

WE CARE FOR MADRAS THAT IS CHENNAI

MADRAS

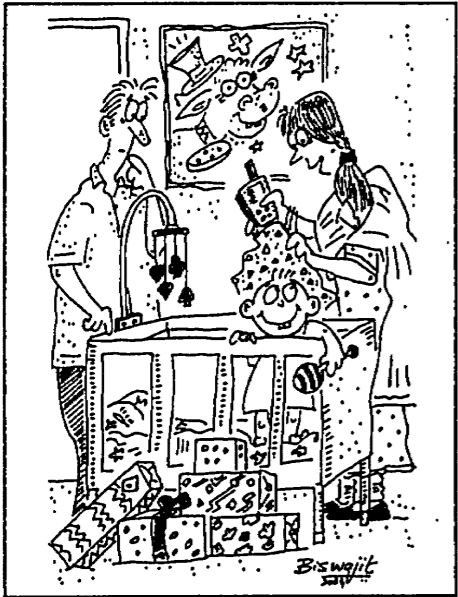
MUSINGS

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Vol. XIV No. 4

June 1-15, 2004

Rs. 5 per copy
(Annual Subscription: Rs. 100/-)

What a wonderful present he's got for his first birthday. He can watch movie clips, listen to songs, take pictures, browse the Net... He just loves it!

Ur 2 much

It's been a while since adults made eye-contact with the springtime-of-their-lives generation, who either are constantly looking at the palms of their hands, or are holding an ear, as if in fear that this useful attachment will suddenly take flight.

And the culprit behind these strange goings-on?

The getting-tinier-and-more-complex-by-the-minute, ubiquitous cell-phone.

Isn't it amazing how children who display abysmal motor skills while cleaning their rooms have no trouble sending SMS messages, fingers moving with manic, yet unerring, speed — without once looking at the keys?

They also conduct simultaneous conversations — one courteous and verbal; and the other silent and rather unique in its use of letters.

If it isn't messages, it is games, played on this combination of mere communication tool and unbelievably sophisticated toy.

As for that 'Download ring tunes' stuff, only people whose fond children have 'down-loaded' tunes expressing emotions slightly inappropriate to the former's discreet age and (presumed) venerable wisdom, know the meaning of the term 'feeling foolish'.

What's worse, with so many adults still a little techno-challenged, too frightened to attempt to access even voice-mail for instance, there's not a thing to be done except wait for the pesky kids to come back from wherever, and restore respectability.

Incidentally, all this adult tut-tutting merely proves that scoffing and pretending disinterest has always been the mature way to deal with inferiority complexes.

Ranjitha Ashok

State an all-round first

(By Sashi Nair)

Tamil Nadu was the overall best performer in the 1990s, according to the Delhi-based Centre for Policy Alternatives' detailed study of the progress made in the four southern states in economic and social development. Shrugging off the inertia of the 1980s, the four southern states together recorded an economic growth rate of 6 per cent, not only bettering the national GDP growth of 5.6 per cent, but also surging ahead of the North and West behind whom South had lagged in the earlier decade. The big surprise, however, was that Andhra Pradesh lagged behind in a host of parameters, quite contrary to popular perception. The recent election results confirmed this assessment.

While Karnataka continued its traditional lead in the human development index, Tamil Nadu, by keeping ahead of the national GDP growth rates for the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Plan periods, showed encouraging results. The State's per capita GDP of Rs. 14,592.90 was well ahead of the all-India per capita figure of Rs. 11,625.20.

However, though Tamil Nadu's incidence of poverty index dropped by an impressive 30.6 per cent, from 51.7 per cent in 1983 to 21.1 per cent in 2001, it figured last on this parameter. Kerala revealed a 40.4 per cent change, bringing the incidence of poverty down to 12.7 per cent; Karnataka improved from 38.2 per cent to 20 per cent; and Andhra Pradesh took second spot with a figure of 15.8 per cent. Nevertheless, the number of poor shrunk by more than half in Tamil Nadu, from 260.1 lakh in 1983 to 130 lakh in 2001 (the corresponding figure in AP was 45.6 lakh).

