

*"We Seek to Serve
and Not to Compete"*

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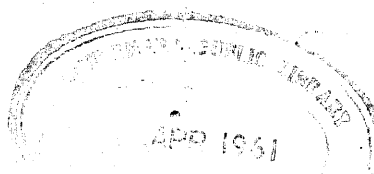
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MADRAS INFORMATION

MARCH 1961



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This month's cover

A mammoth Children's Rally at the Corporation Stadium on February 20th provided a memorable highlight during the Queen's visit. The bright faces of over 50,000 children who jam-packed the Stadium stands gave the Royal visitor an idea of the interest the State took in the care of its young. In the cover the Queen is seen acknowledging the greetings from a section of the children at the Rally.

A helping hand

- Supply of yarn.
- Loans and grants.
- Aid for housing.
- Supply of designs and dyes.
- Marketing.
- Quality control of export goods.

These are among the services to the weaver rendered by the All India Handloom Board for the development of the industry so that the weaver may once again take his rightful place in the national economy.



Handlooms



A Vital Link in India's Economy

Budget for 1961-62

SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM, *Finance Minister.*

[Finance Minister Subramaniam made a masterly survey of the progress registered by the State in different spheres during the First and Second Plan periods while presenting the Budget for 1961-62 to the State Legislature on February 25, 1961. The Budget shows a deficit of Rs. 285 lakhs and proposes no new taxation. An extract summary of the Minister's Budget speech is given in this article.]

The Budget for 1961-62 is of special significance. It marks the beginning of the Third Plan. We have had a fair measure of success in implementing the first two Plans. While launching the New Plan, it is appropriate that we should review the targets and achievements of the two earlier Plans so that the further programme of development and more particularly the size and structure of the Third Plan are in harmony with the progress already made.

The Revised Estimates for 1959-60 anticipated a Revenue surplus of Rs. 58 lakhs as against which the Accounts for that year show a surplus of Rs. 53 lakhs. The Revised Estimates for the current year show a Revenue surplus of Rs. 1.23 lakhs as against a deficit of Rs. 34 lakhs anticipated in the Budget Estimates. This improvement has taken place despite an expenditure of Rs. 4 crores in the current year on the implementation of the Pay Commission's recommendations for Government employees and teachers under all agencies. The main reason for this is the growth in the State's revenues as well as an increase of Rs. 2.32 lakhs in our share of income-tax.

The Budget Estimates for 1961-62 show a Revenue deficit of Rs. 2.85 lakhs. We have been receiving assistance from the Central Government since 1957 for increasing the emoluments of low-paid employees and have drawn a sum of Rs. 2.34 lakhs on this account in the current year. The Union Government have decided to withdraw this assistance from 1961-62 onwards and turned down our request to continue the aid till the recommendations of the Third Finance Commission came into force. Besides we have hitherto been drawing grants from the Centre for the revenue expenditure on the Second Plan schemes. With the commencement of the Third Plan in 1961-62, these grants will no longer be available and it will be our sole responsibility to maintain the schemes completed in

the Second Plan. These factors will account for the Revenue deficit of Rs. 2.85 lakhs in the Budget for 1961-62. However, the Budget has been framed without any additional taxation proposals.

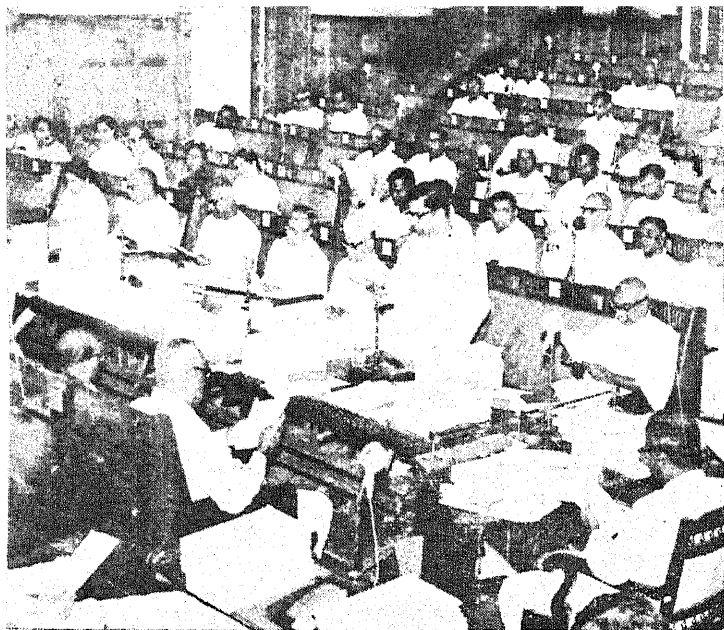
Agricultural production

The First Plan was a period of adverse seasonal conditions and consequent food deficits. By giving the highest priority to food production in the First Plan, the imbalance in the food economy was corrected in some measure, but the problem had not been solved completely. The Second Plan continued to lay stress on increased agricultural production and many new schemes were undertaken.

Taking all foodgrains together, production has increased from 30.94 lakh tons in 1950-51 to 51.67 lakh tons in 1960-61. Our target is to increase food production to 67.17 lakh tons by the end of the Third Plan. We have now achieved self-sufficiency in a year of normal seasonal conditions, but it is essential to be self-sufficient even in an adverse year. The target in the Second Plan was an additional food production of 12.79 lakh tons as against which the achievement has been only about 7 or 8 lakh tons. At the beginning of the First Plan, only 48,000 tons of ammonium sulphate were distributed in our State. In 1956-57, 1.2 lakh tons were distributed and in 1960-61, 1.3 lakh tons are expected to be used. The requirements of our ryots are however much more than this.

Chemical Fertilisers

Sixty thousand tons of super-phosphate have been distributed in the current year as against 9,600 tons in 1953-54. The requirements of irrigated lands alone in the Third Plan will be 4 lakh tons of ammonium sulphate and 2.5 lakh tons of super-phosphate and it must therefore be our endeavour to step up production to this level. The



The Finance Minister presenting the Budget for 1961-62 in the Legislative Assembly.

new Fertiliser Plant at Neyveli is expected to yield 1.5 lakh tons of urea equivalent to 3.5 lakh tons of ammonium sulphate from the coming year. This may not entirely cover our requirements and therefore we welcome the efforts to set up another fertiliser factory in the private sector near Tuticorin.

Organic manures

As against 111 tons of green manure seeds distributed at subsidized rates in 1953-54, 1,500 tons were distributed in the current year. By the end of the Third Plan, green manure should be made available for the entire cultivated area in the State. There has been good progress in the production and use of compost. As against 1.42 lakh tons of urban compost produced in 1951-52, the production has increased to 4 lakh tons in the current year. So far, compost manufacture has been largely confined to Municipalities and Major Panchayats. It is necessary that it is taken up in the smaller villages also.

We have achieved a measure of success in increasing agricultural production by the use of improved seeds. One hundred and thirty-six State Seed Farms have been set up so far as against the target of 210 to meet the full requirements of the State. The improved seeds produced in State Seed Farms have to be multiplied in the Secondary Seed Farms owned by ryots.

The measures we have taken towards intensive cultivation have not been without tangible results, for we now hold the distinction of being the State with the highest yield per acre in India. I have given certain figures in this regard in my last Budget speech. The target in the Third Plan is to enhance the yield per acre to 1,890 lb. of cleaned rice by 1965-66, as against 1,332 lb. at present. The target for millets is 712 lb. per acre by the end of the Third Plan as against 672 lb. now.

Industrial raw materials—Cotton

The agricultural programme should not only aim at increased food production, but should also provide for the growing needs of our industries in raw materials. The prices of industrial raw materials have gone up steeply in recent times largely because of their shortage in this country. Rs. 41 crores worth of cotton is being imported into our country annually. Obviously it is necessary to plan for a substantial increase in the production of cotton. A measure of success has been achieved in this direction in the last two Plans. The production of cotton in 1959-60 was 4.01 lakh bales as against 2.26 lakh bales in 1950-51. In the current year, the production is expected to reach 4.2 lakh bales. The target for the Third Plan is 5.2 lakh bales.

Oil-seeds

Another industrial crop of great economic significance in the present context of shortage of foreign exchange is oil-seeds as is evident from the fact that the export of vegetable oil fetches Rs. 15 crores of foreign exchange. The production of groundnut has been stepped up from 7.66 lakh tons in 1950-51 to about 10 lakh tons in the current year. The price of groundnut is subject to wide fluctuations and steps will have to be taken to stabilise the price in order to ensure the fullest co-operation of the cultivator towards reaching the target of 12 lakh tons set for the Third Plan.

Sugarcane

Sugarcane is another important commercial crop in our State. The production in the current year will be 41 lakh tons as against 32.5 lakh tons in 1950-51. The target in the next Plan is an additional production of 10 lakh tons. One lakh tons of sugar is now manufactured in the State. This has to be raised to 2 lakh tons in the Third Plan to meet the anticipated increased consumption of sugar consequent on the growth in the general economy, and the additional production of 10 lakh tons of cane will be used for this purpose. The yield of sugarcane in Madras State is 25.9 tons per acre as against the All-India average of 14.7 tons per acre.

Irrigation is the major enabling factor towards rapid agricultural development. The Lower Bhavani Project and the Cauvery Delta Drainage Scheme were completed in the First Plan and the following projects were also taken up: (1) Mettur Canal Scheme, (2) Manimuthar, (3) Araniyar, (4) Sathanur—First stage, (5) Krishnagiri, (6) Amaravathi and (7) Vaigai Reservoir Project.

Irrigation

During the Second Plan, 11 major schemes were completed to bring 2.09 lakh acres under new irrigation and to

Irrigation :- During the Second Plan, 11 major schemes were completed to bring 2,09 lakh acres under new irrigation and to

(5)

stabilise supplies on 1.24 lakh acres. The area with an assured supply from river channels is at present at 25.36 lakh acres against 21.95 lakh acres at the beginning of the First Plan. The most important project to be implemented in the Third Plan is the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project which will irrigate 2.5 lakh acres. In addition to this Project, we will be taking up a few medium irrigation schemes and also effecting permanent improvements to the supply channels of the old irrigation systems. We have harnessed all the rivers in our State and the irrigation potential so far created has been utilized in full.

Minor Irrigation

To supplement major irrigation, sufficient stress has been placed on minor irrigation schemes. Rs. 8 crores nearly have been spent in the last ten years towards the improvement of the 27,000 tanks scattered all over the State. We have planned to spend another Rs. 8 crores for this purpose in the Third Plan.

Many of the tanks are shallow with vast extents of waterspread with consequent heavy loss through evaporation. An effective remedial measure is to deepen the tanks and to reduce the area of the waterspread. Members are aware of the scheme for desilting and reclamation, which has been devised for this purpose. In the Second Plan, 47 tanks were reclaimed at a total cost of Rs. 36.44 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 80 lakhs has been set apart for this scheme in the Third Plan and the provision for 1961-62 is Rs. 15 lakhs.

Well irrigation is widespread in our State. The agricultural prosperity of Coimbatore district, for instance, is largely based on well irrigation. These wells are being dug by ryots at enormous cost because they do yield an adequate return on the investment. It is necessary to expand well irrigation to the utmost in view of the fact that the scope for river irrigation in our State has been exhausted. With this view, the Government have sponsored a scheme of assistance for the sinking of new wells. In the Second Plan, 6,000 wells were assisted at a cost of Rs. 90 lakhs. We have to consider carefully the extent to which this programme can be intensified in the Third Plan, keeping in mind the fact that the increasing use of electric motors on a large number of wells does push down the water table of the locality.

The Government of India have dug a few exploratory tube-wells in our State as an experimental measure. These wells have proved to be expensive in construction and maintenance and call for heavy subsidy. Importance has been given to the filter-point wells programme also and about 5,000 filter-point wells have also been sunk in the last ten years.

Soil conservation

The extent under irrigation is only a small percentage of the cultivable area of the State. Dry crops are grown on 110 lakhs acres out of the total cultivated extent of 170 lakhs acres. Production on these dry lands can be stepped up only by means of soil conservation. This programme was started as an experimental measure in the Nanjanad area of the Nilgiris in 1952. Soil conservation measures were extended on about 17,000 acres in the First Plan and 133,000 acres in the Second Plan at a cost of Rs. 87 lakhs. The allotment for the Third Plan is Rs. 2.50 lakhs and the Budget provision for 1961-62 is Rs. 44 lakhs. The success of the scheme will depend largely on the measure of participation by the public.

Animal Husbandry

In the last decade many schemes have been implemented for the development of our cattle wealth. Two hundred and thirty-four Key Villages have been set up. Thirty-nine Artificial Insemination Centres have been opened. Till now we have not paid much attention to the breeding of milch animals and we should attend to this aspect in future. An increase in the production of milk will raise the general standard of nutrition apart from providing a subsidiary income to agriculturists. So far, Rs. 48 lakhs has been distributed as loans to Co-operative Milk Societies for the purchase and maintenance of good quality cows. Pasteurization plants have been set up at three places. It is now proposed to set up a Dairy and Pasteurization Plant at Madurai at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs with aid expected from the UNICEF. This scheme is based on organizing many Co-operative Milk Societies in the adjoining villages.

The Industries Minister presenting the Budget for 1961-62 in the Legislative Council.



Another new scheme for the gathering of milk from rural areas around Erode and its transportation to Madras to meet the City's requirements is being formulated. Facilities to house 2,000 heads of cattle have just been completed in the Madhavaram Milk Colony. So far, 750 cattle have been brought there. Housing has been provided in the colony itself for the owners of the cattle. This will ensure good care of the cattle and the proper rearing of the calves which will in turn increase the yield of milk. Around the City, Co-operative Milk Societies are being organized in many villages of Chingleput district. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been disbursed as loans for the purchase of milch animals. Milk from the Madhavaram Colony and these Co-operative Milk Societies is gathered and distributed to the public through the Government Milk Factory at Teynampet. The programme for the next year envisages the addition of another 2,000 cows to the Colony at Madhavaram. The main drawback of the cattle colonization scheme is that it is expensive on overheads. To ensure cheap supply of milk, facilities must be provided in rural areas for the rearing of milch cows and for the gathering and distribution of milk. A beginning has been made on such schemes which should be expanded further. It is proposed to set up a body of experts to advise and to co-ordinate the various schemes for Dairying and Milk Supply in an integrated way.

Forests

As against the target of 33 per cent of the land-area under forests for All-India, we have only 17 per cent now. An intensive programme was taken up in the Second Plan to increase the area under Forests and a sum of Rs. 1.48 lakhs was spent on forest development in that Plan as against Rs. 24 lakhs in the First Plan.

In the Second Plan, 47,000 acres were covered with cashew, 89,000 acres with fuel trees, 20,000 acres with wattle, 3,000 acres with blue-gum, 10,000 acres with teak, 3,000 acres with casuarina and 300 acres with bamboo. Besides, 11,000 acres were developed as pasturage. We must take steps to consolidate and extend these plantations in the Third Plan and the targets are 10,000 acres under cashew, 5,500 acres under teak, 20,000 acres under wattle, 3,000 acres under casuarina, 5,000 acres under softwood and 5,000 acres under bamboo.

A major scheme of the New Plan is the generation of farm forests in the villages. A beginning has been made on 2,300 acres in six Development Blocks in the districts of Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot. Farm forests are expected to cover 260,000 acres in the Third Plan for which a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs has been made.

