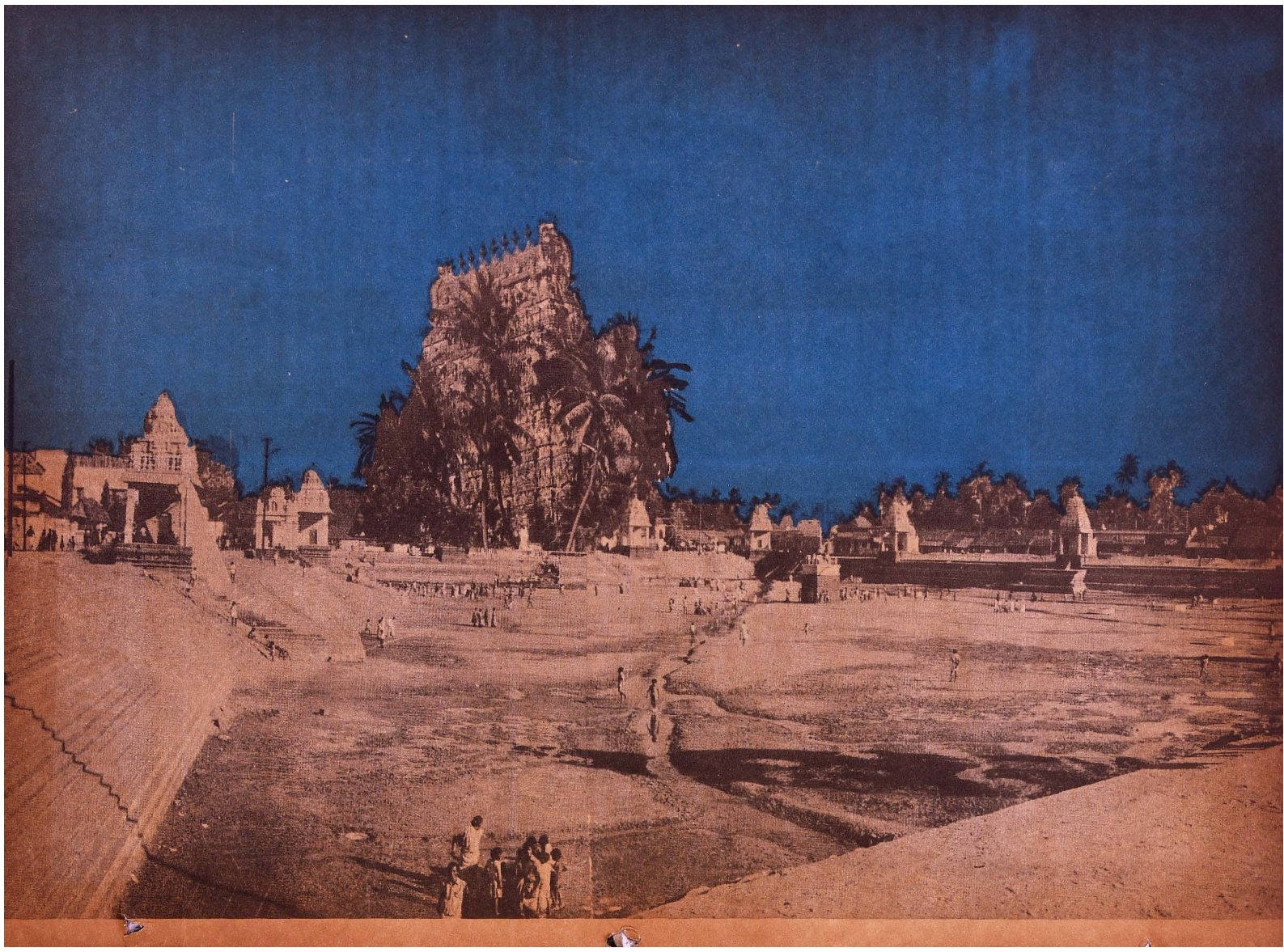


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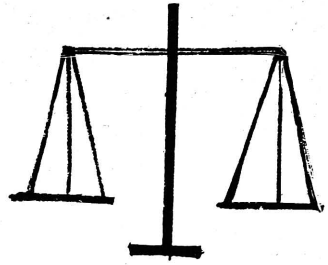
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In this issue

Legal aid for the poor



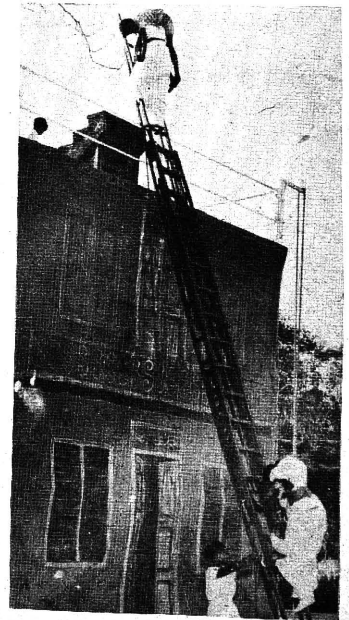
*Dental care
for the poor
and
needy*

Animal husbandry approach



Prevention of fire

*Physically
handicapped*



Tamil Arasu

VOL: X

NO: X

APRIL 1980

THE SAGA OF UNIQUE AND EXTRAORDINARY SOCIAL JUSTICE

PRABHUDAS B. PATWARI

In this brief review of the Programme of the Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board, it may not be necessary to take up the history of the evolution of the concept of Legal Aid to the poor, the world over, about which there is now an abundance of studies. They have always recognised the twin principles that justice is the foundation of all good Government, and that justice, to serve its purpose, should be administered with an even hand to all.

These noble principles are enshrined in Art. 14 and Art. 21 of our Constitution which read thus:

Article 14: "Equality before law:—The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India".

Article 21: "Protection of life and Personal liberty:—No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law".

The Law Commission of India in its 14th Report observed: "Equality before the law necessarily involves the concept that all the parties to a proceeding in which justice is sought, must have an equal opportunity of access to the Court and of presenting their cases to the Court; but access to the Court is by law made dependent upon the payment of

Court fee and the assistance of skilled lawyers is in most cases necessary for the proper presentation of a party's case in a Court of Law. Unless some provision is made for assisting the poor man for the payment of Court fee and the lawyer's fee and other incidental costs of litigation, he is denied equality in the opportunity to seek justice. The rendering of legal Aid to the poor litigant is therefore not a minor problem of procedural law, but a question of fundamental character."

Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati, now Judge of the Supreme Court of India, as Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court, headed a Committee which submitted a report to the Gujarat Government in 1971. The Government of Tamil Nadu constituted a One Man Commission (Mr. Justice P. Ramakrishnan) to advise on Legal Aid, and his report was submitted to the Government in 1973. The Government of India, about the same time, appointed a high power committee under the Chairmanship of V.R. Krishna Iyer, now Judge of the Supreme Court, who was then a Member of the Law Commission, as Chairman of the Committee and it submitted a report in 1973.

The 42nd Amendment, effective from 1st February, 1977, added, by Article 39-A, an important provision to the Constitution. It can be viewed as the Constitutional Charter for legal aid in India. It is in the following terms.

"The State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide Free Legal Aid, by suitable legislation or schemes 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".

In fulfilment of the guarantees under Article 39-A, the Tamil Nadu State Government sponsored the registration under the Society's Registration Act of a society called the Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board. The formation of the Society was published in the Government Gazette Extraordinary dated 4-11-1976, and the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman were nominated in April, 1977. The Board has been functioning since then.

The Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advice Board is one of the youngest Legal Aid institutions in the country. It is financed mainly by the Tamil Nadu State Government. The management and control of the Board vest in a high-powered body, constituted at present, with the Governor as the President, the Chief Justice as Patron - in - Chief, the Minister of Law as Patron, two retired Judges of the High Court as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, a sitting Judge of the High Court as Adviser, and the Advocate-General, First Member, Board of Revenue, the Secretaries to Government in the Departments of Home, Finance, Law and Social Welfare, the Registrar, High Court, the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Chief Probation Superintendent, as Members of the Executive Committee (Ex-Officio) and eight Non-official Members - 6 selected and 2 nominated by the President.

On the 7th July, 1977, the policy of the Government in this aspect was enunciated by me as the Governor of Tamil Nadu in my Address to the Joint Session of the Legislature in the following words:

"In many regulatory aspects of Government, the poor and the weaker sections of the people continue to encounter delay and difficulty in securing simple justice in Administrative and Judicial Forums. The New

Government will give a special emphasis to the provision of Free Legal Aid to the poor".

The Legal Aid Programme in Tamil Nadu has been drawn up in accordance with the view mentioned above. It is not limited to assisting people to institute or defend proceedings in Courts or Tribunals. It gives equal, if not the first priority, to the giving of advice on a variety of problems which impinge on the welfare of the poor and backward and in which relief is to be secured through administrative authorities. The programme is also compromise-oriented based on the firm conviction that the problems of the poorer and weaker sections of the community are mostly of a simple nature and should be resolved as far as possible without recourse to protracted court proceedings. The Board's machinery for Legal Aid and Advice is geared with these objectives in view. In matters involving relief before Courts and Tribunals, the stress on the legal advice part of the programme provides initially an opportunity for compromise before resort to Court. I think that this should be a *sine-qua non* of all legal aid programmes in India and its importance cannot be over emphasised. Firstly, it will relieve the poor, who can ill-afford litigation, aided or otherwise; secondly it will reduce arrears in Courts.

MACHINERY: The Board has constituted District and Taluk Committees as the core of its organisation. The District Judge is ex-officio President of the District Committee and the senior most Judicial Officer serving in the area where a Taluk committee is formed is the President. The Executive Committee of the Board has laid down from time to time guidelines for the work of these Committees.

In the District Committees and the Taluk Committees, Presidents of the local Bar Associations are made ex-officio members. Representation is provided for the Government Departments of Revenue, Police, Labour Harijan Welfare as also for Members of the Bar in general and for social service organisations. In this way an endeavour is made to involve in the programme all the various agencies who can contribute effectively for helping the poorer and weaker sections of the

community. At present, there are 17 District Committees and 40 Taluk Committees. A counselling centre is attached to each. In addition, three more counselling centres—one at Egmore in the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Madras, another at Saidapet in the Court of the Metropolitan Magistrate at Saidapet and the third in the Court of the Metropolitan Magistrate, George Town—are functioning. If about 81 Committees are constituted, we will have an administrative machinery in every area where there is a District Munsif or First Class Magistrate, and the poor may be able to reach a Committee generally within 25 Kms. of their place of residence. Each District Committee maintains two panels of lawyers, Panel, 'A' and Panel 'B' which are selected by a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Advocate General on the recommendation of the President of the District Committee (District Judge). Selection is made from social service-minded lawyers who have shown interest in the objectives of the Board. For 'A' Panel Lawyers, a minimum of three years' standing at the Bar is insisted upon and Panel 'B' Lawyers are selected from Senior Lawyers. The Apex Body has an office with a full time Secretary and Staff. Every District and Taluk Committee has an Office located in the Court premises in charge of a full time Administrative Assistant.

EFFECTING OF COMPROMISES: As litigation is costly and time-consuming especially for persons of inadequate means, the assistance to be given by the lawyers at the Counselling Centre is compromise-oriented and every effort is made to see that a just compromise is arrived at. After interviewing the applicant and locating the problem, the lawyer gives notice to the opposite party to attend at a subsequent hearing for working out an acceptable compromise. The Counselling Centres function at this stage in a purely advisory capacity. Considering the status and impartiality of the lawyers giving legal assistance at the Counselling Centres and the awareness of most people of the time and expense which would be entailed if they go to Court, it is found that a good number of cases can be solved in this way by compromise.

MEANS TEST: A flexible approach is being adopted now to determine the economic condition of the applicant. For the initial scrutiny for the purpose of advice at the Counselling Centre, no elaborate enquiry for the means test is prescribed and the declaration of the applicant about his means is acted upon. But when the Panel Lawyer decides to recommend aid for institution or defence of a proceeding before a Court or a Tribunal, he has to record a finding about the applicant's means. This can be normally determined on the basis of the information elicited from the applicant. The approach will be liberal in the cases of victims of Motor Accidents, Members of the Working Class, Women and members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Servicemen and Ex-servicemen and their families.

If, after examination, a lawyer of the 'A' Panel thinks that the problem involved is a difficult one and has to be examined by a Senior Lawyer, he draws up a reference indicating the points involved and the President of the Committee there-upon refers the matter to a member of the Committee who is a member of the Bar or a Member of the 'B' Panel for opinion. The guidelines provide that the duration between the presentation of an application and the date of institution of a legal proceeding, if any, should not exceed eight weeks. Presidents of the Committees have the discretion to dispense with the requirement of reference to Senior Lawyer in matters recommended for aid by a 'A' Panel Lawyer in cases (1) which present little or no difficulty like actions for maintenance, criminal trials and appeals, accident claims, workmen's claims etc., and (2) where relief is to be sought urgently and cannot brook delay.

