

Tamil Arasu

JANUARY 1978 50 Ps.



ERADICATE UNTOUCHABILITY

It appears that there can be no greater evil
in the world, than the segregation
of Harijans in India

Mahatma Gandhi

We will be paying our debt
of gratitude to Mahatma Gandhi
by eradicating this evil.



ISSUED BY:



DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION
& PUBLIC RELATIONS
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Editor's Page

Dear Reader,

Wish you a happy and a prosperous New Year.

This is a new feature where the Editor speaks to the reader.

The New Year starts with the 'Filmotsav '78'. This is the first time that the International Film Festival is held in Madras. Over 35 countries participate and more than 70 foreign films will be screened. In addition a number of Indian films will also be screened.

An article on the origin and growth of Tamil Films appears in this issue.

The Tourism Trade Fair as usual attracts a large number of visitors. We take you to 'Fairlands'; there is a brief write up on the 'fair.'

'Chief Minister Speaks', a new feature in which excerpts of the speeches of the CM will be included.

A letter-to-the editor's column will be opened in which readers can express their views on problems of public interest.

Another feature-the 'Book-Review' where well-known writers will be reviewing the latest books.

With all these interesting features, we hope to make the Tamil Arasu more readable and enjoyable.

We wish the reader a Happy Pongal.

" Editor "

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CHIEF MINISTER SPEAKS

PLEDGE TO FOLLOW RAJAJI'S IDEALS

The Tamil Nadu Government will honour the memory of Rajaji with a statue for him at Parry's corner before the end of the next year, the Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R. said, while unveiling a portrait of the elder statesman at a function

celebrating the Rajaji Centenary Year at Rajaji Hall.

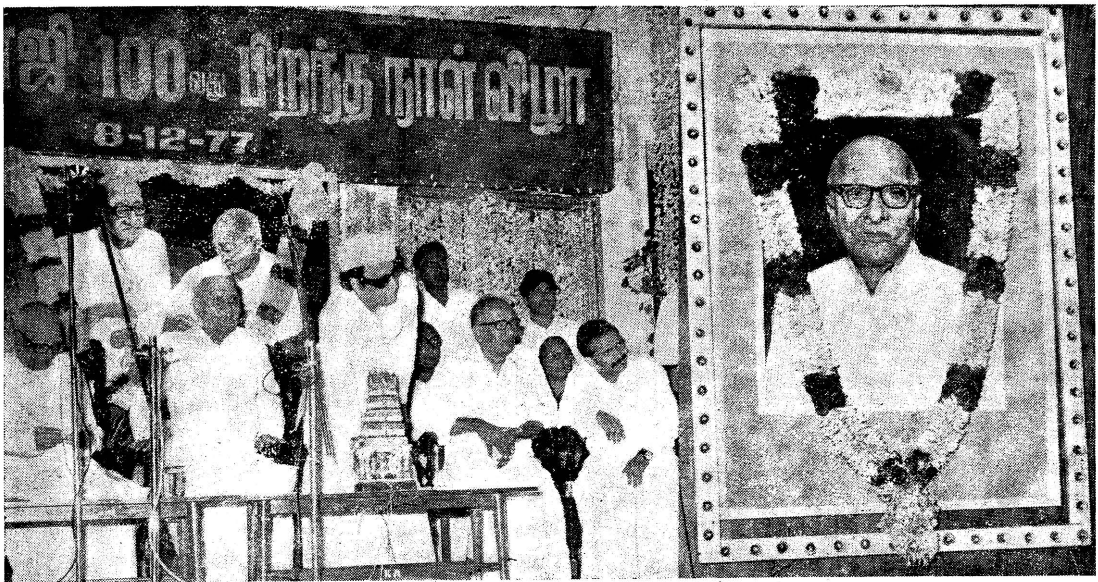
M.G.R. said he would enforce Prohibition which was "his first command to me," and his Government would follow the tenets of administration laid down by him and his mentor Anna.

The Chief Minister said that whatever be the hurdles that would may arise and unmindful of other

considerations — party, caste, religion, power, comfort or money — he will pursue the goal relentlessly with the same courage as Rajaji evinced in fighting for the noble causes he espoused.

The Chief Minister said that he was proud of being a recipient of Rajaji's blessings. He recalled that Rajaji had wanted him to bring back Prohibition to Tamil Nadu





and enforce it effectively. This will be his primary duty, he said.

One of the traits of Rajaji was that of treating even his opponents with respect. In this connection, the Chief Minister referred to the release of Thiru Karunanidhi and other DMK leaders from Jail custody and said, it was not the intention of the Government to put opposition leaders in jail and create a situation in which no one would be in the Assembly to point an accusing finger and said that they were not power mad to do it.

PLAN FOR PERMANENT TOURIST EXHIBITION

The Tamil Nadu Government would endeavour to set up a permanent tourist exhibition in every district to educate the people on the cultural heritage of the State and its modern achievements.

Thiru M.G.R. Chief Minister made this announcement while presiding over the All India Tourist Trade Fair, 1978, organised by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Department and Corporation. He said that such fairs would enable people to learn, in a few days of the various facets of the State's achievements. He said that he saw permanent exhibitions put up in foreign countries which inspired him to have such exhibitions in our State.

The Chief Minister spoke of the educative value of the tourist

trade fair and said that everyone, not only the people of Madras, should have the benefit of such exhibitions. Though the Government's prime objective was to create more employment to eradicate poverty, it could not neglect development of tourism and the means for it would have to be found.

INCENTIVES FOR GROWTH OF TAMIL ISAI

The Tamil Nadu Government will give a stipend of Rs. 500/- a month to any person who comes forward to learn and master the art of playing Nadhaswaram.

This was one of the several incentives announced by the Chief Minister, Thiru M.G.R. while inaugurating the 35th Music Festival of Tamil Isai Sangam. These concessions were necessary to ensure the growth of Tamil Isai which would in turn lead to the development of Tamil language and culture.

Thiru M.G.R. said every year a cash award of Rs. 5,000 would be given to a poet who composed new Tamil songs of traditional value. A similar award would be given to one who introduced new ragas and tunes without sacrificing the spirit of Tamil culture and in conformity with the karta and janya of music. Expert committees would be set up to choose the award-winners. The Government was

keen on fostering temple music, and it would provide adequate encouragement to Oduvars.

Thiru M.G.R. justifying the grant of scholarship for promoting Nadhaswaram music said that in the recent past even those belonging to families traditionally playing the instrument were on the look out for other jobs and that the number of Nadhaswara Vidwans was fast dwindling. Another reason weighing in favour of Nadhaswaram was that it belonged purely to the Tamil tradition.

Tamil Isai the true reflection of the pristine glory of Tamil culture and tradition suffered a great deal in the recent past because of the influence of other languages and culture. As the custodian of the interests of the Tamils, it was the duty of the State Government to correct the situation by promoting the language and culture of the State. This, however, should not mean hatred towards the language and culture of other regions.

Thiru M.G.R. regretted that musicians rendered Tamil songs were not recognised as Sangeetha Vidwans and were also ridiculed. It was Dandapani Desikar who successfully demonstrated that Tamil songs could be sung at concerts. The contributions of the late musician to the renaissance of Tamil Isai would be remembered for ever by the people of the State.

RED LETTER DAYS IN MOTION PICTURE HISTORY

- 1894** Thomas A. Edison's peep-show kinetoscope went on display in New York City.
- 1896** Edison's films were drawn on a screen at Koster and Bial's Music Hall in New York City. This was the first commercial projection of motion pictures.
- 1902** The Electric Theatre, the first motion picture theatre opened in Los Angeles.
- 1903** Edison S. Porter directed the first story movie, "The Great Train Robbery" in New Jersey.
- 1905** The first nickelodeon opened in McKeespor, Pa. It offered a 20 minute screen programme with piano accompaniment, for 5 cents.
- 1907** "The Count of Monte Cristo" was the first movie to be shot in California.
- 1910** "Pathe Weekly," the first news reel began operating.
- 1915** "The Birth of a Nation" marked the beginning of the modern feature film.
- 1922** "Toll of the Sea", the first feature-length, all colour film was produced.
- 1927** Warner Brothers produced "The Jazz Singer," the first feature-length film with spoken dialogue.
- 1928** The first all talking picture, "Lights of New York" reached the screen.
- 1937** Walt Disney produced "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," the first feature-length animated cartoon in colour.
- 1948** Warner Brothers — Pathe produced the first colour news-reel. It showed the Tournament of Roses and the Rose Bowl Game at Pasadena, California.
- 1952** This is Cinerama, the first production of the Wide-screen process using three projectors opened in New York City.
- 1953** Cinemascope, a wide screen process, was introduced by Twentieth Century Fox in the Robe.
- 1955** Todd-AO Wide Screen Process was introduced in Oklahoma.
- 1960** The Michael Todd Co., Inc., presented scent of mystery, a motion picture with accompanying Odours distributed by a process called Smell-O-Vision.

ACADEMY AWARDS :

The Oscar is the symbol of motion

picture excellence. It is presented each year by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the best picture and the best performance by an actor, actress during the preceding year. The Academy also gives Oscars for the best direction, story and other achievements.

Harischandra S. Bhatvadekar or Save Dada as he was better known, was a still-photographer and equipment dealer in Bombay. With a hand operated projector he was showing short films which were imported. He had imported a Riley Camera from England and photographed a reel of two well-known wrestlers (entitled the wrestlers). Little did he know that he was creating history by causing the first really Indian footage. This was at the turn of the last century. He had acquired the famous Lumiere gadget and this antique model is still preserved.

- 1900** F. B. Thanawallah, exhibitor turned producer, Thanawallah's Grand Kinetoscope. His film splendid New Views of Bombay. Toboot procession annual pagenat of the Muslims.
- 1905** J. F. Madan started Elphistrone Bioscope Co., later changed into Madan Theatres with a big production out put and chain of Theatres.
- 1910** First Documentary—Fugitive Dalai Lama.
- 1912** R.G. Forneys Pundalik — with Indian characters.
- 1913** Raja Harischandra produced by D. G. Phalke.
- 1917** A short film — How films are prepared showing Phalke at work made by Phalke — a rare celluloid record, no parallel in the case of pioneers of other countries.

TAMIL NADU :

- 1917** The first feature film of South India emerged in 1917. Keechaka Vadham produced by Nataraja Mudaliar.
- 1921** Valli's Wedding — the titles were in Tamil — a South Indian Film, enacted in South Indian Scenes and played by South Indian Actors.
- 1922** Exhibitor R. Venkiah and his son R. Prakash started the East Film Co., and released their first film Bhishma Praignya.
- 1925** First International Venture &
- 1926** "Light of Asia"—Indo German Production by Himansu Rai.

TAMIL FILMS

The motion picture industry in India has completed 75 years of its existence. In Tamil Nadu production of films has grown enormously.

The average annual output of Tamil films is 65. To-day there are 16 studios in Tamil Nadu. There are 250 active producers and an equal number of distributors in the region and there are 1,496 cinema houses all over Tamil Nadu. Over fifty thousand people are directly employed in the industry. From the time of the talkie era, 1,627 Tamil films have been produced still date and 379 film has been dubbed into Tamil.

The Tamil film industry, like the film industry in other parts, defies analysis by any process of reasoning. It is not bound by any laws known to students of economics or psychology. The only thing certain about it is its uncertainty. With all its hand caps, the Tamil industry has a vitality and a glamour

which will assure it of a succession of suitors who place all their possession at its altar in the hope that they will multiply manifold. Very few of them attain their objective and the majority are unlucky. But the gamble is worth the attempt and for every fallen man, there are two new ones to take his place in the queue.

It must however, be said that the Tamil film industry has contributed a great deal to the progress of the film industry in general in India. Although no Tamil film has won the President's gold medal, quite a number of regional awards have come to the Tamil films from the Union Government. mention Among the State award winners, in the recent past, special should be made of ANDHA NAAL, BHAGA PIRIVINAI, KALYANA PARISU, VEERA PANDIYA KATTABOMMAN, DEIVA PIRAVI, KALATHUR KANNAMMA, PAVA MANNIPPU, PASA MALAR, KAPPALOTTIYA THAMIZHAN,

NENJIL OOR ALAYAM, SARADA AND ANNAI.

The recognition achieved by these films and the success of the industry as a whole without any Governmental help should be attributed to the pioneering efforts of veteran producers and directors and the methods of trial and error adopted by the technicians in the early days when the cinema had its birth in Madras. The origin and the "adventurous" growth of the film in this part of the country would provide fascinating reading.

The father of the Tamil film is Thiru R. Nataraja Mudaliar of Tanjore. He made a camera of his own and produced a silent film called KEECHAKA VADHAM. The year was 1917, four years after Dada Saheb Phalke, the father of the Indian Cinema, had produced the first silent film RAJA HARIS-CHANDRA. While the latter contained some aesthetic and artistic



M. K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar & P. U. Chinnappa well known Artistes in the forties

qualities, the films made by Nataraja Mudaliar were crude and they didn't do any good for the establishment of the trade in the region. Among the six movies he made, DRAUPADI VASTHRAPAHARANAM could be mentioned. The Tamil artistes in those days were Raju Mudaliar and Jeevarathnam.

