 cases of peddling in drugs had been detected this year, mostly in Madras, by the Narcotics Intelligence Bureau. About 3.5 kg of heroin was seized this year.

The Inspector-General said that drug trafficking to the south was mainly from Bombay or New Delhi, which got their stocks from Pakistan, particu-

larly through the border in Rajasthan.

After the large-scale seizures in Delhi and Bombay the conduits to the south had shrunk. The 'consumers' were mainly youth in the 16-22 age group. Though the enforcement agencies had their task to perform in curbing this social evil, voluntary organisations had a major role in educating the people and sensitising them on the evils of drug addiction.

Drive to protect water resources

The Tamil Nadu Government has launched a massive programme to protect and conserve soil and water resources in Tamil Nadu.

Thiru S.Savadamuthu, Chief Engineer of the Agricultural Engineering Department, told newsmen on September 21st that 5.36 million hectares was under cultivation of which 3.5 million hectares was under dry land agriculture. So far in Tamil Nadu 1.1 million lakh hectares had been covered by the soil and water conservation programme.

Thiru Savadamuthu said that in the Seventh Plan it was proposed to cover three lakh hectares. For this the Department had geared its machinery and the success of the programme depended upon the active participation of the farmers who formed the core sector.

As part of the soil conservation week the Agricultural Engineering Department, had taken up tree plantation in a big way. In August 10,000 saplings were planted in South Arcot alone and about one lakh trees were planted in schools and colleges all over the State.

A State level celebration conference would be held in Madras on September 22 and

23 to create an awareness among the people of the need for soil and water conservation.

Mettur water release to be stepped up

The release of water from Mettur reservoir was stepped up from 15,000 cusecs to 19,000 cusecs from September 20th.

A decision to this effect was taken by the State Government today following representations from the ryots in the tail-end areas of the delta in Thanjavur district.

The Hon'ble Irrigation Minister Thiru Y.S.M. Yusuf, told newsmen on September 19th there were complaints about inadequacy of water in the tail-end areas and the Government deputed the senior Deputy Chief Engineer, Thiru Nageswaran, to make an on the spot study of the situation.

Thiru Nageswaran, after a visit to the delta particularly to the tail-end areas, had stated that as the transplanation work was in full swing in all the areas there was need for more water, and suggested that the present discharge of 15,000 cusecs be raised by another 4,000 cusecs. The District Collector had also concurred with this view.

Accordingly, Thiru Yusuf said, the Government has decided to release 19,000 cusecs for a period of 15 days after which the position would be reviewed.

Following rain in the catchment areas, the Minister said, the inflows into the Mettur reservoir had gone up in the past three days. It was 19,339 cusecs on September 17th, about 35,000 cusecs on September 18th and 19,000 cusecs on September 19th.

He said the existing storage would be adequate to meet the needs of the delta only till the middle of October, and he was writing to his counterpart in

Karnataka to release at least 30 tmc ft of water from Karnataka reservoirs to enable Tamil Nadu to carry on till the onset of the next monsoon.

57 Lakh tonnes of rice output expected

In view of the adverse seasonal conditions in the earlier part of the cropping year, the total area under paddy in Tamil Nadu will be 22 lakh hectares against the projected 26.5 lakh hectares, Dr. K. Kalimuthu, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, told newsmen on October 17th. The Agriculture Department, however, had taken various measures to increase the output by 750 kg a hectare and the total rice production in the State was expected to be 57 lakh tonnes.

In Thanjavur district alone, so far 50,000 hectares had been brought under samba. It was expected to bring 3.50 lakh hectares more under samba in the district. Before the end of this month not less than four lakh hectares would come under this crop.

Farmers were requested to raise the short duration ADT 36 variety. Agricultural godowns had adequate quantities of seed materials.

With a view to overcoming the shortfall in paddy output following the failure of the southwest monsoon during the kuruvai season, the department was striving to increase the area under samba. The kuruvai area dwindled on the whole by two lakh hectares in the districts of Thanjavur, South Arcot and Pudukottai.

During the manavari season, normal paddy area had been exceeded both in North Arcot and Chinglepurt. The season was almost over and the crop on 75 percent of the total area had been harvested. Taking into consideration the crop cutting experiments carried out, the

average yield was six tonnes a hectare. In Thanjavur district also, the kuruvai harvest was over in 50 percent of the area. The yield on an average was 5,800 kg a hectare.

In Madras, Thiru N. Athimoolam I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, told a press conference that the shortfall in the area under short term paddy would be made good and the department was confident of achieving last year's rice production of 56 lakhs tonnes.

Replying to a question, the Director said there were 3.20 lakh contact farmers throughout Tamil Nadu and they had achieved a 25 per cent increase in paddy yield per hectare. This was revealed by the studies conducted by the Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation. Tamil Nadu occupied the third place in per hectare paddy yield, next to Punjab and Haryana, because of the natural constraint of large rain-fed areas.

Fifty per cent of the area had been covered last year under the programme of five-tonne a hectare and it was targeted to cover 65 per cent during the current year.

About sugarcane the Director said it was programmed to increase the production from 2.13 crore tonnes last year to 2.4 crore tonnes this year. Pat for Tamil Nadu on T. & V: About the Training and Visit project funded by the World Bank, Thiru Athimoolam, said a three-member bank team headed by Thieur Leslie Abbie which visited Tamil Nadu recently, had complimented the Directorate of Agriculture on the "successful implementation" of T and V. It had specially mentioned about the adoption of different technologies by villagers and the regular visits by agricultural officers.