Many of the expert committee reports recommended the principle of voluntary services of lawyers. It is hoped that more and more lawyers would come forward to render free service to the weaker sections of society and earn their gratitude. This will give an opportunity to the legal profession to come in close contact with the masses and help in making them enlightened citizens of democracy. Then we can give a fitting answer to Benjamin Brewster who said: "A lawyer

starts life giving five hundred dollars' worth of law for five dollars, and ends giving five dollars worth for five hundred dollars". What is wanted is a spirit of service on the part of the lawyers. What is reasonable fees is paid to the lawyers today under the rules.

ENTERTAINMENT OF APPLICATIONS WITHOUT REFERENCE TO TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

It is the desire of the Board that the poor who approach the Board, should be able to do so without much difficulty and expense. When a person presents an application, the examination of his problem at the Counselling Centre will not be declined on the consideration that if and when the litigation springing from the same has to be instituted, it has to be before some other Court in the same District or another District. The application will be entertained and after examination, if the Committee decides that aid should be granted, the papers will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate Committee which will not examine afresh the applicant's eligibility for aid again, but acts on the recommendation already made in the case.

MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL

This Board has launched a programme of assistance to victims of Motor vehicle accidents who are not able to afford a lawyer. The Tamil Nadu Government have issued from time to time administrative orders as well as rules under the rule-making power. There have been frequent complaints of exploitation of these unfortunate people. From the beginning, it was felt that this was an area where the Board could help. The State took another important step in August 1976 by introducing a rule in the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal Rules, viz., Rule 3-A. The rule requires the investigating Police Officer to obtain an application for compensation signed by the victim or legal representatives of the deceased victim and send it to the Claims Tribunal without waiting for the result of the investigation into the accident.

LEGAL AID IN CRIMINAL CASES

The Tamil Nadu Board, soon after it

commenced to function, considered a scheme for Legal Aid in Criminal Cases.

The Supreme Court in 1978 delivered two important judgments. In Motiram and others Vs. The State of Madhya Pradesh (AIR 1978 SC 1594), the Supreme Court enlarged the scope of bail and laid down that release on bail includes taking of a bond without sureties-personal bond.

In another judgment 'Madhav Haya-wardanarao Hoskot Vs. State of Maharashtra, (AIR 1978 3 SC 544) the Supreme Court held:

"A prisoner, deprived of his freedom by court sentence but entitled to appeal against such verdict, can claim, as a part of his protection under Article 21 and as implied in his statutory right to counsel to prepare and argue his appeal. This is a necessary incident of the right of appeal conferred by the code and allowed by Article 136 of the Constitution. The inference is inevitable that this is a State's duty and not Government's charity".

In the meanwhile, Mr. Justice Ismail (now Chief Justice of the Madras High Court) who was appointed as one-man commission to go into the treatment of political prisoners, has in his report, stressed the need for providing legal aid to prisoners and the convicted prisoners.

Guidelines were issued for processing requests from prisoners, not only for aid in respect of their indictment but also with regard to the problems relating to their family and property, etc.

For the purpose of helping under-trials, the Board felt that the following categories of undertrials should be taken up on a priority basis for assistance for securing bail and for defence:

1. Undertrial prisoners who are old and infirm including women, who are pregnant or have babies to be nursed;
2. Undertrials who have spent a considerable period say exceeding three months in Jail and have no means to engage a Counsel;

3. Persons arrested on suspicion under Sec. 41.Cr.P.C. who have been in jail beyond a period of 15 days and
4. Undertrials who, the authorities of the Jail have reasons to think may not have completed eighteen years of age and who should ordinarily be kept away from adults.

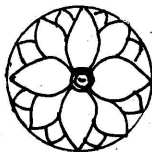
The Board is taking steps to make workmen aware of the facilities available with the Board to workmen through the Department of Labour.

The Tamil Nadu Legal Aid and Advice Board has also a scheme for free Legal assistance to servicemen, ex-servicemen and their families.

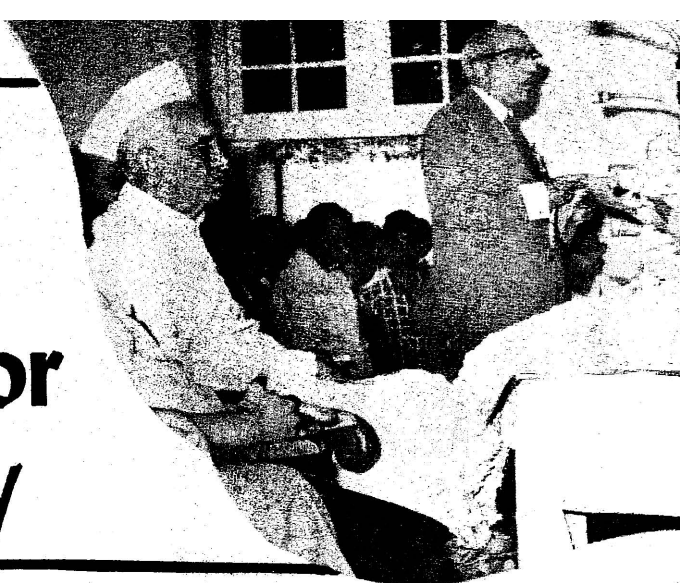
PUBLICITY: Publicity and promotion of legal literacy are an important part of our programme. In recent years, the State and Union Governments have enacted various statutes to help the weaker sections of the society. The Board has made efforts in this regard to spread information to the people about their rights under various Acts and Executive Orders of Government. Our dedicated and devoted Chairman Justice P. Ramakrishnan and Vice-Chairman Justice N. Krishnaswami Reddiar, the live wires of the Board, during their tours of the districts, address the public to explain the facilities available with the Board. Mr. Justice Krishnaswami Reddiar has visited more than 200 villages and his visits are going on.

STATISTICS: From the inception of the Board upto 31.12.79, the Board received 3747 non-legal applications, 657 applications for claiming maintenance, 972 in accident claims, 353 in criminal trials, 107 criminal appeals and 6143 applications in legal matters other than the categories referred to. 3125 of the applications were from women, 1940 applications belonged to Scheduled Castes, 152 Scheduled Tribes, 90 applications were under Tenancy Laws, and 109 applications were under Labour Laws. 534 matters have been settled under the aegis of the Board. 367 matters have been disposed of in Courts and 819 matters are pending in Courts. Of the matters disposed of in Courts, decisions in over 70% have gone in favour of the assisted persons. The Board has secured awards of the value of Rs. 3,83,400 for victims of accidents and Rs. 14,850 to workmen under Workmen's Compensation Act. The Board has reason to be happy about it all.

SOME PERSPECTIVES: The movement cannot go on for long with the driving force supplied by a few persons at the top. Wider publicity is needed for the purpose of creating an awareness in the minds of the people about the functioning of this Board for their benefit. It may well be that there are areas where the progress is inadequate, and a great deal remains to be done. It is hoped that all those participating in the implementation of the programme will have this perspective in view so that this movement in our State, which has already attracted the attention of many other States in India, could forge ahead and be a pace-setter.



DENTAL CARE for the poor and needy



I FEEL privileged to participate and preside over the inaugural function of the newly created Madras Dental College. From its humble beginnings in 1953 as a Dental Wing of the Madras Medical College and Hospital it has grown from strength to strength and today, in an epoch making event, it has been accorded the independent status of a Dental College. We are very fortunate in that His Excellency the Governor is inaugurating this College, thus ushering in its independent status.

I have been struck by the commendable achievements of this institution. It has had, I gather, a very chequered history. When the Dental Wing was started way back in 1953, most of the teaching staff had to be inducted from this State and elsewhere and many of them had their Dental Education imparted in other universities. The year 1966, marked the beginning of the real development of dental education in the State with Post-graduate Courses being offered in this institute. From that time onwards there has been no looking back, and in 1978 this wing celebrated its Silver Jubilee. This celebration acquired a new import and dimension in the sense that along with the Silver Jubilee function, which was celebrated with great éclat, the reservoir of knowledge held by the dental profession has effectively disseminated by the holding of rural dental camps throughout the State. *These camps provided the rural community, including young*

J. N. Lakshmi Narayanan, I. A. S.,
ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR.

children, the benefit of expertise and experience of leading Dentists, both in the Government and in the private sector. One of the basic features of such camps was not only the provision of curative treatment but also what is more important, the imparting of dental health education, preventive in character, based on dental care and oral hygiene. This represents a significant breakthrough in the concept of transfer of technology and technological skills from urban elite to the rural poor. Today we read constantly of the ravages caused by poor dental hygiene and incorrect dietary habits which wreak havoc among children who fall a prey to dental caries.

Dental Health Education imparted to the people, especially the weaker sections of the community, thus goes a long way towards arresting and eliminating dental decay, there by leading in turn to improved health and well-being of the community, especially the younger and more vulnerable sections.

I cannot stress in stronger terms the importance of preventive dentistry. I have often heard the statement that while dental diseases may not generally lead directly to mortality, the side effects of dental decay, which would impinge on the vital organs of the body, does lead to extreme morbidity and in some

cases to mortality itself. Indeed there is an old adage that "you dig your grave with your teeth," which very pithily puts the importance of dental good health for general well being and longevity. Dentists have, therefore, a very major role to perform in expeditiously locating the root of the infection and treat these in time, so that such interventions effectively lead to reduction in morbidity and thus indirectly to reduced mortality.

It is in this context that regular dental camps, including the provision of rural camps, would be of utmost importance and should be continued in the future, instead of being treated as a once for all attempt made in the euphoria of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations.

Now that your wing has attained the status of the Dental College such forays into the rural areas should be more frequent and should be imaginatively conducted so as to provide a lasting benefit to the vulnerable sections of our population. I would submit for your earnest consideration the chalking out of a programme for such regular camps on a year to year basis in consultation with the Directors of Medical Services and Public Health & Preventive Medicine so that teams of doctors can go on fixed dates to rural areas, after provision of adequate publicity, so that these

camps can attract the people in need of dental care in large numbers and would be productive instead of being merely publicity stunts.

Often in the papers and in medical magazines we come across reports that in Tamil Nadu there are pockets which have a high incidence of dental diseases, both in the form of caries and other dental problems. Ignorance, poverty, unhygienic habits, all contribute to a staggering figure of the diseases of the mouth, not encountered anywhere else in the world. Rough estimates have indicated that nearly 70% of our population are drinking unflouridated water. All these call for dental health education which can lead to better oral health. Dental health programmes in schools and colleges; in urban areas and in rural Communities could ensure the spectacular reduction in the incidence of dental problems.

The newly created Dental College could effectively interact with the other medical colleges in the State and with the District Headquarters Hospitals so that these ideas could be effectively translated into action plans and implemented throughout the State.

The formation of a separate Dental College, without imaginative programmes and building up on its strengths and eliminating its weaknesses, cannot be an end in itself and may even prove self-defeating. If the College does not address itself to the task of providing the much needed direction in the field of curative, promotive and preventive dentistry the dental college would remain static without the dynamism and direction, which it would have intended to provide. This does not mean duplicating the resource facilities available in other institutions, notably the Madras Medical College Hospital. What the Government hope is that the Dental College would provide facilities for training service oriented Dental Surgeons who would provide the lead to the State and bring fame and name to their Alma Mater.

I find that Post Graduate Courses are already available in various specialities in the institution. Step by step, other specialities and super-specialities would also have to be

offered so that the College stands on its own legs. At the same time, research in various areas should not be neglected at the altar of financial self-improvement. The Dental Education itself needs to be restructured to suit the requirements of the community, especially the rural community. If we have to translate into action our cherished dream of bringing primary health care to all by 2000 A.D. as enshrined in the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978, we must think in terms of training and motivating a vast body of para-medicals who could be deployed in our rural areas, in our Primary Health Centres and sub-Centres. We must produce and gainfully employ auxilliary forces consisting of dental hygienists and dental mechanics. To these tasks your newly designated principal and his able colleagues must address themselves on a full time basis and most whole-heartedly.

I must also stress one other point; your link with the Madras Medical College has not been a tenuous one but is one which has been forged in the crucible of time and experience. This link should not be totally severed or weakened. I think a lot of clinical material is

available in that great institution, which could be profitably used for the benefit of the dental students of the College. Till such time you get adequate space for beds to cater to the inpatients, the facilities available in the General Hospital would still have to be used. This aspect of the matter may also engage the attention of your Principal.

I would also recommend for your consideration the Dental College conducting periodical refresher courses for Assistant Dental Surgeons based in other Government institutions as well as reorientation training for Dental Surgeons in the private sector. The support for this would certainly be provided by this Government.

Let me congratulate all of you who have worked with so much zeal and devotion to the cause of dentistry & dental education in this State and let me wish this institution all the best in the years to come in its endeavour to provide succour to the poor and needy of this State.

(Speech made at the inaugural function of the Dental College, Madras on 26-2-1980).





THE MADRAS

DENTAL

COLLEGE

Dr. B. P. RAJAN, B.Sc., M.D.S.

Principal,

Madras Dental College.