The earliest pioneers of the cinema in Madras were R. Venkiah and his son R. Prakash. The former was the first to build a cinema house called Globe, which is now known as Roxy. In the same year (1917), he built two other cinema houses, Crown and Gaiety. Venkiah sent his son Prakash to England for undergoing training in cinematography. On his return to Madras, the latter started a company called Star of East Films and produced a number of silent films, mostly mythologicals like GAJENDRA MOKSHAM. Film production was sporadic during those days. One Thomas Huffton emerged on the scene and founded a company called Peninsula Film Company. He made films like MACHA AVATHARAM, RAMADAS and VIPRA NARAYANA. K. T. Rukmani, who later became a popular artiste, was featured in the last mentioned film for the first time.

Towards the end of the twenties two important film producing com-

panies came into existence. They were General Pictures Corporation, started by A. Narayanan, R. Prakash, Y. V. Rao, Jiten Banerji and a few others, and Associated Films, established by R. Padmanabhan Raja Sandow and K. Subrahmanyam. Among the films made by General Pictures Corporation, VISWAMITHRA, directed by R. Prakash, was most important. The two important movies that came out from Associated Films were RAJESWARI and DEVIL AND THE DAMSEL, both written by K. Subrahmanyam and directed by Raja Sandow. T. P. Rajalakshmi was the star of the first film. They worked in a small place, in the open, now occupied by Paragon Talkies. About twentyfive films were made by both the companies during that time. Among the silent films, for which director Raja Sandow and K. Subrahmanyam, the two great pioneers, were responsible, special mention should be made of NANDANAR, ORPHAN GIRL and USHA KALYANAM. The market for silent films soon crumbled with the advent of sound in 1931.

The first South Indian talkie was made in Bombay in 1931 by Director H. M. Reddy. It was called KALIDAS in which T. P. Rajalakshmi was starred. It had

Tamil dialogue and Telugu songs. Several Bombay and Calcutta film companies like Imperial Film Company, Sagar Movietone, Prabhat Film Company, East India Film Company and New Theatres soon entered the field and made a number of Tamil films like HARISCHANDRA and SITA KALYANAM. Then came VALLI'S WEDDING, produced by C. V. Raman, and the success of that film more or less laid the foundations for the starting of a sound studio in Madras. The important technicians who worked in films like SITA KALYANAM were K. Ramnath (cameraman), Sekhar (Art Director) and Murugadasa (Story Writer). This trio later played a prominent part in the production of some of the outstanding Tamil films.

There was a real spurt of activity in the production of Tamil films during the years 1933-37. The period saw the beginning of the unhealthy rivalry among producers which plagues the industry to this day. Films with the same theme and even the same titles were produced by many producers. For instance HARISCHANDRA was made by five producers. One company released SARANGADHARA and another made a film with the same theme with only slight modification of the title, calling it NAVEENA SARANGADHARA.

Stage artistes entered films for the first time. They brought with them the methods and practices of a discredited stage and they were strangers to the dramatic art. Most of them became popular on the screen for their audiences knew as little about the art of film as they did. No one troubled to train them for the screen.

The year 1934 was an important landmark in the history of Tamil film because for the first time a Tamil film was produced in Madras. A. Narayanan of General Pictures Corporation established the first sound studio in Madras during that year. His wife acted as the sound engineer of many a film in those days. The first talkie made in Madras was SRINIVASA KALYANAM, featuring R. B. Lakshmi Devi. But even before that K. Subrahmanyam began to dominate the field of Tamil production. In the early stages he worked partly in Bombay and partly in

The Filmstov '78, was inaugurated at Kalaivanar Arangam on 3rd January '78 by the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Thiru L. K. Adhvani who lit a Kutthuvilakku. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M. G. Ramachandran presided over the function.

Over 2.30 lakh cine-lovers from India and abroad witnessed 116 Indian and foreign films from January 3rd to 17th. 13 foreign and 5 Indian films were shown in retrospective.

Besides, 175 feature and 40 short films were entered in the Film Market organized during the festival. Business worth over Rs. 1.7 million in foreign exchange was transacted at the market.

The valedictory function was held at Kalaivanar Arangam on 17th January '78. The Vice-President, Thiru B.D. Jatti formally declared the Filmstov closed. The Minister for Information and Tourism, Thiru R. M. Veerappan gave the vote of thanks. The Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting Thiru L. K. Adhvani, the Governor Thiru Prabhudas B. Patwari and the Chief Minister Thiru MGR participated in the function.

Calcutta. He first directed a picture called **PAVALAKKODI**, co-starring M. K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar and S. D. Subbulakshmi. With the success of that film, he made another film called **NAVEENA SARANGADHARA** and followed it with **USHA KALYANAM**.

Music was the prime feature in the films then and the box office potentialities of a picture were determined by the number of songs in it. The cost of production ranged from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. This was the time when pictures ran for incredibly long periods. Mythology and well-known stage plays like 'Kovalan', 'Alli-Arjuna' and 'Bhama Vijayam' provided the themes for films. Since the stories followed a well-recognised and accepted pattern, there was not much for writers to do and their services were not requisitioned. Especially was this so as the artistes were familiar in a rough and ready way with the dialogue and they did not need to learn it. Also, the audiences were equally familiar with the stories and they could guess with great accuracy what the actors were going to say. They were only interested in the music which was given to them in plenty. But they never seemed to be satisfied and so the more the number and length of songs, the greater the prospects of returns to the producers. The music was in the carnatic style and it was rendered by the actors themselves — there were then no play back artistes.

Really speaking, the two men who helped to make the Tamil films popular and respectable in Madras in the pre-war era were Raja Sandow and K. Subrahmanyam. The former was an actor and a great director who wielded a powerful influence with artistes, many of whom owe their position to-day to him. Producer-director K. Subrahmanyam, who had receded to the background by the march of events, had many "firsts" to his credit in the development of the Tamil industry. He started a company called Madras United Artists Corporation in collaboration with S. D. Subbulakshmi and produced a number of films like **BHAKTHA KUCHELA**, **THYAGA BHOOMI**, **SEVASADAN** and a host of others. He was the first to introduce children in films. This he did in **BALA YOGINI** acted by Baby Saroja. He cast women in male roles as in **BAKHTHA KUCHELA**.



Ace Comedian Kalaivanar N.S.K.

He made the first Hindi film **PREM SAGAR** in Madras. He brought North Indian technicians, especially from Calcutta, to the South. He was the first to start a producer's studio called Motion Picture Producers' Combine. Last but not the least, he went out of his way to make his discovery a success which was T. R. Rajakumari, the star of **CHANDRALEKHA**.

The Motion Picture Producers' Combine was later taken over by S.S. Vasan, another doyen of the South Indian film industry. He renamed it as Gemini Studios and he hit the headlines with his films, which turned out to be big hits in Bombay, projected the South in North India and brought immortal glory to South Indian films.

The Tamil film progressed from strength to strength with the success of many pictures like **CHINTAMANI**, **AMBIKAPATHI**, **THIRUNEELAKANTAR**, **HARIDAS** and many others. For example, **HARIDAS**, which co-starred M.K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar and T.R. Rajakumari, ran for over two years, from October 16, 1944 to November 22, 1946. More producers came into the field and production increased by leaps and bounds. Among

the classics produced in Tamil Nadu, special mention should be made of **AVVAIYAR**, **EZHAI PADUM PAADU** and **VEERA PANDIYA KATTABOMMAN**.

These days, the Tamil film is facing many a problem and it is not in a happy state. The economics of film production have gone to the rocks owing to astronomical star prices and the dwindling market. The top stars who are dominating the field are M. G. Ramachandran, Sivaji Ganesan and Gemini Ganesh. The most prominent women stars are B. Saroja Devi, Savithri and Devika in the sixties. A unique combination of a villain and comedian was M. R. Radha while the topnotch comedian today is Nagesh. The top directors in sixties were A. Bhim Singh, Krishnan-Panju and Shanker and Sridhar. K. Balachander, Gopalakrishnan, S.P. Muthuraman are the top Directors of to-day. The topmost lyricist is Kannadasan. Arurdas, Balachander & Gopalakrishnan are the topmost front-rank dialogue writers in the field.

This in brief is the origin and growth of the film industry in Tamil Nadu.





Filmotsav 78

Over 35 film-producing countries take part in this event, including Algeria, Australia, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Sweden, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. Of these 25 countries have already sent their films.

Among the films scheduled to be screened are Zoltan Fabri's "The Fifth Seal" (Hungary), Martin Scorsese's "Taxi Driver" (USA), Ivo Dvorak's "Metamorphosis" (Sweden), Sergiu Nicolaescu's "The Doom" (Rumania), Francesco Rosi's "The Illustrious Corpses" (Italy), Rainer Werner Fassbinder's "Chinese Roulette" (FRG), Orson Welles "F for Fake" (UK), Shuji Terayama's "Pastoral Hide and Seek" (Japan), Souhel Ben-Barka's "Blood Wedding" (Morocco), Merzak Allouache's "Omar Gatlou" (Algeria), Nelson Pereira Dos Santos' "Tent of Miracles" (Brazil), Istvan Szabo's "Budapest Tales" (Hungary), Knud Leif Thomsen's "Lina's Wedding" (Norway), Jiri Menzel's "Seclusion Near A Forest" (Czechoslovakia), Peter Stein's "Summer Guests" (FRG), James Ivory's "Roseland" (USA), Glauber Rocha's short "Dicavalcanti" (Brazil), Claude Goretta's "The Lace Maker" and Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's "Padre Padrone" (My Father, My Master) from Italy.

Several of the entries were screened earlier at the Cannes, Moscow, New York and other reputed international festivals this year and two of the entries are recent winners of the Palm D'or at Cannes "Taxi Driver" (1976) and "Padre Padrone" (1977).

Three of the scheduled films represent the recent work of some distinguished women Directors — Agnes Varda's "One Sings, the Other Doesn't" (France), Liliana Cavani's "The Cannibals" (Italy) and Margot Benacerraf's "Araya" (Venezuela).

The sale of season tickets for the first week began on December 14, and for the second week on

December 23, at the four commercial theatres booked for the screenings in Madras and were sold out within a short time. The sale of daily tickets will commence two days before the show on the basis of announced programmes. Fifty per cent of the season tickets is set apart for the film industry and the Federation of Film Societies.

The Indian Panorama will present about 29 celebrated Indian films, thirteen of these in the main section representing the established Indian film-makers and 16 in the section on new directors. There will, in addition, be five films of Ritwick Ghatak in the form of a retrospective. The balcony of the Saire Theatre, which has been booked for the Panorama, is being reserved for the delegates and the Press. All the foreign films will be screened for the accredited Correspondents at the Abhirami Theatre at the rate of five shows per day. Press Shows will start from January 3.

Filmotsav '78 retrospectives will feature five films of Michael Cacoyannis, the renowned Greek filmmaker and almost all the features made so far by Jacques Tati (France), who is often ranked with Charles Chaplin as one of the greatest masters of comedy.

The five Cacoyannis films are "Zorba, The Greek" (1964), "The Day the Fish Came Out" (1967), "The Trojan Women" (1971), "Attila '74" (1975) and his latest "Iphigenia" (1977), highly acclaimed at the Cannes Festival this year, which also marks, for the film-maker the completion of a trilogy begun with Elektra and the Trojan Women.

The Tati retrospective will include such memorable films as the Big Day (1949), Monsieur Hulot's Holiday (1953), My Uncle (1958), and Parade (1974).

The Symposium, being organised by the Film Federation of India (FFI) and the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce (SIFCC), will focus on "Strategies in Film Marketing" and "Production, Management and Costs." The sub-topics in marketing will cover university, art theatre circuits, the Tele-

vision circuits and the new commercial markets.

The Symposium, to be chaired in three separate sessions on January 5, 6 and 7 by Shri S. K. Kooka, Chairman, Indian Motion Pictures Exports Corporation (IMPEC), Shri Bhaktavatsala, President, Film Federation of India (FFI), and Dr. Jagdish Parikh, Chairman, FFC, respectively, will be followed by a Workshop on Production and Costs. The list of participants, Foreign and Indian, is being finalised by the FFI.

Arrangements have also been made by the FFI to shift the "Cine Expo" Exhibition held recently in Bangalore, to the premises of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce (SIFCC). The exhibition will be from January 3 to 17, to synchronise with the Filmotsav.

The Film Market, organised by the Indian Pictures Export Corporation, is expected to receive about 120 films from India and abroad. The IMPEC have invited the Heads of State Film Marketing Agencies of 23 countries to attend, among them the State Agencies of Afghanistan, Algeria, Czechoslovakia, Iraq, Hungary, Japan, Libya, Mozambique, Nepal, Poland, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, USSR and Yugoslavia.

About 50 foreign delegates are likely to attend the festival. Among those who have accepted the invitation to attend are Martin Scorsese (USA), the Director of "Taxi Driver" and "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore", Agnes Varda (France), one of the few successful women Directors and Istvan Szabo, a leading figure of the Hungarian "New Wave." Other likely delegates are Derek Malcolm of the Guardian (UK), Jean Touzet of Cannes, Pierre Henri Deleau, Director of the Paris Festival, Ken Wlaschin of the London Film Festival and Andrew Sarris of the "Village Voice" (USA).