OUR FUTURE



We notice that the mind is a restless bird; the more it gets the more it wants, and still remains unsatisfied. The more we indulge our passions the more unbridled they become. Our ancestors, therefore, set a limit to our indulgences. They saw that happiness was largely a mental condition. A man is not necessarily happy because he is rich, or unhappy because he is poor. The rich are often seen to be unhappy the poor to be happy. Millions will always remain poor. Observing all this our ancestors dissuaded us from luxuries and pleasures. We have managed with the same

kind of plough as existed thousands of years ago. We have remains the same as before. We have had no system of life-corroding competition. Each followed his own occupation or trade, and charged a regulation wage. It is not that we did not know how to invent machinery, but our forefathers knew that, if we set our hearts after such things, we would become slaves and lose our moral fibre. They, therefore, after due deliberation decided that we should only do what we could with our hands and feet. They saw that our real happiness and health consisted in a proper use of our hands and feet. They further reasoned that large cities were a snare and a useless encumbrance and that people would not be happy in them, that there would be gangs of thieves and robbers in them, and that poor men would be robbed by rich men. They were, therefore, satisfied with small villages. They saw

that kings and their swords were inferior to the sword of ethics and they, therefore, held the sovereigns of the earth to be inferior to the rishis and the fakirs. A nation with a constitution like this is fitter to teach others than to learn from them. This nation had courts, lawyers and doctors but they were all within bounds. Everybody knew that these professions were not particularly superior; moreover; these vakils and v aids did not rob people; they were considered people's dependent, not their masters. Justice was tolerably fair. The ordinary rule was to avoid courts. There were no touts to lure people into them. This, evil, too, was noticeable only in and around capitals. The common people lived independently and followed their agricultural occupation. They enjoyed true Home Rule.

—Mahatma Gandhi

THE SIN OF UNTOUCHABILITY

I regard untouchability as the greatest bolt on Hinduism. Untouchability is the sin of the Hindus. They must suffer for it, they must purify themselves, they must pay the debt they owe to their suppressed brothers and sisters.

Untouchability is not a sanction of religion, it is a device of Satan.

To remove untouchability is a penance that caste Hindus owe to Hinduism and to themselves. The purification required is not of "untouchables" but of the so called superior castes.

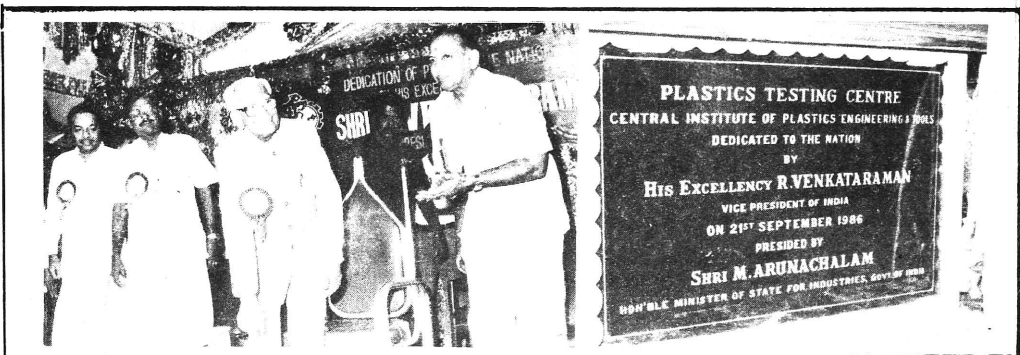
Untouchability in its extreme form has always caused me so much pain, because I consider myself to be a Hindu of Hindus saturated with a spirit of Hinduism. I have failed to find a single warrant for the existence of untouchability as we believe and practice it today in all those books which we call as Hindu shastras. If I found that Hinduism really countenanced untouchability I should have no hesitation in renouncing Hinduism itself.

The ulcer of untouchability has gone so deep down that it seem to pervade our life.

Hence the unreal differences. Why should there be all this poison smelling of untouchability? Why should we not all be children of one Indian family? Are we not like branches of the same tree?

When untouchability is rooted out, these distinctions will vanish and no one will consider himself superior to any other. Naturally, exploitation too will cease and co-operation will be the order of the day.

—Mahatma Gandhi



Vice President Dedicates Plastics Testing Centre to Nation

The further growth of the plastic industry depends on technical assistance it gets and the recycling and re-use of plastic formulations and quality control. The Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Tools (CIPET) in Guindy could do a lot in this regard, His Excellency the Vice-President, Thiru R. Venkataraman, said on 20th Sept. He was dedicating to the nation of Rs. 4.5-crore Plastics Testing Centre set up by CIPET.

Thiru Venkataraman said that as plastic processing units were concentrated in the small scale sector, they lacked effective quality control and testing facilities. "In this plastic age, it would be most appropriate to take stock of the situation as it exists today and formulate concrete plans for 15 years ahead."

Quality control equipment were now imported but efforts should be made to indigenise them through cooperation with CIPET and other research and development organisations.

The Vice-President said he was proud to attend the CIPET function since it was during his

tenure as Industries Minister of Tamil Nadu that the decision to locate CIPET in Madras was taken. Later, he became the first president of CIPET's governing council and saw it through teething troubles. He was glad it had grown into a renowned institute in Asia.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Industries, Thiru M. Arunachalam, presiding said the quality of plastic products, particularly consumer durables, "leaves a lot to be desired." CIPET performed valuable training and testing, but they were not all, and the institute must set its sights higher and embark on much holder programmes. "If anything, CIPET has been quite conservative in the past. This must change and the institute must aspire to a true leadership role so that India could attain international standards."

The Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Minister for Housing, Thiru N. Nalluswami, said the State Government was giving all facilities for CIPET growth.

Thiru K. Ramamurthi, MP and president of the CIPET Employees Union, said the employer-employee relations were good.

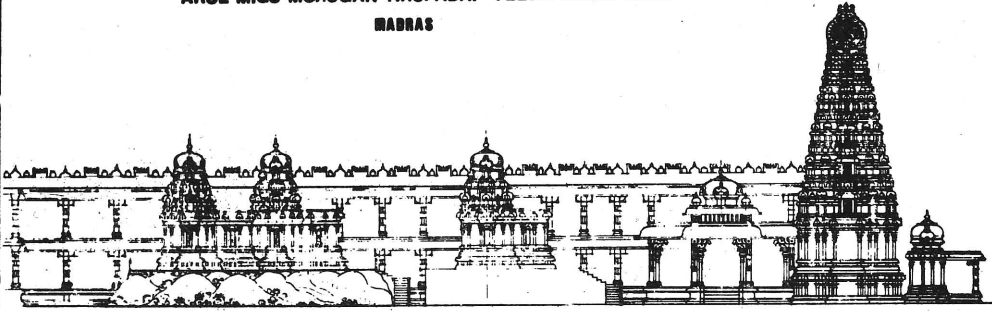
Dr. S. Bharadwaj, CIPET Director, said the testing centre had expansion and diversification plans as also enlargement of the scope of training and testing CIPET had established a mini-testing laboratory at its Ahmedabad extension centre to serve the western region. Such laboratories would come up in its four extension centres so that testing facilities were available all over the country.

Thiru V. R. Deenadayalu, president of the governing council of CIPET, welcoming the gathering, said CIPET would have computer aided design, manufacturing and testing facilities. Its equipment were on par with those in the West.

Dr. K. Ramamurthi, head of the Plastics Testing centre, proposing a vote of thanks, hoped that UNIDO, UNDP and other international organisations would continue to assist CIPET's expansion.



ARUL MIGU MURUGAN ARUPADAI VEEDU THIRU KOVIL
MADRAS



CHANDRASEKHARENDRA SARASWATHI
HYDRABAD

CHANDRASEKHARENDRA SARASWATHI

SIDE ELEVATION

A side elevation view of the Arupadai veedu temple complex that is to come up at Besant Nagar in the City.

Murugan Temple

complex to be set up in Besant nagar

A Rs. 2 crore temple complex, containing replicas of the five major temples in Tamil Nadu dedicated to Lord Muruga and symbolising the sixth, where there is no temple as such but contains the 'tridents' (Vel) from the important centres where Muruga is worshipped, is to come up on a one-acre site in Besantnagar near the Mahalakshmi temple.

The abodes of Muruga in the State, called the 'Aru Padai Veedu', are on hillocks. The idea of constructing a campus in which identical six divine abodes will be housed in one place, was conceived by H.H. Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi about four years ago when he was in Satara, where at his instance a Nataraja temple was built to which four States have given contribution.

At the instance of the Chief Minister, Dr. M.G.R. who was told about this scheme, a piece of land was reserved in Besantnagar, on

the sea shore, as the Acharya desired. Preliminary work has begun and operations will be in full-swing from January next. By coincidence the location of the 'Madras Aru Padai Veedu' is very near the tomb of Pamban Swamigal, a devotee of Muruga.

According to the Chairman, of the trust Dr. A. Alagappan (a former United Nations official who had been associated with the construction of various temples in the U.S.) the temple would devote attention to social welfare programmes, besides concentrating on religious needs, since "social service is the best form of religion." Right against alcoholism and abuse of drugs, care of the aged, the rights of women and nutrition were some of the welfare measures proposed.

Thiru S. Muthiah Sthapathi, designated as the architect for the world's largest Hindu tem-

ple being built for the Hare Krishna movement in honour of Radhakrishna at West Virginia, has designed the Madras Aru Padai Veedu. The present sandy site would be raised by seven feet to form the base for the six "mini hillock shrines."

The Kanchi Acharya's intention is to organise a Tirupugazh school here, train people and then arrange to take "umbrellas" from here, accompanied by the rendering of the songs, to the six original abodes, as is being done for Lord Venkateswara. A monk will be housed adjoining the temple to chant Vedic hymns.

Dr. Alagappan said funds would not be a problem for such noble ventures. Many non-resident Indians were prepared to give donations for the first phase of the project costing about Rs. 30 lakhs, commitments having been made by a few NRIs, he added.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

— A Joint Venture

Millions of people living in the villages have to be culturally and economically reborn; they have to develop a new outlook on life; but they should not be uprooted from their moorings. We want them to enjoy all the good things of life, but not losing their soul. In short, this is the nucleus of all rural community welfare programmes since 1952. The Community Development Programme launched in October 1952, ignited a new approach to rejuvenate rural life.

The Government of India have accorded the highest priority to the programme of Rural Development with a view to attaining the objectives of increasing agricultural production, creating employment, eradicating poverty and bringing about all round improvement in the quality of life of rural community as also the rural economy. It also needs a national effort involving public participation. Government would like to encourage individuals, corporates and non-

corporate bodies to participate in this venture. The Government of India have come forward to set up a fund to mobilise the private resources for rural development. Accordingly National Fund for Rural Development has been set up by the Government of India.

The contributions or donations made by all categories of tax-payers, to NFRD will be deductible in computing taxable income.