In the area of foodgrain pro-

duction, Tamil Nadu, with a yield of 2,461 kg per hectare, ranked No. 1. Kerala, with a yield of 2094 kg per hectare, came second while, surprisingly, Karnataka's yield was only 1,412 kg per hectare, placing it behind Andhra Pradesh as well. However, Karnataka, during 1990-2000, displayed the best growth rate (55.2 per cent); TN improved by 30 per cent in this period.

On the industrial front too, Tamil Nadu was the leader. Its gross industrial output of Rs. 15,523 dwarfed AP's Rs. 7,707, which was even lower than the all-India average of Rs. 8,965. In terms of value addition, TN, with Rs. 2,517, was ahead of the

(Continued on Page 4)



The old Elphinstone Bridge over the Adyar has been cleared of the 'jungle' (above) that had over-run it for some years now. What next? Are the pipes piled up at one end of it (below) going to take the place of the 'jungle'? Or is the bridge to be made into a promenade as had once been suggested? If a promenade it is to be, where are these giant pipes headed? (Photographs: REFLECTIONS.)



Loyola, Presidency, India's best, but what's happened to Law?

(By A
Special Correspondent)

Loyola and Presidency, Chennai, remain two of India's best colleges, according to the India Today-ORG-MARG survey of colleges across major streams. While Loyola was rated India's best college for Arts, Presidency was ranked the country's best for Science. Tamil Nadu colleges did not figure as well in Commerce, Medical and Engineering, while in Law, Chennai's Law College was nowhere on the board.

Madras Christian, together with Loyola and Presidency, features in the top ten in Arts, Science and Commerce, while Madras Medical College and Christian Medical College, Vellore, are among the top five in Medicine. The Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, and Anna University are ranked among the top ten in Engineering.

In the Arts stream, Loyola College, with its "liberal atmosphere" and focus on undergraduate rather than postgraduate students, is, as in 2003, ahead of such institutions as St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, St. Xavier's, Mumbai, Delhi's St. Stephen's, Kolkata's Presidency, and Delhi's Lady Shri Ram, Hindu College and Miranda House.

An autonomous college, Loyola's innovative courses, such as medical sociology and human rights, are not only academically excellent but have also proved extremely popular. Students at Loyola have the freedom to opt for a variety of courses, but basic courses like heritage and world religion are mandatory for all. By working in

Corporation schools and slums, students practise what they learn. An orientation course, free of cost, for Plus-2 students from the poorer classes is provided and the College, with generous concessions, admits those who perform well, the report adds. Loyola's placement wing and the Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA) have provided employers with excellent candidates.

Presidency College, Chennai which, in 2002, was ranked No.1 Arts college is now at No. 7 and Madras Christian is at No. 10 (it was judged the 3rd best in 2002). Included in the city-wise ranking for Chennai are Stella Maris and Queen Mary's in this category.