The festival is being organised by the Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in collaboration with the Film Finance Corporation (FFC), and with the co-operation of the Indian Film Industry and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Social welfare Marches ahead

The Women's Welfare Department was established in 1947. A full fledged department with a Director of Women's Welfare was set up in 1955. The Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board was established in 1954. Following the introduction of Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act, 1958, the three agencies, viz., the women's Welfare Department, the State Social Welfare Board and the Women's Welfare Wing of the Community Development Department were integrated into a single and unified Department of Women's Welfare, in 1961. The next landmark was the redesignation of the Department of Women's Welfare as the Department of Social Welfare in 1972.

Besides attending to Women's Welfare, this Department is also undertaking various Nutrition Programmes for pre-school children and pregnant and nursing mothers, training and rehabilitation of physically handicapped and also managing a home for the judicially interned beggars.

WOMEN'S WELFARE

Service Homes :

Three Service Homes one each at Tambaram, Cuddalore and Thanjavur are run by this Department for serving the socially handicapped and destitute women in the age group of 18 to 30. Two children of the inmates are also admitted along with them. They are coached upto E.S.L.C. Adults are paid a stipend of Rs. 40 per mensem per head and the children are paid Rs. 27 per mensem per head. It is proposed to enhance the stipend to Rs. 50 and Rs. 36 to adults and children respectively. The maximum stay permitted in the Home is three years. Clothing allowance of Rs. 60 per annum per head for adults and Rs. 25 per annum per head for child is given.

The sanctioned strength of the general section of the Service Home, Tambaram, is 200 adults and 100 children and in each of the Service Homes at Cuddalore and Thanjavur, the strength is 50 adults and 25 children.

A separate section for physically handicapped women and children is also attached to the Service Home at Tambaram with the sanctioned strength of 30 adults and 20 children.

The following schemes are implemented to promote rehabilitation of the ex-inmates of the Service Homes :—

(i) An S.S.L.C. condensed Course of two years duration is conducted only in the Service Home, Tambaram, within the sanctioned strength of 200 inmates allotted for the General Section with stipends.

(ii) A tailoring Unit is attached to the Service Home, Tambaram to coach 65 women in tailoring to enable them to appear for the Government Technical Examinations. Similar tailoring units are attached to the Service Homes at Cuddalore and Thanjavur Units also with a sanctioned strength of 15 candidates in each Home.

(iii) Four Secretarial Courses in shorthand and typewriting are run, one in each of the three Service Homes and the fourth at Stree Seva Mandir, Madras an aided voluntary institution, with a sanctioned strength of 20 in each Centre. The trainees are paid a stipend of Rs. 20 per mensem per head.

(iv) One Secondary Grade Teachers' Training Course is also

run separately at Tambaram with a sanctioned strength of 80 inmates, 40 in the Senior Section and 40 in the Junior Section. The inmates of this Section are paid a stipend of Rs. 30 per mensem per head. It is proposed to enhance the stipend of Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per head per month.

(v) Readymade Garments Making Production Units are being run in the Service Homes, Tambaram and Cuddalore with 10 casual workers in each unit who are paid wages at Rs. 3 per day per head.

(vi) Under the Fifth Five Year Plan (Annual Plan) 1974-75, a scheme to give training to women who have passed VIII Standard for employment as House-keepers and House-maids was sanctioned and is being implemented in the Service Home, Tambaram. The sanctioned strength of this training section is 25 and the trainees are paid a stipend of Rs. 30 per mensem per head. It is proposed to enhance the stipend of Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per month per head.

It is proposed to open a Service Home in Tirunelveli district.

Hostel for Working Women :

To provide accommodation to the lower and middle class working women, the Department started a Working Women's Hostel in Madras City in 1967 with a sanctioned strength of 25 women. The inmates are charged Rs. 80 for mess, Rs. 28 for rent, and Rs. 5 for electricity.

Voluntary organisations are also encouraged to run Working Women's Hostels. For this purpose, the Government of India sanction, on the recommendation of the State Government, 75 per cent of the estimated cost of construction/expansion of hostel buildings by voluntary agencies engaged in the field of Women's Welfare. The

Selvi P. T. Saraswathi,
Minister for Social welfare

State Government also sanction, in deserving cases, grant upto 15 per cent or a sum of Rs. 35,000 whichever is less to such agencies to supplement the Government of India grant.

Work Centres and Production Units :

From the Second and Third Five Year Plan onwards, Work Centres and Production Units were started by the Department exclusively for women belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Denotified Tribes (Financially assisted by Harijan Welfare Department and Backward Classes Department). On completion of the Second and Third Five-Year Plan periods, these centres are being continued for women belonging to all castes and run with departmental funds.

(i) The Work Centres were started to impart intensive training in simple cottage industries like tailoring, cumbly weaving, palm leaf, mat weaving, carpet weaving, etc., to rural women to enable them to supplement their family income. The duration of the training course is one year. During the training period, the candidates are paid stipends at Rs. 30 per mensem per head to meet their incidental expenses like conveyance charges, etc. After training 3 or 4 batches, a Work Centre is converted into a Production Unit,

wherever possible, employing the trained women and paying them wages according to the turnover.

(ii) There are 25 such Work Centres and 7 Production Units.

(iii) In addition to the above, the following Work Centres are also run by this department with the funds of Harijan Welfare Department, Backward Classes Department, Labour Welfare Board and Rehabilitation Department :—

	<i>Number of Work Centres</i>
1. Harijan Welfare Department Funds	9
2. Backward Classes Department Funds	3
3. Labour Welfare Board Funds	10
4. Department of Rehabilitation Funds	3

(iv) A Tailoring Centre in North Arcot district for tribal women has been opened and a stipend of Rs. 50 per mensem per trainee is given.

Women's Welfare Branches :

There are 50 Women's Welfare Branches throughout the State. The Social Welfare Organisers, who are

in charge of Women's Welfare Branches conduct pre-basic classes in the morning and undertake house visits to educate the women in household arts, nutrition and child care, health and sanitation, personal hygiene, etc., in the afternoon. They teach the adult women in cottage industries like tailoring, mat-weaving and leaf plate making to supplement their family income.

Government Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Institutions :

In order to encourage the voluntary institutions engaged in welfare of socially and economically handicapped women and physically handicapped persons, grants are being given by the Government for the following purposes :—

(a) Grants to run Service Homes for destitute women.

(b) Maintenance grants to voluntary institutions for maintaining children affected with polio, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, etc. Besides grants are also given to voluntary institution for maintaining healthy children of leprosy patients and also children of leprosy patients affected with leprosy.

(c) Grants to Bala Vihar Training School, Madras for training Special Teachers to teach mentally retarded children.



A tailoring unit in a service home

(d) Grants to voluntary institutions for expansion of existing programmes and also for conducting Bala Sevika Training Courses, etc.

Minimum Programme for Women and Children :

This programme is to organise women of rural areas to come together in Mahalir Mandrams cutting across the various socio-economic barriers. Accordingly, 11220 Mahalir Mandrams at the rate of thirty for each Panchayat Union were established in the Third Plan and these continue to function. An approximate expenditure of Rs. 4,000 is incurred in a block every year.

Nutrition Education through Mahalir Mandrams :

In each of 104 selected blocks, 6 Mahalir Mandrams were selected for implementing the above programme. Organising Nutrition Demonstration, showing better uses of local food and introducing balanced menu and recipes are the special activities. Each selected Mahalir Mandram is provided with demonstration and kitchen equipment.

Encouragement of Economic Activities through Mahalir Mandrams :

To encourage Mahalir Mandrams to undertake different types of economic activities, cash awards are given to the best Mahalir Mandrams who have proved their active involvement in the economic activities. The Mahalir Mandrams are graded into three categories and an amount of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 600 and Rs. 400 respectively are given as awards.

Training of Associate Women Workers :

Local women with leadership qualities are selected from each Panchayat and deputed for one month Convener's Training in Rural Extension Training Centre, T. Kallupatti, Madurai and S.V. Nagaram, North Arcot. Such trained conveners convene meeting of women in their respective Mahalir Mandram and discuss with local women-various subjects of interest and utility like child welfare, household arts, home economics, kitchen gardening, health environmental, sanitation, etc. This is a Central Sector Scheme.



A Cooking Class

Promotion and Strengthening of Mahalir Mandrams :

To promote the strengthening of Mahalir Mandrams the Scheme is implemented in 3 blocks, viz., Muthupet, Usilampatti and Thally. This is also one of the Central Sector Schemes.

Pre-Schools :

(i) There are 2,988 pre-schools functioning in this State having been started from III Plan period onwards. This figure includes 50 pre-schools in Poonamallee, 100 pre-schools in Harijan colonies and 10 for Pania children in the Nilgiris, 10 tribal pre-schools in South Arcot and nine in North Arcot district, four pre-schools for Srilanka Repatriates and 300 Integrated Child Development Scheme pre-schools.

(ii) In all the pre-schools feeding programme with blended food balahar (a free commodity supplied by CARE) is implemented. About 2.1 lakhs pre-school children and pregnant and nursing mothers are benefited under this scheme. Immunisation programmes is also carried out in the pre-schools.

(iii) The emphasis in these pre-schools is not so much on direct education as on indirect education through play activities. Each pre-school is, therefore, furnished with educational and general play equipments. The play equipments would be replaced after a period of Five years depending on their wear and tear. The replacement in respect of pre-schools opened earlier starting from 1962, is on a phased programme. A sum of Rs. 1.20 lakhs is to be spent during the current year.

(iv) As the policy is to have atleast one pre-school in a Panchayat it is proposed to open more pre-schools in a phased programme. During the current year, it is proposed to start 100 such centres.

(v) Since the inception of the scheme, many Balasevikas have dropped out due to personal reasons and they have been replaced by untrained candidates. In order to equip the untrained candidates, a scheme of training has been drawn up and 200 Balasevikas will be trained during the current year.

The Integrated Child Welfare Demonstration Project was started during 1962-63 as a pilot project.

Under this project, 50 Kuzhandaigal Kappagams with an average attendance of 40 children and 10 creches with an average attendance of 10 children are functioning. The pre-schools are run with fully trained Balasevikas. The children are given balahar feeding. Extensive immunisation and health programmes are also carried out.

During 1975-76, three Integrated Child Development Services Projects under Centrally Sponsored Scheme have been sanctioned and are functioning in three blocks (*i.e.*) Madras City, Thally Panchayat Union in Dharmapuri district and Nilakottai in Madurai district. In each project 100 pre-schools have been started.



Medicines given to the Patient

The project provides a package of services consisting of supplementary nutrition, health check up, immunisation, referral services and pre-school education to children between 0-5 years and pregnant and nursing mothers. The nutrition component under this scheme is the State Government's responsibility. A novel scheme of functional literacy programme for adult women is being implemented in all the three projects to benefit women in the age group of 15-44.

Under the Tribal Sub-plan Scheme, 19 pre-schools were started in 1976-77 in the tribal areas of South Arcot and North Arcot and 10 for Pania children in the Nilgiris district. During 1977-78, it is proposed to open 30 pre-schools in

the other Tribal areas *viz.*, Kalrayans, Pachamalai, Sitheri and Arunuthumalai. Four pre-schools have been sanctioned to benefit children of Sri Lanka Repatriates.

The pre-schools are functioning in thatched sheds or rent free accommodation provided by Panchayats or local community. It was proposed to construct buildings for the pre-schools, and starting from 1974-75 sanction has been accorded for construction of 200 buildings

- (i) Supplementary Nutrition.
- (ii) Health Examination and Referral Services.
- (iii) Immunisation.
- (iv) Nursery and Pre-school education
- (v) Nutrition and Health Education.
- (vi) Functional literacy.

The scheme will be implemented by the Director of Social Welfare. The Madras Metropolitan Develop-



A Child being examined

each year with CARE assistance. The programme will be continued during the current year.

Under the Madras Urban Development Project to be implemented with World Bank Aid, one of the components is Maternal and Child Health Scheme. Under this scheme, to be implemented in Villivakkam, Arumbakkam and Kodungaiyoor, 200 child Welfare Centres are to be started, each centre to cater to 70 children (40 in the pre-school and 30 in the creche). During 1977-78, 30 centres will be opened. Construction of buildings for these centres is also envisaged in the scheme.

The scheme consists of a delivery of a package of services to the beneficiaries consisting of—

ment Authority is the co-ordinating agency for all the schemes under the Madras Urban Development Project to be implemented with World Bank Aid. A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs is provided for the current year (1977-78) for implementing the scheme.

Special Nutrition Programme :

The Special Nutrition Programme was originally introduced as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 1970-71. During 1974-75, the scheme has been transferred to the State Sector. The scheme envisaged supplementing the diet of the under-nourished, mainly urban slum pre-school beneficiaries, to combat mal-nutrition by the provision of modern bread. The Modern Bread Scheme was in

force till August 1975. Thereafter, the scheme has been modified into balahar feeding.