The Fund is managed by a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister with Minister of Finance, Minister of Planning and Minister in charge of Rural Development as Members, and the Secretary in the department of Rural Development will be the Secretary.

The donors, while making donations, may recommend their preference for the area or the locality and the rural development programme for which the donation may be utilised as also the implementing agency through which the programme may be undertaken and implemented. The recommendations, if any, of the Donors will be given due consideration to the extent deemed appropriate by the Committee of Management of the Fund. Important among the Projects that can be taken up for implementation under this Fund include construction and maintenance of Rural Link Roads, Drainage and Sanitary latrines; Water projects which may include digging of wells, tube-wells, etc., and laying of pipes of supply of drinking water to problem



villages; rural dispensaries, Family welfare centres including Nutrition for Children and mothers in pre-natal and post-natal stage.

The donations can also be used for establishment of workshops and Farm machinery repair centres, training of artisans, mechanics, etc; harnessing solar energy, wind and other renovable sources of energy; constructing houses for weaker sections on sites provided by the Government or the village Panchayats etc., Community afforestations, social and farm forestry, land reclamation, soil

conservation, land shaping and development of land cultivation.

The farming operation works such as poultry, pigery, fishery and sericulture are covered under this scheme.

Special schemes designed for income generation for rural women, child and human resources development, may be undertaken. Programmes for the handicapped and the disabled in the rural areas and programmes for education in the rural areas are also included in the approved list of works.

Donations to the Fund should be made in the name of "NATIONAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT". India lives in her villages. Village development in national development. Let us all join this journey and make Rural India a prosperous land.

All correspondence relating to the fund may be addressed to Joint Secretary (NFRD) Government of India, Department of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.

TAMIL UNIVERSITY'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA ON SCIENCE

The Tamil University has taken the responsibility of bringing up the Tamil Encyclopaedia on Science.

The Science section has planned for 20 volumes and the first volume is being released now.

The science volumes of the encyclopaedia strike out a new path in the sense of that profound and complicated scientific and technological concepts are explained in Tamil many

or most possibly for the first time, certainly never before so comprehensively or authoritatively. The scientific writer in Tamil, faces a difficult problem at the very outset, it is far from easy to translate or render into Tamil the very numerous expressions and acronyms that the English language has used, and is using, to denote the concepts, ideas and technologies that are springing up in profusion as the frontiers of science and technology advance. English itself has taken many of them from Greek. If Tamil, in keeping with its literary and philosophical glories, is to retain its place as a world language, as a language of the twentieth and the twenty-first centuries, it must come to terms with the scientific and technological advance. Accordingly, the policy

followed for the encyclopaedia is likely to prove instructive to others also.

The first science volume, which is being released contains over 375 entries in a thousand pages. It is fully illustrated. The information it provides is authoritative.

By publishing the encyclopaedia on Science, the Tamil University is fulfilling is one of the most important of the objectives for which it was set up, to take Tamil into the twenty-first century by providing it modern tools of knowledge. As the succeeding volume volumes of the Science Encyclopaedia are issued from time to time, the University would be rearing a monument to Tamil as glorious as the city where it functions.

—N.S.Ramaswami.

The first duty of love is to listen.

Paul Tillich

*When native subtilty combines
with sound scholastic lore
'Tis subtilty surpassing all,
which nothing stands before.
Thirukkural, 636.-
Dr.G.U.Pope's Translation.*



WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT DONATES TELEVISION AND VIDEO TO FAMILY WELFARE CENTRE IN CSI RAINY HOSPITAL, MADRAS.

The Federal Republic of Germany has come forward to encourage the Family Welfare Programme in Tamil Nadu by donating a Colour Television

and Video Cassette player to the CSI Rainy Hospital that has recorded commendable achievement in the Family Welfare Programme. On behalf of the Government of West Germany the Consul General, Mr.N. Merten, presented the set to the CSI Rainy Hospital, Madras on 27.8.86. The Medical Superintendent of the Hospital Dr.D.Viziakumar, received the T.V.set. The Deputy Medical

Superintendent, Dr. Rajakumari Sundar, who is incharge of the Family Welfare wing of the Hospital, received the Video Cassette player.

While presenting the equipments the Consul General said that because of their interest in the welfare of the people their Government presented equipments for the benefit of the mothers who stay in the hospital.

NOTIFICATION FROM THE PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A & E)

TAMIL NADU, MADRAS-600 018.

The Principal Accountant General (A & E), Tamil Nadu, Madras-600 018, has commenced the despatch of Annual Account Statements of Provident Fund for the year 1985-'86, in respect of all the subscribers of the Tamil Nadu Government. These Annual Account Statements are being forwarded to the Heads of Offices, in which the subscribers were working in March 1986.

Government servants are, therefore, requested to contact the concerned Heads of Offices and collect their Statements of Accounts. Utmost care has been taken to prepare the Statement of Accounts in a complete shape in all the cases. However, due to various factors like incomplete or inaccurate basic documents received, etc, if there be any discrepancy in the accounts or if the Account Statements are not received by 30.9.1986, the undermentioned Officer may be addressed, giving full particulars of recoveries (subscription/refund) such as the month, gross and net amount of the concerned pay bill, Head of Account etc., as well as the Account Number of the subscribers. The letters may be sent through the concerned Heads of Offices.

Shri T. M. Padmanabhan,
Accounts Officer/F.M.I. Section,
Office of the Principal Accountant General (A & E)
No. 261, Anna Salai,
Teynampet, Madras-600 018.