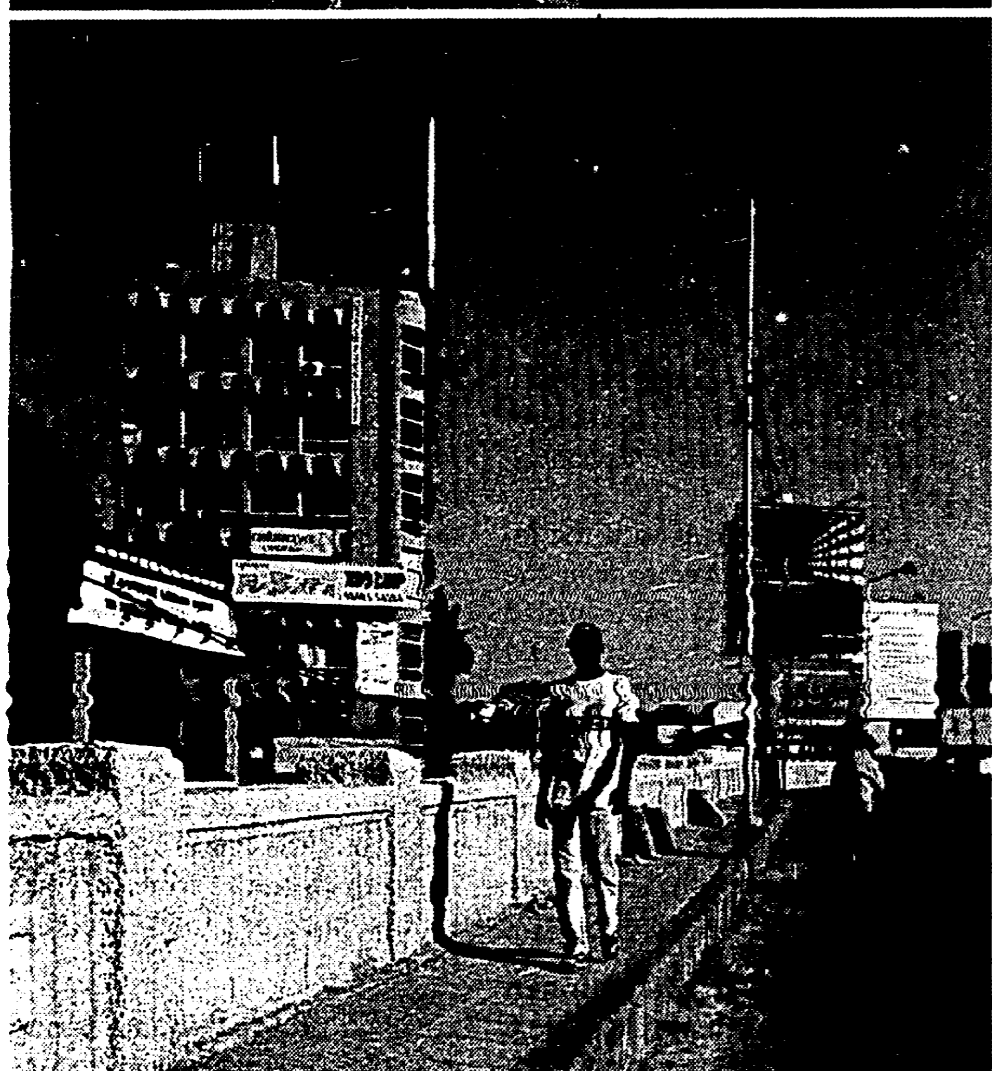
In the Science stream, Loyola College is placed third,

(Continued on Page 2)



Our OLD is of the 3-feet wide pavement pedestrians enjoyed when crossing Chetput Bridge. To provide vehicular transport safer passage, the pavements have been narrowed and a median (below) positioned. Our NEW (below and bottom) show the 3-feet wide pavement being reduced and made into a 1½ feet (18-inches) wide pavement which leaves no room for even two people to cross each others.

THE OLD... ...& THE NEW
The road-widening and median might ensure smoother traffic, but what happens to pedestrians who will, often, have to use the carriageway? When is this city ever going to pay greater attention to its biggest number of road-users, its pedestrians? (Photographs: REFLECTIONS.)



Greater focus on Agriculture needed

The much talked about "feel good factor" is largely due to the performance of the agriculture sector during 2003. To a great extent, this was due to reasonable monsoon. Because of the symbiotic growth linkages between the farm and non-farm sectors, the economy as a whole does well when agricultural production is good. Seventy per cent of India's population is still rural. Agriculture, comprising crop and animal husbandry, forestry and agroforestry, inland and marine fisheries and agro-processing and agri-business, is the backbone of the rural livelihood security system. Food security is also fundamental to national sovereignty. If agriculture goes wrong, nothing else will have a chance to go right.

An important achievement of independent India is its transformation from a begging bowl into a breadbasket in the area of food production. Synergy between technology and public policy in the 1960s helped our farm families to prove the prophets of doom wrong. Fifty years ago, our soils, cultivated for thousands of years, were both thirsty and hungry. The steps taken to quench their thirst through irrigation and rainwater harvesting, and to remove hunger through the supply of nutrients including mineral fertilisers, coupled with the introduction of new genetic strains capable of using sunlight, water and nutrients more efficiently, led to the birth of the green revolution. Technology alone would not have been effective, had no arrangements been made for assured and remunerative marketing. Our farm men and women have demonstrated convincingly that they will absorb and adapt new technologies provided they can sell the surplus produce at remunerative prices. In other words, agriculture progresses if concurrent attention is paid to

the augmentation of supply and demand.