The Madras Dental College had its inception in 1953 in a small portion of the outpatient block of the Government General Hospital with just two staff members and 15 students. The first batch of Dental Graduates came out in 1957 and were immediately absorbed in the teaching cadre. When Post-graduate courses were started in the country the staff in this institution too took-up the post-graduate courses in new specialities.

From an intake of 15 students in 1953 for the composite Madras state the strength of undergraduate admission has risen to 40 per year for Tamil Nadu alone. As on date, there are about 300 students on the

roll. In 1966 post-graduate courses in oral surgery and periodontology were introduced. In addition, the college now conducts Master's Degree Courses in five different specialities of dentistry, with an intake of 21 post-graduate students per year. There are at present 30 post-graduate students in various specialities. The college has a sanctioned strength of 18 paid and 12 unpaid House surgeons, 21 Assistant Surgeons and 11 Civil Surgeons.

The advancement made in the field of Dentistry during the past twenty years surpasses all the progress that has been achieved in that discipline during the preceding hundred years. The Madras Dental College, for its part, is also sparing

no efforts to equip itself with sophisticated equipments as would facilitate rendering modern treatment, in keeping with the times.

The Rural Dental service was introduced in the State in 1956 and the staff and students of the College are actively involved in this scheme. A fully equipped mobile Dental van donated by the Government of Czechoslovakia has come in handy for implementing the above scheme. The College has plans to introduce community dentistry as part of B.D.S. Curriculum. There are proposals to send students and staff to the villages periodically to take up both preventive and curative treatments to the rural people.

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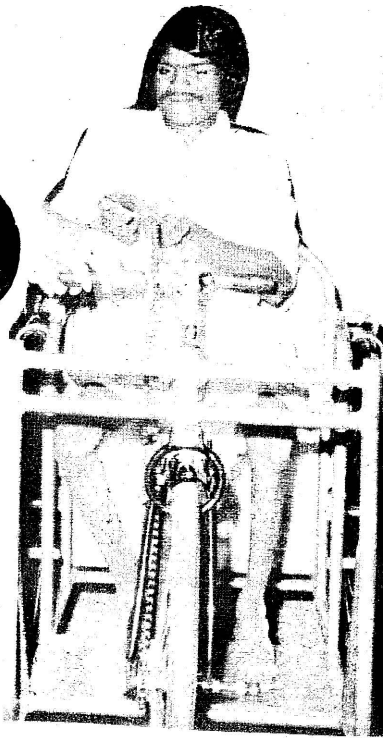
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PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Tmt. Latika Padalkar, I.A.S.,

*Director of
Employment and Training*



THE process of physically handicapped rehabilitation consists of 5 distinct stages: (i) Medical (ii) Psychological (iii) Educational (iv) Vocational (Placement) and (v) Social. These stages are closely inter-related and profoundly influence the progress of each other. The rehabilitation process reaches its culmination in the ultimate social integration of the handicapped individual in the society and this in turn is aided by success achieved in the most crucial fourth stage viz., the Vocational and placement rehabilitation of the physically handicapped person. Placement rehabilitation means and includes selective fitting of a disabled person in a gainful employment either in an open industry or in a sheltered environment, choosing a job that best fits the handicapped person's residual abilities, mental make-up, physical build, educational background, and occupational preferences.

The Special Employment Exchange in Madras City set up on 1.4.1962 has been the first one to come into the scene in this State. Considering the growing need for selective placement assistance to the physically handicapped residing in the district, four more such special Employment Exchanges have been started as a Special Wing of the normal Employment Exchanges in the Districts of Coimbatore, and Madurai with effect from August '76 and from May '78 in Salem and Tiruchirapalli. The chief objectives of these Special Employment Exchanges are to educate and motivate the employers in

the area on the need and value of providing equal job opportunities to the disabled brethren, so that they could become productive citizens of the community, contributing their mite to the nation's wealth.

REGISTRATION & GUIDANCE

These Special Employment Exchanges render selective placement assistance by registering the undermentioned categories of physically handicapped persons :

- (i) Blind—Including totally blind, partially blind and one eyed persons.
- (ii) Deaf— including deaf and dumb, deaf only, dumb and persons suffering

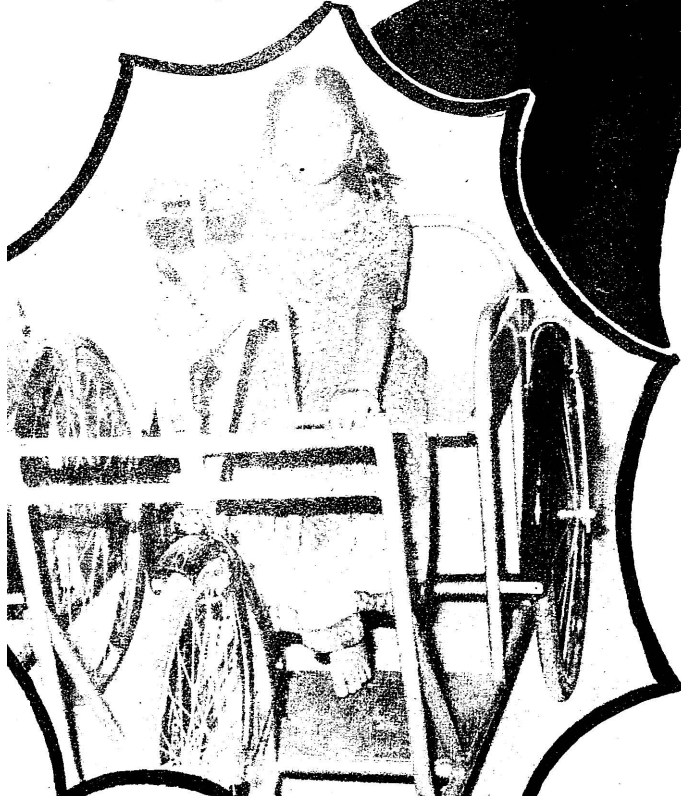
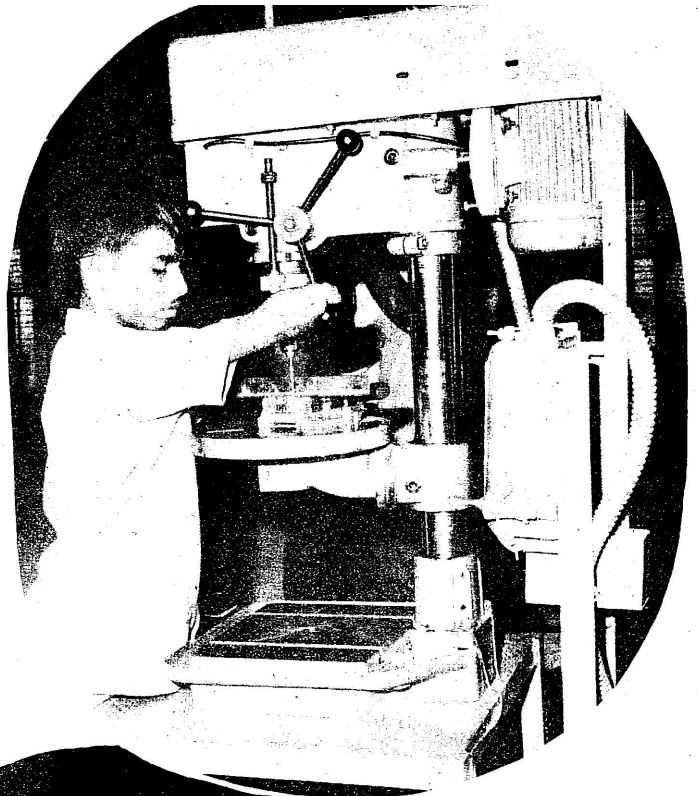
from various degrees of hearing loss.

- (iii) Orthopaedically handicapped— covering all types of loss or disfigurements of muscles, bones and joints including hunch backs, dwarfs, club-feet, cleft palate, facial disfigurement cases etc.
- (iv) Leprosy cured persons whose finger extremities or bones have been lost



or deformed due to
Hansene's disease.

The physically handicapped job seekers coming under the above mentioned categories are registered at Employment Exchanges. While registering the candidates, vocational guidance is also imparted to the job seekers so as to enable them to formulate realistic career plan for themselves. They are encouraged to take up some sort of training, either technical or non-technical, so that their chances of getting a job are brightened. On an average, the Special Employment Exchange in Madras City registers about 100 physically handicapped job seekers every month. This office registered 12,861 handicapped persons till 31-1-1980 from its inception on 1.4.62. Of them, 2060 are blind, 1670 are deaf and the rest are the orthopaedically handicapped. Invariably, all the job seekers calling at the Special Employment Exchanges are referred to the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for the physically handicapped established by the Government of India at Guindy for undergoing 1-month evaluation. The findings of that evaluation aims in matching the subject's disability-



condition and psychological aptitudes and recommends suitable avocation for the individual. This is used by the Special Employment Exchanges in making more purposeful nominations of the Physically Handicapped persons to the employers.

REFERRALS :

The Special Employment Exchanges cull out extracts of vacancy notifications flowing into the local normal or general employment exchanges and sponsor the most suitable and fully qualified disabled registrants for employers' consideration and interviews. Wherever possible, such nominations are followed up with personal visits at officer's level, with a view to motivate and appeal to the particular appointing authorities to extend their helping hand. Besides, the Special Employment Exchanges also contact the employers, particularly in private sector to canvass job openings for the handicapped in their organisations. Wherever necessary, the Special Employment exchanges assist the employers in identifying suitable job openings where the disabled per-

sons can be productively employed by conducting job studies and job analysis. By means of these special efforts, the Special Employment Office for the Physically Handicapped in Madras City places in gainful employment about 30 persons on an average every month. Since its inception from 1.4.62, the Special Employment Office for Physically Handicapped at Madras has been successful in getting 3334 placements, of which 211 related to blind, 402 to deaf and 2721 to Orthopaedically Handicapped persons.

FOLLOW UP SERVICE AFTER PLACEMENT :

The placement of the handicapped in employment needs a close follow up to ensure that the individual is adjusting to his new work environment with his disabilities and to see how far he is able to discharge his duties. For this purpose an officer from the Special Employment Exchanges visits the work-spot where the disabled person has been placed and enters into dialogue both with the employer as well as with the handicapped employee to ensure that the subject is not facing or causing any adjustment problem in his new environment. The whole process aims in helping the disabled to settle down satisfactorily in their occupational career.

SELF EMPLOYMENT LOAN ASSISTANCE :

Salaried jobs alone may not be able to meet the menacing problem of growing unemployment prevailing in our economy, be it for normal bodied or handicapped. Self employment opportunities with its less capital investment and vast employment opportunities appears to be the only available penacea to tackle this tricky issue. Towards this end, the Special Employment Offices identifies the prospective entrepreneurs, counsel, and motivate them to take up self employment as a career and assist them to get loans from various banks particularly nationalised banks nearer to their shops or trade ventures. The Special Employment Office for Physically Handicapped in Madras City is actively concentrating in diverting a substantial number of Physically Handicapped to take up self employment ventures. From September '74 to January '80, a total of 205 handicapped persons have been

sanctioned low interest loans (4% p.a.) the loan amount aggregating to Rs. 3,93,067/-

OTHER ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY THE SPECIAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES TO THE DISABLED :

In addition to regular placement service and help towards self employment scheme, the Special Employment Office for Physically Handicapped, Madras also engages itself in other projects to help rehabilitation of the handicapped. A few such schemes are mentioned below.

(i) The Special Employment Office in Madras city has been instrumental in forming a co-operative society for Blind Caners with 20 caners as its members. This society is now functioning inside



the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Physically Handicapped.

(ii) The Special Employment Office in Madras City also canvasses, job orders in Book Binding and entrusts the work to the skilled handicapped binders who are given the binding charges on piece-rate basis.

(iii) A Book Binding Training Centre for the Physically Handicapped inside Madras Museum Compound is functioning under the Special Employment Office for Physically Handicapped. Sixteen handicapped persons (14 Orthopaedically Handicapped and 2 Blind) are imparted training in Book Binding Trade. The duration of training is 6 months. During this period, the trainees are paid a stipend of Rs. 50/- p.m. After successful completion of training, the ex-

trainees are assisted in getting jobs in government Offices, firms or helped to execute binding job works on piece-rate basis.

(iv) The Special Employment Office for Physically Handicapped arranges for free medical examination of the Physically Handicapped candidates selected for posts in Group C and D cadres in Central Government/Central Quasi Government offices.

(v) The Special Employment Exchanges recommend deserving and qualified cases to the Revenue Authorities for grant of an old age pension of Rs. 25/- p.m.