THE BAMBOO PLANT



Bamboo

On the banks of Yamuna, Lord Krishna played the flute and the Gopies danced. In the melody of the music, the whole living world came to a standstill. So go our epics which have made Krishna, and with him the flute, immortal. Even today, in most musical concerts the flute is an important instrument. But while listening to the heart-rending melody pouring out of the flute, does any one think of the humble bamboo from which it is made?

Bamboos are members of the grass family Gramineae and are tropical plants. The family is a large one, with more than 75 genera and 1,000 species. They vary in height from a few centimetres to several metres the giant species may grow upto 40 m with stems up to 20 m in diameter. Those growing at high latitudes are able to tolerate the cold of these places. These are often found in dense impenetrable forests.

They require moist conditions and cannot tolerate drought.

Two phased growth

Bamboos grow from an underground rhizome or root system. The shoots of most species grow in two phases. The first phase, lasting about three months, is when the shoot is made. At this stage, it consists of a single cane with a sheath and numerous nodes. In the next phase, which occurs the following year, the leaf-bearing shoots grow from the buds of each node.

The woody hollow stems, which are tough, stringy and braced by solid cross joints have great strength. The stem can be used for reinforcing concrete.

Two types of bamboos are usually seen in India. One with a thorny stem which grow vary tall, curving at the top

with numerous branches. The inter-nodes are hollow, about 30-45 cm. long with thick walls. The nodes are prominent and there are horizontal branches. Leaves are thin, linear, glabrous and hairy beneath. The other type, which is densely tufted grows about 6-26 m. high. The nodes are not swollen, the lower branches are stiff and horizontal, and the inter-nodes are 30-40 mm. Long leaves which are 45-25 cm. long usually have a soft, downy under surface.

Flower once

Many bamboos flower once over a period of few years and then die. The period after which a species flowers varies in some it may be 25 years while in others it exceeds a century. The curious feature of bamboos is that they have an almost perfect biological clock and all the members of the same species growing in whichever part of the world flower at the same time. This often leads to famine-like conditions in certain areas, as the sudden abundance of food results in a population explosion among rodents which when the bamboo seeds are all devoured attack crops. A congregation of millions of rats was observed at the time of bamboo flowering in Arunachal Pradesh in 1979.

Bamboos are used by man for many purposes. From building of houses and scaffolding, to making ladders, furnitures, baskets, mats, window blinds etc. Because of their unusual stem structure-woody and hollow with solid cross-joints -the canes are often used as pipes in irrigation. It is also used for making paper-pulp. Young shoots can be eaten in the form of pickles and other delicacies. It is the staple food of the Great Panda, which is the symbol of the World Wildlife Fund. Certain secretions from the joints of the stem are of great medicinal value (CEE-NFS)

HUMAN BEHAVIOUR AND HUMAN RELATIONS

Government Servants are being considered noble and high and therefore, they should have a feel for the people, particularly for the downtrodden and well-versed in speech, expression, writing, reading, creative and innovative, daring and dynamic and enterprising leadership drive in proper perspective.

Human Behaviour and Human Relations - a subject which is more important since the major stress is on the general public and in our case, government officers and public A dynamic officer must know why people behave the way they do. Therefore, the view that all the officers, especially who are dealing with public, should have undergone a course on Human Relations and Human Behaviour where they have ample opportunity to study the liberal arts like the principles and theories of psychology and sociology or behavioural science.

Public means human beings; therefore public behaviour is also known as human behaviour.

Researches have already been made how a person behaves and why he behaves as he does.

First let us see the root of human being, what are his needs? To satisfy the needs, he behaves in a manner and justifies his behaviour to achieve objectives. His primary needs are to satisfy Hunger, Shelter/Protection, Safety, Pride and Pleasure.

With the passage of time man slowly learned to live in social groups-built villages and cities now turned into a modern-society with all amenities.

Human behaviour and civilization have its roots deep in ancient bygone days, its origin in jungles and on the river banks, but we are mainly concerned with the civilized modern society, whom the noble activities of public works department staff, from mason to Chief Engineer can influence the local people's behaviour in their favour.

Government Officers who are much indebted to their institutions, are concerned with this pivotal objective to change the attitude of the workers and also the general public in favour of their organization, they working for.

We need not be perplexed

N. Renganathan,
Field Publicity officer,
MADURAI



with the words human behaviour and human relations.

Behaviour is concerned with individuals or group of persons or human beings in general whereas human relations highlights interaction between two persons, two groups of persons, two classes of human beings and so on.

Human mind is susceptible and receptive and degree of understanding depends upon the environment and surroundings (like culture, education, friendship etc.) Reading and hearing do have the effect on one's attitudes and behaviour. That is why we, the communicator after seeing the working system of organising cultural tours, when it is properly implemented, since people have ample opportunity to go to various places of interest and cultivating the feeling of oneness and thus promoting unity and integration. They also have the opportunity to visit important industrial sectors and to study on the spot. I very well remember my college days; my lecturer used to take classes without referring to any books or notes. during the lectures. As he begins he ends his lecture at the end of the class hour only. There is no doubt he is highly learned; but at the same time he forgets the attitude and behaviour of students. Students used this class to take their tiffin, writing letters, etc., whereas another lecturer delved deep into the students mind and began this lecture narrating some interesting anecdotes and tactfully attracted students mind towards his lecture. Thus making the students more attentive in the class. It is imperative to



mention here that the lecturers should tackle students behaviour intelligently; after all they are young with an unploughed mind and they have to learn a lot in their life. We should not deal the matter with pride and therefore should not develop prejudice on their adverse actions. This is not only applicable to teachers, but to others also. We should not use harsh words; since polite and gentle words help us to gain a respectable position among the community.