Today, India is a leading producer of rice, wheat, potato, sugarcane, cotton and a wide range of fruits and vegetables, in addition to plantation crops like pepper, cardamom, tea, coffee and rubber. India is becoming a major player in international trade in farm commodities. We are at the beginning of a new era in agriculture. The largest private sector and solar energy harvesting enterprise of the country has demonstrated that it can grow at a faster pace, provided there is greater investment in irrigation, soil health care, rural roads, rural godowns, cold storage facilities and marketing infrastructure. The Tenth Plan target of an annual growth rate of 4% in agriculture can be achieved only if there is 8% growth rate in horticulture and animal husbandry.

We are also witnessing the beginning of a new chapter in the technological transformation of our farming techniques. The gene revolution triggered by molecular genetics, genomics and proteomics, is just beginning to make an impact. Biotechnology, precision farming, drip and sprinkler irrigation, improved post-harvest technology and the use of space, information and communication technologies are all opening up uncommon opportunities for launching our country on the path of an evergreen revolution, designed to enhance productivity in perpetuity without associated ecological harm.

The WTO agreement in agriculture necessitates that we should become more globally competitive. This will call for integrated action plans to achieve productivity, quality, diversification and value-addition revolutions. There is need for a massive

quality literacy movement to familiarise farmers and traders with codes, alimentarius standards of food safety and sanitary and phytosanitary measures. In horticulture, the potential for value addition, through processing, needs to be tapped. There is need for steps to defend the gains already achieved through greater efforts in conserving and enhancing the ecological foundations essential for sustainable agriculture.



by
Dr. M.S. SWAMINATHAN
Chairman
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation

Concurrently, we must extend the production gains to dry farming, mountain and coastal areas. We should also make new gains through farming systems diversification and value addition. The food basket should be widened to include a wide range of nutritious millets, pulses and vegetable crops. Coarse cereals should be renamed as "nutritious cereals".

Further progress in our agriculture will depend upon the growth rate in domestic consumption as well as in exports. Increased home consumption will in turn depend upon success in enhancing purchasing power through sustainable livelihood opportunities. This will call for greater attention to the generation of opportunities for skilled non-farm employment in rural areas. There is need for a new deal for the self-employed in villages through greater attention to institutional mentoring and marketing.

Our overall global agricultural image is something to be proud of. We have considerable capacity in agricultural research and education. We occupy a leading position in many areas of farm technology, including information on bio- and space technologies. Yet, our record in eliminating poverty-included chronic hunger is nothing to be proud of. India will not shine in the world unless we come out of the unenviable reputation of being the home of the largest number of ultra-poor and under-nourished in the world. Keeping the sun as our role model we should try to graduate to a position of "shine for all and for ever".

The economic, social and political cost of hunger is high. Malnutrition-induced low productivity and poor health status reduces national GDP annually by nearly one lakh crore of rupees. Therefore, if we wish to fulfil our ethical responsibility to end poverty-induced hunger and to enhance national income and well being, we should accelerate our efforts to ensure physical, economic, social and ecological access to balanced diet and clean drinking water for all and forever. A two-pronged strategy will be needed for achieving such a goal. In the immediate context, we should introduce a National Food Guarantee Scheme comprising two major components. One component will relate to a restructured National Food for Work Programme covering all aspects of social and human development among the items of work to be taken up. Such a programme could incorporate some of the features of Maharashtra's Employment Guarantee Scheme. The focus should be on human capital development. Another component will be a Food for Nutrition Programme to cover pregnant and nursing women, infants, sick, old and infirm persons or anyone who is not able to take up work due to valid reasons.