100 grams of balahar gives 360 calories and 21 grams protein. In the mofussil and belt areas of Madras City, the beneficiaries are being served with cooked balahar at the rate of 80 grams per beneficiary per day. The distribution of balahar is combined with medical checkup. Necessary immunisation and evaluation of the beneficiaries are being done in Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore cities and Pudukkottai municipality under the Special Nutrition Programme with a medical umbrella. In these places, the beneficiaries are served with raw balahar once a week at 700 grams per beneficiary. Thus, the beneficiaries covered under the Special Nutrition Programme during 1976-77 are 2,76,530, who are fed for 300 days in the year.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Schemes undertaken for the Welfare of Physically Handicapped :

(i) Modern Training-cum-Production Workshop, Muttukkadu :

One of the schemes approved by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped persons is the establishment of Modern Training-cum-Production Workshop, Muttukkadu, which is situated in the Madras-Mahabalipuram Road. The Workshop started functioning during June, 1975. The training of the first batch of trainees has been completed during December, 1976. The second batch of training for 27 trainees is in session. Besides, the production work in light engineering, structural work, machining of components, etc., have been done by this workshop.

(ii) Training is imparted to 32 physically handicapped women at the Stree Seva Mandir at a cost of Rs. 5,600. Deaf and Dumb girls are trained in Doll making, Embroidery and Dress making. Blind girls are trained in Mat Weaving and Handloom Weaving and Orthopaedically handicapped girls in Stenography.

(iii) So far 3,000 tricycles and 1,125 hearing aids have been distributed.

(iv) Rs. 40,000 is being given as maintenance grant to Voluntary Institutions for maintaining children between 8 and 16 years, affected with Polio, Cerebral Palsy, Mentally retarded, Deaf, Dumb, Blind and Orthopaedically handicapped and



CARE food is being cooked

another sum of Rs. 40,000 for maintaining children of Leprosy patients and children suffering from Leprosy.

(v) A grant of Rs. 45,600 is given to Bala Vihar to train teachers to teach the mentally retarded children.

(vi) A grant of Rs. 65,000 is given to the School for the Deaf, Madras for training of teachers to teach the deaf.

(vii) Blind people in Madras City have been given free travel concessions in P.T.C. (Metropolitan) for travel within the City.

(viii) It has been proposed to open a sheltered workshop for the blind during the current year.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S SCHEME FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN

Under this scheme, the Government of India are sanctioning grants to Voluntary Organisations in the State for the maintenance of destitute/orphan children by them. Poor destitute children in the age group of 5 to 18 are being admitted in the beneficiary scheme. The Government of India grant-in-aid provides for 90 per cent of the expenditure on both the maintenance and building construction. 10 per cent of the recurring and non-recurring expenditure should be borne by the voluntary organisations. There are 43 institutions obtaining grant under this scheme.

KARUNAI ILLAMS

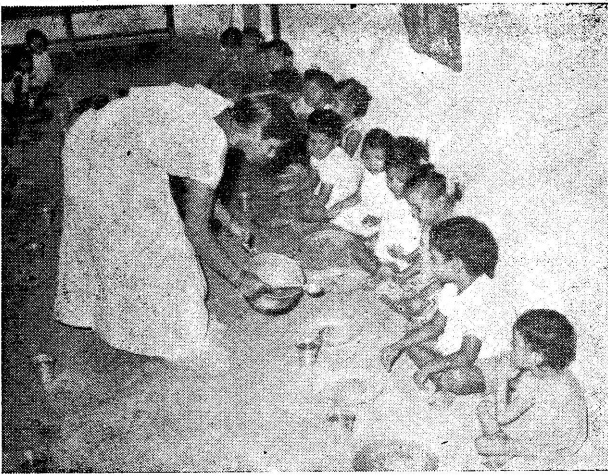
During the year 1975, Karunai Illams (Orphanages) have been started in 53 places to be run from the surplus funds of the Temple funds. Destitute orphan children in the

age group of 5—18 years are being admitted and the Government sanction grant at the rate of Rs. 12.50 per head per mensem being the 25 per cent of the expenditure on maintenance of children. Also Rs. 1,000 per head will be sanctioned towards the provision of building, furniture, etc. The Government have sanctioned Rs. 2.46 lakhs as grant for the maintenance of children during the year 1975-76. The 53 illams have now been grouped into 36 illams. The scheme is administered by the Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments and the grants are sanctioned through this Department.

BEGGAR HOME

The Government Care Camp, Melpakkam :

The Care Camp at Melpakkam is a beggar home run by the Government for the beggars who are convicted under the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging Act, 1945, and by the Judicial Magistrate, for a period up to three years. The Home was manned by Police Department and in 1973 the administrative control was transferred to the Social Welfare Directorate. The staffing pattern has now been changed and the supervisory staff have been replaced by Social Welfare Staff. An officer of the rank of a Deputy Director is in-charge of the Home. The sanctioned strength of inmates is 770 males and 180 females. The present strength is 215 males and 73 females. The inmates are given useful vocational training in the trades like weaving, carpentry, tailoring, etc. During 1976, an amount



Children being served CARE food

of Rs. 3,06,202.98 has been spent on vocational training and Rs. 2,81,229.20 towards feeding charges and clothing to the inmates. Recently, Government have sanctioned Rs. 3 lakhs for making structural improvements to the dormitories and industrial sections. There is a proposal for constructions of staff quarters, medical isolation ward, and purchase of hospital equipments etc. in the current year's programme at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.95 lakhs.

REHABILITATION OF DESTITUTE WIDOWS

During the year 1975-76, the Government have sanctioned the following Programmes for the Rehabilitation of the destitute widows :

(1) **Old Age Pension** : Under this programme destitute widows of not less than 45 years will be eligible for old age pension at Rs. 20/- per mensem. This is implemented by the Board of Revenue. The rules applicable to the old age pension scheme for normal people are being adopted for this scheme also. Under this Scheme so far 9,075 destitute widows have been benefited. This scheme is being continued every year.

(2) **Distribution of Sewing Machines** : Under this programme destitute widows, destitute women and other socially, economically and physically handicapped women, who are in the age group of 20-40 years and who have been trained in tailoring are being awarded Sewing Machine, free of cost to enable them to eke out their livelihood. During 1975-76, 1,000 destitute widows were supplied with sewing machines. During 1976-77,

500 persons were benefited. It is proposed to continue the scheme during this year also and distribute 500 sewing machines.

(3) **Training in Rural Textiles** : With a view to rehabilitating destitute widows in Rural Textile Centres, the Government have sanctioned a scheme for purchase and supply of Charka Machines and equipment through the Khadi and Village Industries Board. A grant of Rs. 1,000 per beneficiary towards the cost of the Charka and machineries is being sanctioned to the Khadi and Village Industries Board. Though the Board has enrolled 467 widows, only 279 are continuing under this programme. Accordingly, a sum of Rs. 2.79 lakhs has been sanctioned as grant to the Khadi and Village Industries Board towards the cost of the Charka and machineries.

Widows' Remarriage : A scheme for encouraging the widows' remarriage at the age group of 18-30 with the financial assistance of Rs. 5,000 in the form of 7 year National Savings Certificate invested in the joint name of the couples married after 3rd June, 1975 was sanctioned by Government. During 1975-76, 90 couples were benefited. The scheme was continued during 1976-77 also. A proposal for continuance of the Scheme for 1977-78 is also under consideration of the Government.

STATE BOARD FOR HANDICAPPED

The Government have constituted the State Board for the Handicapped, Madras for a period of three years with the following objects and functions :-

(i) To assess the magnitude of the problems of rehabilitation of physically handicapped ;

(ii) Evolve employment schemes aimed at improving the lot of physically handicapped in consultation with Government ;

(iii) To promote employment opportunities for physically handicapped ;

(iv) To examine and grant financial assistance to the physically handicapped individuals and institutions engaged in welfare work etc. ;

(v) Co-ordinate efforts made by the institutions engaged in education, training and rehabilitation of physically handicapped.

The Minister for Social Welfare is the Chairman of the Board. The first meeting of the Board is likely to be convened shortly.

TAMIL NADU STATE SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board has been playing an important role in the growth and development of voluntary agencies in the State. It gives grants under the general grants-in-aid programme of the Central Social Welfare Board to voluntary agencies to implement programmes for the welfare and rehabilitation of destitute women and children, nutritional programmes for pre-school children and pregnant and nursing mothers and also vocational training programmes for the physically handicapped persons. An amount of Rs. 23.46 lakhs was sanctioned by the Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board during 1976-77 to various voluntary agencies in the State for implementation of welfare programmes.

NEW SCHEMES PROPOSED

(1) Payment of annual stipend of Rs. 150' for 1,000 poor women in the age group of 16-30 whose family income is less than Rs. 3,000 per annum in order to help them acquire vocational training in the form of shorthand and typewriting.

(2) Supply of books and note books free of cost to the children of widows whose family income is less than Rs. 3,000 per annum ;

(3) Setting up of guidance Bureau in different parts of the State for helping widowed women to get assistance for obtaining life insurance and provident fund benefits, advice on educational and employment opportunities, and guidance regarding admission of their children in orphanage, and educational institutions.



A scene from "FIFTH SEAL". A Hungarian film.



A scene from "LACE-MAKER"
a film from Switzerland.

"Honourable Minister for Information and Broadcasting of the Union Government, Thiru Adhvani, Delegates to the Film Festival and Friends,

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you all on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu to the 'Filmotsav '78' this evening. At the outset I must thank the Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India for having chosen Madras to conduct this prestigious Film Festival. In the international field, the film is a convenient and effective means of cultural expression and there is no gainsaying the fact that the role such film festivals play in bringing together peoples of various cultures and make them understand and appreciate each other's culture. Many of you may be aware that the Indian Sub-continent has a rich cultural heritage and the glorious art tradition of the Tamil people has been carefully preserved and handed down in its pristine purity from generation to generation. We are not strangers to the mode of communicating the innermost ideas and the sublimest thoughts in captivating art form.

If we look at the Cinema, taking away from it certain technical aspects, it could easily be discerned that Cinema is a derivative art form of the Drama. In fact the Cinema is a stage of the evolutionary growth of the Drama. Those who are engaged in the Cinema industry come under two categories *i.e.*, the Artistes and the Technicians. During the early days the actors had had the training only in the Theatre. The scientific aspect of the industry has been looked after by the technicians. You have come to a country whose culture had been enriched by a virile theatre movement. In India — particularly in the South — the theatre movement had enjoyed an all round patronage. The stage artistes not only entertained the people but had been instrumental in bringing about far-reaching social changes.

Even during the Indian Freedom Struggle the theatre movement, especially of Tamil Nadu, played a very significant role in inculcating the spirit of patriotism in the minds of the common people. Actors and other artistes used the Theatre as a powerful forum for propagating the nationalist ideas and galvanizing

“AN ART THAT ELEVATES HUMAN MINDS TO THE NOBLEST SENTIMENTS”

**—Chief Minister
Thiru M. G. R.**

the people to mass action. When the foreigners let loose suppression to put down the freedom movement many of the stage artistes were arrested under charges of sedition and a large number of them courted voluntary imprisonment. That the Artistes made total identification with the freedom struggle is not a phenomenon peculiar to this country. In several countries, during various periods of history we come across artistes plunging headlong into revolutionary struggles and movements of emancipation.

In this context it would not be out of place to place on record the services rendered by the immortal Tramp, the late Charlie Chaplin.

Naturally, Cinema has its advantages over the Drama as an effective medium of communicating ideas. The Cinema is not only a great chronicler of events but has a great educational role to play which has been realised by eminent educationists all over the world. In its tremendous power to attract vast audiences, no other art can stand comparison to this art in celluloid. The potentialities of this medium were realised very early in this country also, and Dhadha Sahib Phalke was the pioneer of the film industry in India. The saga of his struggle and achievements in this field forms a glorious chapter in

the history of the Indian Film industry. The path laid by the veteran pioneer has been followed with new innovations by eminent directors and film producers and in this regard three outstanding names come to my mind. Shantharam of Maharashtra, Satyajit Ray of Bengal and S.S. Vasan of Tamil Nadu deserve special mention. Shantharam made a significant contribution of giving a national ethos to the Indian Film Industry and Satyajit Ray put India prominently on the international film map by his graphic portrayal of the life of the poverty-stricken village folk of India and their social contradictions. S.S. Vasan created film history by making spectacular production in the regional language which stood commendable comparison to International films, in spite of the fact that the appliances available to him were not modern and were out of date. Similar cases of such feats could be quoted from the pages of history of other countries also. The names of the celebrities are too well-known to be enumerated here.