Films, TV, demonstrations help the people in changing their behaviour and attitudes; that is why it is often stressed that all the panchayats should have audio-visual equipments especially community TV and radio sets.

In a Government institution, human relations are centered around the officials, employees & other public interests, job satisfaction, facilities for health care, modern basic amenities like toilet, drinking water, hobby centre, reading room etc.

Employees union, Welfare association, more congenial relations between the management and the workers and the head of the office and the employees etc. After all they are also human beings and are equally affected by the change in behaviour and attitude in one or more functional areas of the organisation. Agitation by one section of staff or by public may motivate the other sections of the staff and public to join them, or change their attitudes and behaviour towards or against the management. On the other hand, it is also imperative that the management should also try to understand the behaviour and attitude of staff and public.

Now let us see something about 'attitude'. Attitudes may come from a desire for reward, as in the case of a worker who had a favourable attitude towards his union because it seeks to secure for him increased compensation and benefits.

Unfavourable attitudes are aroused in staff and public who

are thwarted in their desire for union election, bus facilities, health care in case of students & workers, for higher scale of pay, recognition and good working condition in the case of workers.

Attitudes may be divided into three categories.

POSITIVE

Induces person to react favourably e.g. workers participation in union activities. Workers wing of various political parties etc.

PASSIVE

Individuals' attitude towards an issue; no opinion or controversial questions.

NEGATIVE

unfavourable opinion - accompanied by feeling of unpleasantness or dissatisfaction.

It is highly unimaginable if you know the result of the opinion research about the attitudes.

If you take a group, 15 will have positive attitudes, 15 negative attitudes and 70 will have the passive attitudes. Our target should be against this 70 workers or people; through our influence we can easily change them towards positive side.

Arousing and changing of attitude is no easy, as individuals have many and varied mental and physical conditions; moreover, the circumstances which provoke a given attitude or cause a change in attitude are difficult to determine.

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

Anglo-Saxons thought Friday so unlucky that many a child born on that day was killed, rather than allowed to grow up to a life of misfortune.

In the middle ages, one pound of ginger was worth a sheep.

The first clock, which woke the sleeper by gently rubbing his feet, was invented by LEONARDO da VINCI.

The Mind of Anna

The Tamils will always like to live a life of fame. Thiruvalluvar has said: "Give and live a life of fame. No other profit is so great to the soul as that." Therefore, the food required for life is fame. We take material food through mouth in order to satisfy our belly. The food of fame goes through the ear.

Tamil poems or works can be learned in three ways :

First : To find delight in the literary excellence and to have a taste for grammar.

Second : To compare Tamil literature with the literature of other countries to bring to light their excellence.

Third : To make literature socially profitable.

Once a Nathaswara Vidwan was playing a keerthana on his pipe at a marriage function. It was not proper for the occasion. It was a keerthana of Thyagaraja praying for the bliss of God whereas the occasion demanded the blessings of the elders. I drove this point home to the Vidwan. He immediately realised his mistake and played another keerthana.

Permit me to present before you a portrait of the Average Man. "He seems incredible but represents two-thirds of mankind. He lives in a hut. He cannot read or write. His energy is sapped by disease. He labours up to 15 hours a day. He works on land he does not own. He and his family are usually hungry. He will die young. But he still has hopes for his children that they will be strong and healthy; will be able to read and write; will know individual freedom in a peaceful world—This is the world's Average man."

And the world over, this Average Man has become conscious of the injustice done to him and as a consequence, we find agitations and marches, struggles and clashes—In many a country, measures to raise his level have been undertaken. Take a pledge, hear and now, that we will not lag behind and leave our Average Man in the lurch. For if the base is weak, the dome is doomed.



The 'Kannaki' Temple

The controversy regarding the Mangaladevi temple in Gudalur village of Madurai district is two fold: whether it is just another Durga temple or is it a temple dedicated to Kannaki, the heroine of the *Silappadikaram*. Now it has been fairly established that Mangaladevi is Kannaki. The second aspect is about the location of the temple. Is it on the territory of Tamil Nadu or not? The evidence in support of the claim of Tamil Nadu for this temple is irrefutable. In this essay the evidence from various sources in support of this claim is presented, for due appreciation.

1. **Literary sources:** The *Silappadikaram* refers to the Mangalamadandaikkottam situated on the high hill near the river Periyar as a shrine dedicated to Kannaki.(2) Local tradition connects this Mangala madandaikkottam with the Mangaladevi temple, the find-spot of several archaeological records throwing light on this matter. It was here, avers the *Silappadikaram*(3), that Cheran Chenguttavan erected a temple for the heroine Kannaki who, after her bereavement at Madurai, left for this place along the banks of the river Vaigai and was taken away by her deceased husband who appeared before her in an ethereal form. It is significant that the hill on which the temple is situated is called Purnagiri where the river Periyar has its source.

2. **Archaeological sources:** The Archaeological department has assessed that the Kannaki temple situated at Vannathiparai, Kizhakudalur, Periyar - Kulum area in Madurai district is more than 1,000 years old. In one of the inscriptions at the Kudal village, this temple is described as Mangaladevi temple.(4) The earliest vatteluthu

inscription in the temple viz., that of Chola Rajaraja I (No. 277) engraved on the jamp of the *ardha-mandapa* of the shrine near the southern entrance enshrining a linga, now broken, is highly damaged and therefore does not yield much useful information.(5) The other records of the medieval Pandya period refer only to Aludaiya Nachiyar of Sri Purnagiri.(6)

3. **Survey records :** The survey records establish that the Mangaladevikkottam is situated within the territory of Tamil Nadu. The survey records of 1883-1886 and the maps prepared by the Government of India in 1893(7) confirm that the temple is situated within the boundary of Tamil Nadu. The survey maps of 1927(8), 1952(9), 1957(10) also confirm this.