Fisheries

Several schemes have been taken up for the development of fisheries in the last decade at a cost of Rs. 35 lakhs in the First Plan and Rs. 75 lakhs in the Second Plan. A large provision of Rs. 2.22 lakhs has been made in the Third Plan to accelerate this programme. One of the major schemes in Fisheries programme is the supply of mechanised boats. One hundred and thirty-two pablo boats have been constructed and distributed in the current Plan. The scheme will be expanded in the Third Plan and a provision of Rs. 9 lakhs has been made for 40 pablo boats in 1961-62. Cold storage facilities have been provided in four places in the Second Plan in order to preserve the fresh fish. Cold storage plants will be set up at Madurai and Pulicat in the coming year. Nylon nets are becoming increasingly popular with our fishermen. Thirty-five thousand pounds of nylon nets were distributed in the Second Plan at a cost of Rs. 6 lakhs. To reduce the indebtedness of fishermen, Rs. 26 lakhs have been advanced to them as loans through co-operative societies.

Community Development

The Community Development Programme has now covered 254 Blocks and the remaining 120 Blocks will be covered by 2nd October 1963. A sum of Rs. 76 lakhs was spent on this programme in the First Plan, and Rs. 13.78 crores in the Second Plan. The cost in the Third Plan is expected to be Rs. 20.36 crores and the Budget provision in 1961-62 is Rs. 3.66 crores.

The formation of Panchayat Unions represents a revolutionary change in community development. Seventy-five Panchayat Unions have already been constituted and are now functioning. Another 132 Panchayat Unions will be set up on Tamil New Year's Day and the entire State will be covered on 2nd October 1961. The administration of the Community Development Programme will be entrusted to the 75 Panchayat Unions already in existence, from 1st April 1961.

Local Development Works

The Local Development Works Programme will be implemented on the basis of matching grants, for which a provision of Rs. 1.40 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1961-62. The Centre will be giving a grant of Rs. 5 crores on the Local Development Works Programme during the Third Plan. Taking into account the State Government's share, the outlay may go up to nearly Rs. 7 crores, and if we add to it the value of the contribution from the people, works costing nearly Rs. 11 crores may be implemented.

Co-operation

The backwardness of our agriculture is mainly due to the fact that it is carried on in small and fragmented holdings by farmers with little or no capital. Our farmers borrow from the private money-lender to meet the cost of cultivation and permanent improvements to the land and the major portion of their earnings goes back to the money-lender as interest. Such a state of affairs has been progressively depressing the standard of life of our agriculturists. The last two Plans have seen a large-scale expansion of the Co-operative movement. To-day every village in our State and a large part of the rural population have been brought within the movement. In 1953-54, a sum of Rs. 4 crores was distributed to ryots as credit while in the current year, the amount has reached Rs. 25 crores. In spite of this, co-operative credit does not meet the entire needs of all our agriculturists. The programme in the Third Plan is to distribute Rs. 45 crores as credit and to cover 85 per cent of the rural population.

The Co-operative movement can attain stature and play a full part in the development of agriculture, only if the societies expand their functions to meet not only the credit requirements but also the multi-purpose needs of agriculturists. Co-operative societies should supply ryots with fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides, implements and other agricultural requirements and also help them to market their produce at fair prices. The credit societies should therefore transform themselves into multi-purpose service societies. A programme of large-scale expansion of Marketing and Consumer Societies is being organized now. Thirty Primary Marketing Societies were formed and 243 godowns constructed in the Second Plan.

The target for the Third Plan is to construct 1,000 godowns. Provision has been made for the construction of 210 godowns in 1961-62. Rs. 6 lakhs have also been provided for participation in the share capital of the Madras Warehousing Corporation. The organization of Co-operative Farming will also be a continuing programme in the coming year.

Major industries

The industrial development of Madras State depends, in a large measure, on the success of the Neyveli Lignite Project. The integrated project conceived at a total cost of Rs. 86 crores has four main constituents : (1) the Mining programme to win 35 lakh tons of lignite ; (2) the Power programme to generate 2.5 lakh kilowatts of power ; (3) the Fertilizer plant which will manufacture 1.5 lakh tons of urea ; and (4) the Briquetting plant to manufacture 3.8 lakh tons of carbonised briquettes. The mining programme involves the removal of 270 lakh cubic yards of over-burden and the lignite seam is expected to be exposed by September 1961. An agreement has been concluded in November 1957 with the U.S.S.R. for the Thermal Power Plant and the construction work is proceeding ahead. The first generator is expected to function from September 1961 and the entire block of power will be released by December 1962. The fertilizer plant will be set up with Italian and West German collaboration. Preliminary arrangements have been taken up and the machinery and equipments have started arriving. Tenders are under consideration for the establishment of the briquetting plant. A clay-washing unit is also being set up with the object of supplying good quality clay available in the lignite mine for the use of ceramic factories.



The Italian Economic Mission which visited the City recently was received at the airport on arrival by Industries Minister Venkataraman.



The Sikkimese Cultural Delegation which visited the City recently is seen in the picture photographed on arrival at the Central Station.

A total extent of 26,750 acres of land has to be acquired for the Neyveli Project out of which 11,454 acres have been acquired so far. Measures have been taken for the rehabilitation of families vacated from the project area.

Steel plant

The lack of a steel plant has been a major handicap to the industrial development of the State. There are vast reserves of iron ore in Salem district but the iron content of the ore is low. Hitherto, coal was also not available for smelting the iron ore but this deficiency can be met by the lignite from Neyveli. Investigations are going on to use the Neyveli lignite to smelt the Salem iron ore to produce steel. Experts from East Germany have prepared a preliminary report on this possibility and we have also received an offer of help from West Germany. Though the first indications are favourable, the German Experts have stressed the need for a detailed study in a pilot plant. The Union Government have set up a Technical Committee to study the scheme and have also set apart Rs. 25 crores for the purpose as an initial provision in the Third Plan. We have therefore to be patient till these investigations are completed and the experts are in a position to express a firm view on the economic feasibility of the steel project. It will obviously be rash to take up a project involving enormous investment without completing the necessary investigations. A Special Officer has been appointed solely to attend to these investigations for which a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs has been made in the Third Plan of the State. Arrangements are in progress to mine the required quantity of iron ore in Salem and to transport it to Jamshedpur and Germany for carrying out the tests. The Budget provision in 1961-62 for this expenditure is Rs. 7.5 lakhs.

Cauvery oil

Foreign Experts have been investigating the oil deposits known to exist in the Cauvery Delta. In 1956 Russian Experts who inspected the area found indications of oil and advised the Union Government to take up a detailed investigation. The State Government made representations to the Central Government on the matter and investigations were taken up by the Geological Survey of India in 1957-58. So far, 4,000 square miles have been prospected and the work is being continued. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has deputed experts and the necessary equipment to conduct the Seismic Survey along with the Geological Survey. These investigations have confirmed the existence of oil in the Cauvery Delta.

Good progress has been made towards the establishment of a Raw Film Factory in the Nilgiris district. A site has been selected near Ootacamund and construction work has begun. It is expected that raw film will be produced in this factory by the end of 1962. Another important factory to be set up by the Central Government is the Surgical Instruments Factory at Guindy. Arrangements are also in progress for setting up a Teleprinter Factory in Madras. The scheme for a proto-type factory is also in progress.

Private sector

The private sector has been playing an active role in the industrial development of the State and many medium and large industries were started on the initiative of local industrialists.

9

C. Subramaniam
Finance Minister

The first factories to be established in Madras State were textile mills. In 1950, there were 71 mills with 17 lakh spindles and 7,400 looms. By 1956, 31 more mills had been set up increasing the spindles to 21.7 lakhs and looms to 8,016. In the five years following 1956 the spindleage has gone up to 30.6 lakhs representing 22 per cent of the total spindleage of 135.4 lakhs in the whole of India. But the number of powerlooms has not kept pace with this expansion since most of the yarn in the State is utilized in handlooms. Along with the development of handlooms, it is also necessary to increase the number of powerlooms in textile mills and we have requested the Centre to license 10,000 powerlooms in this State in the Third Plan.

A significant advance in the manufacture of textiles is the increasing use of synthetic fibres. An advantage in the manufacture of synthetic fibres is that wood pulp, which is a raw material, can be grown even on forest wastes unlike cotton which would need fertile lands. Besides, the outturn of synthetic fibre based on wood grown over an extent of land, is many times more than that of yarn from cotton grown over a like extent.

The South Indian Viscose Corporation is installing a Rayon Factory near Coimbatore which is expected to commence production in April-May this year. This is one of the important new industries set up in this State.

Seshasayees are putting up a paper factory with a capacity of 20,000 tons of paper per year. Six licences have been issued to other manufacturers for setting up small paper units. A proposal for the manufacture of paper pulp with bagasse from sugar factories is under examination. Another by-product in sugar manufacture

is molasses which is the raw material for power alcohol. Licence has been given for a factory to produce 20 lakh gallons of power alcohol.

There is the need in our State for many fertilizer factories. Urea will be manufactured in Neyveli. Parry & Co. are setting up a plant for the manufacture of ammonium phosphate. Kothari & Sons have come forward to establish a large fertilizer plant near Tuticorin. When all these factories go into production, our requirements of chemical fertilizers will be met in full. The production of phosphatic manure in our State is now at 110,000 tons. Licences have been issued for three factories at Madras, Cuddalore and Coimbatore for the production of 140,000 tons of super phosphate. When completed, all these factories will yield 2.5 lakh tons of super phosphate. Our requirements at the end of the Third Plan will however be 320,000 tons of phosphate manures and to meet the gap one more factory will be necessary. A factory to produce 60,000 tons of super phosphate at Thanjavur is expected to be licensed soon.

Technical Education

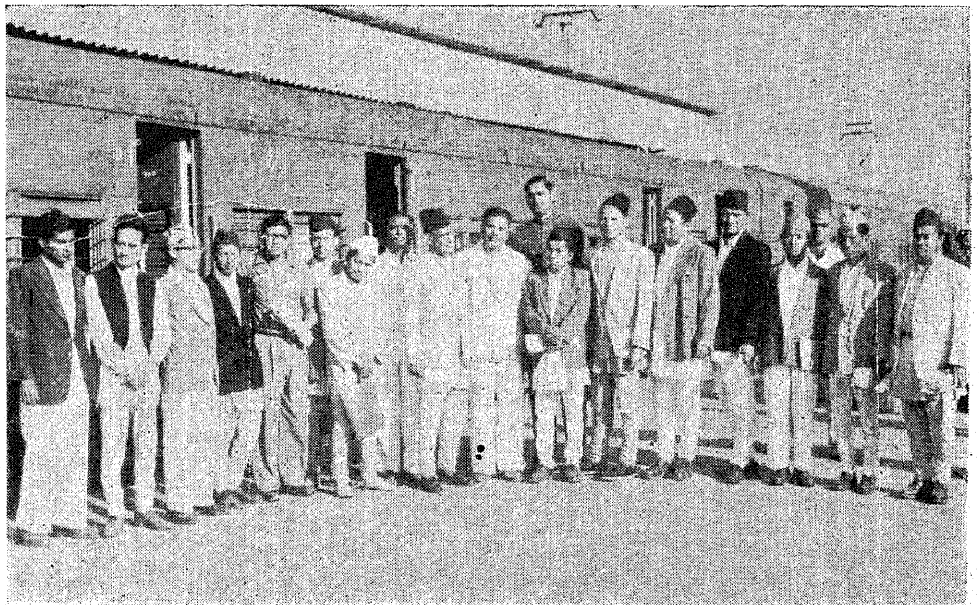
Budget for 1961-62

The spread of technical knowledge and industrial skill among the people is the basis for rapid industrial development. Towards this end, we have undertaken several schemes for technical education and craftsmen's training in the last decade. As a result, the number of admissions in Engineering Colleges now stands at 1,157 and in Polytechnics at 2,910.

Rapid industrialization can be ensured only if the industrial organizations themselves provide for the necessary apprentice training. The Integral Coach Factory at

Pambur gives such training

A goodwill delegation from Nepal visited the City recently to study the progress registered in Harijan welfare work. Picture shows the delegation photographed on arrival at the Madras Central Station.





The Annual Sports Meet of the Stationery and Printing Department was held recently when staff members had the opportunity of showing their skill in games. In the picture Sri Royappa, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, who presided on the occasion, is seen giving away a trophy to one of the winners.

Perambur gives such training. It is necessary that big institutions in the private sector also should come forward to offer such facilities. Government will render all assistance towards formulating suitable schemes.

Small Industries

Increased employment and the diffusion of technical skill among the people are possible only by the wide dispersal of small-scale industries. Good progress has been made in our State in this direction. As against the small amount of Rs. 12 lakhs spent in the First Plan, Rs. 3.96 lakhs was spent on small-scale industries and Rs. 1.54 lakhs on Industrial Estates in the Second Plan. Two Industrial Estates at Guindy and Virudhunagar and five Industrial Colonies at Marthandam, Pettai, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Erode have been established. Another Industrial Colony will be opened shortly at Thanjavur. A colony is under construction at Katpadi and preliminary works have been taken up for a Colony at Salem. The Industrial Estate at Guindy has developed in a very satisfactory way and houses 128 units, providing employment to 3,000 persons and manufacturing goods to the value of Rs. 2 crores per annum.

The State's Third Plan provides for an outlay of Rs. 3 crores in the public sector on Industrial Estates and Colonies. In addition, Government will encourage private industrialists who come forward to establish Industrial Estates by providing 80 per cent of the investment as a loan at a low rate of interest. Based on the small industries so far set up, we may hope that private industrialists will come forward to start many more small-scale units and bring about a wide dispersal of industries in the countryside.

Power

Power is the major enabling factor in the growth of large, medium and small-scale industries. Sustained efforts have been taken for the development of power in

the earlier Plans. The installed capacity which was 156,000 kilowatts at the beginning of the First Plan increased to 256,000 kilowatts at the end of that Plan. Many new schemes such as the expansion of the Thermal Plant at Madras, the Periyar Project, Kundah Project, etc., were taken up in the Second Plan and the capacity was stepped up to 571,000 kilowatts. The target in the Third Plan is to increase the generation to 1,041,000 kilowatts. In addition to this, 400,000 kilowatts will be available from the Thermal Power Plant at Neyveli, resulting in a total generation of 1,441,000 kilowatts. Even with all the new generation of the last few years, the supply will not be adequate to meet in full the demand which is expected to reach 1,540,000 kilowatts in 1966.

The installed capacity of 1,441,000 kilowatts at the end of the Third Plan is largely in hydro-electric stations which are heavily subject to the seasonal factor, being dependent on irrigation discharges. The dependable firm capacity all through the year is only 962,000 kilowatts. We will not therefore be self-sufficient in power in spite of the large outlay of Rs. 79 crores in the Second Plan and Rs. 100 crores in the Third Plan.

To meet the growing future demands on a permanent basis more than one atomic power station will be essential and must be planned for.

The average per capita consumption of electricity has now risen to 60 units from 12 units in 1951. The gross revenue from the sale of power has risen from Rs. 3 crores in 1951 to Rs. 15 crores now and is expected to reach Rs. 40 crores in 1966. These figures illustrate the measure of advance so far achieved in the development of power.

We have been making heartening progress in rural electrification. As against 1,813 villages electrified at the beginning of the First Plan, 10,000 villages have been covered by now. In the Third Plan, we may expect every village to have electricity. Electric pump-sets have increased from 14,000 in 1951 to 116,000 now.