It was George Bernard Shaw who described Charlie Chaplin as “the only genius that the film industry has produced.” Charlie Chaplin strode the film world like a Colossus for almost half a century by his outstanding portrayals. Although in his demise the film world has sustained an irreparable loss we have also the consolation that his contributions as an Artiste, Director and Filmmaker had enriched the film industry and would continue to inspire us for a long time to come. When I speak of the immortal Tramp Charlie Chaplin, I am reminded of the ace comedian of the Tamil screen, N. S. Krishnan, who by his sparkling wit and original interpretation of the roles had left an indelible mark of his versatility on the South Indian Screen. This spacious hall KALAIVANAR ARANGAM where we have assembled to celebrate this important function is named after that veteran comedian. N. S. Krishnan in his didactic approach to the film media considered Arignar Anna as his guide.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not make mention of the great role Arignar Anna played in putting to use the stage and the screen as effective instruments of social transformation. He wrote dramas and screen plays with laudable social purpose. By his power-



The Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R. delivering the Presidential address of the Filmotsav '78

ful penmanship he laid the foundation for raising a new order of society. He created many an artiste to carry forward the mission with a spirit of dedication. By his untiring efforts he earned for the Artistes social recognition and status in society. He was of the opinion that politicians should have an artistic bias in all their activities and successfully created a band of men who could be depended upon to carry forward this ideal. On this occasion I pay homage to all those dedicated artistes, by remembering whom we may be in a position to assess the great achievements of the film industry.

The social purpose of the cinema could not be underestimated. It is an art form which by its very nature has its business ramifications. Since this medium has a tremendous influence in moulding the thinking of the masses we have to seriously take into consideration the social obligations of the film-maker and others who are connected with this industry. How far we are going to retain the art form, satisfying the business needs of the industry, is an important question to which I hope the delegates who have gathered here will apply their minds

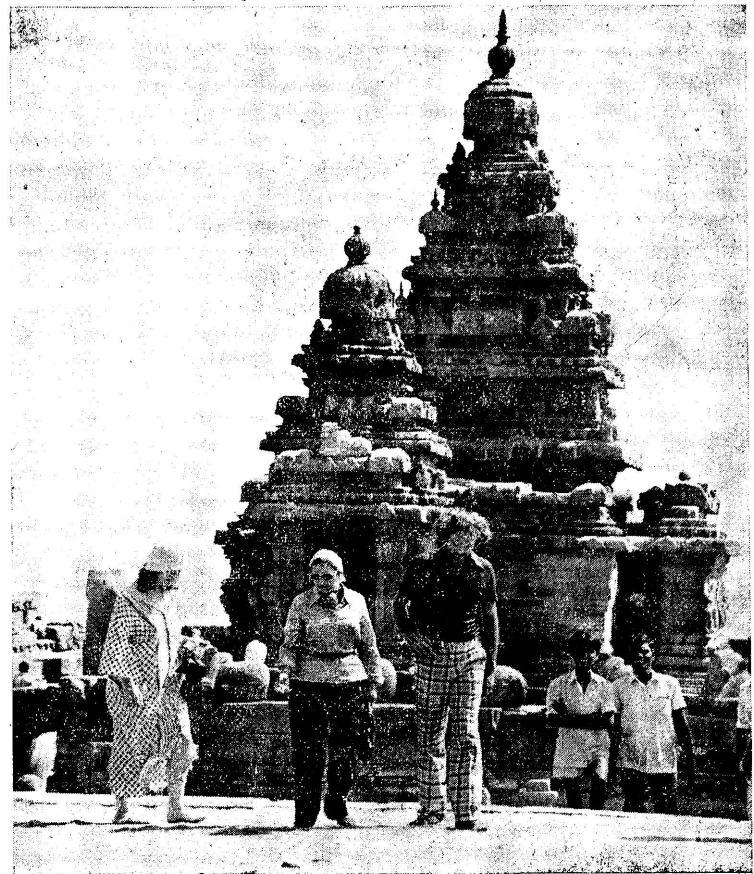
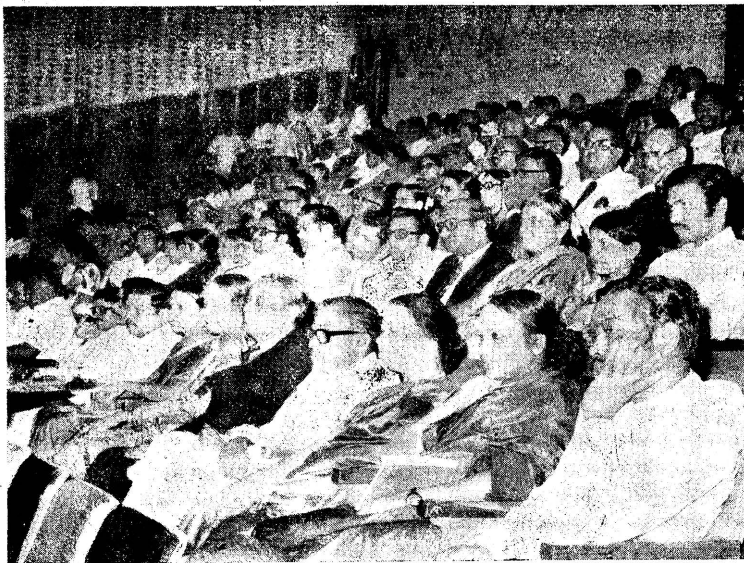
and try to arrive at useful and practical decisions and give the necessary guidelines to those that are engaged in this industry.

This naturally leads us to the question of what Art is. Many have given different definitions as to what they mean by Art. It is really very difficult to give a precise definition as to what Art is, and a definition could be attempted only by trying to explain what Art should really mean and what it should convey. Someone has said that 'Civilisation itself is an art form highly successful and fortuitous but nonetheless an art.' It means that all that go to make up the ingredients of Civilisation must necessarily have one art form or another. And if you are prepared to accept this definition, Cinema being one of the most powerful mass media has the greatest potential in influencing the growth of Civilisation and as such should be considered as a most vital art affecting the modern life. Hence the social responsibility of the people who are connected with this industry is immense and whatever you do should be done with utmost care and with an unerring sense of social dedication. In this connec-

tion, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that Mahatma Gandhi was inspired to follow the path of truth and non-violence in the freedom struggle by witnessing the stageplay 'Harischandra.' So it is my duty to appeal to the delegates who are assembled here to devote their attention in making this art not merely a commercial proposition but an art that elevates human minds to the noblest sentiments and raise the common man to a level where he has purposeful life-experience. It was Goethe, the philosopher-poet, who had said 'the highest problem of any art is to cause by appearance the illusion of a higher reality.'

This is the problem that the Cinema has actually before it today. It is not only a challenge, but also an opportunity for the men dedicated to this industry to prove to the world at large that they are engaged in a mission, and not in a profession whose purpose is not merely commercial but one of raising human minds to nobler level and better appreciation of life."

(Presidential speech at the inaugural function of Filmotsav '78 at Kalaivanar Arangam on 3-1-'78)



1. A view of the audience at Kalaivanar Arangam at the inaugural function of Filmotsav '78 held on 3-1-'78. The Minister for Education Thiru S. Aranganayagam, the Minister for Information and Tourism Thiru R.M. Veerappan, the Minister for Public Works Thiru S. Ramachandran are seen in the picture.

2. The Delegates of Filmotsav '78 at the Shore Temple Mahabalipuram.

3. Shri Jagbir Singh, Minister of State for I & B, being received at FFC Cultura Programme on 7-1-'78, Thiru Jagdish Parikh FFC Chairman is also seen in the picture.

TOURIST TRADE FAIR

A unique feature of the All India Tourist Trade Fair is the National Handloom Expo '78 where the best of the handloom products from all over the country are displayed and sold.

Sound and light programmes on the important tourist spots in Tamil Nadu will be presented in the Tourist Department's pavilion housed in a huge structure resembling a drum

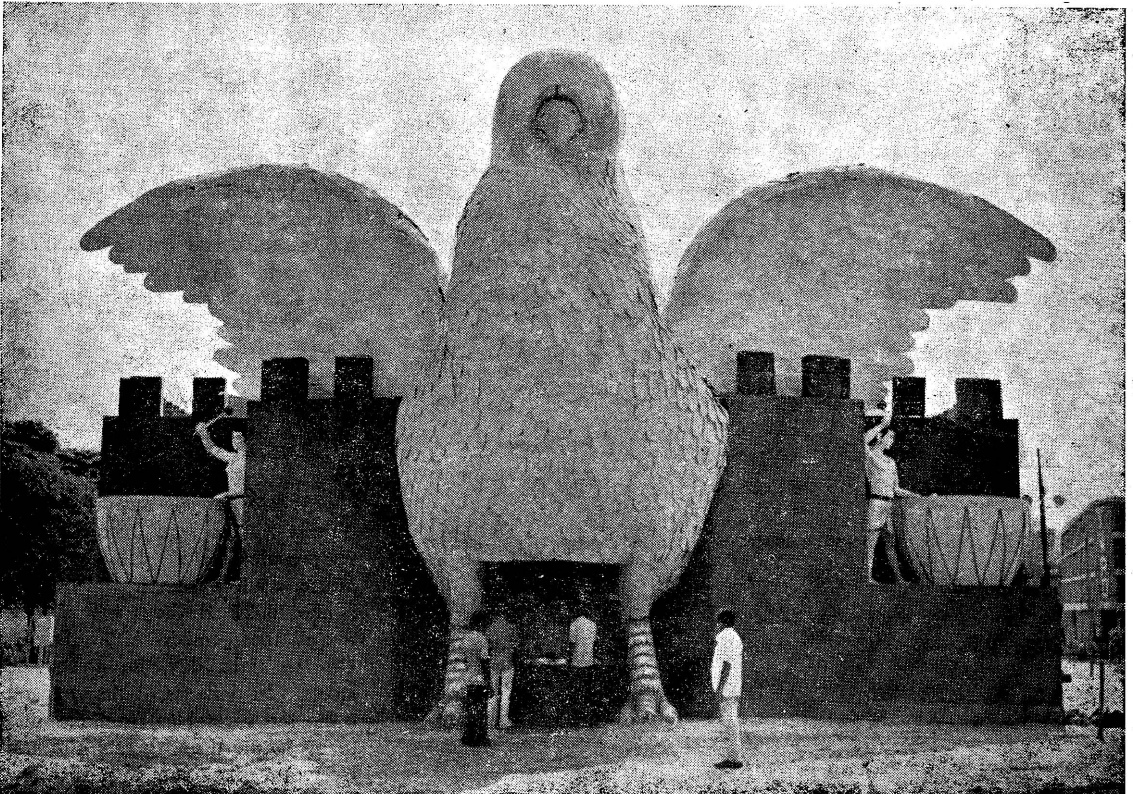
("Thavil"). A pair of Nadhaswaram (65 feet) in papier mache appropriately forms part of this pavilion wherein ancient musical instruments have been displayed.

Besides private and public sector undertakings, the Central and State Government departments are participating. The evolution of the news media from the days of the pigeon carriers to the electronics

age is displayed at the pavilion of the Information and Public Relations Department of the State Government. There will be live film shooting every day at this pavilion.

Besides song, drama and music programmes there will be film shows every day. There is an amusement complex for children. An Agri-horticultural show, a food fair are some of the other attractions.

Frontage of the Information and Public Relations Department



PONGAL

THE

FESTIVAL

OF

TAMIL NADU



Pongal is the national festival of Tamil Nadu. Celebrated for four days commencing from the last day of *Margazhi*, Pongal is a festival of thanksgiving when the peasant worships the Sun, the Earth and the Cattle for all their bounties. The first day of the festival called *Bhogi* is spent in feasting and merry making. On the second day which is Pongal, he worships the Sun. Sugarcane and turmeric, sheaves of paddy and newly prepared jaggery, vegetables and dhals are all devoutly offered, the members of the

family joining in the worship. On the third day the cow is worshipped. The farmer paints the horns of his bulls and cows in rich colours and covers the horns with shining metal caps and decorates them with gay coloured beads and bells. The cows and bulls which are thus gaily decorated are led out in procession to the beat of drums, pipe horns and music. In Madurai and Ramanathapuram, a kind of bull fight, called the "JALLI KATTU" is held. Bundles of currency notes are tied to the horns of ferocious

bulls and unarmed young men try to wrest the bundles. In days of old, rich mirasdars would rear bulls especially for this occasion and whoever tames the bull would get the hand of his daughter. This practice is no more now. Rice made into coloured balls are left in open terraces and courtyards for the birds.

On the last day, "Kaanum Pongal" men, women and children of all ages dressed in colourful clothes visit the elders to pay their regards and respects. In villages, the families go to the river banks, cook and eat the meals in the open. They sing and dance the *Kummi* and *Kolattam* and enjoy themselves. In towns and cities, dressed in their best, they throng the cinema houses, exhibitions and museums. In general it is an outing for the entire family, more or less a picnic.

What Pongal means to the Tamils will be seen from the way he prepares for it. He cleans the house, white-washes it which gives a new look. He buys new clothes for all the members of his family. On the third day, he greets the elders. In villages, the peasant takes the vegetables from his land to his landlord and greets him and receives a token sum in return.



The Institute of Venereology

The Institute of Venereology was one of the three in India selected by the Post-Graduate Committee.

While the department was being built up for upgrading with the Central assistance, World Health Organization recognising the importance of this health problem came forward with personnel and equipments to strengthen the Institute of Venereology. WHO also awarded fellowships to the staff for further studies abroad on the preventive clinical and laboratory aspects of S.T.D. Since then WHO has been continuously giving financial aid to the Institute and up till now to the tune of 40,000 dollars have been donated by them.