The second component of the hunger-free India programme relates to enabling everyone to earn his daily bread, i.e., enhancing the purchasing power of all living in poverty. This calls for according the highest priority to fighting the famine of jobs or sustainable livelihood opportunities. If a rich country like the United States of America, which has nearly one third of world's wealth but only 4% of the global population, can contemplate legislating an Act for Jobs for Americans, India should give serious attention to methods of ensuring work for all. Jobs for Indians should be the bottomline of our development and trade policies.

This will involve a multi-pronged strategy covering the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy. In the primary sector, it will involve providing assetless families opportunities for shifting from unskilled to skilled work and from on-farm to non-farm employment. The incidence of hunger is high in countries where an overwhelming proportion of the labour force is engaged in agricultural operations. The growth rate in non-farm employment is particularly poor under

(Continued on Page 6)

Where do we get our water from?

Chennai is currently facing an unprecedented water shortage. The average annual rainfall in the city during the 50 year period 1950-2000 has been 130 cm, but the average rainfall in the last four years has been 25% less, with the deficit last year being particularly high, at 40%. Chennai's three reservoirs have run dry; the flow of Krishna water has been ephemeral.

In 1993 when the situation was similarly grim, water was brought from Neyveli and Erode in tankers and trains at great cost, although the quantity brought met not even 1% of the city's needs. This time around, the new Veeramam scheme is being implemented at breakneck speed and groundwater is being drawn in huge quantities from the peripheral agricultural areas of the city, even upto Chingleput, at a reported cost of a crore of rupees a day for supply through tankers.

With most citizens thus virtually left to fend for themselves, the Rain Centre, Mandavelipakkam, felt it important to find out how citizens are managing their water needs for potable and non-potable uses. The first survey was carried out in the Adyar area in April 2004. The findings of the survey are detailed below.

The Adyar neighbourhood was divided into the following 8 regions for purpose of the survey and 225 premises were contacted, but the information was relevant to more than 3400 families.

- Gandhi Nagar (24 premises)
- Kasturba Nagar, Bhakthavatsalam Nagar, Nehru Nagar, Kamaraj Avenue, Dhanalakshmi Avenue (31 premises)
- Besant Avenue, Jeevarathnam Nagar, Karpagam Gardens, Padmanabha Nagar, Parameswari Nagar, Venkateswara Nagar (24 premises)
- Kottur, Kotturpuram (25 premises)
- Shastri Nagar, Radhakrishnan Nagar, L.L.C. Colony, Kalakshetra Road (17 premises)
- Besant Nagar, Kalakshetra Colony (26 premises)
- Indira Nagar, Venkatarathnam Nagar (33 premises)
- Thiruvanniyur, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Journalist Colony, Kottivakkam (45 premises)

The findings of the survey are grouped into General findings, Specific findings and Unique findings. (NOTE: The UV treated and ozonised "mineral water" is referred to as CAN water. Water from borewells on the premises is called groundwater. The metrowater that is supplied as an alternative to piped supply, to the residents in tankers, mostly on alternate days, is called 'street supply'. Tanker loads of water purchased from either private vendors or Metrowater and stored in sumps is referred to as 'tanker water'.

General

1. For drinking purposes, of the 225 premises, 158 (70%) of them depended on CAN water, 29 (13%) on groundwater, 21 (9%) on tanker water and 17 (8%) on street supply.
2. For cooking, 90(40%) used tanker water, 62 (28%) street supply, 39 (17%) groundwater and 34 (15%) CAN water.
3. For non-potable uses, such as bathing, washing clothes and vessels (all other uses except flushing and use in toilets), 164 (73%) depended on groundwater and 61 (27%) on tanker water*.
4. For toilet flushing and use in toilets, 185 (82%) use groundwater and 40 (18%) tanker water.*
5. Street supply caters mostly to the needs of the economically weaker sections and others living in independent houses. People living in multi-storied complexes find it difficult to carry pots of water to their homes. A few enterprising residents have managed to get a plastic tank (of 3000 litres capacity) installed by the water authorities in front of their complexes.

Specific

- Of the 29 premises, which have access to groundwater of potable quality, 13 are in Besant Nagar and 12 in Thiruvanniyur. These 25 premises are located away from the sea.