Provision has been made in the Budget for 1961-62 for taking up the Mettur Tunnel Scheme and the final stage of the Kundah Project. Russian aid has been promised for the Mettur Tunnel Scheme and the Canadian Government have offered to continue their aid for the final stage of the Kundah Project. The Madras State Electricity Board will incur an outlay of Rs. 15 crores on power in 1961-62 towards which the State Government will advance a loan of Rs. 7.84 crores. The balance of the outlay can be found by the Electricity Board from its own resources.

The target for rural electrification is 1,600 villages in 1961-62. A provision of Rs. 25 lakhs has also been made for loans to private licencees for rural electrification.

The receipts of the Electricity Board can increase only when power is put to greater use in rural areas on small industries. Power plants in future will be mainly thermal as we have come to the end of our hydro-electric resources. It may therefore be necessary to increase the tariff to meet the higher cost of thermal generation. However, if we organize our industries efficiently to earn a substantial return, there may not be any difficulty in collecting the higher rates.

Communications

A good system of communications is indispensable for industrial development.

Roads are also as important as railway lines for the expansion of industries. In fact, in certain countries, the development of roads has been given even a higher priority than railway lines. In the last 10 years, we have improved our roads very substantially and it is now widely recognized that we are appreciably ahead of other States in this respect.

In the last ten years 4,680 miles of roads have been newly laid or improved.

One of the important changes in policy in regard to the maintenance of roads is the decision to take over all major district roads from the District Boards. In the last five years 3,840 miles of roads have been taken over by the Government and some more mileage is proposed to be taken over by the Government. The increased maintenance liability of the Government on the roads so far taken over is roughly Rs. 1,02 lakhs a year.

Thirty-one major bridges and 104 minor bridges have been built on State Highways. Twelve major bridges and 120 minor bridges have so far been built on roads under the District Boards. The annual outlay on roads is now of the order of Rs. 5 crores of which about Rs. 3 crores is on maintenance. A sum of Rs. 11 crores has been set apart for the construction of roads in the Third Plan.

Large-scale industrial development necessitates the import of machinery, raw materials and many other accessory goods from foreign countries. Further, unless we export commodities from our country, we will not be able to earn foreign exchange to finance the imports of essential goods from other countries. Thus, in a growing economy both exports and imports will be continuously going up. To meet the requirements of this expanding foreign trade, our port facilities have also to be expanded. With this object in view, a number of schemes have been taken up for the improvement of the Madras Harbour.

One of the major features of the expansion of the trade in the Madras Harbour in recent years, is the increasing exports of iron ore. As against 20,000 tons of iron ore

exported from this harbour in 1950, the total tonnage exported this year is 7.8 lakhs tons and this figure may rise up to 30 to 40 lakh tons in the next 5 to 10 years. The harbour is being further expanded to meet the increased demands of this trade.

Housing

Under housing the Third Plan accords high priority to the programme of bulk land acquisition for which we have set apart Rs. 1 crore in the Budget Estimate for 1961-62. Under this scheme 3,000 acres of land would be acquired in the neighbourhood of Madras. Recently we have also passed an Act placing the State Housing Board on a statutory basis so as to co-ordinate and speed up the implementation of housing schemes.

Village Industries—Handloom

The importance of village industries should not be minimised while concentrating on our Plans for large industries. In the present context of large-scale unemployment, village and cottage industries which are not capital-intensive, have a special part to play. The most important of them is the handloom industry. The industry is in need of thorough overhaul if it should survive.

It is in this context that we have to consider the question of the conversion of handlooms to powerlooms. If we make a beginning by installing powerlooms in the various handloom weavers' co-operative societies, we may be able to meet the popular criticism that powerlooms will throw the handloom weavers out of employment. Besides, under such a scheme the increased returns arising from powerlooms, will be shared by all members of the co-operative society.

Khadi

Schemes for the production of khadi play an important part in increasing employment opportunities in rural areas.

The "firnish" in one of the sport events at the Annual Sports of the Stationery and Printing Department.



We will have to continue these schemes till such time as the new industrial growth on the contrary is able to absorb the idle man-power.

Education

The standard of life of the people will improve only if the economy advances, which in turn depends on the quality of the people themselves. Therefore in a country's development, educational expansion which improves the level of thinking of the people, plays a very important part. The faster the pace of educational development the quicker and more permanent will be the advances registered in other spheres of development.

By the end of this year, every habitation with a population of more than 300 will have an elementary school. We have introduced many other measures to induce children, especially of the poor, to attend schools. The midday meals scheme has done great service in this respect. About 10 lakhs of children representing a third of the strength of all schools, have been covered by this scheme. The expenditure on the midday meals scheme which stood at Rs. 7 lakhs in 1957-58 has risen in the current year to Rs. 84 lakhs and is estimated to go up to Rs. 1.35 lakhs in 1961-62. Sixty per cent of the gross expenditure on this scheme is met by the State Government, the balance being contributed by local people.

Another important development in the educational programme has been the School Improvement Conferences by which our people have contributed Rs. 3.79 crores in cash and kind so far for the improvement of schools. This movement is gaining strength.

The standard of instruction in schools depends mainly on the qualifications of teachers. Because of the low salaries which our teachers have been receiving in the past, there was a measure of discontent amongst them. To improve the living conditions of teachers we have recently extended a number of benefits to them. The annual expenditure on education has gone up by nearly Rs. 4 crores as a result of these concessions.

The most important task on education in the Third Plan is the scheme of compulsory primary education under which all children within the age group 6-11 are proposed to be brought to school. A beginning has been made on the scheme even in the current year by which one-third of the children in the age group 6-7 are being enrolled in schools. The scheme will be extended to the entire State by 1962-63.

By the end of the Third Plan, we hope to bring to school all the children in the age group 6-11. It has been estimated that to reach this target, we would have to admit within the next five years, 14 lakhs more pupils in the schools which would in turn require 31,000 new

classes and teachers. This scheme would require a total outlay of Rs. 11.5 crores and the provision for 1961-62 is Rs. 70 lakhs.

Medical and Public Health

Several schemes have been implemented in the sphere of medical relief and public health. Rs. 4.27 crores have been spent on rural water-supply schemes and Rs. 7.4 crores on Urban Water-supply Schemes in the last two Plans. 14,000 wells have been sunk in the villages and 340 composite schemes implemented in the last two Plans. It is proposed to sink 2,500 wells and implement 216 composite schemes in the Third Plan. The National Water-supply and Sanitation Scheme is also being implemented under which 417 villages have been provided with watersupply facilities and 396 villages with sanitation.

The water-supply and drainage problem in the City of Madras calls for special attention. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been spent on this during the Second Plan. Out of a sum of Rs. 5 crores set apart for this scheme in the Third Plan, Rs. 90 lakhs will be spent in 1961-62.

We have been implementing a number of schemes for the welfare of Backward Classes. More than 30,000 Harijan students are now in receipt of scholarships and boarding grants. The expenditure on Harijan welfare which stood at Rs. 69 lakhs in 1950-51 for the composite Madras State has increased to Rs. 3.55 lakhs in the current year for the smaller residuary State.

Budget Estimates,

The Budget for 1961-62 estimates the receipts under Revenue Account at Rs. 87.50 lakhs and expenditure on Revenue Account at Rs. 90.35 lakhs. This has resulted in a Revenue Deficit of Rs. 2.85 lakhs. On the receipts side, there is a shortfall of Rs. 1.79 lakhs when compared with the Revised Estimates for 1960-61. This is the net result of an improvement in State and Central Taxes of Rs. 71 lakhs offset by a worsening in Non-Tax Revenue of Rs. 2.50 lakhs. The shortfall is entirely explained by the withdrawal of the Central assistance for increasing the emoluments of low-paid employees on which account we will be realising Rs. 2.34 lakhs in the current year.

The expenditure on Revenue Account in 1961-62 is expected to be Rs. 90.35 lakhs which is Rs. 2.29 lakhs more than in the current year. The main increases will be on Education (Rs. 3.19 lakhs); Agriculture (Rs. 87 lakhs); Co-operation (Rs. 28 lakhs); Grants-in-aid (Rs. 63 lakhs); Local Development Works (Rs. 77 lakhs) and Community Development (Rs. 35 lakhs). The variations between the Revised Estimates, 1960-61, and the Budget Estimates, 1961-62, have been discussed in detail in the Budget Memorandum.

Classes and teachers. This scheme would require a total outlay of Rs. 11.5 crores and the provision for 1961-62 is

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Budget for 1961-62

Capital Expenditure, 1961-62.

The Capital Expenditure for the year 1961-62 is fixed at Rs. 18,10 lakhs made up of Rs. 81 lakhs on compensation to Zamindars, Rs. 3,77 lakhs for the Parambikulam Project; Rs. 43 lakhs for other irrigation projects; Rs. 1,46 lakhs for Special Minor Irrigation, Rs. 15 lakhs for the Desilting-cum-Reclamation Scheme; Rs. 3,01 lakhs on industrial development; Rs. 1,00 lakhs on bulk acquisition of lands; Rs. 4,73 lakhs for Capital Outlay on Roads and Buildings; Rs. 1,01 lakhs for Road Transport; Rs. 30 lakhs for the Rural Water-supply Scheme and the balance on miscellaneous items. The outlay on Power in 1961-62 has now been fixed at Rs. 15,41 lakhs. We will be providing a loan of Rs. 7,84 lakhs to the Electricity Board which meets the balance of expenditure from its own resources.

Loans and Advances

Rupees 21,36 lakhs has been set apart for loans and advances during 1961-62, out of which Rs. 7,84 lakhs will be given as loans to the Electricity Board, Rs. 1,17 lakhs to the Madras City Corporation; Rs. 1,06 lakhs to the City Improvement Trust; Rs. 1,33 lakhs for Water-supply and Drainage Schemes to the various local bodies; Rs. 2,87 lakhs to cultivators; Rs. 51 lakhs as State-Aid to Industries; Rs. 31 lakhs for Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies; Rs. 1,00 lakhs for Housing and Rs. 84 lakhs for Community Development.

Resources

We have to pay Rs. 3,82 lakhs on account of the open market loans maturing in 1961-62. The share of this Government will be Rs. 1,97 lakhs. The balance is to be borne by the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Mysore. It is proposed to raise an open market loan of Rs. 10 crores for meeting the Capital Expenditure of next year. The Ways and Means Budget has been balanced and closing cash balance of Rs. 78 lakhs is anticipated at the end of 1961-62.

Concessions

The facility of compounding in Sales Tax is now available for small dealers with a turnover of not more than Rs. 25,000 a year. The Minister in charge of Commercial Taxes had assured the House that the extension of this concession would be examined on the basis of the experience in working the new Sales Tax Act. Government have now decided to extend this concession to dealers with the total turnover of not more than Rs. 50,000 a year based on the current year's assessments.

Free Education

Free education is now available to all children up to the V Standard and to poor children up to the VIII Standard. Beyond VIII Standard, Education is free



An interesting situation snapped during the progress of the "Musical Chairs"—an event for ladies—at the Annual Sports of the Stationery and Printing Department.

only to children belonging to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes. It has been emphasised for some time that educational concessions should be on the basis of economic backwardness rather than on the basis of communal status. Government have accepted this view and have decided to extend free education up to the XI Standard to all children irrespective of caste or creed. A provision of Rs. 58 lakhs has been provided in the Budget for this purpose. This decision is the first step towards a society where no deserving student will be denied education on account of poverty.

Five-Year Plans

I shall now explain the provisions made in the Budget towards the outlay on the Plan. The size of the States' Second Plan had been originally fixed at Rs. 1,52 crores. The actual outlay during the first four years amounted to Rs. 1,42.76 crores. The revised estimates for the current year, as now fixed, provide for an expenditure of Rs. 43.43 crores taking the total outlay to Rs. 1,86.19 crores.

	(RS. CRORES)	
1956-57	28.67	
1957-58	30.25	
1958-59	34.61	
1959-60 (Accounts)	39.89 + 9.34 (Kun- dah equip- ment.)	
Total	1,42.76	
1960-61 (Revised Estimates) ..	43.43	
Grand total ..	1,86.19	

We have thus exceeded the original target by nearly Rs. 34 crores and therefore we may well claim a substantial measure of success in the implementation of the Second Plan. We were able to do so because of our special exertions in raising additional resources and in organizing the necessary executive machinery in advance of time. As against an additional taxation of Rs. 13 crores expected of this State in the Second Plan, we had actually raised Rs. 20 crores and we had also done better on open market borrowings. Let us hope that we could profit by this experience and do better in implementing the Third Plan.

The size of the Third Plan of the State has been fixed at Rs. 2,91 crores. According to the general advice of the Planning Commission, 16 per cent of the total provision, i.e., about Rs. 46 crores, should be the target for the first year. We have however budgetted for an outlay of Rs. 48 crores in order to meet all the essential requirements of the various development departments. The recurring expenditure for maintaining the new schemes introduced in the Second Plan will amount to about Rs. 7 crores. If this committed expenditure is also reckoned, the total expenditure on new development schemes will amount to Rs. 55 crores and this outlay compares very favourably with the sum of Rs. 43.43 crores.

Conclusion

The successful execution of the Third Plan calls for a strenuous effort in mobilising all resources of the country. The State's Third Plan alone is of the magnitude of Rs. 2,91 crores but that, we should note, is only a part of the National Plan. The State's effort will be supplemented by the investments of the Central Government within the

State. Besides, the private sector will also invest in many industries in the coming Plan period. These investments will increase production, raise the standard of life of the people and eliminate the poverty and inequality around us to-day. We are a nation of poor people with large numbers living on the margin of subsistence and incapable of saving any part of their income. Their standard of life can be raised only with large scale investment through new capital formation in successive Plans. But the poverty of the people rules out savings and therefore investment, and the absence of sufficient investment results in continued poverty. Mobilisation of savings is the one and only way to break through this grim vicious circle. The foundation for the well-being of future generations can be laid only if we practice thrift and invest our savings entirely in the various development projects. In a democratic country, taxation has its limits and it is easier for the Government to borrow from the people to implement their Plans. This method of tapping resources also affords an excellent opportunity to the people to directly participate in the National reconstruction. Besides, it secures to them a good return on their investment. There has been a good response so far for the open market loans floated by the Madras Government. It is not enough if a few financiers support these loans. Innumerable small investors must be given an opportunity to take part in this great venture and it is with this aim that we are now concentrating on Small Savings and the allied scheme of Prize Bonds.

If we succeed in this effort, it is possible not only to fulfil the targets in the next Plan but also to go beyond them.

Triple Benefit Scheme for School Teachers

The Government of India has recommended to the State Governments the adoption of the Triple Benefit Scheme for teachers introduced by the Government of Madras.

The Scheme includes provision for pension, provident fund and insurance and applies to all teachers including those in aided schools.

The question of extending the scheme to teachers in the Union territories is also being examined.

Future of the Handloom Industry

SRI K. J. SOMASUNDARAM, I.A.S.—*Director of Handlooms.*

Within the economic structure of the State as well as of the Nation, Handloom forms an important limb. Its organized and rationalised growth means much to the Nation. The handloom industry has grown steadily all these years, in spite of many ups and downs and it will yet grow. Its vitality has withstood the onslaught from foreign-made fabrics and the indigenous textile mill productions.