Patient Care :

The prime motto of this institution is to be a good clinician and give the best to the patient. This is brought home to all the staff repeatedly by the senior staff with the result many are good clinicians. Prior to the starting of the Institute of Neurology, many neurological cases used to be sent to the Institute of Venereology for diagnosis and treatment.

A Patient being examined



This Institute offers consultation services for whole of India and this attracts patients from all over India.

The V.D. laboratory which is the king pin of the Institution was formed in 1953 and was upgraded to that of Central V.D. Reference Laboratory in 1961 with Central Govt. assistance. Some of the latest sophisticated tests for diagnosing STD are being carried out only at our Institute in India.

Research formed an integral part of this Institution even before upgrading the institution. However the upgrading research activities were intensified. More than 50 projects of research have been undertaken at the Institute with the financial aid received from Tamil Nadu State Research Committee, Pharmaceutical firms, Indian Council of Medical Research and World Health Organization.

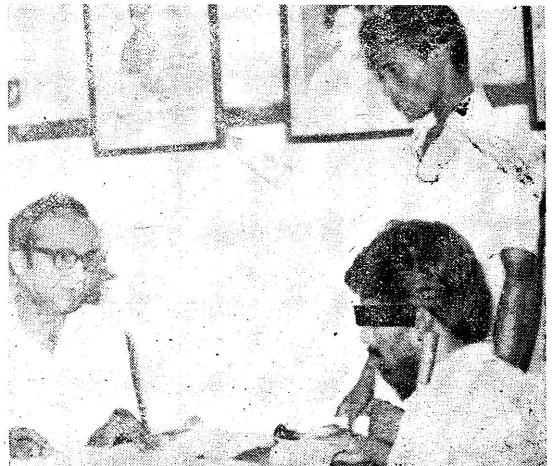
A word about the aids received from ICMR and WHO. In Tamil Nadu the Institute of Venereology received the maximum grant in aid from ICMR and WHO in South India.

Teaching and Training :

The Institute of Venereology even before it was upgraded, was well known for its teaching and training and for maintaining a high academic standard. A number of medical practitioners benefitted by the Refresher Course offered by this department. During the Second World War, the Department contributed the largest number of Specialists to man the V.D. Clinics both in India and abroad after giving them short course of training. During 1940s and 50s House Surgeons clamoured for a posting in the V.D. Department because in private practice this was a highly coveted field and the treatment at that time was complicated.

In 1952 when this department was upgraded, the University of Madras recognised this institution for Diploma Course in Venereology. So far, 99 students from all over India have taken their Diploma in Venereology. In 1961, this Institute was recognised for Post-graduate research degree of Ph.D. and in 1966 for M.D. Venereology. 23 candidates have taken M.D. Venereology, 2 Ph.D. 5 more have registered

Information about the Patient is collected



for Ph.D. In addition, refresher course of training in Sexually Transmitted Diseases are being given to the Clinicians, Microbiologists, Pathologists, Social Workers and Nurses. A short Refresher course of Training in immunology is also being conducted. 12 candidates in two batches have had their training. The Institute conducts group training of Pathologists and Technicians at important centres like Hyderabad, Calcutta and Bombay.

Scientific Advancements :

The strain of T. Pallidum was successfully established in V. D. Laboratory in 1954.

A new and simple medium for the culture of gonococci was discovered in 1967.

The National Programme of Interlaboratory evaluation of S.T.D. was established in the year 1961 and the expansion of the above programme by visiting the participating laboratories and the group training of pathologists and technicians were undertaken and successfully implemented during the Vth Plan period by the Director, Institute of Venereology and Reader in Serology.

A mobile V.D. laboratory was established for the first time in 1971 and the first random survey of the hill tribes was conducted by the staff of the Institute of Venereology and Central V.D. Reference Laboratory under the leadership of the Director in 1971. From that period onwards surveys have been conducted in selected areas and un-



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earthed the high incidence of V.D. present among the different groups of population.

Tamil Nadu was the first State to have a State Advisory Committee on V.D. with Director, Institute of Venereology as the Member Secretary and other Members of the Institute of Venereology in the Committee.

“The Institute of Venereology in Tamil Nadu stands foremost. It has taken the initiative and interest in the control of STD.”

[Excerpts from the speech of H.E. Governor of Tamil Nadu.]

Sir William Osler, the famous physician, has aptly described venereal diseases as the most formidable enemy of mankind — an enemy entrenched behind the strongest passion and deepest social prejudices. Because of these peculiar features, sexually transmitted diseases have challenged mankind in their efforts to control them.

After World War II, there was every hope that VD could be wiped off with the newly discovered antibiotics. Little did they realise that there are other factors ingrained in the human beings and environment which will keep these infection hidden and assume an epidemic proportion when opportunity arises. The resurgence of venereal disease in the last two decades bears out this fact.

Reliable statistics on the relative incidence of these diseases is lacking. This dearth of information



A Mini Exhibition

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

is directly related to the economic factors, lack of education and understanding on the subject, lack of modern diagnostic facilities and medical manpower. The reported figures from few scattered clinics represent only a fraction of the total problem of STD in the country. For every case reported to the clinic, there are five to ten cases outside in the community. The reason for this under-reporting is understandable, because these diseases are sex-linked and the sufferers have a feeling of guilt and shame and so they prefer self treatment, treatment by quacks or at the most by private practitioners. Only when the condition goes beyond their endurance, they go to public clinics. Being non-notifiable diseases, there is no agency to collect the statistics even if they are available. However, from the limited statistics available in some countries, a two hundred per cent increase in the incidence of STD has been reported indicating that these diseases are widely disseminated in the community, unrecognised and undiagnosed.

The reasons for this rising trend is attributed to the changing social factors like urbanisation, industrialisation, rapid transportation, tourism and migration, emancipation of women, free availability of contraceptive devices, changing pattern of socio-sexual activity; medical factors like resistance of the germs to the specific drugs, changing pattern of disease; demographic factors like over population and over crowding in Cities and slums.

In our country the professional prostitutes still form the reservoir of STD infection. These two problems are like Siamese twins. Prostitution is not only a medical problem with a social aspect in it, but also a social problem with a medical aspect. Both have to be tackled simultaneously to get the desired result.

Unfortunately there are no immunising agents as in the case of smallpox, cholera and typhoid to immunise the community against STD.

As for the control of STD in India, I understand that it is not as satisfactory as Leprosy, tuberculosis, small-pox or any other communicable diseases control programme. The only States that have taken some initiative and interest are Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. Of these, the Institute of Venereology in Tamil Nadu stands foremost. This problem of Sexually Transmitted Diseases has to be tackled on an All India basis. I do hope that an awareness to this effect will soon be created and that all the States will co-operate in evolving a national plan to combat this disease.

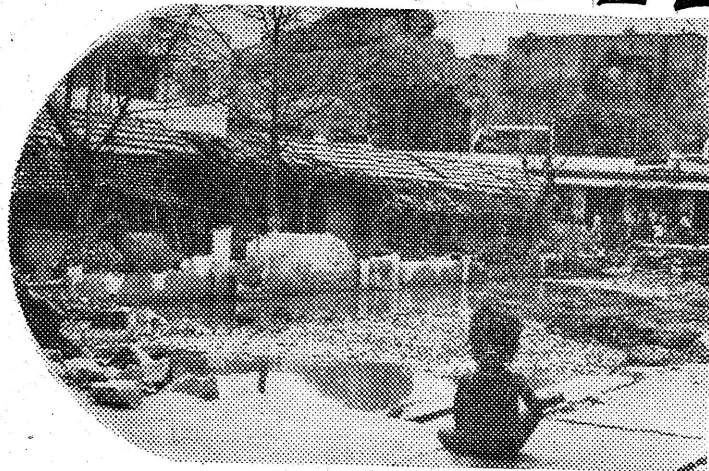
It is also difficult to change the environment in which these diseases flourish. The social factors responsible for these diseases are so intricate and interwoven that control of these disease becomes difficult. This is paradoxical because with all the modern discoveries and medical armamentarium, we are not able to control a disease where man alone is responsible.



A Child is examined

A pregnant woman being examined

DEVASTATION!



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FILM FESTIVAL SHOULD ACQUIRE

ITS OWN IDENTITY

Vice President Thiru B. D. JATTI

Thiru B. D. Jatti, the Vice-President, suggested at concluding session of **Filmotsav '78** that each International Film Festival should acquire its own identity and individuality rather than concentrate on mere display of technical and histrionic excellence. It should also provide an opportunity to show through the medium of the film, the evolution of the human mind over the centuries. The Vice-President was speaking at the concluding function of the **Filmotsav '78** on 17-1-1978 where he was the Chief Guest. Thiru Prabhudas Patwari, Governor of Tamil Nadu presided.

Describing the film as a double-edged weapon, Thiru Jatti said,

"It holds immense possibilities to enrich human knowledge, promote the development of fine arts, act as a bridge between the past and the present and bring people of various races closer. It can also be used equally effectively to destroy timeless cultural and artistic achievements by giving a gloss to the baser instincts."

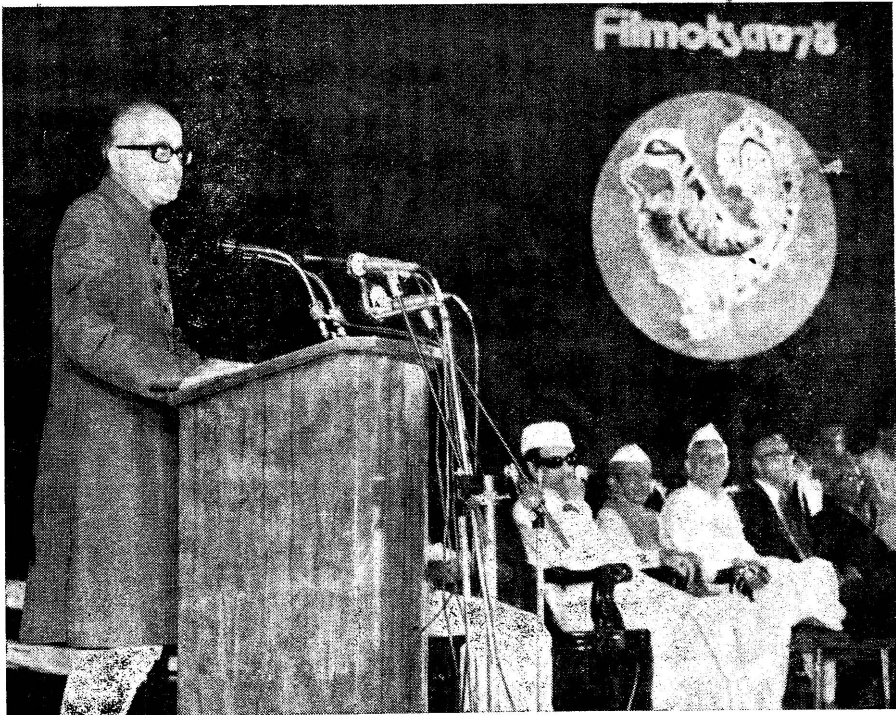
WELCOME TREND

Thiru Jatti referred to the welcome trend in films which was discernible in recent years, where society particularly in highly industrialised countries, was revolting against any form of psychological violence mounted in various guises by a variety of films. There was

a perceptible yearning towards realistic and acceptable themes which truly reflected society's weaknesses as well as its inherent strength. "Many of you, who are directly concerned with film production, may like to give your helping hand in strengthening this movement," he declared.

Following is the text of Thiru Jatti's Speech :

"There is always a touch of regret whenever a festive occasion like **Filmotsav '78** comes to an end. I am sure that all those who participated to make this festival a success will have the satisfaction of knowing that their endeavours made it possible for the visiting



The Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting Thiru L. K. Adhvani, Speaking at the valedictory function of the Filmotsav '78. The Vice President Thiru B. D. Jatti, The Governor Thiru Prabhudas Patwari and the Chief Minister Thiru M.G.R. are seen in the picture.



A scene from the Japanese Film

delegates and journalists and their counterparts here to come closer and understand each other better.

MAIN AIM OF FILM FESTIVALS

"While film exposition in the international sphere have become a regular annual feature. I personally feel that the main aim should be something more than the mere display or assertion of technical and histrionic excellence. Indeed, each international film festival should acquire its own identity and individuality. Further it should be an opportunity to show, through the medium of the film, the evolution of the human mind over the centuries.

"Until the discovery of the printing machine, learning and knowledge and education were a monopoly of the elite. The printing press opened the flood-gates, broke the monopoly and brought facilities for acquiring enlightenment within the reach of the common man. The discovery of photography and later of the movie was a giant leap and made it possible, as Thiru Advani observed in his inaugural speech, to de-link knowledge from literacy.

"Today the film and the television have proved beyond doubt their over-riding superiority over other visual media. This has been amply proved by our recent experience in the SITE project where the visual medium has been able to convey a message or a thought

most eloquently and effectively, transcending regional and language barriers. The media of the film and the printed word have also made rapid acquisition of scientific and technological knowledge possible.