* In cases 3 and 4 implying that either there was no ground water available or the quality of the groundwater available was so bad that it could not be used even for non-potable uses.

- The use of CAN water for drinking was the maximum in Shastri Nagar (88% of them) and the least in Beant Nagar (12%).
- The dependence on tanker water was the maximum in Gandhi Nagar (75% of them for bathing and washing and 42% for use in toilets) and the least in Thiruvanniyur (7% for bathing and 4% for toilets).
- Of the 40 premises which use tanker water even in toilets, 10 are in Gandhi Nagar, 9 in Kasturba Nagar and 6 in Kottur.
- The dependence on street supply for cooking was the maximum in Karpagam Gardens (53%) and Thiruvanniyur (44%).
- There is no piped water supply in the entire Adyar neighbourhood except in Parameswari Nagar, which seems to be getting some water through the pipe into sumps on alternate days.

Unique

- From the survey, it is clear that people prefer CAN water for drinking as against tanker water, which is largely used for cooking purposes. The feeling is that tanker water is no longer of good quality.
- In a few premises, residents reported using wash water, collected in buckets, in toilets.
- In one particular flat complex, a few residents had joined together and set up a mini reverse osmosis plant for getting their daily quota of drinking water. This seems to work out cheaper than CAN water, besides being in-house. Indeed, with necessity being the mother of invention, people are finding innovative ways of managing their water needs.
- A few complexes have gone in or water meters to regulate and minimise consumption, particularly of tanker water.
- In several complexes, supplying water for a specified period, ranging from 10 mins. to 30 mins, is being followed.
- In the Reserve Bank colony off Mahatma Gandhi Road in Shastri Nagar, consisting of 24 premises (most of them independent houses), residents have gone in for community piped supply of groundwater with a common borewell. Such efforts need encouragement and support.

Conclusions

It is clear from the survey that the water authorities are able to supply only a small percentage of the water needs of citizens. A large portion of their needs is met either from groundwater sources within their premises or from groundwater sources in the suburbs brought and supplied through tankers.

The general public is increasingly aware of the potential benefits of harvesting rainwater and once they see the rise in groundwater levels of their wells after the Southwest Monsoon (June to August) this year, even those who have not gone in for rainwater harvesting will be motivated to install them in time to reap the benefits from the Northeast Monsoon (October to December) this year.

There is also a growing interest in re-using used water. This is evident from the number of enquiries the Rain Centre receives every day on recycling the water from bathrooms and kitchens. The law already has mandated recycling, but merely states that "waste water from the bath and wash basin shall be treated by organic or mechanical recycling and taken to a sump for onward pumping to an exclusive overhead tank for use in toilet flushing. Any excess shall be connected to the rainwater harvesting structures for groundwater recharge". Without more specific details of the methodology suggested, the law, although well intended, will remain only on paper and people will be deprived of a good means of improving their self-reliance in water. The water authorities must, therefore, disseminate more specific information on this it will help reduce the dependence of citizens on treated water supply.

Sekhar Raghavan
and
Indukanth Ragade

THE STATE AN-ALL-ROUND FIRST

(Continued from Page 1)

second with Rs 1,668). In terms of annual growth in factory employment though, TN registered a growth rate of 6.1 per cent, about half of AP's 12.1 per cent, but well above the all-India figure of 2.3 per cent.

In the two decades between 1981 and 2001, literacy in TN grew from 54.4 per cent to 73.5 per cent. But this performance was not enough to even reach Kerala's 1981 literacy level of

81.6 per cent, leave alone the latter's growth to 90.9 per cent in 2001.

In TN, population grew at the rate of 11.2 per cent during 1991-2001, behind Kerala's 9.4 per cent, but well ahead of the all-India population growth figure of 2.3 per cent. The State's infant mortality rate (IMR) of 49 per 1,000 placed it second, way behind Kerala's IMR of 11 per 1,000. However, TN gained the initiative in the 'life expectancy at birth' index, registering additions of 3.8 per cent for males

and 4.3 per cent for females (AP was at the bottom on both counts).