The handloom industry is the premier cottage industry of our country. Next to agriculture, it provides the largest employment opportunities to the people. It produces roughly one-third of the clothing requirements of the country and contributes considerably towards self-sufficiency in clothing. It has been estimated that out of 28 lakhs of handlooms in the country the State of Madras alone has approximately five-lakh looms. Together with the ancillary workers engaged in preparatory and finishing processes, these five lakhs of handlooms in the State provide employment directly or indirectly to about 20 lakhs of people.

The handloom industry had the monopoly of production of cloth till almost the end of the last century. It attained a very high degree of perfection and weaving was done so exquisitely and with such fine yarn that the cloth was almost transparent. The Muslims of Dacca, the Patolas of Baroda, the fabrics of Assam and Manipur, the silk sarees of Kancheepuram, dhoties of Salem, etc., won renown in foreign lands. The tradition of handloom weaving in the country has been long and distinguished and the skill of the Indian handloom weavers has been of a very high order.

Competition from Mills

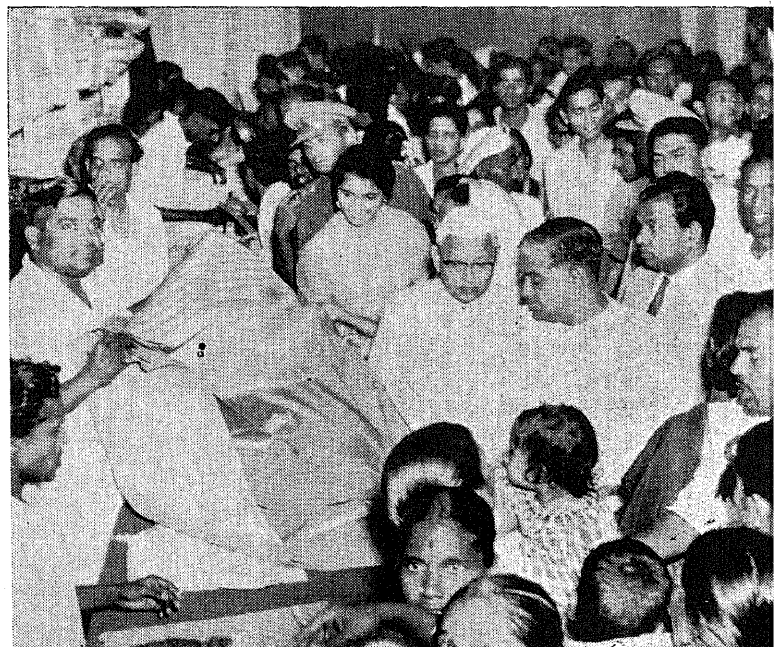
Indian export of textiles to the western world continued during the middle ages and up to the middle of the 19th century. As a result of the introduction of the spinning-jenny the emergence of the powerloom and such other technical advances, India not only ceased to export but began to import cotton textiles in large quantities. Weaving mills in the country began to be established one after another in various places and mill cloth emerged as a serious competitor to the hand-woven fabric. The growth of industrialisation affected the fortunes of the handloom industry in a large way though as the largest cottage industry in India, it continued to occupy a prominent place in the general economy of the country.

The boom enjoyed by handlooms and the mills during the war and immediately thereafter could not last for long. The dispersed nature of the industry, the small financial resources of handloom weavers and the fluctuations of the market made the condition of the handloom weaver unenviable. To overcome the crisis to the industry, a co-ordinated effort towards increasing the efficiency of the handloom weaver and making himself reliant and self-supporting was needed. The Government of India realised this and took several steps—interim and long range—calculated to solve the problems of the industry. The most important steps were the setting up of the All-India Handloom Board and the constitution of the Cess Fund.

Aid from Cess Fund

The functions of the Handloom Board consisted of advising the Government on the problems of the industry, examining schemes for its development and recommending assistance from the Cess Fund. The Cess Fund was constituted by levying an additional excise duty on all mill cloth other than that intended for export, manufactured within the country. The large-scale financial assistance from the Cess Fund enabled the handloom industry to formulate and execute several schemes for promoting the economic interests of the handloom weavers and for developing the industry on sound lines. To ensure that the assistance provided reached the weaver fully, Government

In connection with Handloom Week, a Handloom Exhibition was organized at Egmore in February. Governor Medhi who visited the Exhibition is seen examining some fabrics displayed at the Exhibition.





Mrs. Medhi giving away the prize to the winner in the Handloom fabrics (frocks) event.

decided that the industry should be organized on co-operative lines and that all assistance to the handloom industry should be made available only through co-operatives.

Following these decisions, Government are taking vigorous steps to enrol the weavers as members of weavers' co-operative societies. As not all the weavers could find the necessary resources for participating in co-operative organizations, share capital loans are advanced to the weavers to enable them to become members in weavers' co-operative societies. A share capital of about Rs. 74 lakhs has been disbursed to the weavers so far, in this regard. To enable these societies in their turn to provide full employment, working capital is provided through District Co-operative Central Banks. Rs. 161.48 lakhs have been given to Central Banks for disbursing working capital loans to weavers' co-operative societies. The Reserve Bank of India has made available Rs. 79.54 lakhs in 1960-61 to 11 Co-operative Central Banks to finance production in primary weavers' co-operative societies. With assistance from the Cess Fund, The Madras State Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society was enabled to open hundreds of selling units within and outside the State, so that an effective market could be found for the increased production in weavers' co-operative societies. The society has got about 300 selling units located in all parts of the State and outside the State. It disposes of about 20 per cent of the goods produced by its affiliated primaries.

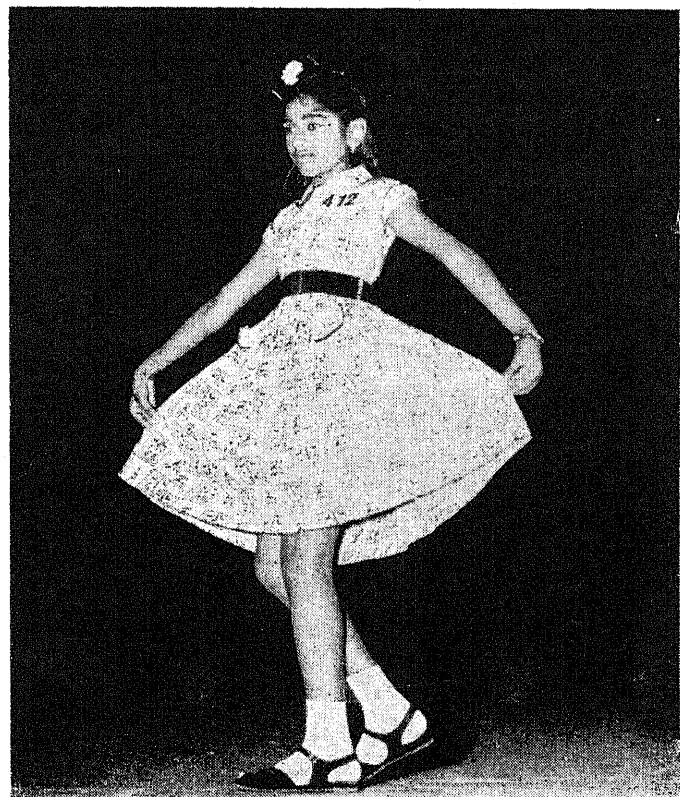
Improved techniques

Government have also recognized that any permanent improvement in the condition of the handloom industry can be effected only if its technique is modernised. They have, therefore, been providing financial assistance to the weavers to use improved appliances such as steel reeds,

varnished heddles, dobbies, take-up motion attachments, etc., free of cost or at part cost. A sum of Rs. 14.79 lakhs has been given to weavers' co-operative societies for the purchase of improved appliances. To increase consumers' preference for handloom fabrics, Government have permitted co-operative institutions to allow rebate on retail and wholesale sales of handloom cloth. On special occasions, special additional rebate has also been allowed on the retail sales of handloom cloth. So far over Rs. 350 lakhs have been spent under the scheme of rebate in our State.

Government have also recognized the need to improve the living conditions of the handloom weavers. The handloom industry is a cottage industry and as such the weaver's house is also his workshop. Government have therefore formulated schemes for improving the housing conditions of the weavers. Government have sanctioned so far 16 such schemes for the construction of 1,580 houses of which 1,230 houses have been completed and the remaining houses are under various stages of construction. The development of the Silk and Art Silk handloom industry has been taken up on hand. Weavers who have no looms of their own or who have been thrown out of work by master weavers or handloom factories are also provided with work in co-operative factories started for their benefit.

A Handloom dress competition for high school girls was organised at the Museum Theatre. Picture shows one of the successful contestants on parade.

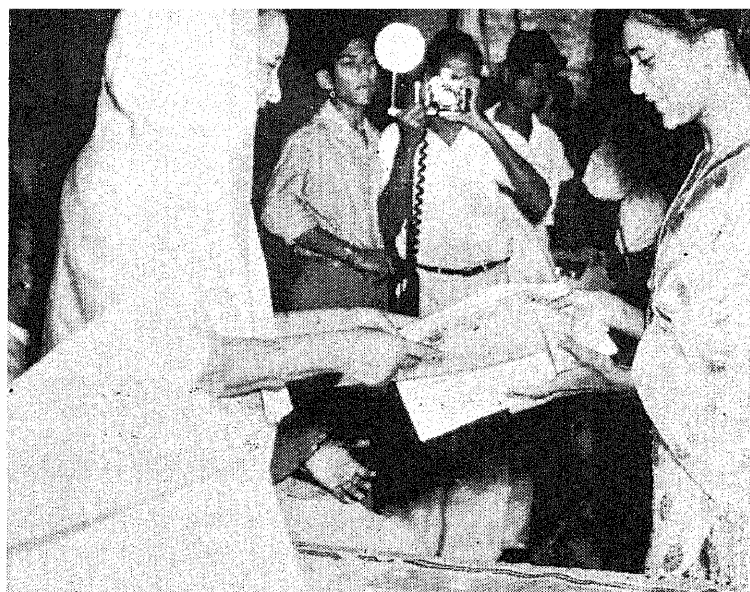


Thirteen such factories have been started in different parts of the State for providing work to about 860 weavers and 340 auxiliary workers. A sum of Rs. 8.19 lakhs has been spent for implementing this scheme.

Better Quality Yarn

It has been considered by a section of the people that instead of separate industrial factories, for their exclusive benefit, weavers who have no looms of their own should be admitted in the existing weavers' co-operative societies and assistance extended to them by the grant of loans and subsidies for the purchase of looms and accessories. A pilot scheme for the purpose has been sanctioned for the admission of 100 loomless weavers in the existing weavers' co-operative societies.

Supply of yarn is an important requisite in the handloom industry. To enable weavers' co-operative societies to get good quality yarn at reasonable prices, three co-operative spinning mills have been started in this State, one each at Pettai in Tirunelveli district, Srivilliputhur in Ramanathapuram district and Nazareth in Tirunelveli district. Rs. 38.78 lakhs have been invested by the State Government in the shares of these co-operative spinning mills. The South India Co-operative Spinning Mills at Pettai has been set up with a capacity of 16,000 spindles. It is proposed to raise the spindleage to 24,000. It has commenced production and on an average it produces about 600 bales of 20s and 40s yarn of good quality. Two other co-operative spinning mills, one at Nazareth and the other at Srivilliputhur, are taking steps to purchase machinery and construct necessary buildings. They are expected to go into production during 1961-62. More co-operative spinning mills are contemplated in the Third Five-Year Plan. In addition, the State Government has been experimenting with the decentralised production of yarn of lower counts on the 16 and 32 spindle units. If the successful units are introduced into the weavers' co-operative societies, it will not only ease the supply of 20s and 40s yarn within the society but also give added income to its weaving members of the primary weavers' co-operative societies. Besides the schemes which are executed with financial assistance from the Cess Fund, the Government of India have also taken other measures necessary to protect the industry such as curtailing production of dhoties by mills, reserving certain varieties of cloth for production exclusively by the handlooms and by levying a general excise duty on mill-made cloth. These measures have greatly helped the handloom industry. The socio-economic condition of the handloom weaver especially in Madras State has considerably improved during the last six years and the industry has steadily been consolidated under the impact of a large number of handloom development schemes financed from the Cess Fund under the Second Five-Year Plan. More than Rs. 10 crores have so far been spent on the various schemes for the development of the handloom industry in this State.



As part of the programme to popularise handloom fabrics dress competitions are annually held during handloom exhibitions. Picture shows Mrs. Medhi, who distributed prizes, passing on the trophy to the winner in the Handloom sarees (silk) event.

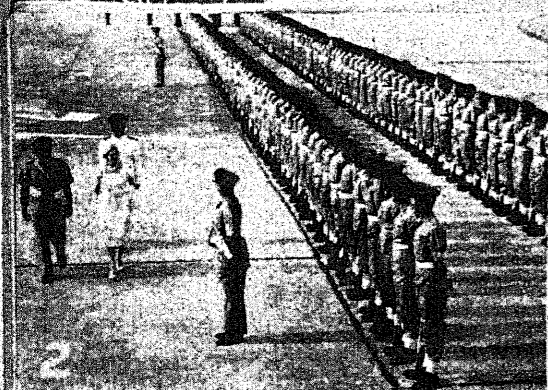
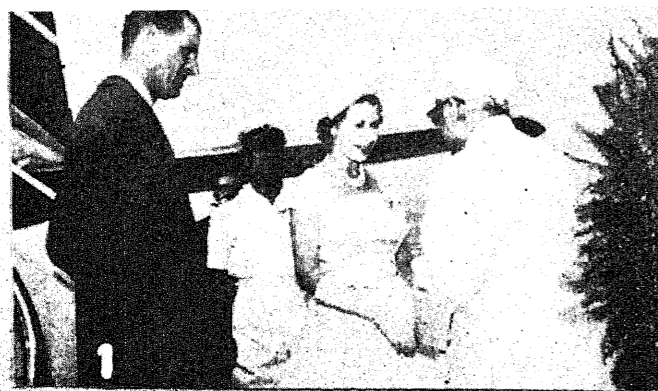
There are about 1,030 weavers' co-operative societies with 2.21 lakhs of looms in their fold. Their production is estimated at about Rs. 11 crores per year.

Some problems

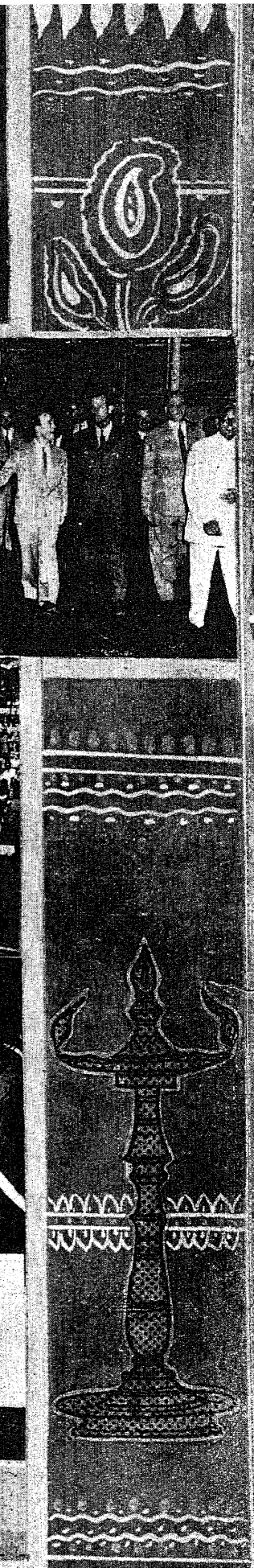
The weavers' co-operative societies have no doubt recorded great progress during the past eight years. But there are still some factors which tend to impede their growth. The question of availability of yarn of the required counts at reasonable prices for the handloom industry is engaging the attention of the Government. The situation following the slackening of demand in the American Market of the "Madras Bleeding" variety of handloom cloth is known. Government sponsored a delegation of five-men including one official, associated with the handloom industry to the Far East to find out the possibility of creating and expanding markets for these fabrics in the Far East. They are now considering the report of the delegation and will take appropriate measures in the light of the report.