(vi) The Government of Tamilnadu is implementing through the Directorate of Social Welfare, a Massive Bunk-cum-Stall scheme, under which the deserving and

interested Physically Handicapped youths are assisted to set up bunk-cum-stalls in various points of commercial interest in the State. The Government proposes to rehabilitate about 1000 physically handicapped entrepreneurs in this way. The selected handicapped beneficiaries are allotted bunk sites; pre-fabricated bunks are installed at the site and working capital is provided to the handicapped in each. In addition, the State Government is also granting Rs. 500/- as subsidy. A loan of Rs. 4000/- repayable in 60 months on a marginal interest of 4% p.a. is also arranged. The Special Employment Office, Madras assists interested disabled youth to benefit themselves under the scheme by recommending such cases to the Director of Social Welfare.

(vii) The Special Employment



Exchange is also assisting the disabled youth to join as apprentices under a "Special Apprenticeship Drive" to place the Physically Handicapped now being implemented through the Directorate of Social Welfare in Tamilnadu Under this Scheme, the Government of Tamilnadu pays a stipend of Rs.150/ p.m. for a period of 12 months for every handicapped apprentice recruited by an employer. This will be an incentive to the private employers to take up physically handicapped as apprentices. On satisfactory completion of this 'on the job' apprenticeship for 12 months, the employer undertakes to absorb the physically handicapped apprentices as a regular employee in his concern. The Special Employment Office in Madras City has so far placed 30 apprentices under this Special Programme.

(viii) The Special Employment Exchange also assists the blind to become Members of the Handloom Workshop for the blind proposed to be started very soon in Madurai.

(xi) The Special Employment Exchange assists the suitable and interested handicapped youths to get admitted into various training institutes in the area by keeping close and cordial liaison with all the training institutes/rehabilitation centres in the area.

(x) The Special Employment Exchange pays a sum of Rs. 2/- per head per day whenever handicapped job seekers are called for interviews by the Special Employment Officer.

(xi) The Special Employment Exchange reimburses the return journey by rail/bus fare, whenever blind call at the Employment Exchange for job assistance purpose.

(xii) The Special Employment Exchanges are actively implementing /helping the physically handicapped to benefit themselves by availing the various concessions granted by the Central Government/State Government.

The most important of them being:—

- (a) Relaxation of upper age limit by 10 years.
- (b) Grant of preferential treatment (priority III) in nomination of candidates by Employment Exchanges.
- (c) Nomination of Physically Handicapped both for priority as well as for non-priority vacancies in State Services by Employment Exchanges.
- (d) Exemptions from payment of application fees for appearing for Tamilnadu Public Service Commission Exams, if monthly income of Physically Handicapped persons is Rs. 200/- p.m. or less.
- (e) Reservation of all vacancies for the posts of lift Operator for the Physically Handicapped in the State Service.

- (f) Grant of Rs. 25/- p.m. as old age pension for physically handicapped destitutes.
- (g) Free Travel concessions to blind persons in Madras City Bus Service.
- (h) Preference in the matter of admission to Physically Handicapped in the Industrial Training Institutes for Training as artisans.
- (i) Implementing the reservation of 3% of vacancies for the Physically Handicapped in the Central/Central Quasi Government.
- (j) Exemption from passing typing tests for Physically Handicapped selected as Clerks in Central Government Offices, if their disabilities prevent them from requiring typing skill.
- (k) Free Medical Examination of the Physically Handicapped selected for Group C. & D posts under Central Government.

MANAGING OF THE REHABILITATION PROBLEM

Despite these programmes and concessions now under active implementation, the rehabilitation of physically handicapped continues to pose to be a massive socio-economic problem. More than 10,000 physically handicapped job seekers are on the rolls of the Employment Exchanges in the State. To tackle this socio-economic problem, speedily and effectively, it is necessary to mobilise help from all quarters, both from Government as well as private agencies/ industrialists, etc. Every third sunday in the month of March is being observed as the World Day of the disabled. One of the very basic objectives of celebrating the World Day of the Disabled is to kindle an awareness in the minds of the public at large to the worthy social obligation of lending a helping hand to our less fortunate brotheren and infusing in their hearts a ray of cheer and hope. Let us remember what the handicapped want is not our alms or pity. But they need our helping hands to be used as crutches to stand on their own legs. Special Employment Offices in Tamilnadu are striving their best to fulfil this noble objective in their own humble way.





WEALTH FROM THE SEA

Tamil nadu has a coastline of 1,000 kms. with a continental shelf of 41,412 sq.kms. It also has an inland waterspread of 3.51 lakh hectares. Tamilnadu is thus endowed with rich natural resources for both Marine and the Inland fisheries development.

Tamilnadu has not been lagging behind in taking efforts to tap these rich fishing resources.

FISH PRODUCTION

Fish production in Tamilnadu has increased from 0.82 lakh tonnes in 1951-52 to 3.70 lakh tonnes in 1978-79. Marine fish production increased from 0.46 lakh tonnes to 2.10 lakh tonnes, and the inland fish production from 0.36 lakh tonnes to 1.60 lakh tonnes during the same period. Tamilnadu stands third in Marine fish production, the first and second being Kerala and Maharashtra respectively and stands second in Inland fish production, the first being West Bengal and contributes about 16% to India's total fish production. The export of marine fishery products from Tamilnadu during 1978-79 is valued at Rs. 28.70 crores, as against Rs. 234.62 crores for the entire country.

The Fisheries Department of Tamilnadu, one of the oldest in the

Thiru C. CHELLAPPAN,

I. A. S.,

Director of Fisheries,

country, is the main administrative organisation responsible for developing the marine and inland fish potential of Tamilnadu.

The various schemes which are implemented by the Department of Fisheries and Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation, which was started in 1974 aim at stepping up marine and inland fish production improving the living standards of small scale fishermen, increasing employment opportunities and supplying fish to the consumers at a reasonable price.

In Tamilnadu, there are 402 marine fishing villages wherein 3,37,713 fishermen are living. About 80,000 fishermen are actively engaged in marine fishing. They use traditional fishing crafts like catamarans (29,744) canoes (7,340) and various types of fishing nets. About 70% of the total marine fish production in Tamil nadu is accounted for by these traditional fishing crafts.

A brief account of the efforts taken by the State in stepping up the

marine and inland fish production in the State is given below.

SHRIMP CULTURE

Scientific aquaculture is a profitable industry and is the hope of the future for augmenting fish production. Brackishwater prawn culture has gained momentum on account of the high unit value obtained for prawns, both in the internal and external markets. Tamil nadu has about 80,000 ha. of brackishwaters adjoining the sea shore, out of which, about 27,000 ha. can be readily utilised for prawn culture.

The Department had been doing considerable research work on the brackishwater fish culture in the pilot farms at Adyar (in Madras), Portonovo (South Arcot District) and Manakudi (Kanyakumari District). Two more such research units have been established one in Pulicat (Chingleput Dist.) and



another in Marakanam (South Arcot District.)

In Adyar, in a 1.14 ha pond, an yield of 515 Kgs ha of *Penaeus monodon* was obtained in 80 days with an average weight of 35 grams. In the same farm, an yield of 700 kgs/ha of *Penaeus indicus* was also obtained in the same period.

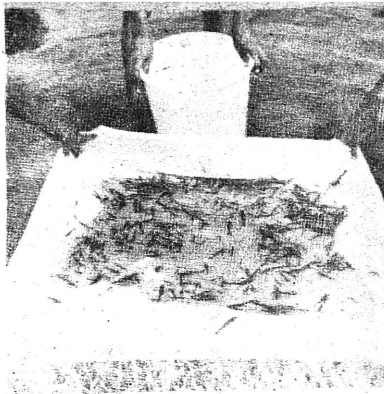
With the encouraging results obtained in the pilot experiments, large farms for commercial production of prawns are being established in Kovalam (36 ha) and in Killai (50 ha.)

Large number of private parties were interested in learning prawn culture techniques and in setting up prawn farms. In order to encourage and assist them, the Department of Fisheries arranged to give training for 80 persons and among them, about 59 persons availing themselves of these training have taken up prawn culture in brackish-water spread in Tamilnadu.

Recently, Government have ordered that brackishwater spreads which are away from the reach of the villages and where capital expenditure will be more should be exploited by the Government Agency (Fisheries Department) and the area close to the fishing villages should be allotted to Fishermen Cooperative Societies consisting of actual working fishermen as members. Following this policy, the Department had undertaken a survey to identify all suitable brackishwater spreads. In places where cooperative society could be formed enlisting active fishermen, the Department would provide them the required staff to give technical guidance in developing and managing the farms. The Department would also assist them to secure the required finance from institutional agencies, as the Government may not be able to provide the entire finance.

The Department is also taking action for setting up one hectare demonstration prawn culture farms in the following 10 places along the coastline of the state, in order to propagate the advantages and the sizeable return from the prawn farms established in brackishwater areas in the State.

1. Pulicat
2. Chemmencheri
3. T.V.S. Pettai



4. Tranquebar
5. Adirampattinam
6. Kattumavadi
7. Kannamunai
8. Veppalodai
9. Punnakayal
10. Rajakkamangalam

The Government have also sanctioned a scheme for training 600 rural youths in prawn farming in 10 selected centres. These measures, in course of time will help to utilise the extensive brackish-water areas for increasing the production of crustaceans in the State.

A major brackishwater fish farm extending over 50 hectares would be established at Adirampattinam in Thanjavur District under the plan scheme. Another one will come up at Karangadu in Ramanathapuram District, the latter under Draught prone scheme. Active fishermen in these two places would form cooperative societies and take up farming and exploitation with the guidance of the departmental staff.

FISH SEED PRODUCTION:

The total requirements of fish seeds to stock all culturable inland water spreads in the State, extending over 3.50 lakhs hectares has been estimated as 350 million of fingerlings. But the present level of production is only around 50 millions. It has therefore been proposed to step up the level of production to 150 million per annum within another 3 years. In order to achieve this, it has been proposed to develop additional nursery space of about 30 ha. to facilitate the additional production of 100 million fingerlings at a cost of about Rs. 100 lakhs.

But expanding the nurseries and other facilities in 8 existing induced carp spawning centres and by establishing two more new centres at Jedarpalayam and Upper Aliyar the additional infrastructural facilities required will be created for this purpose.

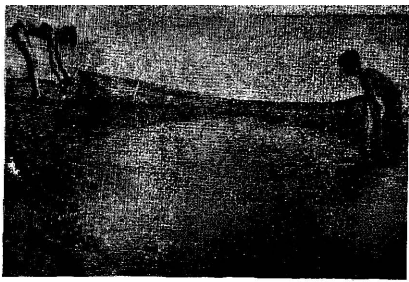
FISH FARMERS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY:

The coordinated project for composite fish culture under ICAR has reported a production upto 9000 Kgs. per ha. based on experiments conducted in small tanks of 0.1 and 0.2 ha. Even if such a result could not be achieved under actual field conditions in large water spreads a conservative production of 1,500 Kgs/ha. on an average in perennial and along seasonal water spreads is definitely possible with the dissemination of knowledge regarding scientific culture of inland water fish, like composite fish culture with artificial feeding. With this object in view the Fish Farmers' Development Agencies have been formed in this State.

The Fish Farmers' Development Agency envisages the adoption of a package of practices such as grant of long term lease of ponds, supply of inputs such as quality fish seeds, fertilizers, feeds etc. on subsidised cost, providing the latest technology in fish culture, extension services, institutional finance, training, marketing etc.

The Fish Farmers Development Agency sanctioned for Thanjavur District started functioning from 1976 while those in Tiruchy, Manadurai





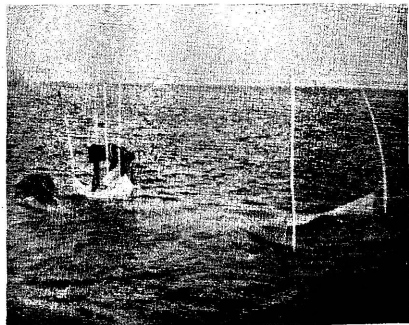
and Dharmapuri started functioning from 1978.

So far 359 fish farmers have been given training and 623.04 ha. ponds have been covered in the four Districts. The progress so far achieved by the Fish Farmers' Development Agencies is commendable.

Every one is convinced that through the Fish Farmers' Development Agencies, the inland fish production could be stepped up considerably, as individual fish farmer is made to take greater interest in stocking, rearing and exploitation. It has therefore been proposed to expand the programme to cover another 200 hectares in East Thanjavur and also to set up 3 more new agencies in the Districts of Tirunelveli, South Arcot and Chengalpattu during 1980-81. The development of inland fisheries through Fish Farmers Development Agencies provides vast scope for generating employment in the rural areas, because the inland water sources are scattered in the villages all over the State.

LANDING FACILITIES:

The Department has already established small landing jetties at Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Mardapam and Rameswaram. A major fishing harbour has been developed at Tuticorin at a cost of Rs.210lakhs. Another major harbour is now



being developed at Madras at a cost of Rs. 1153.50 lakhs. Similarly, small jetties are also being developed at Kodikarai (14.40 lakhs) and at Mallipattinam (Rs. 10.60 lakhs) in Thanjavur District.

A proposal for developing a major fishing harbour at Chinnammattam in Kanyakumari District is under the consideration of the Government of India. A Master Plan for developing major, medium and minor landing facilities all along the coast line of Tamilnadu is now under examination.