4. **Archival sources :** According to the Fort St. George Gazette notification of 15 November 1883 published in pages 719-12 (section 25), Vannathiparai is situated in the reserved forest of Tamil Nadu where the temple is situated. It also shows the pathway provided to the people of 'Chinnamullai Arumalai'. The Madurai District Gazette of 1934 shows(11) clearly that the temple is situated within the boundary of Tamil Nadu. It confirms that this temple is situated at Vannathiparai, Periyakulam area in Madurai District. Moreover it also brings out clearly that a pathway of 12 ft. was provided to the village people of Gudalur to go to the Mangaladevi temple.

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According to G.O. No: 183 Public department dated 1 May 1918, the temple is situated inside Madras territory as far as the application of the principle of the line of demarcation of the boundary namely 'water Shed Line.'

It should be remembered that Kannaki temple is situated in the reserved forest of Tamil Nadu. The Madurai District Gazetteers published in 1906 states clearly that Vannathiparai is in the reserved forest in Tamil Nadu(12). It is of lasting significance to note that the Kambam valley and Gudalur areas against which Haidar Ali marched forward formed part of the 26 Palayams of the Dindigul province.(13) When Haidar Ali of Mysore marched in 1755 to reduce the refractory Dindigul Poligard to order, the owners of Kambam and Gudalur came to the camp of Haidar Ali and agreed to pay their arrears. But later on both of them broke with their promises and fled. In view of their defection to the camp of Hydar and their promises, the English confiscated their palayams and annexed them to the British territory. In 1790 when the East India Company acquired the Dindigul country the Raja of Travancore declared that both these estates belonged to him and a great deal of correspondence and trouble followed. Finally, he handed the estates over to the company. In December 1874 Kambam and Gudalur were taken possession by the English(16). It appears that the ancestors of the chief of Puniyar in Travancore held the Gudalur Palayam and the Alagar temple in the Gudalur town is said to have been built by them. When the temple was reopened after the completion of the extensive repairs the chief of Puniyar visited the Kumbabhishekam ceremony.

Summing up : The English held the Dindigul country which consisted 26 palayams including Kambam and Gudalur. Vannathiparai situated in the reserved forest of Kambam

valley thus was within the territory of Dindigul country and formed an integral part of the erstwhile Madras State; and, at present forms part of the territory of Tamil Nadu. Hence

Kannaki temple which is also known as Mangaladevi temple situated at Vannathiparai is within the territory of Tamil Nadu.

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DOLLS ON DISPLAY AT KURALAGAM

An exhibition of dolls was inaugurated by the Minister for Khadi and Village Industries, Tmt. P. Vijayalakshmi Palanichamy, at Kuralagam on September, 8th. Organised by the Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board in connection with the Navarathri festival, it will be open till October 16.

The Minister said that there were only six-doll making cooperative societies in Tamil Nadu and asked the Board to take steps to set up more cooperatives in the State. She said that the sale of dolls last year was Rs. 3.60 lakhs and was expected to be Rs. 5 lakhs this year.

Thiru C.N.Krishna Bharati, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, who presided, said the board was helping the artisans in various crafts by giving them finance and training. Thiru N.Kamarasan, vice president of the board, appealed to the Minister to help in rehabilitating the mat weavers of Pathamadai. Thiru M.S.Dasarathan, a member of the Board, said that the board was a great benefactor of the poor artisans. Thiru S.V.R. Pattabhiraman, Joint Director of the board, welcomed the gathering. Thiru T.Venkata Perumal, General Manager, proposed a vote of thanks.



Neyveli is green

The moment one says Mine Field, scenes of black and brown soil, dust and dirt pass through our minds causing mental suffocation. As a remarkable exception, Neyveli mines remains lush and green, promising peace and happiness in the environment. For, the reclaimed and refilled mine areas here including the mounts of dumps rising to a height of 45 metres are all covered with green vegetation. About 33 lakh Eucalyptus, nine lakh casuarina, two lakh bamboos, four lakh Acacia, eight lakh Agave Mexicana, three lakh teak and other timber trees and five lakh trees of different species abound in Neyveli today. Where there was a single coconut tree in 1957 when construction was taken up, we see, today, more than 60,000 coconut trees. Thanks to the afforestation, the average summer temperature in Neyveli has come down from 42 C to 39 C and the average rainfall has gone up from 1,100 mm to 1,500 mm per year in the last few years.

The Neyveli Lignite field is spread over an area of 470 sq. kms. with a proven reserve of 330 crore tonnes of lignite. It is situated in the South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu, about 200 kms. south of Madras. At present there are two mines working in this field. Out of

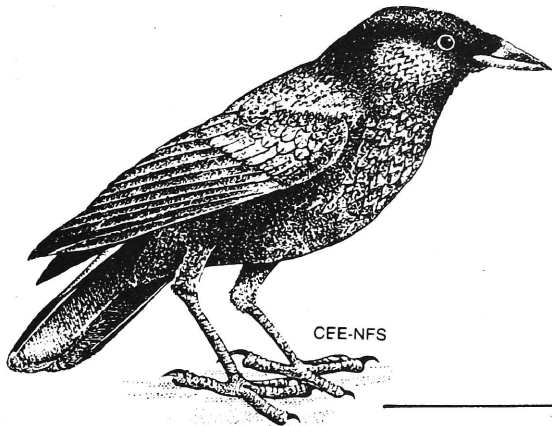
16.69 sq. kms. earmarked for Mine I, excavation has gone through an area of 4.73 sq. kms. In Mine II, regular excavation has started only this year.