One other competitor to the industry besides the mill industry is the powerloom. During the Third Five-Year Plan, the Government of India have proposed to introduce powerlooms in the co-operative sector of the handloom industry. The competition by powerlooms is in certain respects serious as several powerlooms are exempted from the levy of excise duty and are free from the obligations cast on the composite mills by various labour laws. But the vitality of the handloom is great and it is not easy for the powerloom to crush it. In fact the industry has made steady progress during the past seven years and has reached a stage where it is certain to retain the confidence of the people and ensure its further development.

The QUEEN *in the City.*



1. Governor Bishnuram Medhi receiving the Queen at the airport.
 2. The Queen inspecting the Guard of Honour presented by an I.A.F. unit at the airport.
 3. Chief Minister Kamaraj introducing his Cabinet colleagues.
 4. The Queen greeting a section of the crowd near Senate House in the Marina during the State Drive.
 5. The Queen inspecting the page relating to the marriage of Lord Clive in the marriage register shown to her during her halt at St. Mary's Church inside Fort St. George.
 6. At the Rajaji Hall, the Queen met the Legislators of the State.
 7. The Queen cutting the surprise birthday cake in celebration of Prince Andrew's birthday presented during the State Government Reception at Rajaji Hall.
 8. The Queen and the Chief Minister exchanging greetings at Raj Bhavan where the Royal visitors were accorded a dinner reception.
 9. Danseuse Vyjayanthimala presenting a bouquet to the Queen during the Raj Bhavan reception.
 10. The Queen inspecting a third class coach built by the Integral Coach Factory.
 11. The Queen in the quarters of one of the workers of the Integral Coach Factory.
 12. The Duke inspecting one of the units inside the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills during his visit there.
 13. The Queen acknowledging greetings from a section of the children during the mammoth Children's Rally at the Corporation Stadium.
 14. The Queen met students and educationists of the State during the reception at the University.
 15. The Queen met members of the Adyar Club at the Club Reception.
 16. Farewell.



The Queen in the City

February 1961 will remain in the minds of the people of Madras State for a long time to come, for, during the month, Madras had the privilege of welcoming British Royalty. Queen Elizabeth II and her Consort the Duke of Edinburgh visited the City as State Guests. The visit was historic as it was the first time that the City was receiving a ruling British Sovereign.

The State visit of the Royal couple had been awaited with expectancy. Royalty has always fascinated the Indian mind and Indian history is full of the colour and majesty of it. Delhi and Calcutta had given magnificent receptions to the Queen and Duke. Both in the Capital and at Calcutta more than a million had cheered them.

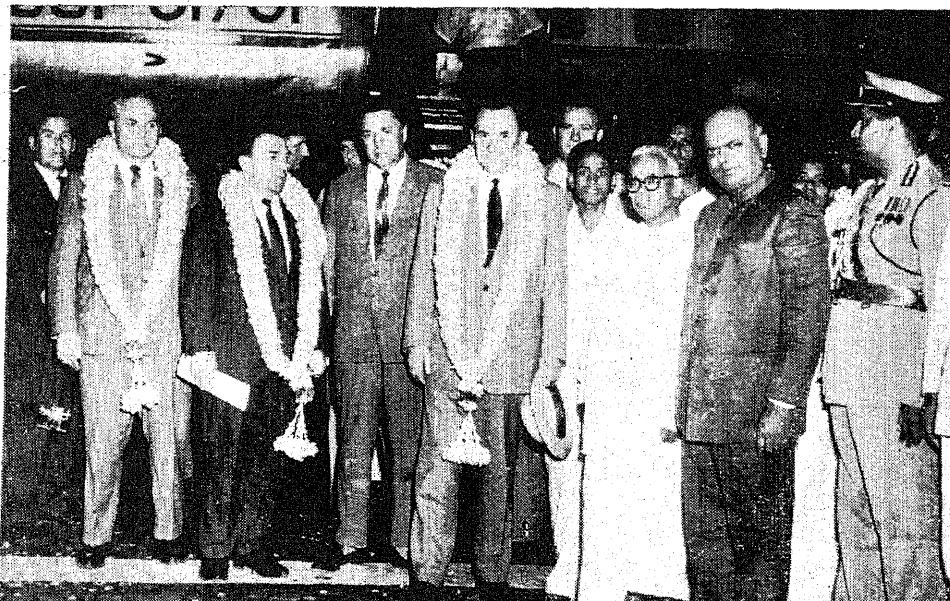
Madras, the earliest of the British settlements in India, did not lag behind. Over a million smiling and cheering faces greeted the Royal couple, all along the 19-mile State drive from the airport to the heart of the City. The reception was outstanding.

The public response to their presence proved that the bonds between Britain and India have not ended with the attainment of independence but have grown stronger in the Commonwealth relationship.

The engagements for the Royal visitors on February 19, the day of their arrival, were designed to revive historical associations. The Queen and Duke made a brief halt at St. Mary's Church inside Fort St. George during the State drive. This is one of the oldest Anglican Churches in India. Robert Clive, one of the Architects of British power in India was married here. The Queen and Duke were shown the relevant page in the marriage register in which Clive and his bride had signed on February 18, 1763. They were also shown the signature of the Queen's grandfather, King George V in the Visitors' book taken from him on January 27, 1906, when he had visited the place while he was the Prince of Wales.

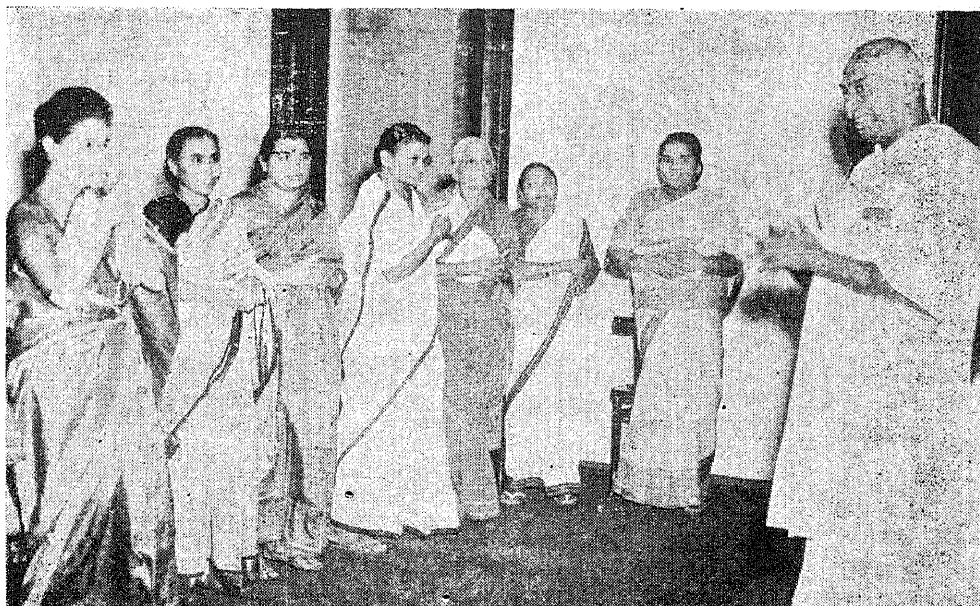
State Reception

Their next visit was to the Rajaji Hall to attend a reception by the State Government. The Rajaji Hall was the Banqueting Hall of Government House in pre-independence days. Many portraits and relics there recall British rule. The hall used to serve well for ball-room dancing in those days. For the Queen's visit, the flooring of the hall had been specially decorated with Rangoli art drawings. The Royal couple were received by the Chief Minister at the Rajaji Hall. They also met the Legislators of the State specially assembled there to greet them.



Mr. A. N. Kosygin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. who was in the City during February was received by Home Minister Bhaktavatsalam at the airport on arrival.

Miss Anita Bose, daughter of Subhas Chandra Bose, was given a dinner in Rajaji Hall during her visit to the City during February by Chief Minister Kamaraj. Picture shows Miss Bose with other invitees being greeted by the Chief Minister.



The State had not forgotten February 19 was Prince Andrew's birthday and had kept a lovely birthday cake with 'Many happy returns' inscribed on it ready to be presented to the Queen and Duke. It was a pleasant surprise to them and the Queen had to use both her hands to cut the ample cake.

At the after-dinner reception by the Governor at Raj Bhavan, the Royal pair witnessed a representative programme of Indian dance by popular exponents. Artiste Kamala gave a demonstration of classical Bharatha Natya and Vyjayanthimala and the Padmini-Ragini sisters performed a variety of Oriental dances.

An opportunity to get an idea of the strides that the State has made in its development was provided to the Royal visitors on February 20. The Queen visited the Integral Coach Factory, the largest of its kind in Asia and was much impressed with its modernity. She inspected coaches built and furnished by the factory. She evinced interest in workers' conditions and visited the quarters, provided by the factory, of two workmen and spent a few minutes with their families.

The Duke visited the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills where he spent nearly an hour inspecting cloth production units.

A mammoth Children's Rally of school-going children at the Corporation Stadium gave the Royal visitors a glimpse of the interest the State took in the education of its young. The Stadium stands were jam-packed with over 50,000 children and the rally was colourful and impressive.

The Queen and Duke attended a University reception at the Senate Hall and spent some time with educationists, professors and students acquainting themselves with details regarding University education in the State.

Many British firms have played their part in the progress of the State. The Royal couple met prominent representatives of these business houses at a reception accorded by the Adyar Club. Many South Indian businessmen also participated in the reception lending it a cosmopolitan colour.

The Royal pair was accorded a ceremonial send-off at the airport on February 21. At a few minutes past 11 a.m. the Britannia took off and the vast assembly that had turned up at the airport knew then that a memorable visit had ended.

There were other distinguished visitors to the City during the month including the Maharajah of Bhutan, Mr. A. N. Kosygin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and a visiting Italian Economic Mission.

Handloom Week

Handloom Week and Fire Prevention Week provided other highlights during the month. As part of the Handloom Week Celebrations, a Handloom Exhibition was organized in the City as during other years. The programme was aimed at popularizing handloom goods. Cultural shows, a fashion parade and speeches by Ministers and officials were arranged during the 7-day celebrations from February 6th to 12th. Handloom goods have an export market and earn valuable foreign exchange. But in the home market they find it difficult to effectively compete with



The Maharajah of Bhutan who visited the City recently was accorded a reception by Governor Medhi at Raj Bhavan, Guindy.

mill goods. The Finance Minister Sri C. Subramaniam who inaugurated the Handloom exhibition, giving expression to this feeling stressed that handlooms could not be assured of a secure future unless the industry took increasingly to powerlooms. The statement by the Industries Minister Sri Venkataraman that Government were considering erection of a sanforizing plant in the State to help handloom weavers make fabrics on a par with mill goods lent significance to this plea.

The problem of housing and housing sites for low income groups and of slum dwellers has consistently exercised Government. The Chief Minister who has expended considerable thought on it felt, in the course of a discussion, that the soaring value of house-sites could be checked if rich men who commanded transport facilities could be

induced to build bungalows in the City's suburbs. The Chief Minister also felt that if they provided out-houses for their servants, that would help prevent the development of slums.

Government have been taking steady steps to promote Tamil for educational and official purposes. The start already made in this direction has been progressively intensified. In line with this policy, a significant decision was taken by Government during the month in connection with the renaming of the State. The Government announcement in this regard stated that while in English the name of the State would continue to remain as 'Madras State', in Tamil, the State would be known as "Tamizh Nadu".

Sheffield Indian Students' Journal

The *Indian Student*, the yearly journal of the Sheffield University Union's Indian Students' Society is the latest in the chain of activities of the society in this field. Regular Indian evenings are organized at the Sheffield International Centre, when documentary films are shown, discussions and Indian music concerts held and Indian food served. A start has been made on collecting books on India, and the society has formed a Sheffield branch of the Asian Music Circle.

A THEATRE FOR CHILDREN

Films that educate and entertain children are being exhibited during every week-end at the well-furnished Children's Theatre in the Government Estate, Mount Road. Hundreds of children troop into this Theatre every week to enjoy these films.

HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR CHILDREN TO THESE SHOWS ?

Patrons of the Children's Theatre, be they little ones or their proud parents, are all praise for this amenity. Srimathi Indira Gandhi said :

“ Madras has stolen a march over Delhi which is still struggling with plans for a Children's Theatre ”.

**MADRAS LEADS IN THIS AS IN OTHER
SPHERES.**

Land Reforms in Madras State

SRI V. KARTHIKEYAN, I.A.S., *Director of Agriculture.*

The system of land tenure in the State can, broadly speaking, be divided into two major categories: the Zamindari and the Ryotwari. There is also a minor category, the Inam tenure. The Zamindari and the Inam tenures were placed on a statutory basis during British rule. The ryotwari system was also properly organized and put on a firm basis by the British rulers.

While landowners under the ryotwari system had direct dealings with Government and enjoyed the benefits of fixity of assessment during the currency of a settlement, proper maintenance of irrigation sources by the Government and an authentic record of rights in the form of a Settlement Register based on a cadastral survey of their fields and soil classification, the ryots in the Zamindari and Inam villages had no such facilities and suffered much from the personal rule of Zamindars and Inamdars. The need to extend a measure of protection to these ryots and to guarantee their occupancy rights and ensure a reasonable maintenance of irrigation sources was fully realized early in this century and the passing of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, was the result. This Act did prove useful to the ryots in Zamin and certain Inam villages and the Court of the Revenue Divisional Officer became the regular forum where their disputes with their proprietors could be legally adjudicated. However, the procedure was costly and time-wasting and the Act did not apply to Iruwaram Inam grants. In 1936, an important amendment was passed to this Act by which the Act was extended to Iruwaram Inam villages also. Even after this, the position was not quite satisfactory from the ryots' point of view and they were subjected to rack-renting. The answer to this problem was the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, under which the rents payable by ryots to their landlords in all estate villages were substantially reduced and brought more or less to the level of ryotwari assessments on similar lands in the neighbourhood.