HOUSING

A massive housing programme is being implemented by the Department through the agency of Tamilnadu Harijan Housing and Development Corporation to provide free housing facilities for the fishermen in all the marine fishing villages in the State. So far 3846 have been constructed under this programme. During the current year viz. 1979-80, a provision of Rs. 100.00 lakhs has been made for the execution of this programme.

INTRODUCTION OF FIBERGLASS BOATS:

The Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation has introduced a few small size fibre glass boats fitted with outboard motors to selected fishermen on an experimental measure and is watching their working and their economics. If

these experiments prove successful, the Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation will launch a massive programme of large scale introduction of fibreglass boats to increase the fish production and to improve the economic lot of small scale fishermen.

MARKETING:

Soon after the formation of the Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation, the marketing activity has been taken up by them. With a view to supply the public at reasonable price, the Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation has opened 34 retail fish stalls in Madras, Coimbatore, Udumalpet, Pollachi, Madurai and Palayamcottai, etc.

With improved technologies in production, processing, transport and-marketing, the Fisheries Department will make more and better quality fish available from trawler to table.



P. DORAISAMY, I.A.S.,

*Director of Animal Husbandry,
Madras.*

Animal Husbandry Approach

Quite in keeping with the spirit and concept of Mahatma Gandhi's article of faith "Rural India is real India," Animal Husbandry Department has been in constant contact with the weaker and below the povertyline sections belonging to the remotest rural parts. The latest is the one relating to their mass contact programme conducted by the Department for Karappakkam and Sholingannallur villages, on 22nd and 23rd February 1980. The camp was arranged at Karappakkam Village. Wide publicity was given by the All India Radio for the camp. Over a thousand cattle were protected against the killer disease Rinderpest (Cattle Plague.) Hundreds of sheep and poultry were protected against worms and diseases. Quite a few farmers availed the opportunity of getting their animals operated upon for conditions of Chronic Luxation of Patella (Hind Legs), that had crippled their work animals. These apart, one team of Doctors conducted gynaecological examinations to solve problems of non-conception and absence of heat, infertile and infected genitalia of cows and buffaloes.

At a meeting the villagers were told how animals and birds were distributed at subsidised cost, about the credit facilities extended by schedule banks and how risks are covered by the Insurance Institutions, in addition to the health cover rendered by the Department through their field agencies.

Highly informative and educative pictures of the Information Divisions and Indian Council of Agriculture Research about Poultry Keeping, sheep and Dairy Farming, Piggery and raising fodder were screened till late in the night, to the delight of almost the entire rural folk. Sound public relations between the teachers and their wards were established. There has been tremendous response for such camps. The Animal Husbandry Department is pledged to dedicated but silent service to the masses through such programmes and to prove "Never was so much owed by so many to so few".



உனமுற்றோர்
உலக நாள் விழா



World day of the disabled

A. PITCHAI, M.B.A.
Secretary State Board
for the Handicapped

The World Day of the Disabled is celebrated throughout the World on the 3rd Sunday of March every year. It was first organised by an International Organisation for Physically Handicapped in Italy on 28th March, 1960. This was done in co-ordination with the other International Agencies working for the rehabilitation of the handicapped in the world.

In India, the World Day of the Disabled was celebrated in 1964, but in Tamilnadu, we have been celebrating this since 1967.

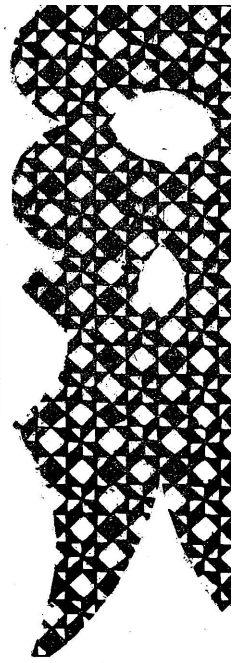
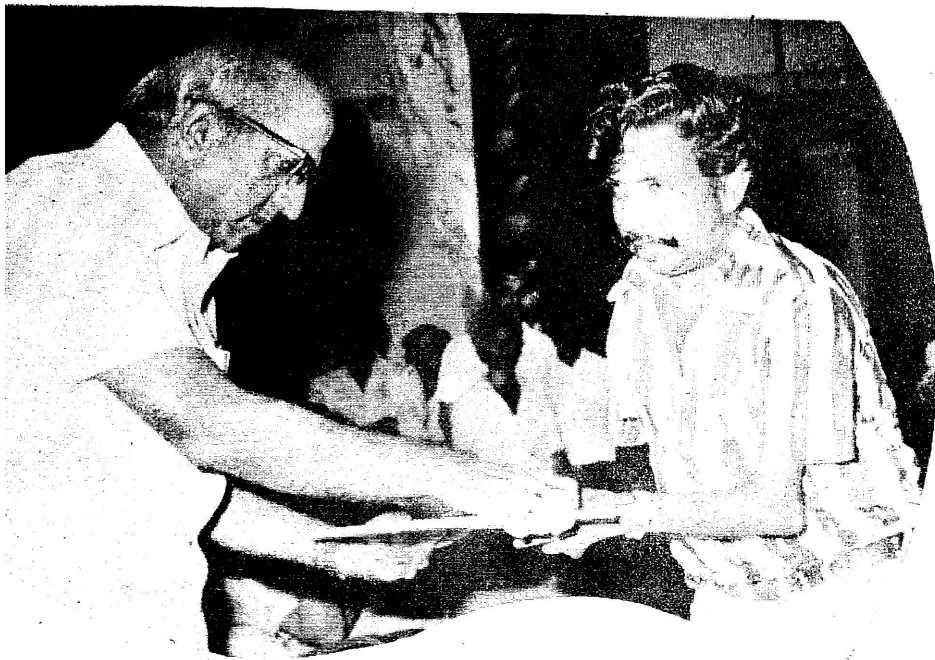
The objects of the celebrations are :—

- To focus the attention of the Public on the cause of rehabilitation of the Handicapped and the role and duty of the Society in the above cause.
- To integrate the handicapped with the non-handicapped.
- To bring the workers of all categories of the handicapped together viz. visually handicapped, hearing handicapped, mentally retarded, orthopaedically handicapped and leprosy affected.

As part of the World Day of the Disabled, a Sports meet for the Handicapped children was conducted

on March, 15, 1980. The Handicapped children drawn from various institutions for the handicapped in





and around Madras City participated in the Sports meet. Five Rolling Shields/cups were awarded to the best institutions for the handicapped in Sports under each category of the Blind, the Deaf, the Orthopaedically Handicapped, the Leprosy-cured and the Mentally Retarded.

most efficient handicapped employee, the best teacher of the handicapped and the best training institution which imparts education training to the handicapped.

Rolling Shield donated by Lions Club of Madras-Pudur was presented to the institution which had put up the best performance among all categories of handicapped institutions.

Other Awards :

The following Shields and Awards were also presented to the best employers and institutions for the handicapped.

National Awards :

The President of India gives awards to the best employers of the handicapped and the most efficient handicapped employees in India. Out of 36 National Awards presented by the President of India every year, Tamilnadu has won four awards this year.

Thiru A.M.M. Murugappa Chettiar Silver Rolling Shield was awarded to the employer who had given employment to the largest number of handicapped persons.

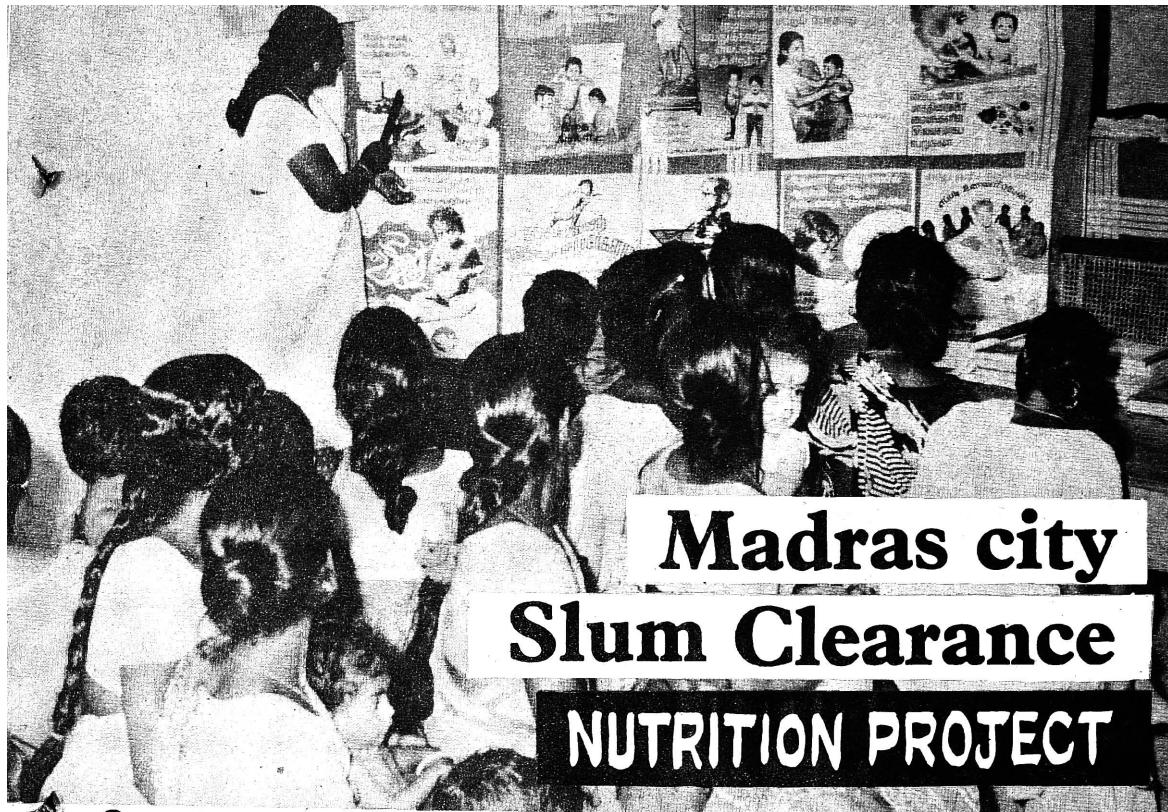
A Public meeting was held on March 16, 1980. The Adviser to the Governor of Tamilnadu presided over the public meeting, and presented the State Awards and distributed hearing aids and tricycles to the handicapped.

Free refreshments and free clothes were distributed to all the 1500 handicapped children. Mementos were given to all the participants in the cultural programmes.

STATE AWARDS

State Awards instituted by the Government of Tamilnadu were presented to the best employers who had given employment to the largest number of the handicapped, the





Madras city Slum Clearance NUTRITION PROJECT

Over one-third of the population of Madras City, capital of Tamil Nadu, live in slums. Slums are mostly one-room huts, used as living room cum kitchen. Many slums are vulnerable to fire accidents and inundation.

A majority of the slum dwellers are daily wage earners who belong to low income groups, many of them coming from some of the most backward classes in the community.

The Government of Tamil Nadu decided to eliminate completely the 1202 and odd slums in Madras and constituted the Slum Clearance Board in 1970. The Board not only proceeded to re-settle the slum families in storeyed tenements equipped with basic amenities, but also established the New Residents Welfare Trust and enlisted the co-operation of various voluntary agencies in a determined bid to guide the 'new residents' to a higher standard of living.

PROJECT ORIGIN

The Government noticed the successful use by CARE of creative

advertisement techniques to spread nutrition awareness in their mass communication projects in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh and decided to sponsor a one-year nutrition education project, in collaboration with CARE, in the first twelve slum clearance areas in Madras city.

SLUM CLEARANCE NUTRITION PROJECT

Nutrition surveys have established that ignorance is at the root of much avoidable malnutrition even among the low income groups in the population. Food fads and prejudices, disregard of mother and child care practices, neglect of personal hygiene and sanitation have been the direct cause of many nutritional and nutrition related disorders among the vulnerable groups.

There are three sections of the population which are particularly vulnerable nutritionally:

- i infants from 6 months to 2 years
- ii pre-schoolers from 3 to 5 years.

- iii pregnant and lactating mothers.

The nutrition education programme is directed generally towards the slum clearance families and specifically towards the vulnerable groups above. The mothers are the prime focus of education programming. The project aims not only at extending awareness of nutrition but also at 'habit change' i.e. the inculcation of right habits in place of harmful ones. The project goals are:

- i to promote an awareness of the concept of better nutrition.
- ii to promote an awareness of the priority needs of the pregnant/lactating mother and the weaning infant.
- iii to promote an awareness of the close interrelationship between nutrition, sanitation, health care and health.
- iv. to motivate the mothers to 'habit change' in the light of the extended awareness as above.

In view of the low income status of the target population families, particular care is taken to recommend only such dietary and other practices as are within the means of the average family. Education also enables the new residents to look for and take advantage of health and medicare programmes sponsored by welfare agencies in their areas, which they may have failed to avail of thus far, owing to ignorance, neglect or prejudice.