A DOUBLE-EDGED WEAPON

"It is well recognised that the film is a double-edged weapon. It holds immense possibilities to enrich human knowledge, promote the development of fine arts, act as a bridge between the past and the present and bring people of various races closer. It can also be used equally effectively to destroy timeless cultural and artistic achievements by giving a gloss to the baser instincts.



Filmotsav 78

MADRAS

"This alarming trend is a reality and threatens to erode our confidence in the values which we all cherish. I know many of you who have been participating in international film festivals have been projecting through films certain universal ideals of human conduct and upholding the eternal values of truth, goodness and beauty.

"In this age of technology and science you have, through the film, underscored the pre-eminence of man over machine.

"I am sure the healing touch which you are bringing to the art of the film will help in establishing the supremacy and sanctity of man.

A HAPPY TREND

"I understand a happy trend is discernible in the film world in recent years. I am told society, particularly in the highly industrialised countries, is revolting against any form of psychological violence mounted in various guises by a variety of films — and that there is a perceptible yearning towards realistic and acceptable themes which truly reflect society's weaknesses as well as its inherent strength. Many of you, who are directly concerned with film production, may like to give your helping hand in strengthening this movement.

"Apart from the films from abroad, I understand the **Indian Panorama** at this Filmotsav has helped greatly in focussing attention on the remarkable headway made in recent times by the Regional Cinema in India. It has given the foreign delegates who are attending this festival an opportunity to see some of the finest productions of the new generation of film directors in our country.

"Similarly other Festival films from overseas will have afforded an equally unique opportunity to our film makers to view the best in contemporary world cinema, thereby helping in the process of cross-fertilisation of ideas. It is also significant that this Festival has taken place in a State which accounts for 75 per cent of the total number of films produced in the South.

"I now formally declare Filmotsav '78 closed."

(Speech at concluding Session of Filmotsav '78)

IN TAMIL NADU...

First Silent Movie	..	Keechaka Vadham (1917)
First Talkie	..	Kalidas (1931)
First Tamil Picture produced in Madras	..	Srinivasa Kalyanam
Full length comedy	..	Mada Sambirani
Geva Colour Film	..	Alibaba and 40 Thieves
Children's Film	..	Vimochanam
First 70 mm Film	..	Raja Raja Cholan
Picture produced with great expense	..	Mathru Bhoomi
First Dubbed Picture	..	Harichandra (from Kanada to Tamil)
First Technicolour Picture Dubbed		Neela Kadal
Picture which won President's Award	..	Malaikkallan
Picture that ran for maximum number of days (2.5 years)	..	Haridas
First Malayalam picture	..	Balan
First English picture produced from Madras	..	Jungle
First Technicolour Picture produced in Tamil	..	Veera Pandya Katta Bomman
First Internationally acclaimed picture	..	Chandralekha
First actress and woman Director	..	T. P. Rajalakshmi
First Woman Sound Engineer	..	Mrs. A. Narayanan
First Woman Music Director	..	Ramani
First Woman Art Director		Mohana
First Theatre	..	Gaiety
Film without songs	..	Antha Naal
First concern to produce Cartoons	.	Gemini Studios.
The concern to pro- duce largest number of pictures	..	Modern Theaters



The most frequent Questions on Smoking and health

Do people who begin early in life to smoke run a greater risk of lung cancer than those who start later ?

A study by Dr. Herbert Lombard, of the Massachusetts Department of Health, shows that cancer of the lung is developed in smokers on the basis of the time at which men began smoking. Those who began to smoke past 20 years of age showed an incidence of about 25 per 100,000 population. Those who began between 15 and 19 showed an incidence of about 45 per 100,000 population. Those who began smoking between 10 and 13 showed about 80 per 100,000 population. Those who began smoking at less than 10 years of age showed about 140 per 100,000 population. This indicates that the time at which a smoker begins the habit has a great deal to do with the risk he runs of contracting cancer of the lung.

Are there other effects from smoking, besides lung cancer ?

Perhaps even more significant than smoking's effect on the lungs is its effect on the heart. Heart disease is the No. 1 killer today. The death rate from coronary heart disease is about 115 per cent higher in cigarette smokers than in nonsmokers. "Tobacco heart" is a

term used to describe the composite of smoking's ill effects on the heart.

Smoking also causes blood-vessel disease. Eye damage is evident in nicotine amblyopia, and may be the cause of many highway accidents today, as well as some aeroplane tragedies. Tars from smoking cause severe changes in the mucous membranes of the, mouth larynx, lungs, and esophagus and tend to develop cancers in these areas.

Smoking increases high blood pressure by causing constriction of arteries ; in fact, there is no organ system of the body that is not adversely affected by smoking.

Is smoking worse for women than for men ?

Medical investigation shows that women are much more sensitive to nicotine than men. Tests by Dr. Morris Friedell, of the Cook County Hospital in Chicago, demonstrate that while smoking one cigarette, women average a 33 per cent increase in the volume of blood pumped through the heart, compared with 19 per cent in men. This says Dr. Friedell, explains why women get a bigger "kick" from a cigarette than men and causes them to become more deeply addicted than men.

Also, smoking affects the expectant mother along with her unborn child. This is another reason why it may be more destructive for women as a group to smoke than for men.

Why is lung cancer not as prevalent among women as among men ?

Men smoke much more than women, and women in general have started the habit more recently. In the United States about 70 per cent of men smoke, while about 35 per cent of the women smoke ; but lung cancer is rapidly increasing among women while other types of cancer in women are decreasing.

Epidemiological studies indicate that women are no less susceptible to lung cancer than are men. If recent trends continue, lung cancer will soon be as prevalent among women as among men since before long as many women will be smoking as men.

Does a mother's smoking affect her unborn child ?

Several medical studies show a much higher prematurity rate among smoking mothers than among nonsmoking mothers. In fact, the prematurity rate parallels very closely the rate of smoking by the mother. After a study of more than 2,000 mothers in six

hospitals in Birmingham, England, Dr. C. R. Lowe found that smoking during pregnancy substantially retards fetal growth, the nicotine interfering with the maternal blood circulation needed by the unborn child.

Why do so many youth smoke today ?

Probably for one or more of the following reasons :

1. **Imitation** : Franklin Russell, writing in *Maclean's* magazine of adolescents, smoking is not so much "a gesture of rebellion" "a gesture of conformity." Youth take up the habits not so much to defy their parents as to imitate them.

2. **Virility** : Too many young people consider a cigarette the symbol of power or virility. A boy in order to show himself "a real man" takes up the habit.

3. **Ignorance** : The average young person does not realise the potential danger in smoking. Even if he has heard some of the facts they are not impressed on his mind so as to persuade him that smoking is not only a future menace but a present one as well.

What about smoking and mentality ?

Various studies by physicians and psychologists indicate a consistent detrimental effect. In general, mental ability is reduced by as much as a third in smokers. Students who smoke tend to be inferior in mental capacity, in memory ability. The principal of Phillips Andover Academy declared that tobacco is "the bane of schools and colleges."

It is said that although some three-fourths of the student body of Harvard University are smokers, yet not one smoker has been at the head of the graduating class scholastically in fifty years.

Is there any relation between smoking and drinking ?

The cigarette smoker is often closely allied with the alcoholic. The two habits seem to have quite a close relationship. At a medical meeting not long ago one physician remarked, "I do not think that I ever treated an alcoholic who was not also an inveterate cigarette smoker." Another physician on the same panel said, "There may be alcoholics who do not use cigarettes, but they are few and far between."

Certain types of disease conditions characteristic of one habit

will be more aggravated if the other habit is indulged in as well ; for example, cancer of the mouth.

Persons so weak-willed as to continue smoking when they become aware of the facts about the habit, may also fall easy prey to heavy drinking and other drugs if available. It is well known that tobacco often leads to other addictions, especially alcoholism and the use of marijuana.

Why do smokers say they "enjoy smoking" ?

Dr. Richard H. Overholt says, "The basis of the physical joy in smoking is a drug effect. There is a specific pharmacological action. The body of the long-term smoker requires a replenished supply for a feeling of well-being. He is the victim of a drug addiction."

Rather than curing nervousness, cigarettes more often cause it. Like the infant with its pacifier, the smoker becomes more nervous and must smoke more and more. The craving is the direct result of his smoking. The so-called "enjoyment" stems from the unnatural effect of smoking on the human system.

Why do so many doctors smoke ?

They are human beings, subject to the same pressures and habits as the rest of us. However, not as many doctors smoke as you may think. It is significant that in a recent period of five years about 20 per cent of the smoking physicians in the United States quit smoking, and as many more reduced their habits, in view of medical and scientific findings. So it is that those "who know tobacco best" are quitting smoking ?

Are king-size cigarettes more harmful than standard size ?

It is claimed that king-size cigarettes are safer because their greater length filters the smoke. Actually, if a king size is smoked only partially, there is produced a slightly reduced quantity of harmful substance. If, however, it is smoked fully, the yield in both nicotine and tar is much higher than in a regular size cigarette. One company claims "a 21 per cent longer smoke" for king-size cigarettes. If that longer smoke is taken, the smoker ends up with more nicotine and tar in proportion to the extra length.

LOVE

your

family

enough

to

give

them

clean

A I R



Do filters make smoking safe ?

In general, filters make no difference whatever in the amount of tar the smoker gets. The reason is that cigarette manufacturers use coarse grades of tobacco in order to preserve the taste for the smoker. The taste comes primarily from the tar particles, the very thing the filter is supposed to take out in order to reduce the danger of lung cancer.

Congressional committees investigating advertising claims for filter cigarettes came to this conclusion: "The cigarette industry has done a grave disservice to the smoking public, initially, blatantly, and more recently, very subtly publicizing the filter-tip smoke as a health protection."

Tragically, these false claims do increase cigarette consumption by assuring the young and unwary of a protection they do not actually receive.

What are the basic substances in tobacco which are bad ?

One is nicotine, a deadly poison. It causes a number of ailments, among them heart and blood-vessel disease, as well as changes in the stomach and intestines.

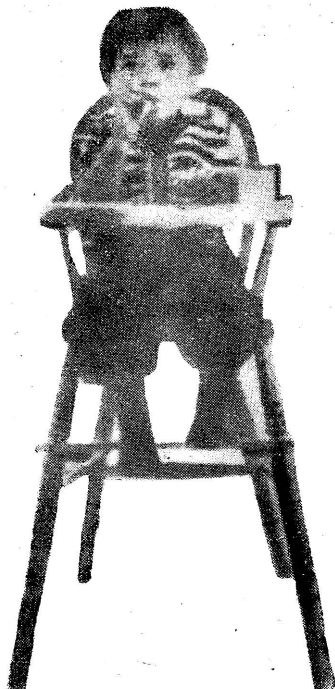
The second substance consists of tars which produce cancer. Dr. Alton Ochsner is authority for the statement that there are fourteen known cancer-producing agents which have been isolated from tobacco tar.

If cigarettes are such a health menace, why are they sold ?

Three factors are involved here: First, the smoker is the victim of a drug addiction. Once he starts to smoke it is very difficult for him to quit, and the number of cigarettes he smokes gradually and imperceptibly increases. Secondly, young people take up the habit without a full knowledge of what smoking may do to them. They become regular customers of the cigarette industry because they see adults smoke and they want to appear "adult." Thirdly, the tobacco industry is an eight-billion-dollar industry. Any "tampering" with this industry, it is claimed, will cause economic upheaval for many people who grow tobacco, process it, or sell it.

What about cigars and pipes ?

Lung cancer results from the constant inhalation of tars. Cigar



and pipe smokers do not inhale, but cancer of the mouth, tongue, or lips is produced primarily by cigars and pipes. As Dr. Ochsner says, "It remains with the smoker to choose the site of his cancer." No smoker is really "safe" regardless of what he smokes.

Are there other causes of lung cancer than smoking ?

Claims are made that smog and industrial gases are major factors in producing lung cancer. These claims, in the main, are made by the cigarette industry to draw attention from the major cause — smoking. The industry has brainwashed the American people in this respect. If air pollution were a factor, then lung cancer would be about equal in both men and women. The present discrepancy is in itself an argument against the industry's claim. Furthermore, in Denmark, where the lung cancer rate and the smoking rate are almost identical with those in Britain there is virtually no smog, whereas in Britain there is a great deal of smog and air pollution.

How are non-smokers affected by inhaling other people's smoke ?

Many people are sensitive to tobacco smoke, so that they cannot breathe it without becoming nau-

seated. Others are allergic to tobacco smoke and suffer a more rapid pulse upon exposure to even a small concentration of such smoke. However, the fear that a person merely by inhaling smoke from others will develop lung cancer is not well-founded. Medical authorities say that a person can sit in a smoke-filled room all day for years and not develop cancer so long as he only inhales the smoke through his nose. It is when he puts the cigarette into his mouth and inhales by sending the smoke down his throat and thus into his system that he is in real trouble.

In this day of the automobile, would not exhaust fumes contribute to lung cancer, particularly traffic-congested areas ?