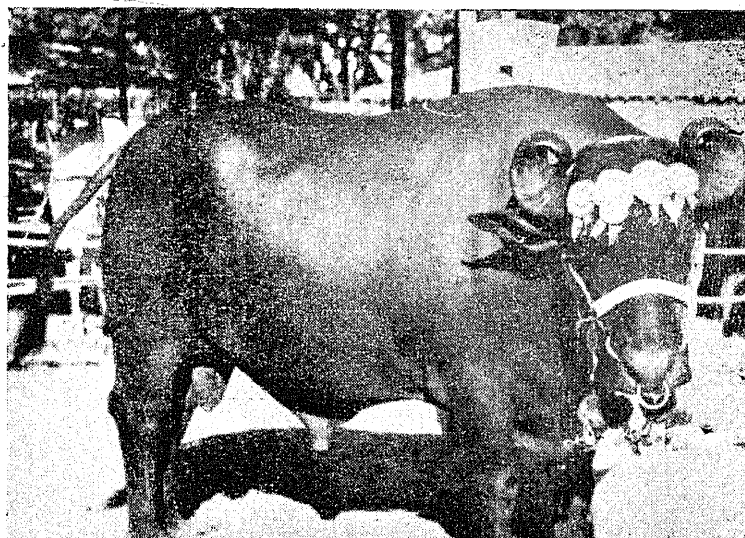
Further reforms soon followed. As a measure calculated to abolish the intermediaries and bring the tenure into one uniform pattern, Government passed the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948, to provide for the acquisition of the rights of landholders in permanently settled and certain other under-tenure and Inam estates and for the introduction of the

ryotwari settlement in such estates. The implementation of this Act is in full swing and is expected to be completed in about 3 years. There are now no Zamindars and all Inam estates except the Iruwaram grants have been taken over by Government. The abolition of the Iruwaram grants is also under consideration.

Tenancy Reforms

In 1952, out of fear of anticipated land reforms, to the detriment of landlords' interests, the relationship between the landowners and their agents on the one hand and the tenants and farm labourers on the other became strained and this was very noticeable in Thanjavur district. Several Mirasdars in that district refused to renew lease agreements with their usual tenants and displaced them either by bringing in new tenants or taking the lands under home (Pannai) farm. Towards the middle of 1952, the unrest among the agricultural class which was becoming increasingly manifest in parts of the district reached a high pitch resulting in breach of peace. An Ordinance providing for the reinstatement of evicted tenants and permanent farm servants was promulgated which was later replaced by an Act of the Legislature called the Thanjavur Tenants and Pannaiyals Protection Act. The minimum wages to be paid to a pannaiyal were also prescribed under this Act. A machinery (with Revenue Department) for enquiring into the dismissal of farm labourers (Pannaiyals) and for their

The Murrah Buffalo Bull of the District Livestock Farm, Orathanad was declared the Supreme champion and Best Animal during the 4th Annual Cattle show held in the City recently.



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[Handwritten signature]

restoration on just and equitable terms, if the dismissal was wrongful, is also provided for in the Act. In short, the legislation was based on the customary practices in the matter of rent, wages and the sharing of the costs of cultivation. The provisions of the Act were not applicable to lands held by owners if the extent held by them in a village did not exceed $6\frac{2}{3}$ acres of wet (one veli) or 20 acres of dry land.

The provisions relating to cultivating tenants in the Act have now been replaced with the passing of the general Act covering the whole State, the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955. Only those provisions which regulate the conditions of Pannaiyals are in force now.

In 1953, consequent on certain disturbances in parts of South Arcot district, the Tanjore Act was extended to certain areas in Chidambaram and Cuddalore taluks of that district.

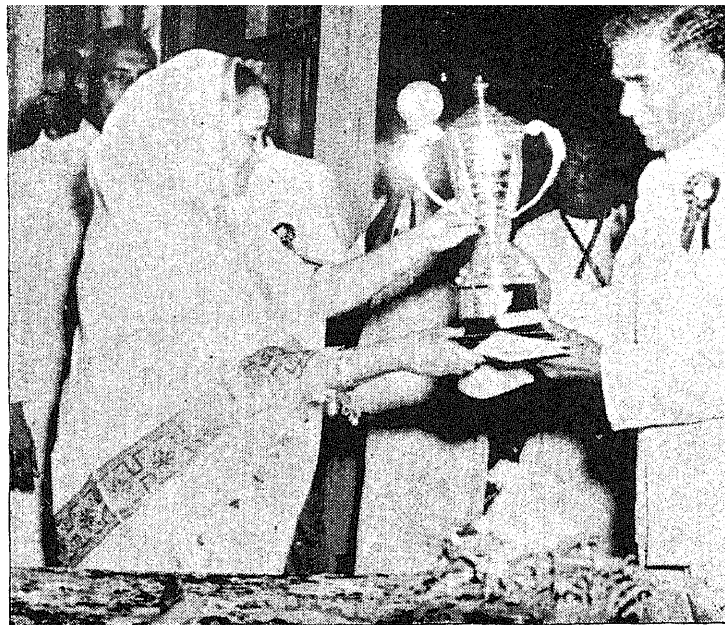
Tanjore Act Improved

With the passing of the Tanjore Act, representations were made to the Government that in anticipation of land reforms legislation, owners of lands in other districts also were evicting cultivating tenants with a view to bringing the lands under their personal cultivation. They considered that large-scale eviction would, if allowed to continue, lead to agrarian trouble, disturbance and breach of peace. To protect the tenants from unjust eviction, the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955, was enacted. This Act is an improvement upon the Tanjore Tenants and Pannaiyals Protection Act, 1952. The Act seeks to give protection from eviction to cultivating tenants and provides for—

- (i) the security of tenancy without time limit ;
- (ii) compulsory execution of fresh lease deeds (if the ryot or the owner demands it after the Act came into force) ;
- (iii) resumption of land for personal cultivation by landowners under certain conditions ; and
- (iv) eviction of tenants under certain circumstances.

Only the Revenue Divisional Officers or Special Deputy Collectors appointed for the purpose are competent to deal with the cases under this Act.

So far, there has not been any large-scale ejectment of tenants through the device of voluntary surrender. The tenants are well aware of the several safeguards guaranteed to them through the legislative measures. Ejectment of tenants is therefore possible only under Section 3 of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955, as amended by Act XIV of 1956.



Dr. P. Subramaniam, Superintendent of the Orathanad Farm, receiving the championship cup from Mrs. Medhi who distributed prizes to the winners during the Cattle Show.

Law to regulate rents

Up to 1956, there had been no law to regulate the rents to be paid by cultivating tenants to their landlords. The Planning Commission recommended that the rights of the tenants required to be defined and that rent should be fixed taking into account the expenses of cultivation and other incidental risks. It also advised that the legislation should specifically provide for—

- (i) the fixation of fair rent that may be paid by tenants ;
- (ii) the mode and time of sharing the produce ; and
- (iii) the disposal of disputes arising between landlords and tenants.

Accordingly, the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956, was enacted. In this Act, "Fair Rent" is defined as follows :—

- (i) in the case of wet land, 40 per cent of the normal gross produce or its value in money ;
- (ii) in the case of wet land where the irrigation is supplemented by lifting water, 35 per cent of the normal gross produce or its value in money ;
- (iii) in the case of any other class of land $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the normal gross produce or its value in money. and

(In every harvest, the landowner shall be entitled to one-fifth of the straw or stalk of all the crops.)

Lands in which sugarcane, plantain or betel vines or any crop which does not give any yield for a continuous period of two years or more, from the time of cultivation, are exempted from the provisions of the Act. (The question of bringing such crops also within the purview of the Act



Chief Minister Kamaraj who inaugurated the Cattle Show watching with interest one of the prize animals in the show.

is separately under consideration). The produce is required to be shared at the threshing floor. Generally, the Thasildar and the District Munsif have been empowered to exercise the functions of a Rent Court and Rent Tribunal (appellate authority) respectively for the administration of the Act.

This Act has put both the tenant and the landlord wise about their respective legal rights in regard to crop sharing and a sizeable number of disputes have been settled under this Act in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli districts. However, instances of crop sharing on a 50 : 50 basis based on mutual understanding and oral agreement are still not uncommon in many parts of the State.

The relationship between the landlord and tenant was not settled under the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act in respect of certain peculiar tenures in Tiruchirappalli district. The question as to who were cultivating tenants had to be decided in view of certain peculiar kinds of cultivators in that district called Kaieruvaramdars and Mattuvaramdars. These cultivators maintained that they were cultivating tenants under the Act. There were disputes between the landowners and the Kaieru and

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Mattuvaramdars leading to unsettled conditions and breach of peace and resulting in fall in agricultural production. The dispute went upto the High Court; and the Madras High Court held that the Kaieru and Mattuvaramdars in the Tiruchirappalli district were not cultivating tenants as defined in the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955. The Government therefore considered that there should be a special legislation for these varamdars. The Tiruchirappalli Kaieruvaram and Mattuvaram Act, 1958 was, therefore, enacted. Under this Act, the customary rights and obligations of Kaieru and Mattuvaramdars in the specified villages of Tiruchirappalli district have been legally recognized and protected.

Land ceiling bill

It will be noticed that the legislative measures detailed above have resulted in the following :—

- (a) elimination of intermediaries like zamindaris, inamdars and farmers of rent ;
- (b) fixity of tenure ; and
- (c) reasonableness of rent to cultivating tenants.

As a measure of further reform and in the light of advice of the Planning Commission, the Government have decided to impose ceiling on agricultural holdings and have accordingly framed and published the Madras Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Bill, 1960. The provisions of this Bill are now being examined in detail by a Joint Select Committee of the State Legislature and the Bill, with such modifications as the Legislature may ultimately approve, is expected to become law in the near future.

It is hoped that the implementation of this Bill will conduce to a more equitable distribution of the available land in the State and also result in increased agricultural production on account of the greater emphasis on improved and intensive cultivation than at present.

The land reforms so far carried out in this State have followed an evolutionary and natural pattern and have, on the whole, achieved their main objectives and there is no need to be pessimistic about the future.

Institutions for the Handicapped

According to information available at present, 176 institutions for the handicapped are run in the States and Union territories. Of these, 94 are for the blind ; 54 for the deaf and dumb ; 18 for the orthopaedically handicapped and 10 for the mentally deficient.

Ennore Biological Supply Station

By V. D. SPURGEON, *Deputy Director of Fisheries (Inland), Madras.*

Some eleven miles north of Madras, close to the sea and on the south-eastern bank of the Kortelair estuary, on an elevated mound, stands the "Ennore Biological Supply Station" of the Madras Fisheries Department. Old and weather-beaten though the building may appear, the history of this station is interesting and remarkable.

Pearl fishing has been a very ancient occupation in South India. First practised by Indians from 550 to 540 B.C., and then by the Portuguese from 1524 to 1658, and later by the Dutch from 1658 to 1796, the British finally took over from 1796 to 1947. Till the end of the 19th century the methods of pearl fishing continued to be crude and old-fashioned. Early in the 20th century, sometime during 1904, research into the life history of the pearl oyster was taken up seriously with a view to improving the methods of pearl fishing. This necessitated the dredging up of pearl oysters. Many of the common marine organisms found along the coast were also dredged up with the samples and these needed to be preserved. The Fisheries Biological Station thus sprang up to fulfil the need.

Visual Education

In the study of biology, the opportunity to be able to see the various animals is of great significance since more is learnt from visual education than from theory. Illustrations in books and periodicals cannot give the correct sizes, proportions and colours. For instance, a lion, a rabbit and a microscopic organism may all be drawn to the same size, so that the mental picture becomes faulty.

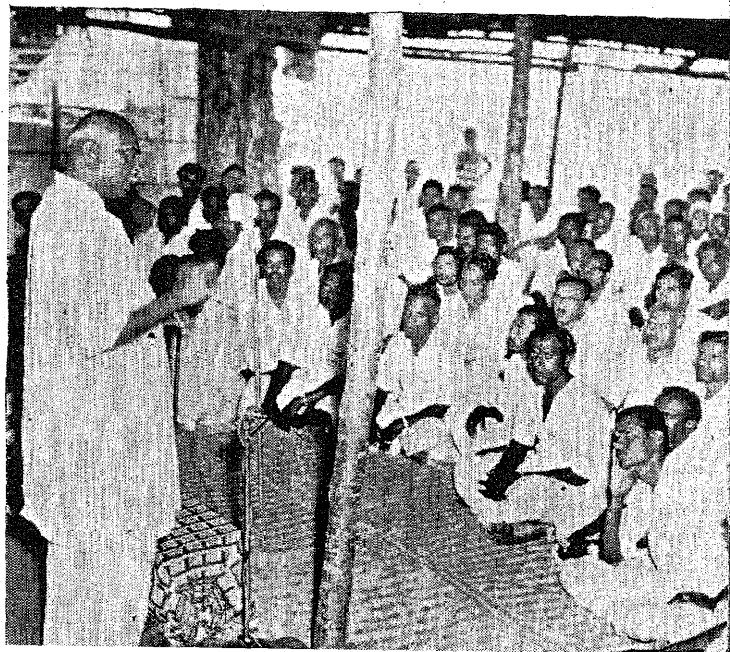
Even though a trip to the seashore might provide the student party with some specimens cast adrift, the opportunity for study of particular specimens might not be found suitable because knowledge must be imparted in a systematic way and not at random. It is here that the museums of schools and colleges play an important part. Animals collected at different places, during different parts of the year are systematically arranged from the simplest to the highly developed forms, carefully preserved to be used by the class when required. The correct names, scientific as well as popular, of the forms and the locality from which they were taken add to the information that students should know.

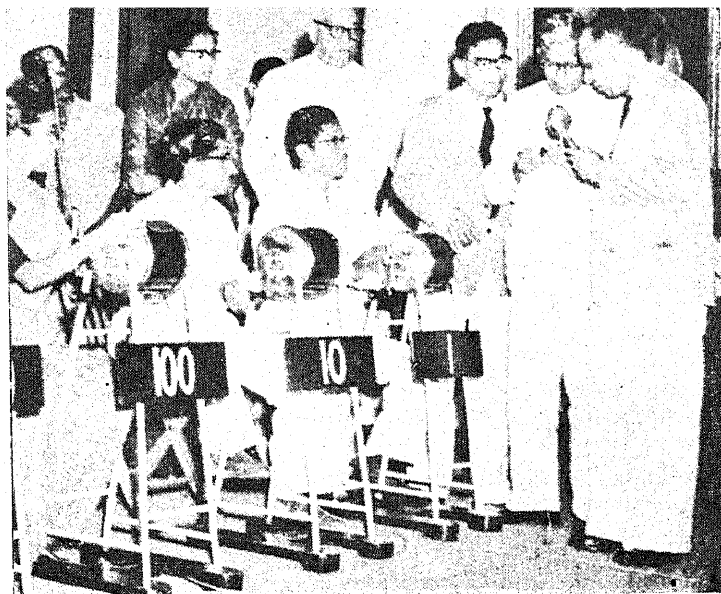
Collection and Preservation

Collection and preservation of diverse specimens are however not easy. Each animal according to its delicate make up demands a technique of its own. It is here that the need for the services of the Biological Supply Station arises since very great technical skill has to be exercised in the process. Every animal must be killed before it is preserved. Highly contractile soft-bodied creatures have to be narcotised by using substances like menthol and magnesium sulphate to prevent them from contracting while being killed. Preservatives also should be changed according to the structure of individuals. Animals might be preserved complete with all their parts intact and without shrinking. The colourful flower-like sea anemones, the worms and the molluscs are good examples of this. Among vertebrates, fish can be preserved intact. Sometimes only skeletons are preserved, as for examples the shells of crabs, lobsters, marine snails and their kind.

The art of preservation of the skins of animals after the internal skeletons have been removed is known as taxidermy. A large black scorpion can have its internals removed through a small aperture and refilled with tow

A group of Panchayat Presidents from West Ramanathapuram who visited the City in February met the Chief Minister at the Congress grounds, Teynampet.