The project educational messages are :

a. Nutrition

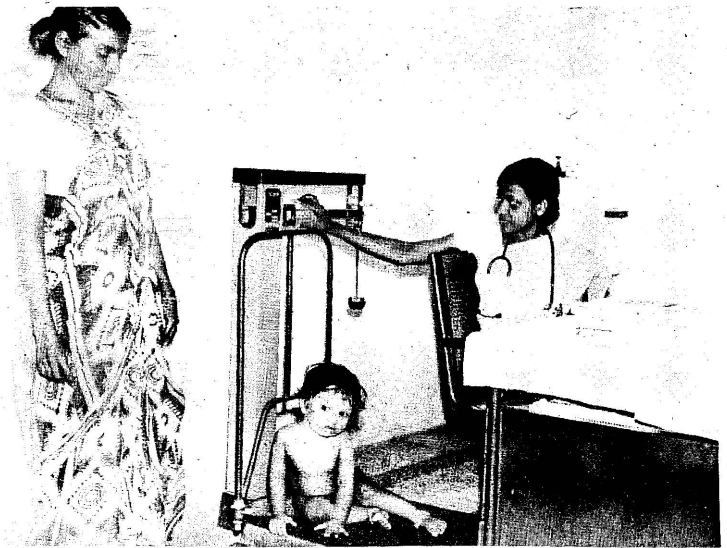
- i* A pregnant mother needs to eat for two and should include green leafy vegetables in her daily diet.
- ii* An infant's diet should include solid food from the age of 6 months onwards.
- iii* The school lunch is a supplement and not a substitute ; a pre - schooler should be helped to eat a little more of what he normally eats, more frequently.
- iv* Breast-feed the child as long as you can.
- v* A lactating mother needs even more food than the pregnant mother.
- vi* Mixed cereal diet / tuber vegetables should be consumed.

b. Health

- i* A pregnant mother should have regular medical check-up; avail of the existing health care services.
- ii* Have your children immunised ;avail of existing facilities for deworming, administration of Vitamin-A and iron & folic acid, available from the nearest Corporation maternity centres.
- iii* Do not starve a child during diarrhoea or fever; take the child to a regular doctor for advice and treatment.
- iv* Lactating mother must, for the sake of the young infant, take proper care-get post natal check-ups done.

c. Sanitation

- i* Keep home, surroundings and person clean



- ii* Keep food and drinking water covered.
- iii* Wash hands before feeding the child and before eating or handling foods ready to be eaten.
- iv* Do not let a child defecate in all places, toilet train your child.

d. others

- i* Importance of periodic weight assessment for a pre-school child.

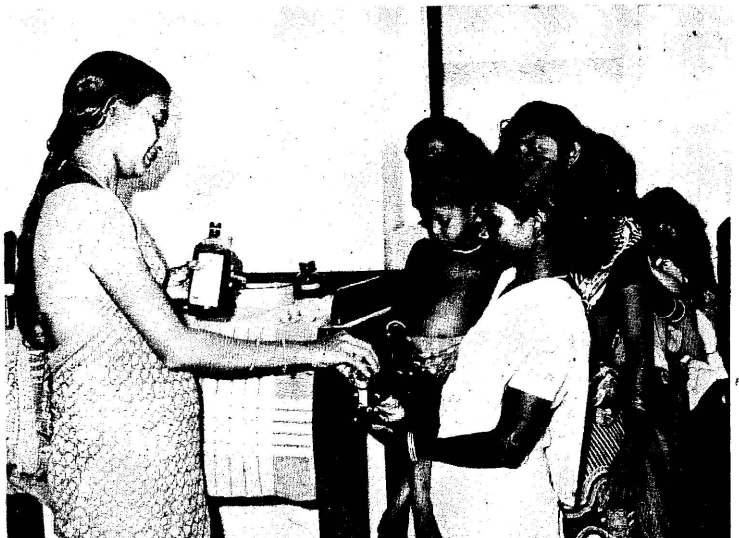
Mass media and extension education are the two channels of imparting nutrition education to the target population. Extension is central to the project. Mass media supports and sustains the extension effort.

2. Extension Educators

The extension educators are young women drawn from the project areas with 8 to 10 years of formal schooling. A two week training was arranged for 25 selected women in the basics of nutrition practices and recipe demonstration by the Mobile Extension Unit of the Government of India. For an additional two weeks, the girls were trained

PROJECT COMPONENTS

1. Education Channels





on-the-job in the project areas on an assignment of target population enumeration as part of a benchmark survey. The final selection of 22 women for appointment as extension educators was made at a subsequent interview. A two months' intensive training followed, in hospital practicals and theory and practice of nutrition extension techniques at the Sri Avinashlingam Home Science College, Institute of Child Health, Mothers Clinics and lastly at the individual Day Care Centres in the project areas. Thereafter, every year since 1971 these 22 workers undergo reorientation training course. A training allowance of Rs. 50/- per month plus actual bus fare to and from residence was paid during the initial training

period of 4 weeks. They draw an honorarium of Rs. 115/- per month for work as Extension Educators.

The work of the extension educators is supervised by a Nutritionist, who is a graduate in Nutrition. The Nutritionist meets the extension educators weekly and prepares a monthly report of the activities accomplished.

3. Extension Work

House visits and group demonstration meetings comprise the twin vehicles of extension education. Each worker makes 180 individual contacts per month, each mother being visited at least once a month.

Low cost demonstration recipes are also taught at Group meetings.

House visits and group demonstrations are scheduled for three quarters, or nine months, during the project year. All the mothers in the project areas are divided into groups of approximately thirty mothers, each. Thus, all the mothers in the project areas are exposed to the educational messages through group meetings / individual contacts subject, of course, to their regularity in attendance. In addition to these contacts, the extension educator makes selective house visits and contacts the pregnant/lactating mothers, mothers of pre-schoolers influential, opinion-changers and progressives.

4. Media

a. Films

An audio visual van, complete with a 16 mm projector, filmstrip cum slide projector and public address system, is in use in the project areas. Film shows are programmed once a month in each project area. A film programme normally lasts about an hour and a half and consists of two entertainment shorts plus three nutrition education shorts. The Telugu film produced by CARE for the mass communication project in Andhra Pradesh has been dubbed into Tamil, and proved to be very successful. CARE-Tamil Nadu then produced colour films in Tamil on Vitamin-A, family planning and nutrition/health/sanitation, which have proved to be very popular with the audience. In addition, selected film shorts are borrowed from the State Health Education Bureau and Directorate of Information & Public Relations.

b. Puppet shows/Villu Pattu

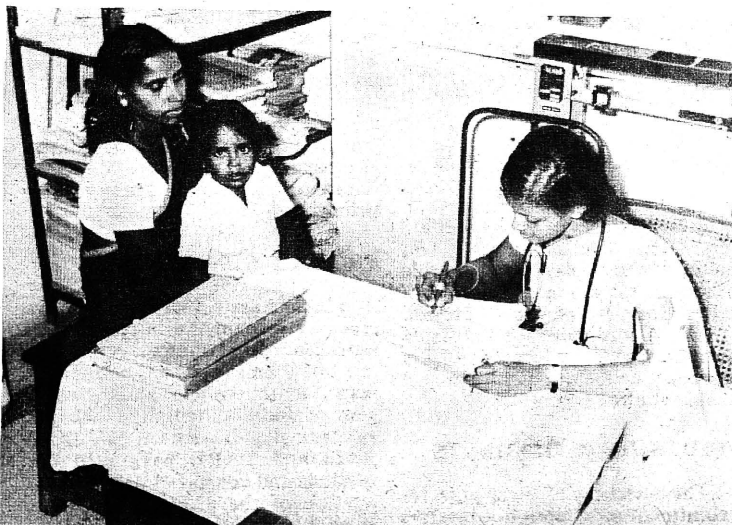
In an innovative breakthrough in education through entertainment, the project hired talented folk artistes and developed song and puppet shows to project the educational messages of the project. Care was taken to present the effects of good nutrition. These are immensely popular among the target group.

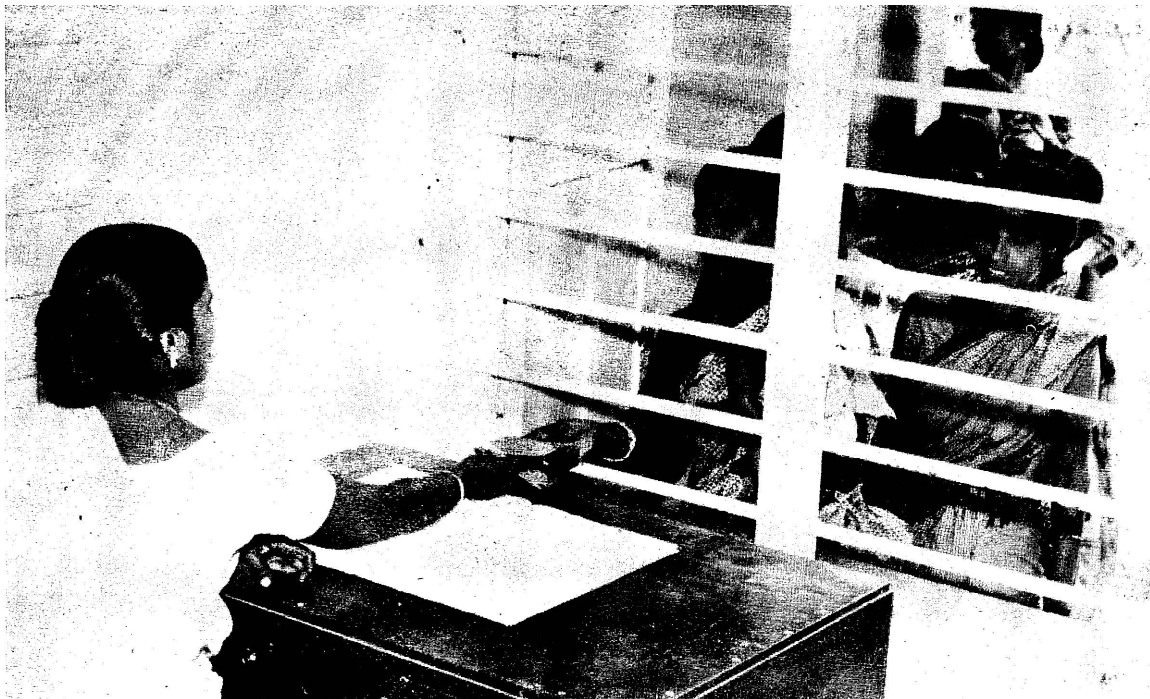
c. Hoardings

Environmental sanitation is the theme. One hoarding is displayed in each of the 28 areas.

d. Radio dramas

A popular soap opera type 20-week serial is broadcast over the All





India Radio every Saturday. CARE has assisted in the production of these dramas.

PROJECT EVALUATION

1. Benchmark Survey

This was conducted before the commencement of the campaign in order to determine the pre-project levels of knowledge, attitude and practice in respect of the educational messages. The report is available.

2. Mid Term Survey

This survey is scheduled to be conducted in May/June 1981 when 3 years of programming will have been completed.

3. Final Evaluation Survey

As for the benchmark, both quantitative and qualitative methods will be used. These will be conducted on the conclusion of the campaign at the end of the 5th year.

SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

The Institute of Child Health and Hospital for children has come forward generously with assistance in the administration of immunizations, clinical assessment and deworming, and also DPT and Polio vaccine administration. Referrals for ailments are

made to nearby Corporation dispensaries and health centres.

PROJECT EXPENDITURE.

The Slum Clearance Nutrition Project is jointly funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu and CARE. CARE's contribution of Rs. 1,00,000/- every year is towards M & E inputs like media, Stationary items, drugs and vaccines. This is apart from CARE's P&O expenses (budgetted at Rs. 15,000/- for FY-80). The Government of Tamil Nadu contributed Rs. 64,000/- towards cooking demonstrations, screening of films, transportation costs (mobile film unit van), salaries of 22 Nutrition Workers, 1 Project Nutritionist and the film projection staff.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

The project is administered by the Department of Social Welfare and CARE. The Institute of Child Health, Madras, plays a major role in the administration of the health/medical inputs of the project. CARE's Coordinator of Extension Educators play a leading role in the weekly deliberations and project implementation.

HIGHLIGHTS & HARDNUTS

The selection of local girls for appointment as extension educators

bids fair to be a main highlight in the project endeavours. Coming from the same areas, the girls needed no special training or culture orientation to strike rapport with the slum clearance families, which is no small advantage.