Before 1957, the whole area was in a semi - arid condition. There were neither wet lands nor any water bodies such as lakes and rivers. It was all barren dotted with cashew and casuarina trees grown here and there. The mine work was started in an open-out method by removing the earth-cover over the lignite seam, and heaps and heaps of overburdened soil had to be removed and spread. Once the lignite was removed, refilling was also done. But, this refilled area remained irregular and needed levelling before afforestation. Bull dozers were engaged to level the area plots were formed, contour lines were marked and saplings prepared in the nursery were transplanted. Avenue trees were planted on both sides. Treesaplings required for afforestation are made in the nursery kept in Mine I, which has a capacity of making 10 lakh plants every year. As for the dump heaps which formed into man-made mounts to a height of 45 metres, a number of steps were taken to conserve the soil, prevent erosion and to broadcast different seeds in order to achieve plant growth on the slopes.

A picnic centre has also been made with an artificial lake and boating facility. The rose garden here is an enchanting invitation.

All these activities need a lot of money. So far Rs. 15 lakhs have been spent for reclamation work in the mined-out area alone and Rs. 25 lakhs for afforestation. But, this amount will never go waste. Eucalyptus can be cut after five years to be used in the paper industry. The trees will again grow, offering two more cuttings once in five years. Timber trees will be useful for construction in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation itself. Agave Mexicana can be used for ropes. Other trees are useful as fuel. Thus, all the plants will give enough return in future to be ploughed back for further afforestation.

Neyveli Township covers an area of 15 sq. kms. with 15,576 houses connected by 300 kms. of roads. All these have a canopy of greenery. With the implementation of massive afforestation programme in the last five years, tree population in the Neyveli Lignite Complex has increased to over 72 lakhs bringing trees per family to 350 as against the national slogan of 'One Tree— one Family'.



CEE-NFS

THE COMMON INDIAN HOUSE CROW

by *L. Balasubramaniam*

Crows are known for their ingenuity and craftiness. Most children come to know of this fact when some tasty morsel gets snatched from their hands by a cunning crow. Crows figure in the immortal Sanskrit classics the Panchatantra and the Hitopadesha, where much is said in praise of their extraordinary intelligence. Crows are birds that seem to enjoy the company of man. They are found wherever his dwellings are, in towns villages and cities. The crows depend largely on him for food. It has no special food preferences and will eat almost anything. But for the scavenging crow, out cities and villages would be much dirtier, with dead animals and refuse scattered about.

Crows are usually seen in flocks or in ones and twos. The solidarity amongst the crow tribe is well known. If one discovers some food, it calls others to join it. Similarly when in difficulty, they utter a peculiar call to attract other crows.

Breeding Season

The breeding season of the crow seems to differ slightly in

different parts of India, though June/July is the most common period. With the advent of the breeding season large flocks, which feed near markets, dumping grounds etc., start breaking up.

Mating usually takes place on trees and no particular time of the day is preferred. The first step towards the construction of the nest is the selection of a suitable site. Construction then starts in right earnest. Both birds go hunting twigs and other material. The finished nest is usually a large shallow cup of sticks and twigs, occasionally metal strips and wires, and lined with soft, fibrous material.

Four or five eggs are normally laid at intervals of 24-48 hours each. The eggs are pale blue-green, speckled and streaked with brown. The nest is never left unattended. One of the birds mountsguard when the other is away and does not ordinarily leave the nest till the partner releaves him or her. But the sight of a koel in the neighbourhood is too much for the crow to endure. Losing all self control it launches a sudden attack all by itself or with others.

Outwitted by Koel

In fact the appearance of a Koel at the nesting site of the crow is not a coincidence but a well planned strategy on the part of the male and female Koel

When the female Koel is ready to lay her eggs, the male flies up to the crow's nest and announces his presence in loud notes. The crow who normally incubates alone, immediately rises and rushes at the Koel. The Koel turns tail and makes a show of escaping. Being a better flier, he stays a little ahead of the crow and leads him away from the spot. The nest is meanwhile unattended. The female Koel emerges from the hiding place from which she has observed all, and lays her egg in the nest of the crow. She then flies away emitting a shrill note apparently to tell the male that the plot has worked.

The crow is the most successful of all birds, there are more crows today than ever. Man has developed a healthy respect for this intelligent bird, and it is not surprising, for the crow has that uncanny knack of surviving in the most adverse conditions. (CEE-NFS).

Be a man

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
On being lied about, don't deal in lies
Or being hated, don't give way to hating
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise.

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stood and build with worn-out tools.

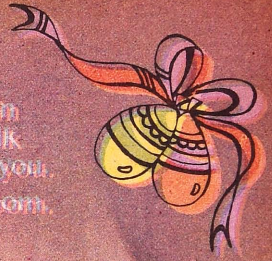
If you can make a heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch—and—toss
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone;
And hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them ' Hold on! '

If you can talk with crowds—and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men court with you, but none too much
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run
Yours is the Earth and every thing that's in it,
And which is more—You'll be a Man, My son.

—Rudyard Kipling

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