Industries Minister Venkataraman inaugurated the 3rd Prize Bond Draw at Rajaji Hall recently. Picture shows the Minister witnessing the first number.

so that the animal appears a live one. In the case of crabs and lobsters the various joints are disarticulated and the internal muscles removed. The joints are then stuck together so that the animal appears to be intact but is weightless when lifted by hand. Varnishing of the creature gives it a gloss while painting in natural colours before varnishing gives it an absolute natural colouration.

Display of specimens collected calls for ingenuity. Suitable glass containers, white coloured plates to serve as backgrounds for specimens to be displayed besides boxes and other containers have to be thoughtfully and skillfully designed and used.

Supply Throughout India

The annual turnover shows that supplies are sent to very many colleges throughout India such as Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Banarès, Bombay, Calcutta, Dharwar, Gujranwala, Lucknow, Nagpur, Anantapur, Bangalore, Madras, Trivandrum and Visakkapatnam. Besides this, various high schools are also being supplied. While there are hundreds of high schools for boys and girls in Madras State alone, only about one in ten appear to purchase specimens. However, with the enormous strides expected in the study of Natural Sciences during the Second and Third Five-Year Plans, museums of schools must also improve.

Representative collections fit for use of High Schools are supplied in 40 jars for Rs. 200 per set. Molluscan and Crustacean forms mounted in specially constructed wooden cases are supplied at Rs. 45 per case. A printed list of specimens is available and may be obtained on request by institutions from the Superintendent, Government Fisheries Station, Ennore near Madras.

Besides being a supply station it is also a museum to be visited by students and staff. Ennore is accessible both by train and bus and there is a rest house for visitors. A full day spent at Ennore is worth the trouble, as besides study, joy rides by boat, fishing and swimming may be had in the placid backwaters.

The Fisheries Department looks forward to intensifying their activities as a Biological Station and would welcome co-operation from Professors of colleges and teachers of schools.

Kalinga Prize Awarded to Ritchie Calder

Ritchie Calder, well-known British science writer, is the latest winner of the annual international Kalinga Prize for the popularization of science. He is the ninth person to win the £1,000 prize, which is donated by Indian industrialist B. Patnaik and offered by the Kalinga Foundation.

The purpose of the award is to offer recognition to leading interpreters of science and to strengthen the links between India and scientists of all nations.

The latest award is in recognition of a lifetime spent roaming the world and exploring its scientific frontiers to make them less remote for the general public. Widely known as radio and television broadcaster as well as author, Calder was the candidate of the German Science Writers' Association and of the U.S., British, and South African Associations for the Advancement of Science.

Reducing Fire Hazards in City Slums

By JOHN KOSHI, *Chief Fire Officer, Madras.*

Only those who have seen it can appreciate the rapidity with which fire can spread on a thatched structure. Cricket fans of Madras will remember the fire which on the fourth day of the India-Pakistan Test match destroyed a part of the thatched stands put up at the Corporation Stadium. This thatched structure was intended to give protection only from the sun and the quantity of thatch used in its construction was much less than what is normally used in thatched houses which are expected to provide protection from rain as well. Even so, the fire spread very rapidly. One can well imagine how much quicker a fire can spread from one thatched house to another where the quantity of combustible material used is more per square foot and the intensity of the fire greater. In the rural areas of our State there are several villages entirely made up of thatched houses built close together. Devastating fires have occurred in such villages in the past destroying every house in a matter of minutes. Even in towns and cities there are several hutted areas where fires can and do cause considerable damage.

In Madras City during last year a few bad fires in hutted areas resulted in loss of life and heavy damage in spite of the fact that fire engines from nearest stations rushed to the places and tackled the fires promptly. In all the cases the damage was done in the first few minutes after the outbreak. A survey made by the Fire Service Department shows that there are 93 hutted areas with over 50,000 thatched houses in the City. The thatched houses in these areas are built so close that each area can be considered as a single thatched structure which favours rapid spread of fire in the event of outbreak. Even during the early hours of the morning when there is very little breeze, if a fire breaks out in one hut, the sudden rise of temperature in the vicinity sets up a fairly strong breeze and this causes sparks to fly in all directions. In a few seconds the fire spreads to adjoining thatched houses also.

Need for Gaps

It usually does not take more than ten minutes for a fire to spread to about fifty thatched houses and destroy everything in them. In certain areas of the City, as a part of the Slum Improvement Scheme, thatched houses have been rebuilt providing better roadways, drainage, sanitation, etc., but the houses are provided with the same

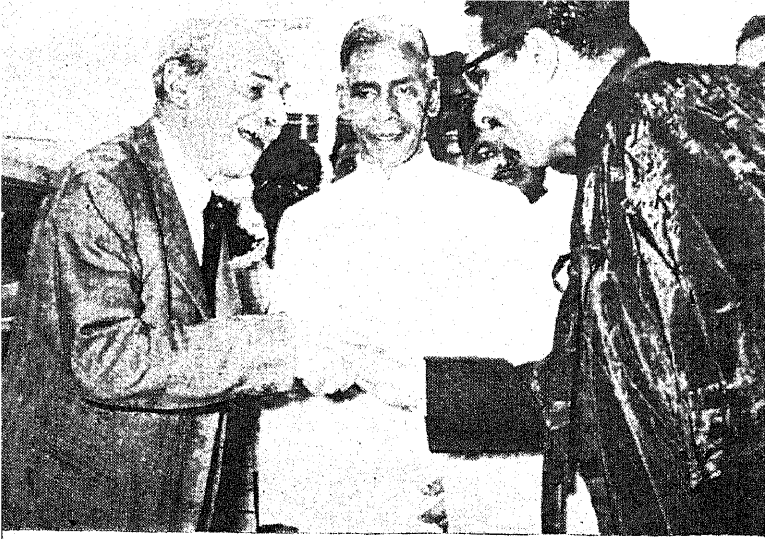
thatched roof. Meenambal Sivarajapuram, for instance, is a clean and well laid out area with good roads, sanitation, drainage, etc., and is a pretty sight compared to what it was before the improvement scheme. A six-foot gap has been provided between houses here but it cannot help in preventing the spread of fire from one house to another, for a live spark can travel greater distances and easily ignite material on which it settles.

An open space of 20 feet between thatched houses could be considered reasonably safe, but it would be impossible to find sufficient land in the City to rebuild the 50,000 thatched houses providing for this safety distance. It is also not possible to convert these thatched houses into pucca tile or terraced buildings overnight. This is a project which will take years. The Government, the City Improvement Trust and the Corporation have several schemes for providing pucca tenements in place of these thatched houses. But until then our hutted areas will have to be there and the danger of rapid fire will also continue.

It is essential that some way of stopping the rapid spread of fire in hutted areas is evolved. The continuity of huts broken by a line of tiled or pucca buildings helps to a

Earl Attlee who visited India on a lecture tour was in the City on a 3-day stay from February 3 to 5 addressing several meetings. It was during the Labour Cabinet of Britain which he led that India became independent. Picture shows the Earl being received on arrival at the airport by the Chief Secretary, Sri R.A. Gopalaswami.





Earl Attlee addressed the Madras College Students' Council during his stay in the City. Picture shows the Earl being received by the Council's President.

great extent. If, for instance, in each row of huts, every second or third hut is roofed with tiles or asbestos sheets, it will serve as a check on the spread of fire. This arrangement would be much more satisfactory than the present layout where a fire in one house will endanger the entire colony. This is a matter which can be examined by those concerned with slum improvement and town-planning in the City.

To ensure some measure of protection in slum areas the co-operation of the residents of the locality is essential. With the improvement in the general standard of affluence it should be possible for at least a few residents in hutted areas in the City to replace thatch by tiles or asbestos roofs. If about 25 per cent of the houses in each hutted area are thus provided with pucca roof, it will considerably reduce fire hazard. This measure will not solve the problem fully because some thatched houses will remain and will always be exposed to the threat of fire. It is very essential therefore that simple measures are taken to prevent the outbreak of fire in thatched areas and also to obtain the help of the Fire Services quickly to put out fire should one occur.

Prevention of fires in homes is not a matter which can be enforced by authority. This is something which the people must learn and practise. The father, mother and children living in a house should each play his or her part in this task. To appreciate the need for taking preventive measures, one must realize the damage that a fire can cause. In Madras City alone during last year fires involving thatched houses occurred in 79 different places and destroyed property worth about a lakh of rupees; other types of fires in the City resulted in loss of property worth Rs. 5 lakhs. Taking the whole State of Madras last year the loss due to fire was over Rs. 48 lakhs. These figures may

not mean much to a poor man living in his hut. But he will certainly appreciate that if his hut should catch fire, he is likely to lose everything he has and it may also endanger the life of his wife and children. This is sufficient reason why simple fire prevention measures should be practised by every member of the family.

Main Safeguards

The following are safeguards which a householder can take against the outbreak of a fire in his house: The most common place in a thatched house from where fire catches on to the roof is the oven. More than half the number of fires in thatched houses have been caused in this manner. Sometimes it is a tongue of flame from the oven catching on to oil in a frying pan and this reaching the roof or a spark from the oven flying up to the roof and setting it on fire. It is therefore necessary to make ovens safer by ensuring that sparks or a sudden tongue of flame do not cause any harm. This can be achieved by using a metal sheet for protecting the portion of the roof immediately above the oven. A piece of asbestos or G. I. sheet will serve the purpose very well. A sheet about four foot square could be fixed to the under-surface of the roof by means of wires, so as to cover the area immediately above the oven. This protection does not cost much to instal and will help in reducing the possibility of a fire outbreak in thatched houses.

The Careless Housewife

Fires in thatched houses are also caused by sparks flying from open pans when embers are taken from one house to another. It is not uncommon to find a woman carrying hot embers in an open pan from her neighbour's house to her own house to start the fire for cooking. While she walks up to her house with the pan in her hand, the breeze may drive a spark from the pan towards the roof of her own house or a neighbour's house and then the tragedy happens. The hot dry combustible roof catches fire immediately and the damage is done. Match boxes are cheap and safe to use. So why go to your neighbour to fetch embers?

Children always have a tendency to play with fire and naked oil lamps in the house are a great temptation to them to burn pieces of paper or anything they can get hold of. While taking the lamp about in the house it may accidentally come in contact with a part of the roof, clothes or some other combustible material which the flame from the lamp will readily ignite. Considering the risk involved it would be safer to stop using such lamps in thatched houses and use instead hurricane lamps with chimneys. They may cost one or two rupees more but the money spent will be worthwhile. When a child is old enough to understand, he must be taught the dangers of fire and must be told of the risk to himself and to his home that

can be caused by his playing with crackers, match boxes or pieces of burning firewood from the oven. Smaller children not old enough to understand the serious consequences of fires or to appreciate the need for taking preventive measures should not be left alone in the house within the reach of the oven, match boxes, crackers or anything else that can start a fire. They should always be kept under the watchful eyes of the parents or of older children.

Another cause of fire in thatched houses is arson. The fire-raiser not only endangers the life and property of the person against whom his attack is intended but also of several innocent people and their homes. Not long ago there was an incident where a man slyly set fire to a house because he had a score to settle with the occupant of the house. The fire which he started spread rapidly to several other houses in the locality and two helpless children were burnt to death. When the fire was put out the man who had started the fire and had remained in the background till then came forward and gave himself up realizing that his misdeed had caused the death of two innocent children.

The thoughtless Smoker

There is another person who is perhaps worse than the deliberate fire-raiser mentioned above. He is the careless smoker who throws about the stumps of his beedi or cigarette wherever he likes without bothering where they land. If a burning stump falls on some combustible material near a house it can very soon start a fire as destructive as that started by the fire-raiser. Smokers must always remember that one careless act on their part may result in misery to many. They must make it a point to completely extinguish the fire on the beedi or cigarette before throwing it.

In spite of all the care ordinarily taken, a fire may still break out and when it does, the damage will be most extensive in the hutted area. It is essential that residents of hutted areas know exactly what to do when they are faced with a fire. First of all they must be able to summon the fire brigade immediately. Automatic fire alarm systems are not installed in Madras City. But the telephone system is quite effective. It should be possible for a person of the locality to run up to the nearest telephone and contact the fire brigade within a minute or two. Out of the 93 hutted areas in the City, telephone facilities are not available in 51 areas. It would be very useful if public telephone booths are installed in these areas so that no time may be lost in summoning the Fire Service in the event of a fire. In addition to intimating the Fire Service, the able-bodied men of the locality should do their best to keep the fire under control. There are different ways of doing this and perhaps the most effective is to pull down the roofs of thatched houses in the direction in which the fire is tending to spread. For instance, if there is breeze from the south and the fire is spreading

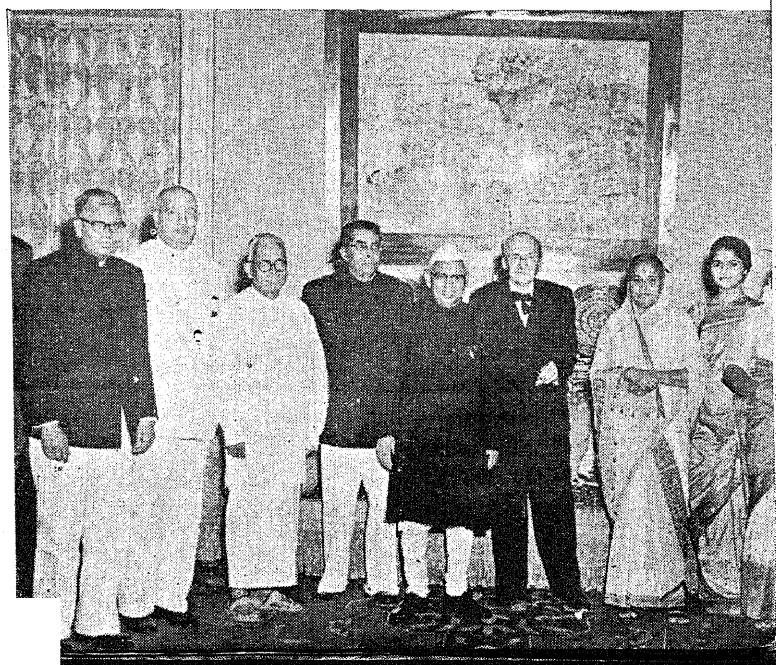
north, it would be helpful if the houses to the north of the one on fire are pulled down. Effort should also be made to put out the fire with available water in the locality after its spread has been checked. It would be useful if in each house two or three buckets or pots of water are always kept handy for the purpose.

An Epitaph

Here lies a man whose habit was
To read and smoke in bed.
Before he could get out of it
He was very much dead.
With cigar stuck between his teeth
A book poised on his chest,
One afternoon he lay in bed
His weary frame to rest.
The book was one he had long read —
A volume worth its price.
But soon o'er come by sweet slumber
He closed his weary eyes.
The cigar came a'rolling down
It rested by his side.
The sheet caught fire, his shirt caught on
And soon he was well fried.
His tale he did not live to tell.
No tales can dead men tell.
Sad indeed! but the fault was his,
He smoked his way to hell.
The title of the book was apt
It was 'AFTER DEATH WHAT?'.
By now, of course, he must have found
The right answer to that.

—J. Koshi.

A reception and dinner in honour of Earl Attlee were given to the distinguished visitor by Governor Bishnuram Medhi at Raj Bhavan Guindy.



A WORD TO THE BREAD-WINNER

The bread-winner was a power in the family. His was the task to not merely keep the wolf from the door but also enhance the family prestige by every means. By wise deployment of his earnings he managed to be a power unto the last.