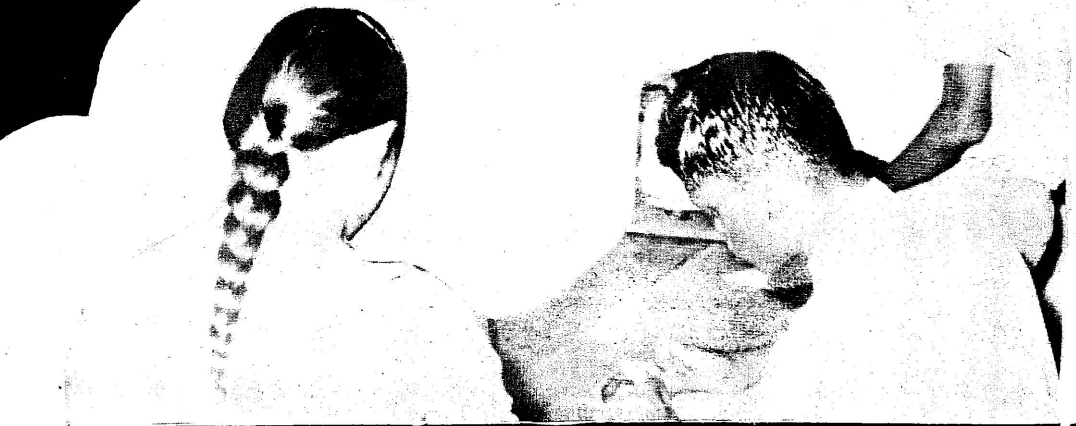
The sharp increase in the cost of living is a big hurdle. It accentuates the need for nutrition education on the one hand, but on the other, cuts at the roots of the community's enthusiasm for a nutrition programme.

CARE has consistently sought ways and means of cutting costs and avoiding duplication. The collaboration with various government and other agencies in project training and education programmes, which resulted from CARE's initiative has helped cut costs and further increased the resource base for the project.

PROJECT CONTINUITY:

India's annual rolling plan lays special stress on the importance of nutrition programming. Government of Tamil Nadu has a nutrition plan for the whole state, which plan includes nutrition education. Accordingly, Government of Tamil Nadu and CARE have held discussions and concurred on the continuation of the project duration to effect habit change.

REHABILITATION OF THE HANDICAPPED



R. NARASIMHAN

Superintendent, Vocational
Rehabilitation Centre for Physically Handi-
capped, Government of India.

Even while the world is celebrating the World Day for the Disabled on the third Sunday of March, there are still a large number of physically handicapped as well as public who are unaware of the facilities available for physically handicapped. That the handicapped are objects of charity and pity is no more tenable in a futuristic society looking forward to restoration of the dignity of man. This presupposes that the handicapped are to be afforded opportunities to work and that rehabilitation facilities are to be opened to ensure this. Rehabilitation is a generic term covering the continuous medical, paramedical and vocational processes through which a person disabled by congenital causes, injury or illness can, to the extent possible achieve his full acceptance as a working member of the society.

With this as the objective, various voluntary organisations and the Governments, both State and Central have opened up facilities to help the handicapped. The Government role in the rehabilitation of the handicapped started in 1959 with the opening of Special Employment Exchange for Physically Handicapped at Bombay and subsequently at all State capitals and a few large cities including Madras and Madurai. While these Special Employment Exchanges registered and took special

care to place the handicapped, they lacked the personnel and technology to scientifically assess the medical, psychological and vocational needs of the handicapped. The Government of India therefore opened Vocational Rehabilitation Centres at different places which have specially qualified personnel to assess the aptitude, physical and mental capabilities of the handicapped and where the physically handicapped are given an opportunity of vocational exploration through the use of real or simulated work samples, vis-a-vis jobs. One such Centre established at Madras in May 1976 has been able to assess 2371 handicapped persons up to January 1980 and assist in the placement of 534 persons in training Institutes, 599 in jobs and 259 in self-employments. All this could be achieved by maintaining a continuous and sustained relationship with various rehabilitation agencies, other professionals, organisations, and employers for placement and on-the-job training sites.

More than establishing these contacts any rehabilitation agency should be involved in education of the



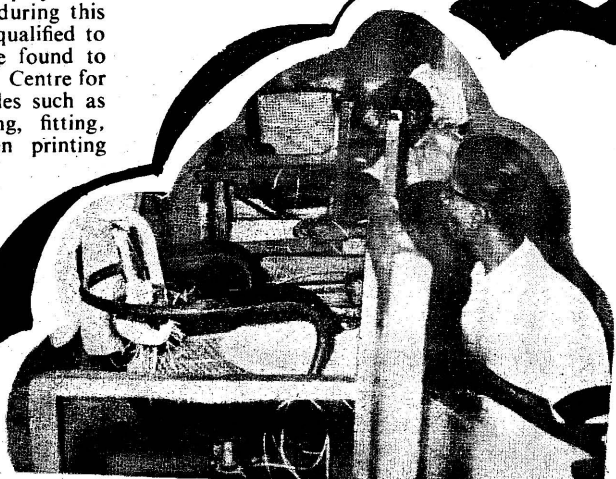
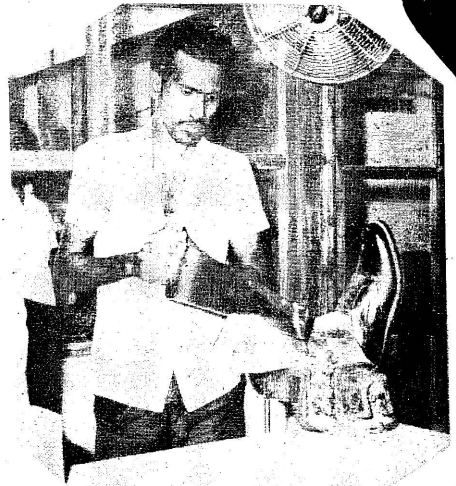
and are paid a stipend of Rs. 100/- p.m. The Centre was also able to procure scholarships from various voluntary agencies such as the Lions Club and Rotary Club to those under-going training in regular training institutions under a Special Adoption Scheme. The Centre has so far helped 97 persons under this Scheme with a financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1,02,500/-.

For those who are residing outside Madras City a Scheme of self-employment has been started through which the handicapped could correspond with the Centre for financial assistance. The Centre has helped 54 persons for self-employment under this scheme. Rehabilitation Camps are organised with co-ordination from Lions Clubs or Rotary Clubs by which the services of the Centre are taken to the Villages.

The Centre also has been responsible for the formation of a physically Handicapped Welfare Co-operative Society including 22 blind persons who take up job orders for recaning of chairs. A Transformer Unit consisting of 6 persons was added to it in September 1979, which is getting assistance from the Centre in pro-

community and work as a public relation agency to the cause of the handicapped. Besides this, they should act as catalysts in bringing together organisations to provide concerted and effective service to the handicapped. A review of the activities of the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre at Madras and the various other efforts taken up by the Government at the Centre and the State level would be relevant at this stage.

The Centre admits the blind, deaf and orthopaedically handicapped people for one month and after assessing their needs provide rehabilitation assistance in the form of appliances, opportunities for training, placement in job or procure finance for self-employment. They are also paid a stipend of Rs. 70 during this period. Those who are educationally less qualified to attend regular training institutions but are found to have necessary aptitude are admitted to the Centre for a non-formal training for one year in trades such as radio repair, coil winding, carpentry, turning, fitting, welding, cutting and tailoring and silk screen printing





aids. A Modern Training cum production Centre has been opened to train and absorb the physically handicapped in trades such as Sheet metal work, turning and fitting. Various other concessions such as scholarships, priority in submission, age relaxation by ten years for entry to Government service provided by the Central Government have already been extended to the handicapped in the State. There is also a move to extend the 3% reservation made by the Centre.

According to the available statistics only 4566 are registered at Employment exchanges forming a meagre 8% of the total physically handicapped population in the state. A random analysis of those admitted to Vocational Rehabilitation Centre indicated that over 53% are less than S.S.L.C, and almost all of them aspire for a Government job and prefer a white collar one. One of the most important problem that the placement agencies such as the Self Employment Exchange and Vocational Rehabilitation Centre face is the disinclination (though physically capable) on the part of the physically handicapped person to work as a blue collared worker and go to a workspot even a couple of Kilo Metres away. There is a need to change this attitude among the physically handicapped. Beside this, the over ambitiousness of the worker and expecting concessions in terms of punctuality, extra salary have hampered the placement efforts. At the other hand of the spectrum is the reluctance of some employers to engage the handicapped on the plea that they are useless and cannot do anything. There is therefore a need to resort to mass education in clearing some of these misconceptions on the part of employers as well as educating the handicapped that they should be realistic in their outlook. Satisfactory placement of a handicapped person has never failed to open up new opportunities for others.

curing job orders. A third unit, the Screening Printing unit, consisting of another six handicapped persons was inaugurated on 14.3.1980, on which date the 'World Day for the Disabled' was celebrated.

While the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre was able to procure Rs. 3,88,305/- towards Self-employment and Rs. 2,26,331.43 under other assistance such as job orders, adoption and for appliances, the State Government also has not lagged behind. Tamil nadu takes the pride of place in being the only State Government to have established a State Board for the Handicapped to look after the rehabilitation needs of the physically handicapped in the State and the only State to have taken a census of the handicapped. Besides the Special Employment Exchange at Madras financed by the Central Government, the State has opened up Special Cell, in the District Employment Exchange at Madurai, Trichy, Coimbatore, and Salem. With a total live register of the Physically handicapped in the State at the different employment exchanges at 4566 the State has also taken up a massive programme of providing bunk stalls, calipers, tricycles and hearing



TAMILNADU GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND

A friend stands by one in distress and one's savings help one in need. All are aware that a fixed percentage of a Government servant's monthly salary is withheld and credited to the Tamil Nadu Government Servants' General Provident Fund. This savings helps a Government servant in need like a true friend. It is of immense help to him for the higher education of his children, for meeting the marriage expenses of his daughter, for purchasing house sites and constructing houses and is very useful to him after he retires from service. It also saves the family from distress in case of untimely death of the Government servant.

After the close of each financial year, the Accountant General, Madras sends to the subscriber to this fund an Account Slip indicating the subscription for the year, withdrawal, the interest credited and the balance due to his credit in the Fund Account. Details of the months in which the credits are missing in his account are also indicated and the concerned subscribers are asked to communicate to the Accountant General immediately omissions, if any, noticed in the details furnished in the Account Slip. While writing to the Accountant General, they are requested to furnish, in case of missing credits, details of the pay bills in which deductions were made,

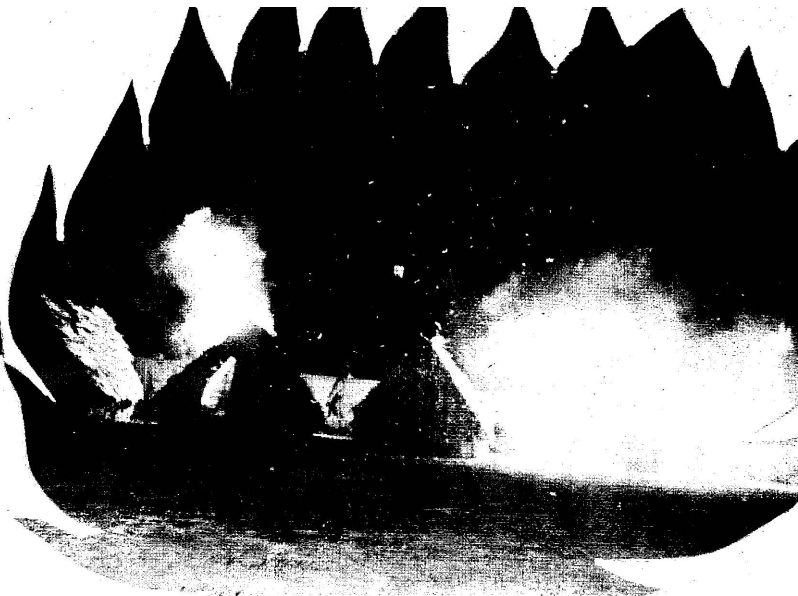
the treasury voucher number etc. But excepting in a few cases, the response is very poor. Omission to take timely action entails much delay in finalising the Provident Fund Account at the time of retirement of the Government servant. To avoid this, it is essential that in respect of missing credits, the required details are furnished to the Accountant General soon on receipt of the Account Slips. Lapse of time also renders collection of the relevant details later difficult.

We have also now taken up a review of the missing credits for the entire span of service of the subscribers to end of March 1978. After review, a statement showing the missing credits for all the earlier years is prepared and arranged to be communicated to the subscribers. In the review completed so far (31.1.1980), in respect of 1,32,000 subscribers, relating to nine departments, viz., Registration, Land Revenue, Commercial Taxes, Judicial, Jails, General Administration, All India Service Officers, Stationary and Printing and Miscellaneous departments, missing credits have been noticed in respect of 73,000 subscribers. The statements containing the details of missing credits have been sent in these cases along with the Account slips for the year 78-79 or by special letters. The subscribers have also been requested to intimate the Accountant General the

details of deduction with particulars of the relevant pay bills, if G. P. Fund deductions have actually been made in respect of the cases of missing credits shown in the statement. The State Government have also nominated Liaison Officers in various departments for rendering assistance for this purpose. Though the special statements have been sent to 73,000 subscribers, replies have been received only from 6,720 and even in these cases for want of full details, the accounts of 2,000 subscribers only could be set right.