CPI report stated that TN benefited the least from Central Government assistance during 2000-01 to 2002-03. Its cumulative per capita grants from the Centre totalled only Rs. 777.9, as against Rs 1,292.8 for AP. Even as far as cumulative per capita loans from the Centre were concerned, TN received the least assistance (Rs. 264.8) as compared to the other three southern states (AP topped with Rs. 911.5). TN

spent Rs. 7,561.4 per capita on development, ahead of the all-India average of Rs. 6,748.5. Of this, expenditure on medical and public health amounted to Rs.160.8 per capita, second only to Kerala's Rs.187.8.

Another indicator of economic well-being was the average interest payments as a proportion of revenue receipts which, between 1996-97 and 2000-01, registered the lowest ratio in TN (14.7 per cent), against a high of 20.8 per cent recorded by Kerala.

— The fifth in an occasional series on Tamil writers

The man who made dialogue matter

He was the first star screenwriter of Tamil Cinema. He created a new wave in the writing of Tamil film dialogue in the late 1930s, investing it with the richness of the ancient Thamizh language. He introduced lilting rhythm and musical poetry into the dialogue-prose of that language cinema. Metaphors, similes, hyperbole, synecdoche, antithesis, you name the figures of speech, he used them and had the actors and actresses uttering them. Truly was Elangovan the maestro of Tamil film dialogue.

This was that happy period when actors and actresses spoke in their own voices and 'dubbing', as it is commonly known today, unknown.

Before Elangovan came on the scene, dialogue in Tamil cinema was too high flown and not understood by the common man or it was too Brahminical. This was because most early movies were 'as is, where is' filmed versions of stage plays or were written by Brahmins in the Brahminical dialect!

During the 1930s and 1940s Elangovan was a box-office draw and his name appearing in the posters was something novel. Without any political party affiliations or sympathies he became successful, thanks to his sheer talent. He first gave Tamil cinema dialogue new direction in *Ambikapathi* (1937) directed by the American Ellis R. Dungan and starring M.K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar. He

excelled in the Jupiter Pictures box-office bonanza *Kannagi* (1942), that impressive adaptation of the immortal Tamil epic, Elangoadigal's *Silappadhikaaram*. Pasupuleti Kannamba, the Telugu film star who played *Kannagi*, did not know Tamil, and the director, R.S. Mani, had a huge blackboard behind the camera on which the dialogue was written in large Telugu letters for her guidance! To this day her performance remains outstanding.

T.K. Thanikachalam, who took as his pseudonym the name of the legendary Elangovan, was born in the temple town of Kanchipuram in 1913.

He delved deep into the Tamil classics and became a Tamil scholar. He wrote short stories for many magazines, including the popular *Manikodi*. Then he joined the popular Tamil daily *Dinamani* as a sub-editor and this enabled him to live in Madras. He looked for an opportunity to write for Tamil Cinema and after knocking on many doors he got his first major break with *Ambikapathi*.

When he heard the story line, Dungan noticed the striking similarities between the love story of the immortal Poet Kamban's son *Ambikapathi* and the blue-blooded princess *Amara-vathi*, and the classic Shakespearean tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*. George Cukor's *Romeo and Juliet* (1936) was then being screened in Madras and Dungan took Elangovan to see

the film several times and suggested incorporating some of the scenes in the Tamil version. One of them was the celebrated balcony scene, which was incorporated into the Tamil film almost *in toto*. That was not all. Dungan gave the text of the Shakespearean play to Elangovan, marking some of the lines he wished to have in the Tamil script. In the balcony scene, between the princess (M.R. Santhanalakshmi) and her lover (MKT), the poet-lover meeting her in secret at night takes leave of her and says, "Thookkam unn kangalai thazhuvattum..." (Let sleep embrace your eyes!). These words were taken from

● by RANDOR GUY

the lines in the English play, "Sleep dwell upon thine eyes...! Years later the celebrated Tamil poet and lyricist Kannadasan used these words of Elangovan as the opening lines for a Tamil movie hit song.