The bread-winner these days is not only a power in the family but also a power in the nation. The way he spends his earnings and the extent to which he saves have a vital bearing on the prestige of the nation. He is a national figure. By wise deployment of his earnings he saves for the family and helps build up the nation.

The bread-winner can do no better than buy GOVERNMENT PRIZE BONDS. His money is safe and he gains 19 chances of winning a Prize on the PRIZE BONDS he has bought.

BUY PRIZE BONDS IN Rs. 5

and Rs. 100 denominations.

Available at all Post Offices

Problems of Children under Six

The Central Social Welfare Board has set up a 12-member Expert Committee with Shrimathi B. Tara Bai, Directress, Lady Irwin College, New Delhi, as Chairman, to study the total needs of children under six years of age.

The Committee will study the minimum requirements of these children in terms of care, play and recreation, education and standardisation of children's equipment including the manufacture of cheap essential materials needed for pre-primary schools.

The terms of reference of the Committee are :—

I. To study in the light of the changing socio-economic conditions in the country :

(a) the care and upbringing of children in the family ; particularly the aspects of health and nutrition ; and

(b) play and recreational facilities in the home and in the neighbourhood.

II. To assess the number and nature of existing pre-primary schools :

(a) their management (Governmental, proprietary, corporate, non-official bodies, etc.) ;

(b) their distribution (rural, urban, type of locality, etc.) ;

(c) pattern (Indian, Western, etc.).

III. To suggest methods of co-ordination among the large number of agencies working in the field of child care.

IV. To study and evaluate the standards of pre-primary education with reference to :

(a) the pattern of staffing (trained and untrained ; teacher-pupil ratio, etc.) ;

(b) the curricula and methods of teaching adopted ;

(c) the type of equipment available and the manner and extent of its use ; and

(d) programme of recreation, rest, nutrition, health, care and instruction.

V. To study the nature and extent of training of teachers of pre-primary schools and of other child welfare workers in terms of their number, distribution and standards of training courses.

VI. To assess the financial position of pre-primary institutions and of child welfare centres for this age group, analysing the sources and proportions of income derived from them, and the pattern of expenditure on a schematic budget, and based on this study, to assess the problems of grants-in-aid, the items requiring assistance, the volume of assistance required, and the period for which it would be necessary.

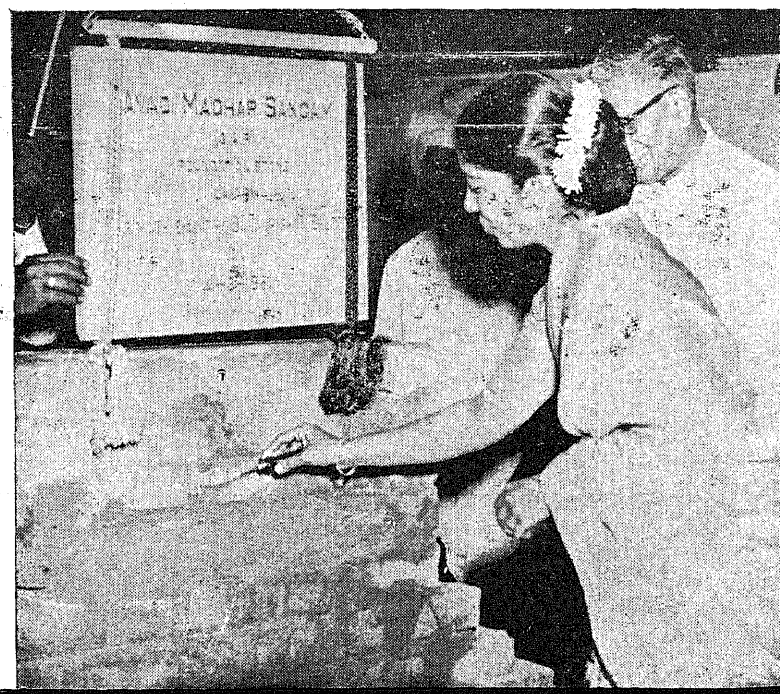
VII. To work out a tentative plan for the development of pre-primary education for the next five or ten years with estimates of cost.

VIII. To work out a plan for the manufacture of standard recreational, educational equipment of Indian pattern at moderate costs.

IX. To provide a plan for the promotion of training of pre-primary teachers, and of other child welfare workers, on a uniform basis.

X. To recommend a pattern for reorganization and extension of programme of community service for the sound physical, mental, and emotional development of the child in its first six years.

Smt. Balakrishna Shetty recently laid the foundation stone for the Avadi Madhar Sangham building for families of police personnel at Battalion Headquarters, Special Armed Police, Avadi. ✓



Zamindari Abolition in the State

There has been criticism that Estates Abolition work has been done in a leisurely manner and there has been inadequate progress in the survey and settlement operations especially in the districts of Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli. Doubt has also been expressed whether the reform has done any good. This criticism is either very much exaggerated or based on a misapprehension of facts.

Progress of survey

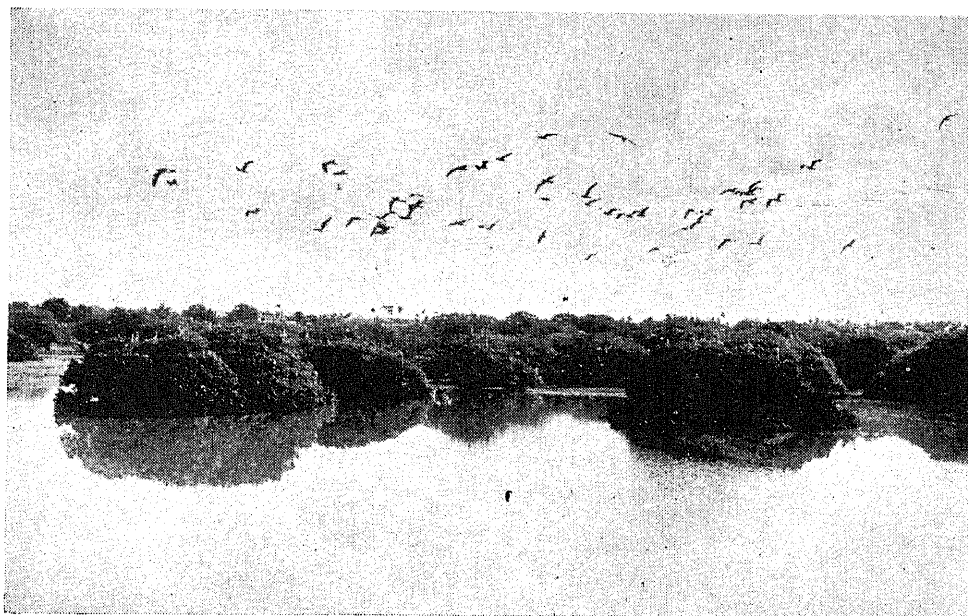
So far, 1,004 zamin estates, 934 under tenure estates and 2,889 inam estates out of 1,005, 936 and 2,914 respectively have been notified under section 1 (4) of Act XXVI of 1948. The zamin and undertenure estates were notified first in the year 1949-50 and the inam estates were mostly notified in 1951. Out of the total area of 11,174.49 square miles taken over, an extent of 10,730.22 square miles has been completely surveyed leaving a balance of 444.27 square miles constituting mostly hill areas.

The total area so far settled up to fasli 1369 is 7,489.39 square miles. There is a balance of an area of 3,821.23 square miles. This area is mainly concentrated in Tirunelveli, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli districts. It has been programmed to introduce settlement in 1,577.11 square miles in fasli 1370, 1,664.76 square miles in fasli 1371 and 579.36 square miles in fasli 1372. Thus, the entire field settlement operations in the State will be completed in

fasli 1372, i.e., in the year 1962-63. Final compensation work will also be completed within a year from that date.

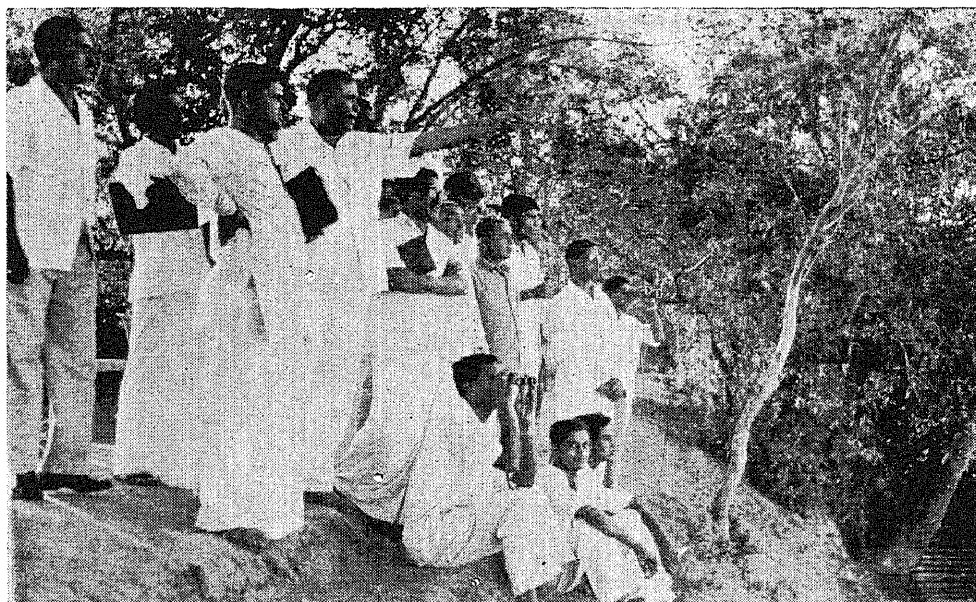
When settlement of the estates taken over was taken up in 1949, there was hardly any officer available with experience in Revenue Settlement, with the result Settlement work had to be commenced from scratch. Officers and ground staff had to be trained. The implications of a new statute had to be fully worked out. In the initial period from 1949 to 1954, there were many writ petitions filed in the High Court questioning the validity of the Act itself and the applicability of that Act to individual estates notified under section 1 (4). In many of these cases stay had been ordered by the High Court and such estates, though notified under section 1 (4), could be taken over only after the stay was vacated by the High Court. With all these odds against the authorities, the pioneering work could make only slow (though steady) progress in the initial period.

The procedure adopted in Settlement is also elaborate and has to be done in stages. The estate is first perambulated; the resettlement notification in force in the district from which the rates had to be applied to the estate areas had to be chosen; principles to meet the particular characteristic features in an estate had to be evolved; the notification under section 22 had to be framed; field classification work had to be completed at all levels from



A party of pressmen were taken to the Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary where they spent half-a-day watching different birds that have found a nesting place during the bitter, winter season of Europe. In the picture can be seen a picturesque group of birds that have found a home in the Sanctuary.

Pressmen watching with interest the birds that congregate at the sanctuary.



the settlement inspector upwards to the overcheck by the Settlement Officer. Accounts had to be corrected, rough pattas had to be prepared and issued. After completing the registry enquiries, fair accounts had to be written up incorporating all orders passed, and then handed over to the Revenue Department. Based on the Fair Area List and the Final Settlement Demand and on the basis of the miscellaneous revenue actually realized by the Estate Manager during the three relevant faslis, final compensation had to be worked out for each estate.

Further, all the estates taken over cannot be settled at a time. The work has to be done under a plan and it is progressing according to the phased programme.

It will be seen that starting the work from scratch, it has taken full nine years to complete an area of 7,489 square miles. The time taken in the present settlement of estates is less than the time taken for resettlement of each ryotwari tract, though the process of work in such resettlement of ryotwari areas was far simpler and shorter. This will easily prove that the pace of progress in the settlement of estates is by no means slow or leisurely.

As against the total estimated compensation amount of Rs. 6.32 crores, already up to 31st December 1960, a sum of Rs. 4,14,65,168 has been deposited. There is a balance of only Rs. 2.17 crores of compensation to be deposited relating to the remaining 862 estates to be settled in the next three faslis. As against the total estimated interim payment of Rs. 1.84 crores, up to 31st December 1960, Rs. 1,28,32,940 have been paid out. As there is the statutory obligation that the advance compensation should

be deposited within six months from the date of taking over of the estate and the final compensation within nine months from the date of handing over of the accounts, there is no likelihood of the landholders' interest being allowed to suffer, nor have they in fact suffered.

Beneficial results

Regarding the benefits accruing to the tenants in the erstwhile estate areas, it may be stated that as a result of survey and settlement for the first time, there are absolutely dependable set of revenue and land records which minimise possibilities of dispute relating to location, identification, registry and irrigational rights. These revenue records constitute a source of reference for settling future disputes and reduce unnecessary litigation. As against inequitable, exorbitant and arbitrary rates of assessment depending on the discretion of an individual landholder, fixed and systematised rates appropriate to and based on the productivity of soil in each field have been applied. Land value has appreciated as a result of these beneficial measures. Agricultural and co-operative credit facilities have increased as loans are better secured.

By far the most conspicuous benefit accruing to the ryots in the former estate areas which even a casual visitor to these villages cannot fail to note are the improvements to irrigation works and the satisfactory condition in which they are generally now maintained. A total amount of Rs. 32,51,367 has been spent through the Revenue Departmental Agency alone, on the repairs to the Minor Irrigation Works. As against the total number of 7,432 minor irrigation tanks requiring repairs in the estates taken

over, as many as 5,638 have so far been repaired. 1,050 additional works have been programmed to be completed during the current year 1960-61.

In addition, repairs on an extensive scale and of a major nature are also being carried out to the irrigation works in the former estate areas under the Special Minor Irrigation Programme through the Special Food Production divisions. More than Rs. 2.5 crores have been spent on repairs to irrigation works in the estate areas taken over. 3,967 works have been taken up for repairs of which 2,616 have been completed.

The other amenities such as provision of transport facilities, medical and public health are also being extended to these estate areas through the Plan and Non-plan schemes available in the State. Local development works and the starting of small-scale industries are also available to the people in the former estate areas to the extent to which they come forward to satisfy the conditions laid

down under the rules for each scheme and to the extent to which they make contributions required of them. The estate villages have also been benefited by the new irrigation projects like Krishnagiri Reservoir Project, Manimuthar and Vaigai Reservoir Dams and the Periyar Extension Scheme.

There has also been a criticism that the decisions given by the various settlement authorities, Estate Managers and Collectors have often been perverse. Decisions given by the Settlement Officers and the appellate and revisory authorities are all governed by the prescribed provisions and cannot be arbitrary.

Government have already passed orders transferring the pending proceedings under the Estates (Supplementary) Act and Rent Reduction and Abolition Act to the Tribunal at Tirunelveli. Opening of a Personal Deposit Account for the Estates Abolition Tribunal, Tirunelveli, has also been sanctioned.

Permanent Health Exhibition

First of its kind in the world, a permanent exhibition displaying the measures being taken to prevent disease and to promote high standards of community and individual health has been opened in London.

The exhibition is housed in a new hall at the Royal Society of Health and is open to the public free of charge.

The large number of exhibits are intended to benefit the health worker, the student and the layman. It is the society's intention that the centre should keep abreast of new developments. The permanent exhibits will be supplemented from time to time by temporary displays spotlighting subjects of topical appeal.

The exhibition includes many working models, with features and lighting controllable by press-buttons. Subjects covered include water, clean air, lighting, heating, ventilation, food, draining and sewerage, sewage disposal, site planning and building construction, occupational health, communicable diseases, pest control, health and welfare services, radiation and vital statistics.