The extent of cooperation forthcoming from the subscribers decides the success of the scheme. The quickness with which the Accounts are set right depends on how soon the required particulars for the missing credits are furnished. Subscribers are requested to avail of this opportunity and furnish the required details immediately. By setting right the subscribers accounts, we have a satisfaction of seeing the scheme yield the desired results and the subscriber is happy to see that all his subscribers have been correctly credited to his account. Further this renders possible settlement of the G.P. Fund Accounts soon on retirement. The subscribers to the G.P. Fund are therefore requested to help us and give their share of cooperation without reservation to render the review a success.

PREVENT FIRES TO AVOID PERIL



N. DEVASAHAYAM, I.F.S.,
Director of Fire services.

FIRE in an uncontrolled form proves dangerous to life and property. While fire cannot be avoided as it is an essential ingredient of our living, it can well be prevented from assuming the dangerous forms it occasionally takes. A quotation from Shakespeare may not be out of place here.

“A little fire is quickly trodden out,
which, being suffered, rivers cannot quench.”

With the advancement of urban civilisation and the rapid growth of modern towns and cities, along with the attendant growth in the density of population and the number of hutments, fire unrestrained is a potential danger to life and property, especially in the context of houses and hutments being built with combustible materials in larger numbers. Presence of highly inflammable materials like petrol, kerosene and gas-cylinders add greatly to the hazards of fire. However, fire unlike many other calamities does not occur of its own accord except in a rare lightning stroke or equally rare forest fire caused by violent rubbing of trees. Hence it is quite possible to be free from fire mishaps if necessary precautions are taken in time and rigid discipline adopted while handling fire-prone articles. Preventive action is two fold—the preventive action adopted by the public and the part played by the techni-

cally qualified members of the fire service. Human carelessness, deliberate arson, faulty electric fittings etc, are the main causes of fire accidents. Of all these, human carelessness can be classified as the major factor in the bulk of fire accidents.

Statistics reveal that almost in every country fire accidents in dwelling areas account for a very high percentage, about 80%, while the remainder are equally distributed to industrial areas, public places etc. Hence it is imperative that more care and preventive action are taken in the dwelling areas. Like many other developing countries, India too has many problems as far as construction of dwelling houses are concerned. For cheapness in house construction people have to depend more on combustible materials like leaves, grass, wood, etc.,. Closely clustered houses and ill-planned townships encourage quick spread of fire. Construction of houses and setting up of colonies in a planned manner would reduce to the minimum the scope for fire outbreak as well as its spreading.

Fire protective pastes or even liquid lime coats may be smeared on inflammable thatched roofs as a measure of fire proof protection. Concrete has been found to be a good fire resistant. It is advisable therefore that these materials are freely used in the construction of

buildings and hutments. Ovens and cooking gadgets must be so placed that fire cannot spread to loosely hanging articles, roofs etc. Electrical wires and switches noticed in a deteriorated or damaged condition must be replaced without delay. Avoidance of inflammable clothes like Polyester, nylon etc., while engaged in cooking or heating operations, will add to fire safety. It is important that people should desist from the habits of throwing cigarette butts carelessly around and smoking in bed. Children should not be allowed to play about with crackers and match-sticks. If care is not taken to close the stoppers in the gas cookers properly, gas escapes and its very invisibility provides for a fire hazard that would at once be highly dangerous and explosive. These precautionary measures are well within the reach of the public who would do well not only to rigidly follow them but advise the children and neighbours also to adopt them. The fire service personnel for their part are advising the public during their rounds as well as through various media like press, radio, television, etc., whenever occasion arises. The Fire Service Day celebrated every year must be fully utilised in this regard. This year's motto for the Fire Service Day is “Prevent Fires to avoid Fire Fighting”, which explains for itself. If as per the above motto fire fighting could be avoided at both the public

and fire service levels, it would mean that the public have to become aware of the perils of fire hazard and the precautionary measures to be adopted.

As far as multi-storeyed complexes of dwelling houses are concerned, there are certain precautions to be mandatorily followed in them for better fire protection. The buildings are normally in cement concrete and so afford fire protection, but furnishings with modern draperies in polyester, wooden furniture, gas stoves, electrical gadgets etc, have in them the potential for great fire risks. The staircases and lifts are normally inside the buildings and do not have enough space to accommodate a great number of persons at the same time. Hence provision of spare escape routes in these types of buildings are to be conceived in the construction stage itself. The multi-storeyed buildings should be provided with sufficient number of fire extinguishers for use at the time of out break of a fire. In centrally air-conditioned buildings fire detectors as well as automatic sprinklers should be installed as a way of fire protection. Segmentation in air conditioning ducts will reduce the possibility of spreading of fire from one room to another.

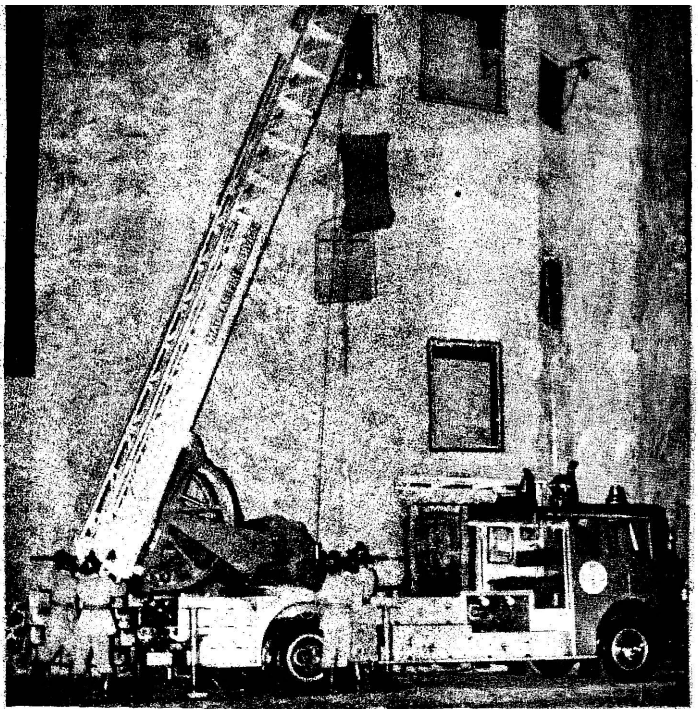
In public places and industries the appropriate Government machinery ensures certain safeguards in fire protection by insisting on provision of fire fighting equipments and proper construction free from fire hazards, which become a necessary condition, for the issue of a No Objection Certificate by the Fire Service and the Explosive Depart-

ments. Even so, it is to be stated that mere observance of these regulations would not by themselves be fully effective, unless the people who frequent these public places are fire conscious and trained to handle the fire equipments available in case of an emergency. The explosive areas in industrial complexes must be well secured and properly guarded from public access.

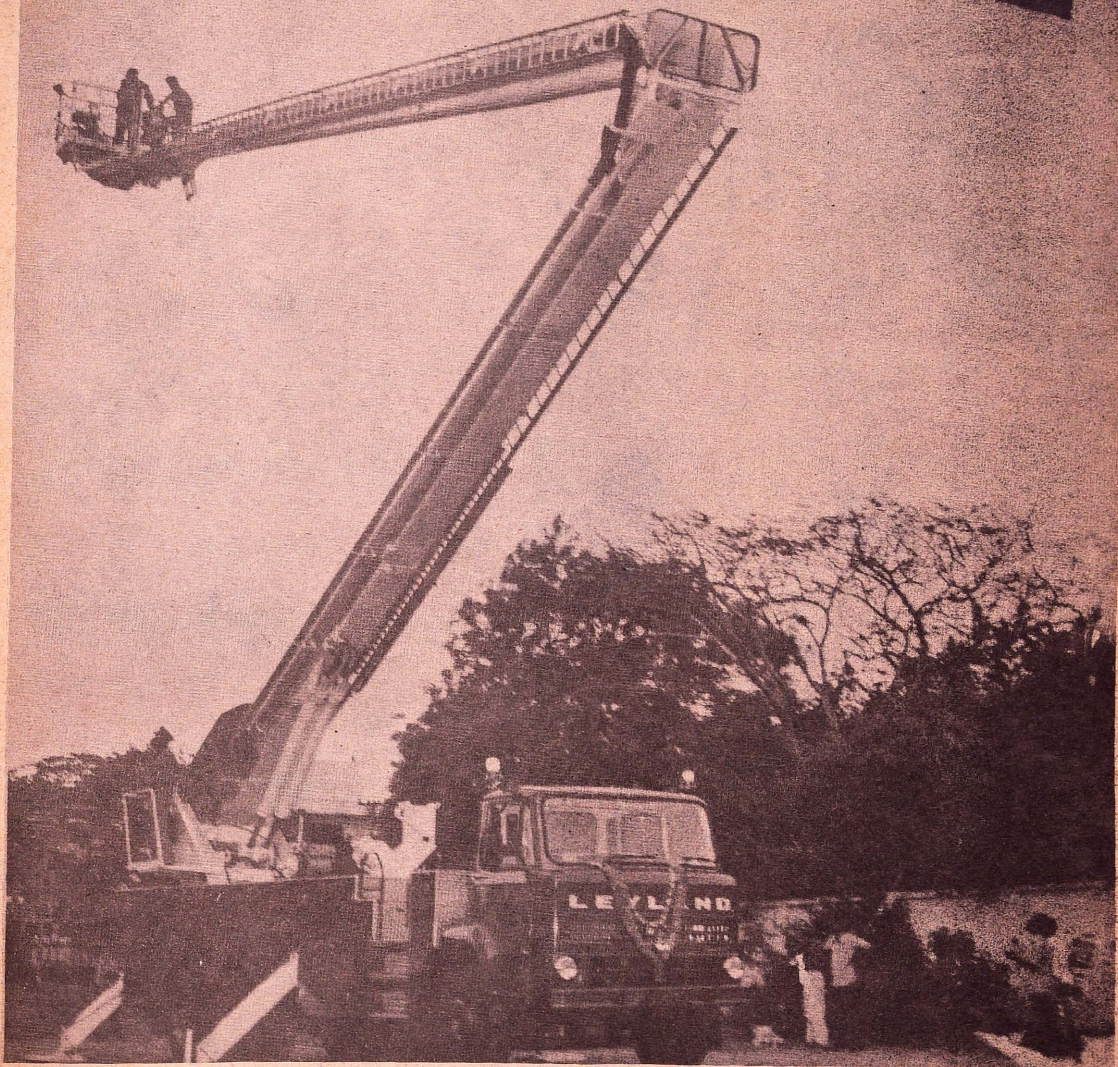
Sufficient importance should be given in schools and colleges towards imparting knowledge on fire cons-

sciousness by introducing such a syllabus in the curriculum. In certain advanced countries this sort of education is already in existence and it may be emulated in our country with advantage.

The Fire Service Department in the State of Tamil Nadu is the biggest in India with 108 Fire Stations, with 21 more fire stations to be opened shortly. The State District and Taluk headquarters and many key villages in the State are provided with fire stations. Tourist centres like Rameshwaram, Tiruchendur, Kanyakumari and Kodaikanal will also be provided with fire stations soon. A sophisticated vehicle "SNORKEL", costing about Rs. 42 lakhs with an extension ladder to a height of 103' and a revolutionary orbit of 360°, has been recently secured at the State headquarters. The Fire Service Department in the State could claim itself to be well equipped and trained for extending full assistance to the public in the event of a fire. With such advanced technology and well-trained personnel to operate it having been made available to it, the fire-service department is envisaging a future in which fire hazards in the state will be reduced to a great extent with the public extending its co-operation by observing the necessary precautionary measures.



SIMON SNORKEL



THE State Fire Service now has a prized possession - a hydraulic platform, three booms of which can go upto a height of 103 ft. to fight fire in high-rise buildings for rescue of victims.

“Simon Snorkel” as it is called has been imported from the U.K. at a cost of a little over Rs. 42 Lakhs.

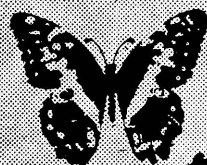
It consists of hydraulically operated and articulated booms built into a turntable. The whole unit can be mounted on a carrying vehicle—a truck, lorry or any other type of vehicle. The booms can be raised simultaneously under the control of the operator and the turntable rotates in vertical and horizontal movement by simple control.

Other salient features of the new machines are the capacity to carry seven persons at a time, ability to throw heavy jets of water at any angle even while moving, capacity to reach widest range of position without having to move forward and elevated entry point into buildings with connections for houses, breathing apparatus, power tools and equipment as also escape route for victims.



it's time for a beautiful change
CO-OPTEX
Wipe-Easy Towel

Export quality.
100% Cotton.
Handwoven towels.
Wipes the wetness clean.
Quick Easy.



Co-optex
HANDLOOMS



Delay the first
Space the Second
Stop the third