Elangovan went on to write for the Bhagavathar film hits, *Thiruneelakantar* (1939), *Ashok Kumar* (1941), *Sivakavi* (1942) and the best successful of them all, *Haridas* (1944). All these

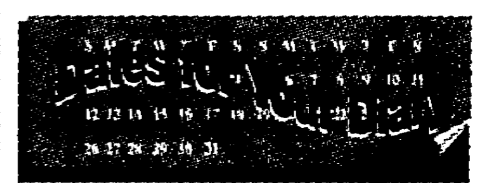
films had, besides the two stars, the legendary music composer Papanasam Sivan. These three became a kind of sure-fire formula for success and at one stage Bhagavathar insisted upon producers that Sivan and Elangovan should be engaged before meeting him!

After *Kannagi*, Elangovan wrote for films like *Mahamaya* (1944), *Arundathi* (1943), *Inbavalli* (1949), *Ezhai Padum Paadu* (1950), and *Pavalakodi* (1949). Regrettably his phenomenal success and bold arrogance began to have an impact on his career.

Not many are aware that he was the first choice of the producers to write *Manohara* (1954) the Sivaji Ganesan hit. But due to his dilatory and delaying methods and lack of discipline, the producers had no option but to take him off the project and bring in Mu. Karunanidhi who was then shining bright after the success of *Parasakthi* (1952).

In spite of being a scholar and an intellectual, his friendships led to his last slide. After the rise of Dravidian movement's screenwriters, he lost his hold and his last years were spent in struggle, stress and ill-health. He passed away in 1971 when he was only 58.

However, he sowed the fertile seeds for dialogue in the rich soil of Tamil Cinema which took strong roots to emerge as a bountiful tree that created a mighty impact on the political history of Tamil Nadu.



Till June 5: Exhibition of Babu Namboodiri K's paintings, graphics and installations. This Trivandrum-based, Tokyo-educated artist's first exhibition in Chennai (at Lalit Kala Akademi).

Till June 24: Paintings by K. Jayachander, who uses traditional motifs, blended with geometric abstractions (at Ashvita).

June 19: *Fete de la Musique* started in 1982, in France, by the Ministry for Culture, La Fete de la Musique has developed first into an European and later an international event. It is an event dedicated to music in every form. This year, Alliance Francaise of Madras invites you to a concert for and by the students (present as well as past): Carnatic music, piano, guitar, songs, it's for you to decide and play! The evening will end with a concert by Zahrra, a young music group with Tanvi (ex-student of AFM), Shiva and Shyam who will play subtle mixes of salsa, smaba, rhumba, kumbia, rai, Arabic and Brazilian. (At Alliance Francaise, 7.00 p.m.)

June 21-July 3: *Alienation & Reality*, Blodsow's first solo exhibition. Blodsow is a young artist from Kerala, living and working in Chennai (at Alliance Francaise).

June 25-27: *Focus on Sundara Ramaswamy*. Puduval Ilavenil, is a well-known photographer and documentary filmmaker, will present an exhibition on the Tamil writer Sundara Ramaswamy, whoes *Pallakku Thookkigal*, directed by A. Ramaswamy, will be staged on June 27. Also readings of his work during the three days.

Answers to Quiz

1. 25; 2. Ronnie O' Sullivan; 3. Ricky Ponting; 4. S. Rajendra Babu; 5. Abu Ghraib; 6. Michael Schumacher and Annika Sorenstam; 7. Rolls-Royce; 8. International Monetary Fund; 9. Sir Roger Bannister breaching the 4-minute mark in the mile; 10. Mluleki Nkala.

11. G. Subramania Aiyer (co-founder of *The Hindu* and founder of the *Swadesamitran*); 12. Denver; 13. Jaggubhai; 14. Kapil Dev; 15. The Murugappa Group; 16. Pothys; 17. The Chess Oscar; 18. Dayanidhi Maran, T.R. Baalu and C. Kuppusamy; 19. *Andha Naal*; 20. Sethusamudram Project.

* * *

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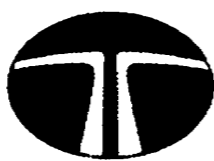
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