Yes, they do, but not as much as tobacco companies would like us to believe. A team of medical specialists, Dr. Clarence A. Mills of the University of Cincinnati and his daughter, Dr. Marjorie Mills Porter, investigated the effect of polluted city air, with its automotive exhaust gases on smoking and nonsmoking drivers. This is what they found :

A motorist smoker who drives back and forth in heavy traffic between a suburban home and city job increases his chances of contracting a fatal case of respiratory cancer by from 200 to 300 per cent, while a motorist nonsmoker under the same conditions increases his chances by from 50 to 60 per cent.

A heavy-smoker driver in an urban area is from 40 to 120 times more likely to die of respiratory cancer than a non-smoking driver in a rural area.

Does one gain unwanted weight if he quits smoking ?

Some people seem to be afraid to quit the habit for fear they will rapidly become heavy-weights. They need have no such fear if they exercise the same will power in their eating as they did when they stopped smoking. It is a fact that smoking tends to destroy appetite by dulling the sense of taste so that an underweight smoker can, when he stops smoking, bring his weight back up to normal by his increased appetite and improved physiological function. At this point he must, as everyone else, restrain his desire for excessive food.

FREE LEGAL AID FOR WEAKER SECTIONS

(i) **Basic principles** : Justice is sometimes symbolised as a female deity holding a pair of scales and eyes blind folded. The concept is that justice must not only be applied even-handedly but it should be blind to all distinctions between the rich and the poor or the high and the low. This well-known principle of equality before the law is enshrined in Article 14 of our Constitution. There has been growing realisation that this principle of equality before law could be realised only if the poor are assisted and afforded proper opportunities to secure justice. The right to equal opportunities has been guaranteed under Article 39-A of the Constitution which is in the following terms :-

“The State shall secure that the operation of the Legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunities, and shall in particular provide free Legal Aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.”

First Step : A first step in this regard was taken in Tamil Nadu with the formation of the Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board as a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act. The Governor of Tamil Nadu and the Chief Justice of Tamil Nadu were signatories to the Memorandum of Association and key personnel in Administration, Social Welfare, Judiciary and the legal profession also joined. The Governor of Tamil Nadu is the President, the Chief Justice is the Patron-in-Chief, the Minister for Law is the Patron and the Advocate-General, the first member of the Board of Revenue, the Secretaries to the Government in the department of Home, Finance, Law and Social Welfare are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee of the Board. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Board who are retired Judges of the Madras High Court and the Adviser to the Board who is a sitting Judge of the High Court were nominated by the Governor — President in April 1977 and the Board has been functioning since

Thiru P. Ramakrishnan I.C.S. (Retired)
Chairman, Tamil Nadu Legal aid and Advice Board.

then. In constituting the Board, an endeavour has been made to involve in the programme agencies that can contribute effectively for helping the poor, the State, the Judiciary, the legal profession and the Social Service organisations including Harijan Welfare. A sizeable grant has been given by the State Government to meet the expenditure of the Board.

The way in which the programme of the Board has benefitted the poor could be illustrated by a few cases selected at random from the many dealt with by the Board.

(i) Thirumathi was neglected by her husband and she went to Court with an action for maintenance. The husband did not pay the maintenance. Thirumathi who was too poor and approached the Board for assistance. When the Board engaged a lawyer to move for realisation of maintenance, it was known that the husband has appealed to the High Court and had obtained an order of stay of order of maintenance. The lawyer engaged by the Board moved the High Court for early disposal of the case. The revision petition in the High Court was heard early and dismissed. The lady won. The assistance rendered in this case was effective and expeditious.

(ii) Thirumathi had obtained from the Criminal Court, an order for maintenance from her husband. This was over three years ago. The husband did not pay and Thirumathi was too poor to move for realisation of maintenance. She approached the Board and the Board engaged a lawyer, to take steps for realisation of arrears. An order for realisation of one year's arrears has been obtained as under the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Criminal Court could, through its process order realisation of only one year's arrears. The Board has now decided to institute on behalf of the lady, a suit in the Civil Court for the balance of maintenance due for the earlier years also.

(iii) Thirumathi claiming to be a daughter of late, who was an employee

of the Port Trust came to the Board and wanted the help of the Board to secure her share of the assets of Thiru lying with the employer. It was ascertained from the employer department that the assets had been paid out to the persons, who presented a claim as the heirs of the deceased gentleman. The lady's claims were examined by the Board's lawyer at the Counselling centre of the Madras District Committee for Legal Aid and Advice. There was some difficulty in settling the legitimacy of this lady who claimed to be the daughter of the deceased gentleman. The heirs of the deceased gentleman who have cleared the assets were requested to come to the Counselling centre to explore the possibilities of settlement and they came. After discussion with the lawyer, there was a settlement by which the claimant lady was given an agreed sum of money. The parties are happy and a costly and prolonged litigation has been avoided.

(iv) Thirumathi approached the Board for help alleging that the properties of her late husband were in the hands of the children of her late husband's first wife and that she was being denied her share of the property. The Board's lawyer at the Counselling centre thought that this family dispute could be settled. The children of the first wife were requested to come and they responded. They were advised that settlement would be in the interest of all. They knew that the Board's lawyer was a neutral person. They were prepared to discuss. The parties came for a number of sessions and finally the matter was settled amicably with the details being worked out by the lawyer at the Counselling centre to the satisfaction of all and the parties have also executed and registered the necessary documents embodying the settlement.

(v) Thirumathi who has been living away from her husband for some time, approached the Board for help to institute legal proceedings on allegation of neglect. Our Counselling centre lawyer wanted to effect a reconciliation if possible. The husband was requested to come. And the husband came with all the other members of the family too. Our Counselling centre lawyer talked to the entire

family about their problems. Most matters seemed difficulties of temperament. The parties had a very frank discussion of the difficulties. They agreed that they ought to try to overcome the differences and have agreed to live together.

(vi) Thiru aged 20, had studied upto P.U.C. and was a casual hand in the Postal department. The father has three other children, is a casual labourer, a mason. The boy was killed in an accident in the City with a vehicle belonging to the Pallava Transport Corporation. The parents approached the Board for help. A claim for compensation has been filed by the Board on her behalf before the Claims Tribunal through a lawyer from the Panel of Lawyers maintained by the Board.

(vii) In a Second Appeal of the High Court, while the proceedings were half-way through, the lawyer of the party withdrew and it would appear that the party who had financed the lawyer till then, found himself devoid of all resources to engage a lawyer. He brought this to the notice of the Judge who forwarded the case to the Legal Aid Board for rendering assistance. A lawyer from the panel was supplied to conduct further proceedings.

The Programme : The background to the Legal Aid Board's programme is their firm conviction that the problems of the poor and weaker sections of the Society are most often simple and could be solved without recourse to the courts. The Board's machinery for Legal Aid and Advice is organised with this conviction in view. The problem of an applicant before the Board is first examined at a Counselling centre administered by a District or Taluk Committee for Legal Aid and Advice. Here qualified social service minded lawyers deputed by the Board listen, talk to and sort out the problems of poor applicants.

The poor man's problem may be one the solution of which may not require resort to a Court of Law. It may touch on matters to be dealt with by the Revenue authorities, by the police, by the social welfare agencies and a variety of quasi-judicial Tribunals and authorities. The Counselling centres are expected to pay an effective role in these matters too. The Counselling centre lawyer will examine the problem and if relief is found necessary indicate the proper authority, specify the relief which can be granted and

give the applicant, the summary of his recommendations. When the applicant goes to the appropriate authority with a request for what he needs thus clearly enunciated together with the recommendation of the Counselling centre, it is hoped that the departmental authorities will give due consideration to the recommendation of the Board's Counselling centre lawyer. The association of the representatives of the Revenue, Police, Labour-Harijan Welfare in the District Committee is important for this purpose.

If however, the problem of a poor applicant before the Board is a legal one, it will be the first endeavour of the Counselling centre lawyer who examines it to effect a settlement between the parties, if possible. It is well-known that a poor man cannot stand the travail of prolonged litigation and that it is not in his interest to go to court unless compelled by circumstances. Where a Counselling centre considers that a settlement would be desirable, a procedure has been evolved by which the opposite party is requested to attend the centre and discuss the issue without prejudice to his contentions before court in the future. The response in this regard has so far been encouraging. Where however the attempt at settlement fails and the applicant has a *prima facie* case and desires help to go to Court, the Board aids the party to institute the necessary proceedings before Court and meets the expenses. The Board has already sanctioned aid for the institution of proceedings in Court in some deserving cases.

Where a lawyer at the Counselling centre finds the legal problem of a litigant before him to be complicated so as to need the advice of a senior, he can make a reference which is sent to a senior lawyer from the panel of Senior lawyers called the "B" panel. Further proceedings are taken on his advice.

The Administrative machinery for implementation : The State Board is the apex body and its constitution has been detailed earlier. In all the areas where there is a District and Sessions Judge, a District Committee for Legal Aid and Advice have been constituted with the District and Sessions Judge as President. The District Magistrate, the President of the Bar Association, the District Revenue Officer, the District Superintendents of Police, the District Labour Officer,

the District Harijan Welfare Officer the Regional Probation Officer are ex-officio Members of the Committee. There are also two members of the Bar, two members representing the Local Social Service Organisation and a member of a Scheduled Caste or Tribe. Wherever possible, there is one lady member included in the Committee. The office of the District Committee is in the District Court Buildings. The committees are provided with an Administrative Assistant. The District Committees administer the Counselling centres.

Lawyer Panels : Every Committee maintains two panels of lawyers, the "A" Panel consisting of young lawyers deputed to attend Counselling centres. They are paid a token honorarium. The "B" Panel consists of senior lawyers who volunteer to further the objectives of the Board. When counselling centre lawyers refer matters of difficulty to them and they tender their advice, the advice is free. When a counselling lawyer recommends a case as deserving of being taken to Court, he is required to report whether the applicant is poor and whether he has a *prima facie* case. If necessary, the report is further screened by a member of the Committee, who is also a member of the Bar or a member of the "B" panel lawyer as the President of the District Committee may choose for the purpose. If an applicant is screened in this way, and found deserving of legal aid, the President of the Committee, sanctions aid to institute proceedings in Court and assigns a suitable lawyer from the panel. The lawyer is given remuneration according to the Legal Practitioners' Fees Rules and the other necessary Court expenses are also initially borne by the Board. Depending on the demand for the purpose, the Board proposes to open Counselling centres in areas other than the location of District Courts. They will be under the control of the District Committees for the time being. Ultimately they may be placed under Taluk Committees.

Problems of women like maintenance, are attended to by the Board and a number of applicants have been assisted. The Board has also taken up a scheme for giving assistance to victims of Motor Vehicle Accidents. The Board has given aid in two such cases one in Madras City and another in Coimbatore.



LET US ABOLISH ALCOHOLIC DRINKS TO USHER IN HAPPINESS



It appears that there can be no greater evil in the world, than the segregation of Harijans in India.

We will be paying our debt of gratitude to Mahatma Gandhi by eradicating this evil.

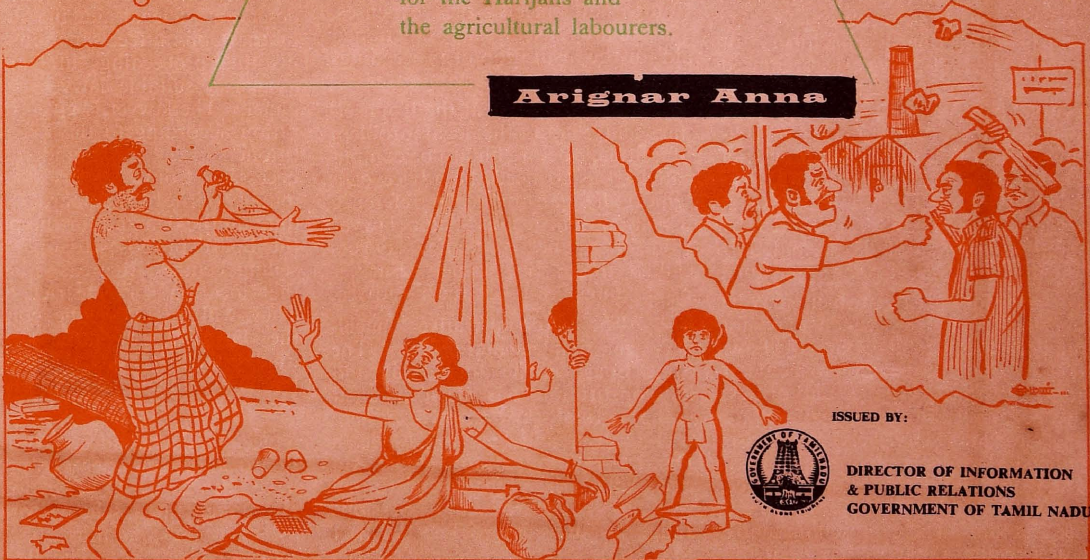


Alcohol destroys our body, our character and our wisdom.
Diseases like malaria affect only the body.
Alcohol and drugs destroy the soul as well as the body.

Mahatma Gandhi

If there is no prohibition there is no salvation for the Harijans and the agricultural labourers.

Arignar Anna



ISSUED BY:



DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU



A Scene from Argentinean film "The Jewish Gauchos"